47b-1944

Heroic Chicago Officer
Awarded Soldier's Medal

WASHINGTON, D. C.--For heroism displayed at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., on June 27, First Lieutenant Edward J. Haynes, field artillery, of 4541 Indiana avenue, Chicago, has been awarded the Soldier's Medal, the War Department reported today.

The citation states that, "while engaged in hand grenade practice, a soldier pulled the pin and released the lever, arming the grenade. Becoming excited, he neither dropped or threw it. After an unsuccessful attempt to get him to throw it, Lieutenant Haynes, at the risk of his life, grasped the man's wrist and whirled his arm so as to fling the grenade out of the pit. The grenade exploded before clearing the parapet, seriously wounding the lieutenant and the trainee."

Chicago, Ill.

Chicago Defender---12-23-44

47b-1944

DeGaulle Gives Black Ace Croix De Geurre

Chicago Defender Ill.

Chicago, Ill.

By CHATWOOD HALL
(Defender Soviet Correspondent)

MOSCOW—General Charles DeGaulle of France awarded the coveted Croix de Guerre to Marcel Sauvage, a brown-skinned Martinique fighter pilot serving with the "Normandie" escadrillo on the Russian front, in an impressive ceremony here last week in the French embassy.

Pilot Sauvage has been fighting Germans in the air in Russia for about a year. In awarding the order, Gen. DeGaulle kissed Sauvage on his cheek.

During the same ceremony a large group of French personnel of the Normandie escadrille received battle awards from the Soviet government. The awards and medals were presented by Chief Soviet Air Marshal Novikov.

When De Gaulle arrived here recently, Lorenzo Taezas, Ethiopia's envoy to Russia, was one of the outstanding foreign officials in line to welcome him.

Minister Taezaz was educated in France and said his few greeting words in perfect French. I watched their warm handshake as I stood beside De Gaulle's train in the sheds of Moscow's Kurski railway station. 12-23-44

Victoria Cross

Atlanta Daily World

Is Given Brave Fijian Soldier

Atlanta, Ga.

Gives Life To Save Those Of His Comrades

12-8-44

LONDON, England — (S N S)—The first Victoria Cross to be won in this war by a non-European soldier, and the first to be won by a non-white colonial, has been awarded posthumously to a Fijian corporal who deliberately sacrificed his life to save his comrades in action on Bougainville, Solomon Islands, according to the London Gazette of November 4.

He was Sefanaia Sukanaivalu, of the Third Battalion of the Fiji Infantry Regiment. His surname with tragic irony, means "Returned from the War," for he was born in 1919 when men of the Fiji Labor Corps returned after serving in the last war in France and Italy. 12-8-44

WON HIGH PRAISE

The Fiji Military Forces, composed solely of volunteers from the British Fiji Islands, have many times before won high praise for their gallantry and skill. The American forces, with whom they are now fighting, have paid tribute to them on many occasions.

The citation published in his honor follows:

"On June 23rd 1944, at Mawarada, Bougainville, in the Solomon Islands, Corporal Sefanaia Sukanaivalu crawled forward to rescue men who had been wounded when their platoon was ambushed and some of the leading elements had become casualties. 10-8-44

"After two wounded men had been successfully recovered, this NCO, who was in command of rear section, volunteered to go on further alone to try and rescue another one, in spite of machine gun and mortar fire, but on the way back he himself was seriously wounded in the groin and thighs and fell to the ground, unable to move.

BARED HIMSELF

'Several attempts were made to rescue Corporal Sukanaivalu, but without success, owing to heavy fire being encountered on each occasion and further casualties caused. This gallant NCO then called to his men not to try and get to him, as he was in a very exposed position, but they replied they would never leave him to fall alive into hands of the enemy.

"Realizing his men would not withdraw as long as they could see he was alive and knowing that they were all in danger of being killed or captured. Corporal Sukanaivalu, well aware of consequences, raised himself up in front of Japanese machine-gun fire and was riddled with bullets.

"This brave Fijian soldier, after rescuing two wounded men with greatest heroism and being gravely wounded himself deliberately sacrificed his own life because he knew that it was the only way in which the remainder of his platoon could be induced to retire from a situation in which they would have been annihilated had they not withdrawn."

SMALL 'DUNKIRK'

The action in which Corporal Sukanaivalu died has been called by a correspondent a "small-scale Dunkirk." The Fijian battalion, with an American field artillery battery and engineers, set out to raid a Japanese position many miles beyond the Allied perimeter. After penetrating deep into enemy territory they ran into fierce opposition from a superior Japanese force and the commanding officer decided it would be necessary to fall back to the nearest beach and withdraw by sea.

In response to a radio appeal, the American corps commander sent landing barges and escort vessels to the point indicated and the first platoon of the battalion reached beach just as darkness was falling. The last platoon did not arrive until nearly two hours later, and throughout that time the Japanese were making desperate attempts to cut off the Allied forces.

GAVE HIS LIFE

An officer said: "Men came out with all their arms, some walking wounded, others staggering along helping one another, some carrying dead and wounded on their backs." Men came in section by section and waited patiently for their turn to board the barges. It was during this withdrawal that Corporal Sukanaivalu sacrificed his life.

Corporal Sukanaivalu's home was on the island of Yathata in the Fiji group, where his father still lives. He went to the Davuilevu Technical school near Suva in 1938 and afterwards worked as a carpenter first in Suva and later at the gold mines at Tavua. He enlisted in 1942.

Ex-Grid Star Among 4 Cited

Afro American

11-25-44

Lt. Lackey First Med Officer to Win Award

Baltimore Md

4 SILVER, 10 BRONZE

One Soldier Gets 30 Germans in One Day

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92nd DIVISION IN ITALY—(By Cable)—A medical officer and former all-CIAA football star were among fourteen 92nd Division soldiers honored on Friday for gallantry in action as the division commander awarded four silver stars and ten bronze stars at a ceremony punctuated by the echo of artillery shells.

First Lt Lawrence S. Lackey of 928 Sixth Avenue, Ardmore, Okla., a member of the medical detachment with the division, was the first medical officer to receive the award. He received the silver star along with Pvt. Jake McInnis of Prentiss, Miss.; 2nd Lt. Albert E. Seay of Brooklyn, N.Y., and 1st Lt. Walter L. Vaughan of Roanoke, Va., the latter white.

Lackey lived three days and nights of hell, evacuating seventeen wounded soldiers October 7-10. He led a litter squad over a narrow mountain passage open to hostile fire to an improvised hospital in an old bomb-battered building with borrowed blankets, then leaving the wounded in the care of technicians, he returned to the rear, picked up supplies and remade the trip with the ration train.

Saved Many Lives

Two men were wounded on the return trip, but Lackey continued his hazardous journey to deliver the food and medicine, later reconnoitered for a safer route and evacuated the wounded via a new path to waiting ambulances, thereby saving many lives.

A Langston graduate, Lt. Lackey said: "I appreciate this award, but there are dozens of medical men out there doing better jobs. Every night some of my men brave enemy fire to evacuate the wounded."

McInnis displayed iron fortitude October 12 when, single-handedly, he inflicted thirty German casualties while repulsing six vigorous enemy attacks from his mountain positions. Given, a machine-gun position on a mountain top, McInnis was the target for everything in the German books—machine-gun fire, machine pistol, rifle and artillery fire—but he stayed, shot for seven hours, killing eight Nazis in one counter-attack.

He inflicted the casualties with his M-1 rifle after discovering that the traverse afforded by his tripod machine gun failed to cover all approaches of the enemy.

Lt. Seay led the patrol which wiped out an enemy machine-gun nest November 7. He was slightly wounded on the mission and the patrol was forced to withdraw without him, but he rolled and crawled back to his own lines within two days.

Ten Get Bronze Stars

T/4 Clarence M. Palmer, formerly of 1307 Division Street, Baltimore, but now of 617 Grant Street, Durham, N.C., all-CIAA tackle on the N.C. State College football team, 1932-33, was one of the ten receiving bronze stars.

Others included: T/5s Leon V. Miller, Dayton, Ohio; Louis R. Hammonds, Memphis; Cpl. Floyd Jones, NYC; Pvt. Elmer E. Patrice, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Sgts. Sylvester Badgett, Sumner, Miss.; Nathaniel J. Johnson, Baltimore; Robert L. Johnson, Amherst, Va., and two white officers, 2nd Lt. Ralph W. Rhodes, McLouth, Kan., and Maj. Wallace M. Hanes, Dallas, Tex.

Palmer, the division commander's clerk, went on foot four miles through shell fire to deliver a message when a reconnaisance party was pinned down for three hours by enemy artillery. His delivery of the message enabled the party to get protection and reach its objective.

Cpl. Jones, who returned to the rear echelon for spare tires and changed three tires while shells burst dangerously close, and Pvt. Patrice, who saved a jeep, were decorated for their action.

Johnson Gets 7 Krauts

S/Sgt. Johnson of Amherst was so busy trying to halt an enemy counterattack on a hilltop October 12 that he didn't hear the order to withdraw. He stayed with one wounded soldier and two others though the spot was untenable, so he deployed, directed his rifle and inflicted seven casualties before withdrawing without further casualty to his company.

Sgt. Nathaniel Johnson of Baltimore led a detail of 13 men on October 13 while delivering ammunition to another company. En route, his party was pinned down by small arms fire and he received a wound in the hand. Disregarding the wound, he continued under fire, located his unit, then led his men successfully back to their own company before going to an aid station for treatment.

T/5 Miller, communications wire chief, waded across a river to another point with a jeep completely laying a line.

T/5 Hammonds was cited for evacuating a wounded comrade under fire on November 7, and Sgt. Badgett for destroying an

11-18-44

for Rescue Attempts...

AFRO-AMERICAN

3 Awarded Medals in S.W. Pacific

BALT. Md.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — Pvts. Russell T. Barger of Philadelphia, assigned to the radar section, and James Williams and William M. Murray have been awarded the T/5 Leroy Mangum, mechanic in the motor post, were awarded the Soldier's Medal for risking their lives in attempting to rescue two Soldier's Medal recently. fellow soldiers who fell into the ocean while embarking in the Solomon Islands.

2 Win Soldier's Medal

Pvt. Williams of Indianapolis, Ind., is the husband of Mrs. Ola M. Williams. Pvt. Murray is the son of Mrs. Eliza Murray, Vicksburg, Miss.

Louisiana Weekly
12-30-44

New Orleans, La.
12-30-44

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

HEROIC CHAPLAIN—Chaplain (Captain) Thomas A. Jenkins of Charlotte, N. C., recipient of the Silver Star for gallantry in action with the Fifth Army in Italy, is in the United States on leave. Assigned to a Quartermaster truck group in Italy, Chaplain Jenkins' citation states that "In an area lit by brilliant flares, under heavy enemy fire and bombing, (he) administered to the dying, assisted in the evacuation of the wounded to points of safety and helped in the identification of the dead. Throughout the enemy bombing and strafing, his cool courage and disregard for his own safety . . . inspired the officers and men." U. S. Army Photo from BPR.)

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
12-9-44

Victoria Cross Given to First Non-White for Sacrifice of Life

WASHINGTON

The first Victoria Cross to be won in this war by a non-white colonial has been awarded posthumously to a Fijian corporal who deliberately sacrificed his life to save his comrades on Bougainville, according to the London Gazette of November 4.

Also the first non-European soldier to win the award, Cpl. Sefanaia Sukanaivalu of the Fiji Infantry Regiment had successfully rescued two wounded men of his platoon and was attempting to save a third when he was wounded.

When his men refused to abandon him, realizing that he was in an exposed position and that they were in danger of being killed or captured, he raised himself up in front of Japanese machine-gun fire and was riddled with bullets.

Baltimore Flyer Afro-American Wins Air Medal

Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE

The Air Medal has been awarded Second Lieut. Hubron Blackwell, 26, of Baltimore, P-51 Mustang fighter pilot, now in Italy, serving under Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. Lieutenant Blackwell is a member of the first fighter group which is a part of the 15th AAF, acting as escort for heavy bombers to and from their targets.

Lieut. Blackwell

8-26-44

The first Baltimorean to graduate from the Tuskegee Army Air School, after having completed his basic training at Langley Field, Va., Lieutenant Blackwell left Morgan State College in his junior year to enter the Army in 1941. He attended Coppin Teachers' College following his graduation from Douglass High School.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Blackwell of 2522 McCulloh Street, have five other sons, four of whom are in the Army, and four daughters.

NEGRO VOLUNTEERS WIN NAVY CITATION FOR FEATS ON PELELIU

N. Y. N. Y.
The People's Voice

Washington, D. C., Nov. 28 (AP).—Volunteer services of a Negro Seabee battalion in the first hours of the 1st marine division's landing on Peleliu have won for the unit the coveted commendation "well done!"

The unit was the 17th special United States naval construction battalion serving under Lt. Comd. Moses E. Berry, Gulfport, Miss.

The first section of the battalion, the navy reported today, landed with the 1st division on Peleliu two hours after the first wave of marines hit the beaches. On the first night there was a call for volunteers when a shortage of ammunition was reported in the forward lines. Virtually the entire battalion volunteered and carried ammunition to the front and brought wounded back. The Seabees also fought when the marines became shorthanded in one sector. Some manned 37 mm. guns.

11-29-44

141 Missions

Chicago Defender
11-18-44

Chicago, Ill.

CAPT. EDWARD L. TOPPINS

Flight Commander of the famed 99th Squadron is now on leave visiting his mother, Mrs. Martha E. Davis of San Francisco. Captain Toppins chalked up 141 missions in 15 months of the Italian campaign and has received the Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters and the European Theater ribbon with three campaign stars.

11-18-44

6 in 93rd Division Get Hero Awards

11-4-44

WITH THE 93RD DIVISION IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC--For heoric services in the Southwest Pacific area, one colored soldier has received the Soldier's Medal and five ohters have been given the Bronze Star Medal, the War Department reported last week.

Pfc. Styman Clayton, Thomasville, Ga., recipient of the Soldier's medal, who dashed into a blazing ammunition dump near his gun position and attempted to extinguish the blaze by tossing sand and dirt on the flames, was cited for displaying quick judgment and gallantry. He sustained minor burns.

Recipients of the Bronze Star are:

Chief Warrant Officer Leon Mosby, Hamilton, Ohio; Sgt. Arthur G. Williams, Marshall, Texas; Cpl Rudolph S. Roberson, Atchinson, Kans.; Cpl. James L. Vernon, Wilcoe, W. Va.; and Pfc. Elijah Vinson, Hartsville, S. C.

They Outwitted The Enemy

Cpl. Vernon's patrol was suddenly brought under intense enemy fire while on an approach to an enemy-held ridge. During the withdrawal of the patrol the enemy succeeded in placing accurate knee mortar fire on the iron section.

11-4-44

The corporal located the mortar and crew, immediately crawled forward and threw a grenade which completely destroyed the enemy mortar. His voluntary action undoubtedly saved the lives of several members of the patrol.

Pfc. Vinson was a member of a patrol advancing toward an enemy-held ridge, when the patrol was suddenly fired upon from the front and flanks. Although wounded and still the object of intense enemy fire, he succeeded in silencing the enemy machine guns, allowing his patrol to withdraw.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

47b-1944

American GIs Cited—Negro, Syrian, White

12-30-44

FORT HUACHUCA — Three American soldiers were decorated here recently—a Syrian and a Negro who had given their lives in this war, and a white soldier-artist who painted a mural depicting Negro soldiers in major battles since the Revolutionary War.

The bronze star medal was posthumously awarded to 1st Lt. Oscar P. Davenport, Negro soldier who lost his life somewhere in the South Pacific, for "bravery, valor and outstanding leadership." The presentation was made to his widow, Mrs. Ollie V. Davenport of Tucson, Ariz.

John A. Aira, a Syrian of Nogales, Ariz., also received the bronze star medal in behalf of his son, who lost his life in action in Italy.

A Legion of Merit medal was presented to T-4 Lew Davis, post hq. det., white, for outstanding service. Davis executed a series of colored posters for distribution in many army camps and a mural showing the participation of Negro troops in major battles from the Revolutionary War to World War I.

The citations were read by post commander, Col. Edwin Hardy, before a general review of military personnel, school children on the post and civilians. Major General William E. Shedd, commanding general of the 9th Service Command, made the presentations.

Norfolk Soldier Is Decorated

Journal & Guide Va.

12-30-44

By JAMES A. SANDERS

WITH THE ALLIED FORCES IN FRANCE—(ANP)—The Soldiers Medal, sixth ranking U. S. decoration, has been awarded to Cpl. Luther J. Goodall, member of a service unit in the ETO and son of Mrs. Ruby Forbes, 1268 Bolton street, Norfolk, Va., for heroism while on duty in the Italian theater last summer.

Norfolk

Cpl. Goodall is credited with saving the life of Pfc. Robert E. Ellsworth, white, Charleston, W. Va., while in swimming behind the fifth army lines last July 11.

CAUGHT IN CURRENT

It happened during one of those "rest periods" near Marine de Grossette, Italy. Pfc. Ellsworth of Fifth Army headquarters was swimming when he noticed an increasing undertow. He started to swim back to shore but was unable to make it, so strong was the current.

He called to a nearby swimmer for help but the man continued to swim towards shore. The first to awaken to Pfc. Ellsworth's plight was T/5th Clyde T. Cummins, white, one of the swimming party who called to Pvt. Leonard Enolow who was asleep on the beach.

Pvt. Enolow grasped the situation at once and dove into the water and started to swim out to Ellsworth. The swift current and the 100 yards that he had to swim tired him out by the time that he reached the drowning soldier.

PLUNGED INTO SURF

The attention of the 19-year-old Goodall, was attracted to the plight of his fellow soldiers. Without any regard for his own safety he plunged into the treacherous surf and went to the rescue. Between himself and Pvt. Enolow they succeeded in bringing Ellsworth to shore. It would have been impossible for one of them to have brought the drowning victim in.

Goodall also holds the Good Conduct Medal for exemplary conduct. Prior to his induction in June, 1943, Cpl. Goodall was a heavy truck driver. He is a former student of a Norfolk, Va., vocational training school where he studied cabinet making and was a member of the football team.

Awarded Bronze Star

12-30-44 Pa.

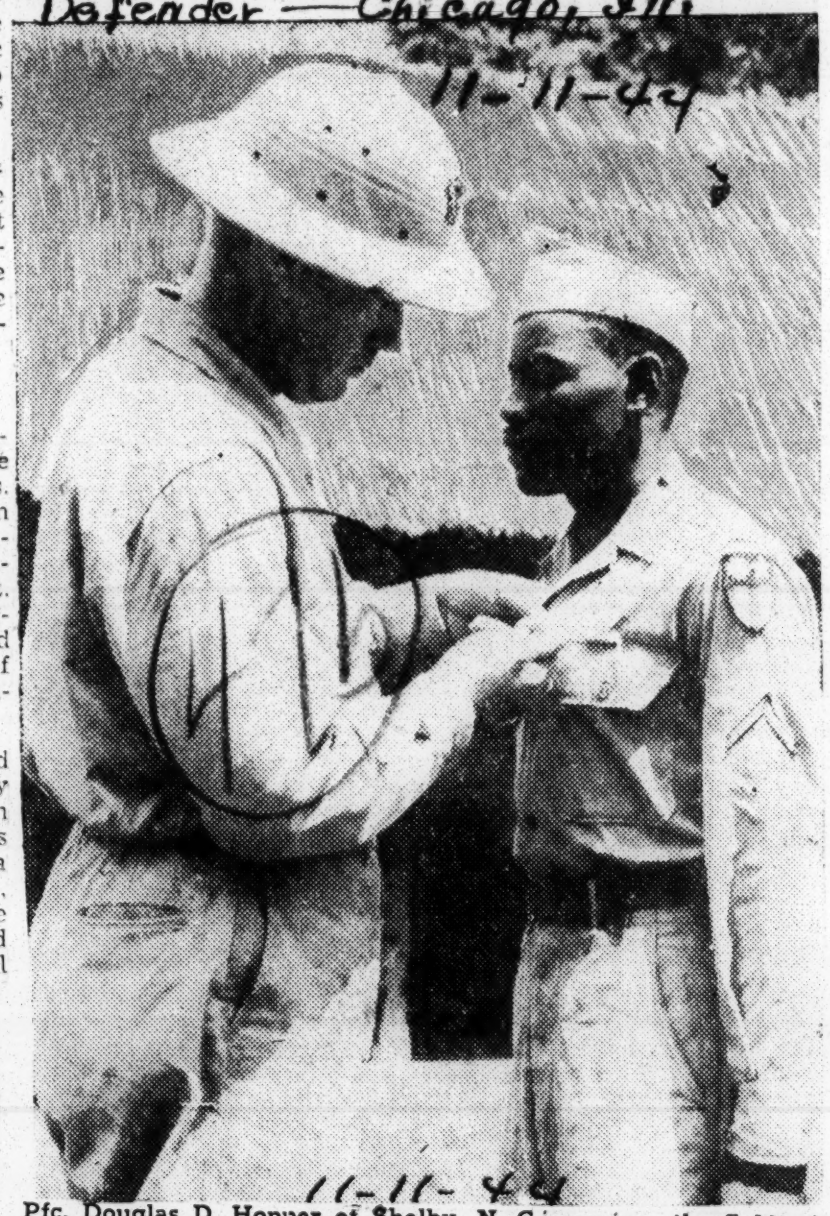
Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.

Lieut. F. N. PATTERSON, of New York City, attached to a First Army Quartermaster Truck unit, was recently awarded the Bronze Star by his commanding officer for meritorious service in Germany. —(U. S. Signal Corps Photo.)

HERO OF DARING INDIA RESCUE

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

11-11-44



Pfc. Douglas D. Hopper of Shelby, N. C., receives the Soldier's Medal for heroism above and beyond the call of duty from Col. Daniel F. Callahan, Northern Air Service Area Commander in India. Hopper braved the treacherous currents of a river in India to rescue an officer.

93rd Officers Promoted; Several Win Decorations

Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh Pa.

11-11-44

By BILLY ROWE, Courier War Correspondent

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—First Lt. Conway B. Jones of Washington, D.C., who has established himself as one of the outstanding heroes of the 93rd Division, has been promoted to captain. Leading his company to kill more Japanese than any other in the division, Jones saw the entire group cited, lized as one of the best officers and was himself awarded the leading the Tan Yanks. Captain Bronze Star for meritorious ac- Jones has been cited many times tion against the enemy. Recog- for gallantry in the line of duty with the division's fighting elements.

11-11-44

Also promoted to captains were Robert L. Sweeney, Englewood, N.J., and Lemuel A. Penn of Washington, D.C. Captain Sweeney played an important part with the fighting elements of the division as a regimental motor officer. In the Army before Pearl Harbor, he came up from the ranks.

HOWARD ALUMNUS

11-11-44

Captain Penn came into the service with a B.S. and a M.S. degree from Howard university. Now a company commander, he has held many important positions in the regiment prior to his upgrading.

For heroism in a vain attempt to save the lives of their drowning comrades on separate occasions, Pvts. Willie M. Murray, Vicksburg, Miss., and James Williams were awarded the Soldier's Medal. With complete disregard for their own personal safety, both soldiers dived into deep water when their buddies lost footing on boarding YP boats and fell into the sea. The heroic efforts of the two soldiers were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army and reflect great credit upon the men.

THREE BRONZE STARS

By direction of the President, Capts. Francis R. Brannan, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Frederick A. Harris of Utah, and 1st Sgt. Henry Neal were awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious service in support of operations against the enemy. Sergeant Neal is perhaps the oldest soldier in the division. He enlisted in the Regular Army in November, 1914, and served with the 9th cavalry in the Philippines seven years. Since that time he has seen service with the 10th cavalry, coming to the 93rd to help organize the present battery. Completing 30 years continuous service this month, Neal will retire to his home in Pasadena, Calif.

For meritorious service with the fighting Tan Yanks, Brig. Gen. Leonard R. Boyd was awarded the Legion of Merit and Lt. James C. Roberts of Texas, the Bronze Star.

The division now has a total award list of two Legion of Merit awards, one Silver Star, 30 Bronze Stars, four Soldier's medals and two Air medals. It has over 800 combat infantry badges and many citations, while 20 per cent of the division has received Good Conduct medals.

11-11-44

The Tan Yanks greeted the news of the Philippine invasion in jubilant surprise, considering it the biggest news yet. Crowded around special service radios, thousands of them listened, collected bets, and pinned new hopes on the meaning of the latest drive. A cross section interview brought out the fact that most of the men regretted missing the initial thrust. However, they take it as a wedge that will ultimately enable them to get at the enemy and help end the gigantic struggle.

Legion Of Merit Award For Soldier In England

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

5-27-44

(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON (Somewhere in East Anglia)—At the recent dedication of the 26 who had no previous engineering experience. The presentation of the award was made by Major Cecil R. Moore, of the most complete airdrome ever to be turned over to the Air Force by American construction troops, Technical Sergeant Lawrence Hardy, of Dundee, Miss., was awarded two years at Clarksdale Agricultural high school, Clarksdale, Miss. the Legion of Merit for performing "outstanding services" in his extra- ordinary mastery of all heavy construction equipment assigned to his farm. His father and mother, John Oliver and Florence Hardy, still work the unit, although he had

chief engineer. In lauding the efforts of the members of the two Negro aviation battalions, who were standing in dress parade on their field facing the platform of high-ranking officers, Major Generals Moore and Curtis and Lemay praised the efforts of the units for constructing in less than a year 74 per cent of the airdrome, in which record time the enlisted men of the two battalions voluntarily sacrificed time off and worked long hours.

The airdrome, now ready for immediate operation, has already furnished haven for six Marauders returning from operations over Europe and a number of emergency landings have been made on the field. On the reviewing stand giving invocation was Captain William M. Perkins, chaplain of one unit. Captain Perkins is a graduate of Lincoln in Pennsylvania; his home is at 213 North Horton street, West Philadelphia, Pa. Formerly pastor of the Second Baptist church in Hinton, W. Va., he is well known for his organization of the battalion's 200-voice choir that sang in Albert Hall with Roland Hayes and all over England. 5-27-44

Benediction was given by Lieutenant Henry C. Boose, chaplain of one battalion. His home is 1311 Grannis street, Port Arthur, Texas, and he is a graduate of Gammon Theological Seminary. The phenomenal work completed by the outfit was related.

They poured 280,000 square feet of concrete from six to eight inches thick, constructed 15,000 feet of drains, laid 15,000 feet of water lines, and built the operations block containing 160,000 bricks. The buildings constructed include: a Red Cross club, post theatre, post exchange, combsight stores, parachute stores, roads and tunnels and aviation and gasoline stores, brick crew rest, drying and locker rooms, transit sheds and many other housing installations. 5-27-44

Both battalions, resplendent with unit colors, gave a colorful pass in review, led by the 25-piece band. The bandleader is Sgt. Nelson, New York City, formerly with Lucky Millinder's orchestra as trumpeter before his induction. A battery of news cameramen and newsmen caught the memorable scene as huge trucks and grading equipment and road builders and armored trucks and mobile machine guns followed the marching units over the 750 acres of the airfield.

Correspondents toured the field in jeeps and were guests at tea at sergeant's mess, where this correspondent had chocolate ice cream, his first knowledge of this delicacy since leaving the States. Even the late arrival of Joe Louis failed to dull the enthusiasm of the unit. Joe was scheduled to present on behalf of Negro troops a scroll to Sgt. Alfred R. Tucker of Bunnell, Fla., Sergeant Major of heavy bombardment group. Despite transportation facilities, Joe's plane dramatically landed on the newly-dedicated field at the close of the ceremonies, and to the proud troops Joe said, "We colored troops will show Hitler with this and other work that we will win soon."

Chicago members of the unit are Sgt. Robert Woolidge, 6008 South Parkway; Mack Williams, 18 W. 45th place; Essie Collum, 6050 South Parkway; Buck Ellington, 3106 South Parkway; William Fambro, 42nd and South Parkway; James Traywick, 4758 Indiana; Alfred Cohn, 58th and Calumet; Corporals Harry Carter, 5656 South Parkway; Fred Taylor, Alfred Ford and Joe Rochelle, 5808 Michigan avenue.

Besides having one of their number receive the Legion of Merit, the battalion also boasts of Pvt. James Burnham, 51 Horace street, Dayton, Ohio, for having received "The Soldier's Medal" as a reward for heroism in 1943 and winner of Anglo-American sports award in East Anglian town. The battalions having a Red Cross club on the post and another in close neighboring town were jubilant and happy in the celebration in which many townspeople came out in trucks and by bicycles to cheer their efforts and view the ceremonies.

Led by Sgt. Jimmie Daniels, who left his famous New York night spot to become a member of this outfit, all joined in singing rollicking songs as Joe Louis took off in a plane to join his exhibition group at another base.

Decorated For Saving White Soldier In Italy

12-23-44

WITH THE ALLIED FORCES IN FRANCE.—(ANP)—The soldier's medal, sixth ranking U.S. decoration, has been awarded to Cpl. Luther J. Goodall, member of a service unit in the ETO and son of Mrs. Ruby Forbes, 1268 Belton street, Norfolk, Va., for heroism while on duty in the Italian theater last summer.

Cpl. Goodall is credited with saving the life of Pfc. Robert E. Ellsworth, white, Charleston, W. Va., while in swimming behind the fifth army lines last July.

Liberians Honor Gen. B. O. Davis

Kansas City Call
5-19-44

WASHINGTON — (NNPA)—Brig. General Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro in the Army of the United States, has been nominated by the government of Liberia to receive the Order of Commander of the Star of Africa, one of its highest decorations, and request has been made of the state department for permission to confer the honor.

Sgt. Mandy James Is New GI Hero; Wears Bronze Star

Pgh. Courier — Pa.
12-2-44

By HASKELL COHEN, Courier War Correspondent

WITH 92nd DIVISION—S/Sgt. Mandy James is a hero. Members of his regiment knew long in advance that James was going to prove himself a hero. When the editors of the division infantry magazine needed a subject to illustrate their front-cover last July 15 James was an unanimous choice. He was asked to pose for this cover in all the accoutrements of a charging soldier. No explanation or caption was necessary under this picture, the troops knew instinctively that here was a perfect soldier. The editors tried to imply by picture only that here was the perfect type and were eminently successful.

PERFECT SOLDIER TYPE

Not long after the appearance of that picture Mandy James was put aboard ship and in short time was placed in the line on the Fifth Army front. In no time he proved why he was chosen to depict the perfect soldier type. A little older than the average G.I., James at 32 showed a coolness under fire and a fine sense of judgment on patrols. His commanding officer learned immediately that James was a fine hand in leading daily patrols. These patrols are sent out for four or five hours a day to contact the enemy. How they manage and what they do is up to the boys individually and as a group. A shrewd leader can be a big help on these nerve racking assignments and James was just the type.

RELATES EXPERIENCES

Your correspondent had occasion to listen to James describe some of these patrols to a group of GI's herded about the stove in press headquarters, shortly after James was awarded the Bronze Star for heroism under fire. Mandy is an unassuming fellow who speaks easily and naturally. There is no deceit or conceit about him. He knows soldiering from A to Z and likes to talk about it. In reality the fellow is a splendid raconteur and his tales of early days on the Fifth Army front really held the "hot stove" boys for the greater part of an evening.

Many of these stories were of the hair-raising type and probably are better left untold. However one story that James told about his patrol might serve to illustrate how the 92nd Division troops work under combat conditions.

ITALIAN GIRL GIVES CLUE

One evening around six o'clock, Mandy and his crew were stealthily picking their way along a roughly surfaced road when they spotted a young Italian girl, with basket on head, several hundred yards ahead, making her way toward a house that apparently was deserted. James motioned the boys to fall in line and followed the girl along the roadside. When the young woman reached the door of the supposedly deserted house a German officer appeared and took the basket from the girl. James withdrew his squad but returned to the road the next evening at the same time with a mortar squad and set up his guns within easy shelling distance of the house.

Mandy ordered the boys to wait until the girl had left her basket and was a good piece down the road before firing. Evidently the girl didn't get enough distance between herself and the farmhouse for when the firing squad bracketed the domicile with mortar fire the girl fell mortally wounded. A quick look around revealed three dead Germans who had been making their headquarters in the abandoned home.

CITATION READ

When James returned to his base he informed his commanding officer of what had transpired. The officer commended Mandy for fine leadership. Actually the action was so minute to James that he didn't deem it necessary to consult a superior officer on a plan of operation. Of such material, heroes are born. It was only a matter of time before Sergeant James received his first decoration, a Bronze Star, for leading a group of men under intense machine-gun fire to rescue his wounded commanding officer. "His heroic action, under heavy machine-gun fire, at grave personal risk, is of the highest traditions of the military service," read his citation.

The men of his regiment have taken this citation in stride, for after all, didn't they themselves pick James as the hero type back in July. He was only bearing out their wisdom in choosing him. It seems that heroes are born, for if ever a soldier was born a hero Mandy James is that man.

COLORED AIRMEN IN WHITE OUTFITS

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Going into Greensboro (N.C.) last week to award an Air Medal to a mother whose son lost his life while serving as a Flying Fortress gunner over Italy a year ago, the War Department was surprised to find her to be a colored woman.

One explanation was that T/Sgt. William S. Mears was fair enough to join a white bomber crew and did so.

This raises the question whether or not colored soldiers who can "pass" should do the same thing. There are arguments on both sides. 5-6-44

A light-skinned colored boy in a white outfit gets whatever promotion he earns. He learns first hand the general attitude of individual white soldiers towards colored people. He has a chance to change that attitude as much as one man can have influence. He constitutes in himself a living exhibit that segregation is based on color alone rather than worth and merit and is, therefore, asinine.

He convinces himself and his followers that with the same opportunity he is as good a soldier and companion as any of them.

These considerations, in our judgment, outweigh the chief argument on the other side, namely: a light-colored soldier in a white outfit deserts his race.

We hope that many more colored boys will not be squeamish about "going over to the other side" and becoming vocal. 5-6-44

They can do us more good there than anywhere else. Word has come to the AFRO of at least half a dozen colored boys who have followed Sergeant Mears's example. AFRO readers probably have their own lists too.

Wins Soldier's Medal For Saving Pal's Life

Courier 4-1-44

HEADQUARTERS, TWELFTH AIR FORCE, North Africa—Although painfully burned, S/Sgt. (then sergeant) Robert Lee Thomas, of Dallas, Texas, smothered the flames engulfing a fellow soldier with his own body and ripped off the burning clothes with his bare hands, the War Department learned this week.

For his heroism, the 38-year-old non-commissioned officer recently received the Soldier's Medal in the presence of his Military Police battalion drawn up in formation at a North African air base. Quite embarrassed by the display, Sergeant Thomas blushed boyishly and muttered "I'm mighty proud" as Major Melvin V. Engstrom, of Rawlins, Wyoming, base commander, presented him with his decoration.

"As the victim ran out into the open, fanning the flames, Sergeant Thomas pursued him and flung him to the ground,' the citation reads. "Although painfully burned in the process, Sergeant Thomas smothered the flames with his own body and tore off the burning clothes with his bare hands.

"Sergeant Thomas' heroism and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service of the United States," the citation concluded. 4-1-44

WAS "OVER-AGE" Sergeant Thomas, who entered the service in February, 1941, and

47b-1944

The Informer Texas 12-2-44

AWARDED CERTIFICATE—With U. S. Army Forces in the New Hebrides—Private Jack Palms, 1148 Fletcher street, Dallas, Texas, holds certificate of award which was presented to him by Major General Fred C. Wallace for his winning entry in the Red Cross Craft Show held here. With Palms are Reveles Gonzalo of Los Angeles, California (left), and Gustav Froese of Walla Walla, Washington (center), who also placed high.

Awarded Soldier's Medal

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga. 11-14-44

11-14-44

First Sergeant Ernest O Crique, of New York, N. Y., receives the Soldier's Medal from Major General J. Lawton Collins, Commanding General of VII Corps Sgt Crique is attached to a quartermaster truck company and received the citation for meritorious service in the line of duty.

(Signal Corps Photo)

Philadelphia Tribune
Honor Held Up
12-30-44

Cpl. WAVERLY WOODSON, West Philadelphia soldier, has been recommended for the Congressional Medal of Honor or the Distinguished Service Cross, two highest military awards of the United States, for services performed over and beyond the call of duty on D-Day. He administered first aid to 300 soldiers on the Normandy invasion coast while wounded himself. However, someone in the War Department at Washington is "sitting on the recommendation." —(See "Uncovering Washington," on page 4).

Miss. Soldier Awarded Legion Of Merit

Informer—Houston, Texas
5-13-44

U. S. BOMBER BASE, EAST ANGLIA.—(ANP)— The Legion of Merit was awarded T/Sgt. Lawrence Hardy, 22, of Dundee, Miss., Saturday for devotion to duty that was an inspiration to his regiment in an aviation engineer battalion. Hardy is believed to be the first Negro so honored in this theatre of war.

Hardy mastered the operation and repair of several kinds of machines used in the building of airdromes, the job of aviation engineers, although his preinduction experience had been limited to work on his father's farm. He has been in the army two years.

According to the citation, read before his regiment while he was decorated by Maj. Gen. Cecil R. Moore, chief army engineer in Great Britain, Hardy perfected mechanical skill in one year's time and because of the shortage of mechanics he often volunteered to work both shifts of long working days designed to rush priority airfield construction.

5-13-44

Hardy and his regiment have materially shortened the highway to Berlin by their brilliant fast work, Maj. Crustise E. LeMay, leader of one of the 8th air force's heavy bombardment divisions, told the unit.

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

General Alphonse Juin, commanding general of the French Expeditionary Corps, awards the Croix De Guerre to First Sgt. Andrew Shaw, of Savannah, Ga., of a chemical battalion, for bravery under fire. The award was made on March 21, 1944, Fifth Army, Pozzili area, in Italy. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo)

12-16-44

Marine Gets Purple Heart

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.
10-7-44

WOUNDED IN SAIPAN LANDINGS—Marine Private First Class Jeff Smith, 29, of 1608 Loyola avenue, New Orleans, La., is one of the first Negro Leathernecks to receive the Purple Heart. Wounded in the landings on Saipan, Pfc. Smith is receiving his decoration somewhere in the Pacific from Marine Lt. Col. E. T. Peters of Danville, Calif. The ceremonies included a battalion parade of Smith's unit which he received with his commanding officer. (Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo)

DECORATED BY GENERAL DAVIS.— First Lieuts. Clarence D. Lester left of Chicago and Jack D. Holsclaw of Spokane, Wash., pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, are pictured shortly after Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis presented them with a Distinguished Flying Cross on behalf of the War department. These daring airmen "materially assisted" our successes in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations.
—Army Air Forces Photo.

Praised For A Job 'Well Done'

Gen. Mark Clark Lauds Unit For 'Unswerving Devotion'

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa 4-1-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—A Negro service unit is the first to be presented with the Fifth Army Plaque, an award of merit established several months ago, the War Department announced. The unit is one of three others which have been similarly recognized for service rendered at the same time. In the citation which accompanied the award, Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commanding general of the Fifth Army, wrote:

"Often in the face of serious obstacles and always with unswerving devotion to the supreme purpose of destroying the enemy, you have established an outstanding record in the performance of services invaluable to the Fifth Army. Each of you should feel justifiable pride in a job well done, and in your comrades and in your unit. Especially you should take pride in having so active a part in protecting and maintaining the principles for which we fight."

IN ITALIAN HARBOR

The award was in recognition of the unit's activities at an important Italian harbor. Each evening during December the service group provided the smoke which screened the harbor and its installations from air observation, and in many instances performed that function under heavy attacks from enemy aircraft. Using smoke pots and special smoke generators, the men remained on duty throughout the night, keeping vigil against sneak air raids.

The following enlisted men are members of the group:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Pfc. Arthur O. Newman.

FLORIDA — S/Sgt. Hubert Williams, of Baker, and Pfc. Preston L. Tillman, of West Palm Beach.

GEORGIA — 1st Sgt. Aaron Banning, of Greenville; Sgt. Rufus Bailey, of Atlanta; Cpl. Willie R. Bray, of Warrenton, and Private Johnnie Barksdale, of Lincolnton.

INDIANA — Sgt. Crusmon Wilkerson of Evansville.

KANSAS—Pvt. Amos L. Garner of Great Bend.

LOUISIANA — Pfc. Sylvester Bergeron of Houma.

MARYLAND—Sgt. Melvin J. Lane, of Baltimore; Sgt. Charles A. Jackson, of Frederick; Sgt. George N. Tyler, of Baltimore; Cpl. Thomas H. Tyree, of Baltimore, and Pvt. Benjamin F. Savoy, of Cedar Heights.

MASSACHUSETTS—Cpl. Madison H. Oliver of Boston.

MICHIGAN — Cpl. William C. Stiger of Jackson.

MISSISSIPPI — Pvt. Buford Chapman, of Hattiesburg; Pvt. John E. Booker, of Allen, and Pvt. Jesse J. Christian of Boyle.

NEW YORK—Cpl. Theodore Harris, of Buffalo, and Sgt. Carver D. Bowles of Lackawanna.

NORTH CAROLINA—Sgt. John H. Bell, of Asheville; Cpl. Hughie L. Goins, Jr., of Greensboro, and Pvt. Curtis W. Alston of Siler City.

OHIO—Sgt. John T. Christian of Cadiz.

PENNSYLVANIA—S/Sgt. Charles Glasco, of West Chester; Sgt. Thomas W. Gray, of Chester; Sgt. Clifton Hanks, of Pittsburgh; Sgt. William J. Lilly, of Philadelphia; Cpl. Richard McNeil, of Rankin, and Cpl. Norman A. Bernannon of Athens.

TENNESSEE — Sgt. Elmore Holman of Cowan.

TEXAS—Pvt. Robert C. Sims of Forth Worth.

VIRGINIA—Sgt. Ollie Duncan, Jr., of Culpepper; Cpl. Floyd D. Turner, Jr., of Norfolk; Cpl. Charles H. Carter, of Chatham; Pvt. Willie Allen, of Earlysville, and Pvt. Benjamin W. Estes of Proffitt.

WEST VIRGINIA — Sgt. George C. Edmonds, of Charleston, and Pvt. William J. Smith of Wellsburg.

93rd Stock Goes Up

Two Given Bronze Star Medal; Three Others Cited

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa 3-20-44

By BILLY ROWE
Courier Correspondent

WITH ELEMENTS OF THE 93rd AT BOUGAINVILLE — Elements of the 93rd, winning battle stars and scars on this former Japanese-held island, have entered society of hard fighting war vets. Many of them in a different branch of the service are of the same race and are winning a place in the history of fighting men for Tan Yanks of the present and future. Such a group is the Air Base Security battalion of the 13 AF Service Command. These men gladdened the hearts of our people last week when they were singled out for War department honors.

In the hard fighting for this island by the American and 37th Divisions from March 8 to March 24, the honored soldiers went beyond the call of duty, aiding in the throttling of the enemy. Among five who were cited by Major General Harmon of the 13th Air Force for meritorious conduct in the face of heavy concentration of enemy artillery fire under enemy fire and during which time he went to the aid of two wounded comrades, voluntarily exposing himself to give them first aid until medical help arrived.

Tech/Sgt. then private, Theodore Jackson, husband of Mrs. Virginia Jackson, of 4311 Dewey avenue, Baltimore, Md., was the second Tan Yank to receive the Bronze Star. His meritorious action was akin to that of Edmonds, and took place the same date, place. He has a daughter, Evelyn, whom he has only once. He has been in the service a year and several overseas. He has spent most of his 2-26-44

Sgt. Leroy Togwell, of 1535 Homer street, Philadelphia, Pa., who received citations for conduct under fire

Pfc. John H. Edmonds, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Edmonds, of 407 Shore street, Petersburg, Va., was presented the Bronze Star Medal. His award was received because of meritorious service near Piva Strip. The action took place March 24. It was pos-

3-20-44

RISKED OWN LIFE

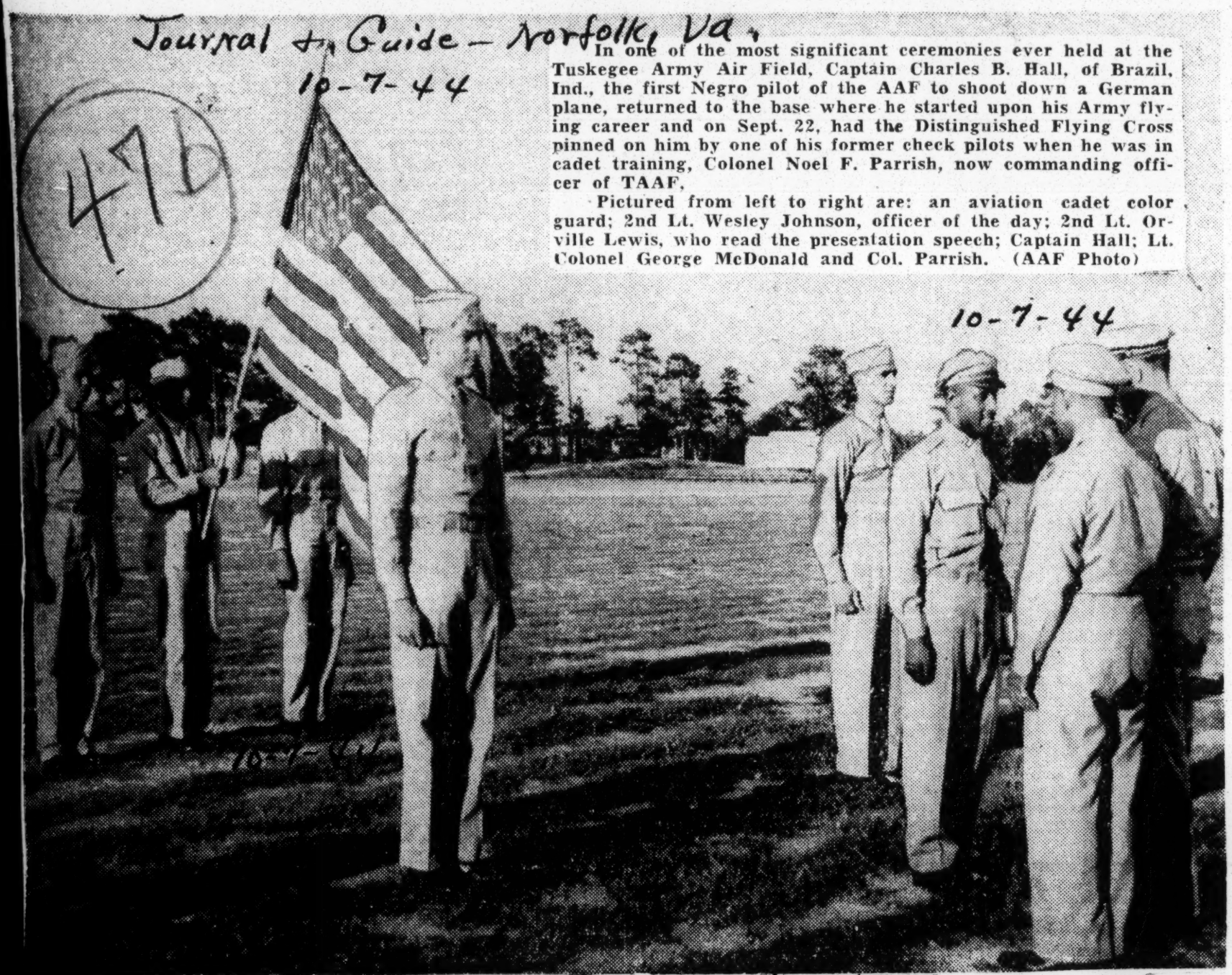
Pfc. Eugene Kimble, of Chicago, Ill., and T/5 Cotage Grove, Miss. The action of these soldiers has added both courage and pride to the elements of the 93rd, which now will carry on the bulk of the Tan Yanks' fight in the South Pacific.

47b-1944

A Great Day In History Of Tuskegee Army Air Field

Journal & Guide – Norfolk, Va.
10-7-44

47b



10-7-44

In one of the most significant ceremonies ever held at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Captain Charles B. Hall, of Brazil, Ind., the first Negro pilot of the AAF to shoot down a German plane, returned to the base where he started upon his Army flying career and on Sept. 22, had the Distinguished Flying Cross pinned on him by one of his former check pilots when he was in cadet training, Colonel Noel F. Parrish, now commanding officer of TAAF.

Pictured from left to right are: an aviation cadet color guard; 2nd Lt. Wesley Johnson, officer of the day; 2nd Lt. Orville Lewis, who read the presentation speech; Captain Hall; Lt. Colonel George McDonald and Col. Parrish. (AAF Photo)

OHIO PILOT WINS DFC FOR EXPLOITS IN AIR

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
12-16-44

By HASKELL COHEN
(Courier War Correspondent)

WITH THE 15TH AIR FORCE IN ITALY—Capt. Harold E. Sawyer, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carrol H. Sawyer, Columbus, Ohio, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. Captain Sawyer is a P-51 Mustang fighter pilot in the all-Negro fighter group which is actively engaged in long range escort for the 15th AAF heavy bombers and has participated in the strafing of enemy ground targets and installations.

The citation reads: "On July 25, 1944, while on an escort mission to Lins, Germany, Captain Sawyer was the element leader of the last flight of his squadron entering the target area. This squadron was attacked by more than 40 Me-109s, enemy aircraft. Sighting the enemy, Captain Sawyer instantly seized the initiative, turned with his wing man and closed in almost immediately.

TOUGH SPOT 12-16-44

"He was informed that the guns of his wing man's plane were not functioning. Fully realizing the responsible position into which he had been thrown, Captain Sawyer with calm efficiency took upon himself the protection of his comrade against overwhelming odds.

"Not only did he succeed in this endeavor, but also managed to thwart the effectiveness of the enemy's inital attack and to repel another attack that six Me-109s were making on the bombers. In the encounter he destroyed one Me-109 and severely damaged two others.

RETURNS TO BASE

"Finally, after all of his ammunition had been expended he broke away from the enemy and with his wing man returned safely to base.

"Captain Sawyer has demonstrated this same extraordinary courage, devotion to duty and steadfastness throughout his outstanding record of 70 successfully completed missions against the enemy. His superior leadership and flying ability have reflected great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces of the United States of America." 12-16-44

Captain Sawyer is a veteran combat pilot with the group, having been overseas more than ten months before he returned recently to the United States on leave. He has been previously awarded the Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters for meritorious achievement in aerial flight as a pilot of fighter-type aircraft.

A graduate of Tuskegee institute in 1942, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree, he was gradauted from the Tuskegee Army Flying school April 29, 1943, as a fighter pilot in the AAF. The fighter group now lists 17 winners of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Awarded DFC

Baltimore, Md.
12-23-44

15th AAF IN ITALY — Capt. Dudley M. Watson, 25, of New York City, pilot and squadron assistant operations officer of the Negro soldiers who with the 92nd Division in the Fighter Group commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The Flier was honored for having exhibited "extraordinary decision and leadership which enabled his formation on a recent mission to strafe and severely damage its targets in Southern France in spite of intense enemy fire.

Hampton Graduate

Captain Watson has flown 46 missions against the enemy and has accumulated over 100 combat flying hours to his credit. Prior to his entry into the armed forces, he taught school and was

217 Brave Negro GI's Hero Awards Winners

Peoples Voice — New York, N.Y.
12-23-44

WASHINGTON—High praise was bestowed on Negro soldiers fighting in war theatres in Europe and the Pacific this week when War Department officials here announced that 217 Negro GIs were awarded Bronze and Silver Stars and the Purple Heart for valiant service in the construction of airfields, operation of tank destroyers and the baking of bread under heavy enemy fire.

The citation said the troops worked hard under back-breaking schedules, often going without sleep for days. One quartermaster unit kept a steady flow of gasoline going to the front which enabled

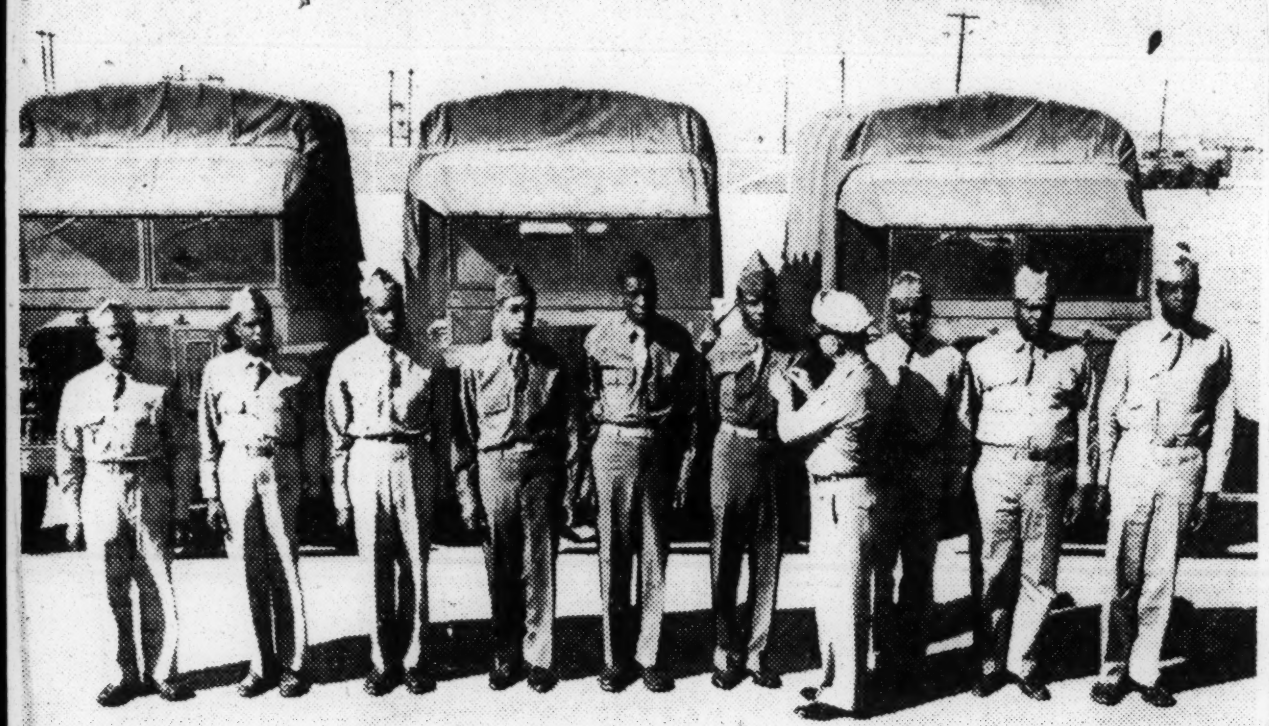
For gallantry and heroism in combat, seven Silver Stars and twenty-two Bronze Stars were awarded to Negro soldiers who have moved with the 92nd Division in Italy. New Yorkers in the long list of heroes are: Tech. 4th gr. Marshall James, 262 W 154 st, New York; Sgt. Sidney A. Johnson, 940 St. Nicholas av, New York; Tech. 5th gr. Iverson Carter, 105-32 172d st, Jamaica; Tech. 4th gr. Reuben R. Carter, 145-151 Arlington Terrace, Jamaica; Pfc James Farrow, 322 Putnam av, Brooklyn; Pfc. Joseph Hollard, 1377 Pacific st, Brooklyn; Tech. 3d gr. Alfred I. Jordan, 74 Hunter st, Ossining.

active in civilian aeronautics.

The pilot is a graduate of Hampton Institute, and received his master of arts degree from Columbia University. His wife is Mrs. Mary B. Watson of 357 W. 121st Street, NYC.

Drivers Given War Department Medal

AFro - American Balt. Md.



11-18-44

Nine drivers of this training command were presented the War Department's medal for exemplary safety and efficiency in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles at San Marcos Army Air Field, Texas, by Lt. Col. R. C. Haby, deputy of supply and maintenance. They are, left to right, Pfc. James E. Wilkins, 1020 W. Lafayette Avenue, Baltimore; Pvts. Preston S. Clark, Madison Heights, Va.; James H. Jones, 428 Mosher Street, Baltimore; Leroy Jackson, Madison Heights, Va.; John B. Gentry, 928 McDonald Street, Baltimore; Pfc. Otis Watson, Galveston, Texas; Pvt. Eugene Fisher, 1713 Mosher Street, Baltimore; Pfc. Rudolph C. Gilliam, 1339 Myrtle Avenue, Baltimore; Cpl. Riley Williams, Laurel, Miss.

KILLS 200 GERMANS TO WIN SILVER STAR

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-30-44

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY—Many stories of heroism and bravery developed about the 761st Tank Battalion, the first Negro armored unit to enter combat, during its first ten days of battle with Maj. Gen. Williard S. Paul's 26th Division. The tankers served as one of the spearhead elements in the division's drive to its initial objective, which was taken November 20.

Among them, the feats of S/Sgt. Ruben Rivers, Tecumseh, Okla., son of Mrs. Lillian Rivers, stand out like a beacon. The daring tank commander was awarded the Silver Star following the slaying of an estimated 200 or more Germans. He took his tank into the thick of every battle and it became a popular theme that when Company A entered battle, "Rivers led the way," for he was always there first.

ACCURATE GUNNER ACCOUNTS FOR 20 12-30-44

A few days after Lt. Col. Hollis A. Hunt, commander of the 761st, pinned the Silver Star on Sergeant Rivers, his unit again went into battle at Guebling, a key communications point for German lines between Chateau-Salins and Saarburg, Rivers' tank hit a mine and was knocked out. He climbed out of the disabled tank, got into another, and continued fighting.

Pfc. Obie J. Smith, a quiet young fellow who came to the Army from the little town of Leevale, W.Va., is the gunner of a light tank in Lt. Richard English's company. On "D-Day" for the unit. Smith, one of the most accurate gunners in the company, personally accounted for 20 Germans killed. He is married to Mrs. Marie Smith of Leevale, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isom Smith, reside at Laing, W.Va.

Sgt. Warren Creecy of Corpus Christi, Texas, won the reputation of being the most fearless man in his company by his repeated exposures of his person to enemy fire as he rescued fellow tankers, provided protection for infantry units, and performed other feats of valor which have won commendation for him.

BRILLIANT PERFORMANCE

On November 10 at Morville, the battalion's tough spot, Sergeant Creecy returned through enemy positions under heavy artillery to get aid to his men after his tank had been disabled by anti-tank fire. He then led other tanks to a point from which destructive fire could be brought upon the enemy.

A few minutes later he mounted the "ack-ack" gun of another vehicle and while still under fire aided in the annihilation of enemy artillery observers who directed the fire that pinned down our infantry. This permitted the ground units to move forward. 12-30-44

The day before, Sergeant Creecy had moved ahead of the infantry without regard for his personal safety and destroyed German machinegun positions and Jerry rocket-launcher teams. Then when his own tank was mired down in the mud, he dismounted and performed operations leading to the extraction of the tank. He then mounted the rear of the tank and held his AA gun on enemy positions to protect an infantry unit. He personally eradicated the enemy guns.

OFFICERS SPUR MEN TO ACTION 12-30-44

Crew members of Sergeant Creecy's tank include Sgt. Roy L. Robinson of Spartanburg, S.C., the driver, and Pfc. Raymond G. Johnson, Evanston, Ill., gunner.

In the same area, the crew of tank commander S/Sgt. Jack Gilbert, dismounted and recaptured their tank after it had been hit and taken by the Germans. With him were Gunner, Pfc. Judge Favors, Plant City, Fla.; bow gunners, Pfc. Albert D. Fulwood, Huntington, W.Va., and driver, Sgt. James C. Harris, Detroit, Mich.

Spurring his men to keep moving forward, Lieutenant English, commander of the company, took a tommy-gun from one of the tanks, and proceeded on foot to perform reconnaissance to direct the movement of his unit. He is a former instructor in the Hoffman school, New Orleans, and made his home at 705 Vernon street. A graduate of Dillard university, he is married to Mrs. Loretta English, and is the father of three sons, Richard, Jr., Ernest and James.

Characteristic of the attitude of these new arrivals to the combat scene was their reaction when Jerry AT guns or bazooka teams knocked out tanks in Capt. Irvin McHenry's company. The crews would leap out, get under the tank and continue their fire with machine guns. One German company facing Captain McHenry's unit near Morville, was practically annihilated by this small arms fire. 12-30-44

FORM CREWS INTO DEFENSE TEAM

1/Sgt. Samuel J. Turley, Bronx, New York City, demonstrated his sterling leadership qualities by organizing his tank crews into defense teams when his vehicles had been hit and set afire. By this strategy several crews were permitted to escape from their burning tanks.

S/Sgt. Frank C. Cochrane, Brockway, N.Y., assisted in evacuating the tank gunner, Cpt. Carlton Chatman of Pembroke, Va., and tank commander, T/5 George Collier, Tampa, Fla., after their tank had been hit. While under direct fire, he assisted T/5 Collier into his own tank, saving his life.

Gunner Dwight Simpson, Rock Island, Ill., rescued T/4 Horatio Scott, Lynn, Mass., from his burning tank. 12-30-44

These and many other deeds of valor marked the first ten days of combat for the first Negro tank battalion and gained for the entire unit the praise of the division commander. Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., has manifested personal interest in the tankers on several occasions. An appropriate citation is being recommended for the battalion for its services with the 26th Division.

WINS SOLDIER'S MEDAL FOR SAVING WHITE SOLDIER IN ITALY

Savannah Tribune 12-28-44

WITH THE ALLIED FORCES IN FRANCE, (ANP)— The Soldier's medal, sixth ranking U. S. decoration, has been awarded to Cpl. Luther J. Godall, member of a service unit in the ETO and son of Mrs. Ruby Forbes of 1268 Bolton street, Norfolk, Va., for heroism while on duty in the Italian theatre last summer. Cpl. Goodall is credited with saving the life of Pfc. Robert E. Ellsworth, white, Charleston, W. Va., while swimming behind the fifth army lines last July 11.

It happened during one of those "rest periods" near Marino de Crosetto, Italy. Pfc Ellsworth of fifth army headquarters with others was swimming when he noticed an increasing undertow. He started to swim back to shore but was unable to make it, so strong was the current. When the youth realized that he was unable to make it, he called to a nearby swimmer for help but the man continued to swim toward shore. The first to awaken to Pfc. Ellsworth's plight was T-5th Clyde T. Cummins, white, one of the swimming party who called to Pvt. Leonard Enslow who was asleep on the beach. Pvt. Enslow grasped the situation at once and dove into the water and started to swim out to Ellsworth. The swift current and the 100 yards that he had to swim tired him out by the time that he reached the drowning soldier.

The attention of the 19 year old Negro soldier attracted to the commotion and the plight of his fellow soldiers. Without any regard for his own safety he plunged into the treacherous surf and went to the rescue. Between himself and Pvt. Enslow they succeeded in bringing Ellsworth to shore. It would have been next to impossible for one of them to have brought the drowning man in.

At the time of his heroic act Cpl. Goodall was a first class private having been promoted to his present rank a month later. Goodall also holds the Good Conduct medal for exemplary conduct. Prior to his induction in June, 1943, Cpl. Goodall was a heavy truck driver. He is a former student of a Norfolk, Va., vocational training school where he studied cabinet making and was a member of the football team.

476-1944

Father Accepts Hero's Award

World — Memphis, Tenn.

Joseph H. Deyampert, retired Pullman Porter of Mobile, Ala., is presented with the Navy and Marine Corps medal, awarded posthumously to his son, Warren T. Deyampert, Coast Guard steward, by Commander Lee C. Mueller of the Mobile District. The Coast Guardsman lost his life aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Escanaba. The citation stated: "Despite the menace of possible enemy submarine action, Deyampert risked his life in the black and icy waters of the Atlantic to aid in the rescue of unconscious survivors . . . His gallant and voluntary action in subjecting himself to pounding seas and bitter cold for nearly four hours contributed to the rescue of 145 persons and his courageous disregard of his own personal safety was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service." — (Official Coast Guard Photo from OWI)

Presidential Citation Goes To Carolinian

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Was Crew Member Of Ship That Defied U-Boat

9-4-44

NORFOLK, Va.—(S N S)—Capt. M. R. Greer, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Va., recently presented the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon to Everett Huey Hicks, Cook, third class, USN, of 321 North Dargan Street, Florence ,S. C., the Navy Department announced this week. Hicks received the ribbon for service aboard the USS BARRY in TASK UNIT 21.14.

TASK UNIT 21.14, including the escort aircraft carrier USS CARD and its escort destroyers, the USS BARRY, USS BORIE and USS GOFF, along with its air squadrons, COMPOSITE ONE AND COMPOSITE NINE, was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its anti-submarine activities in the Atlantic. 8-4-44

Each man attached to the vessels or squadrons is entitled to wear the ribbon and each received a copy of the citation, which reads:

"For outstanding performance during anti-submarine operations in mid-Atlantic from July 27, 1943. At a time when continual flow of supplies along the United States-North Africa convoy route was essential to the maintenance of our established military supremacy and to the accumulation of reserves, the CARD, her embarked aircraft and her escorts pressed home a vigorous offensive which was largely responsible for the complete withdrawal of hostile U-boats from this vital supply area. Later, when submarines returned with deadlier weapons and augmented anti-aircraft defenses this heroic Task Unit, by striking damaging blows at the onset of renewed campaigns, wrested the initiative from the enemy before actual inception of projected large-scale attacks. Its distinctive fulfillment of difficult and hazardous missions contributed materially to victorious achievements by our land forces." 8-4-44

Highest Award Given Seaman By Roosevelt

Daily World Atlanta Ga. August 2, 1944

Presentation Is Made In Son Pedro, California

By HARRY S. McALPIN

(Washington Bureau Of The Atlanta Daily World And NNPA)

WASHINGTON — The highest award to a merchant seaman, "The Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal", of which approximately only 70 have been given since creation of the medal by Congress is 1939, was presented Sunday by President Roosevelt to a Negro seaman, Fred C. Archibald, of Columbia, South America, for distinguished service in the line of duty.

The presentation was made in San Pedro, California, on behalf of the president by Telfair Knight, Assistant Administrator in Charge of Training for the War Shipping Arministration. Archibald, who became an American pitizen just nine days ago, was saved from a horrible death or injury in the recent explosion of the Liberty Ship E. A. Bryan at Port Chicago, Calif., on which he was serving, because he was away on leave in San Francisco, to get his citizenship papers when the tragey which killed over 300 men occured. The citation accompanying the award to Archibald, who has been going to sea for the past 29 years, and who was only six days out of Pearl Harbor when the Japs attacked on December 7, 1941, reads:

MANNED GUNS 8-2-44

"The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal to Fred C. Archibald for distinguished service in the line of duty. For 18 months the ship in which he was serving operated in the Southwestern Pacific under especially hazardous conditions as i was at all times in the danger zones unescorted and only little armed. In the attack on Port Darwin and in the nine succeeding days when most of the crew had left the ship, he with his Captain and four officers and men manned two machine guns and so successfully defended the ship that it was the only one not destroyed. After the first attack this small group protestingly left the ship upon orders of the military authorities, but subsequently returned, got under way and took their ship into the harbor each morning and returned, to the dock each night to discharge cargo so as not to endanger the dock during daylight

8-7-44

"Because of the indominatable determination and courage of these six men, they succeeded in deiverring gasoline so vitally necessary to Army operations His loyalty to his ship and his devotion to duty have added another inspirational chapter to the history of the United States Merchant Marine.

The citation was signed for the President by Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the United States Maritime commission,

Legion of Merit Medal Given To Four Yanks On Bougainville

Register — San Antonio, Texas August 2, 1944

SGT. JOHN M. LEWIS, Jr. cracks marihuana ring

Staff Sergeant John M. Lewis, Jr., was recently awarded the Legion of Merit for his part in bringing to justice a ring of marihuana peddlers.

Staff Sergeant Lewis, from Camden, New Jersey, is a member of the 318th anti-aircraft barrage balloon battalion at Camp Tyson, Tennessee.

Bronze Star Medal Given Four Yanks On Bougainville

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

Cavalry Officer And Three Doughboys Cited For Action

8-2-44

Sergeant Owens remained concealed all night, returning to his unit the following morning with valuable information. His mother, Mrs. Matilda Owens, lives at the Woodland Avenue address.

Having contacted the enemy, Technician Fifth Grade Clarence C. Reese, of Cotton Plant, Arkansas able to make hissas, succeeded in silencing their fire long enough to recover a severely but continuing his mission. He was sub- ac- Cavalry officer sequently wounded three more times. In this condition he continued on to accomplish his mission. Owens of 3742 wounded comrade. He treated the injured Yank and within enemy obser- to enemy cared for him for a period of two and three enlisted Doughboys of fire on an enemy days and a night until contact was the 93rd Infantry Division that was seriously made with friendly troops. have been awarded the Bronze Star patrol. He killed Technician Fifth Grade Walter Medal for meritorious service on killed in the South Sergeant James L. Bougainville Island Pacific, the War Department an- Woodland Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio nounced Monday. All four of the wounds of the injured Yank and exposed himself to meritorious acts occurred on May 17, 1944. vation to deliver fire for mortar squad that was harrassing his patrol

In his fourth fire fight within two days, Second Lieutenant Charles Japs in his successful endeavor to R. Collins, of 4638 Indiana Avenue, silence the mortar. Later, surrounded by the enemy Chicago, Illinois, was wounded

BOUGAINVILLE, Northern Solomons—(SNS)—A Cavalry officer and three enlisted Doughboys of the 93rd Infantry Division have been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service on Bougainville Island in the South Pacific, the War Department announced Monday. All four of the meritorious acts occurred on May 17, 1944.

8-2-44

Waterbury, Connecticut, also suc- ceeded in halting enemy fire long enough to recover a wounded comrade. His sister, Miss Althea Lee, lives at the Monterey street address.

Receives Presidential Unit Award

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
8-4-44

NORFOLK, Va. — (SNS)—Captain M. R. Greer, USN, commanding officer, Naval Air Station here, pins the Presidential Unit Citation ribbon on Everett Huey Hicks, cook, third class, USN. Hicks merits the ribbon, as a crew member of the Destroyer USS Barry, whose Yank unit was cited for its anti-submarine operations in mid-Atlantic from July 27, 1943. Hicks, 23, has spent four and one-half years in the Navy, almost all of it at sea. His wife, Rachel, lives at 321 N. Dargen St., Florence, S. C. Hicks' father, Fayette Huey Hicks, resides at Route 8, Box 737, Wylam, Ala.—(Official U. S. Navy Photo from OWI)

NEGRO SOLDIERS RECEIVE AWARDS

Age-Herald-Birmingham, Ala.

Army awards to two Negro soldiers (one posthumously) from Birmingham, and three others (one posthumously) from Alabama have been announced by the War Department. 8-1-44

St. Sgt. Dennis Holt, Infantry, of 3600 Douglas Road, Birmingham, was presented with the Legion of Merit award for exceptionally meritorious conduct from May 4, 1942, to April 20, 1943, as chief of a battalion wire section at a base in the South Pacific area.

Pvt. George Watson, QMC, Birmingham, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (posthumously) for extraordinary heroism on March 8, 1943, when he lost his life in Pordock Harbor, New Guinea.

Pvt. Jesse Harris, Infantry, of Tuskegee, was awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct at Guadalcanal on March 27, 1943. 8-1-44

Tech. 5th Gr. John H. Hayes, QMC, of Chatom, was awarded the Soldier's Medal for disregarding personal danger to himself in saving Army equipment in an explosion and fire at Dilworth, N. C.

Corp. James B. Steward, Engineer's Corps, of Enterprise, who was fatally wounded in North Africa, was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. The award was presented to his mother in Lexington, Miss.

NEGROES STAGE BIG BOND RALLY NEXT SATURDAY

Tribune Chicago, Ill.
8-6-44

A mammoth war bond rally will be held by south side Negro organizations Saturday in which celebrities such as Lena Horne and Duke Ellington will appear.

The event will start with a parade in which more than 2,000 children from Boy and Girl Scout groups, the Wabash avenue Y. M. C. A., and the Chicago Youth leagues of the Stanton avenue and Wabash avenue police districts will march. The parade, to start at 11 a. m. from 35th st. and Michigan av. to Washington park, will feature 15 large floats and will be led by Capt. Harry Deas of the Stanton avenue police station, president of the executive committee of the Chicago Youth league.

Army Band in Parade.

Also in the parade will be the 343d army band from Camp Ellis followed by a company of Negro WACS from Fort Sheridan. Marching in the parade for the first time will be five Negro ensigns from the Great Lakes Naval Training center.

Admission to the rally at the park will be a war bond. Lena Horne will sing several songs, Duke Ellington's band will play and Mayor Kelly will speak. There will be acts from several night club floor shows and the Great Lakes octet will perform.

Try for Bond Goal.

The south side groups will attempt to reach their million dollar war bond goal when the drive ends on that day.

Every child attending the rally will be treated to orangeade, red hots, candy, and ice cream, contributed by south side merchants for the event. 8-6-44

There will be an all Negro police detail in charge and Negro firemen from engine company No. 19 will be present as will be several veteran groups and patriotic organizations.

Maj. C. Udell Turpin, deputy administrator of the treasury department, is in charge of the rally and David W. Kellem has arranged the parade and children's picnic. The Chicago Defender is among the sponsors.

First Pilot Victim Honored

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

IN MEMORY OF FIRST TO DIE—Mrs. Harry G. Mitchell (third from right), of Washington, D. C., mother of First Lieutenant Paul G. Mitchell, the first Negro pilot killed in combat, visits the "Mitchell Village" housing project erected in his honor at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama. Others pictured are, from left, Mrs. W. D. Jackson, of Tuskegee; Lt. Walter R. Harley, director of Mitchell Village; Miss Janet E. Sessoms, of Columbus, Ga.; Chaplain Douglas Robinson, Lt. Lewis H. Fenderson, assistant Public Relations Officer, and Mr. James B. Porter, of Columbus, Ga. (Army Air Forces Photo.)

Lt. Westmoreland Awarded Air Medal

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Lt. Westmoreland is a member of at Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga., the first All-Negro Fighter Group prior to entry into the Army. He is in the Army Air Forces. The grour the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. is commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. It is a part of the 15th Air Force operating in Italy and acting as escort for heavy bombers to and from their targets.

15TH AAF IN ITALY—By General Order of Headquarters, 15th Air Force, Second Lieutenant Walter D. Westmoreland 24, P-51 Mustang Fighter Pilot, of Atlanta, Ga., has been awarded the Air Medal.

Lt. Westmoreland was awarded to the first All-Negro Fighter Group prior to entry into the Army. He is in the Army Air Forces. The grour the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. is commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. It is a part of the 15th Air Force operating in Italy and acting as escort for heavy bombers to and from their targets.

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47b-1944

CARLTON MOSS HONORED FOR WORK OVERSEAS

THE IOWA BYSTANDER Des Moines, Iowa

Carlton Moss, author of and principal character in "The Negro Soldier," official War Department film depicting the role of the Negro soldier in America's wars, receive the congratulations of Colonel Frank Capra, after being presented with the Overseas Service Emblem in Hollywood on November 10. Colonel Capra, who directed "The Negro Soldier," is commanding officer of the Special Coverage Unit, Army Pictorial Services. The citation reads in part: "Mr. Moss worked long and hard in the European Theater of Operations, giving unstintingly of his unusual skill and knowledge, contributing substantially thereby to a project which promises to compare favorably with "The Negro Soldier." (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo from BPR.)

FOURTEEN WIN AWARDS WITH 92nd IN ITALY

Pittsburgh Pa.

Pgh. Courier 11-25-44

By HASKELL COHEN, Courier War Correspondent.

WITH THE 92nd IN ITALY—The dull booming of heavy artillery in the background bore strong witness to the nearness of the fighting to 14 heroes decorated last Friday morning in a Liguarian sea battle-front town. As the roaring waves of the nearby sea echoed the cannonading, the commanding officer of the 92nd division handed out four silver stars and ten bronze stars to the gallant members of his force.

The winners of the silver star included 1st Lt. Lawrence Lackey, Ardmore, Okla.; 1st Lt. Walter Vaughan, white, Roanoke, Va.; 2nd Lt. Albert Seay, Brooklyn, N.Y., and Pvt. Jake McGinnis, Prentiss, Miss.

AIDS WOUNDED MEN

Two men in the returning ration train were wounded but reached the destination. The next day Lackey returned to the stricken company at the front and brought enough litter carriers. He reconnoitered for a safe route and evacated the wounded to waiting ambulances. 11-25-44

SETS OFF LAND MINE

Lieutenant Seay was the leader of a combat patrol that came under heavy enemy fire. While reconnoitering positions which his unit later occupied, he touched off a land mine and sustained serious wounds. The patrol wiped out one enemy machine gun nest but was forced to return without its leader. Despite his wounds, Seay managed to crawl and roll back to his own lines, two days later.

Lieutenant Lackey on October 7 learned that a company with seven casualties could be reached by one rear route. He mustered a litter squad and reached the group in- tact with his squad. Upon his arrival Lackey found 17 casualties, instead of seven, with no way of evacuation. The lieutenant selected an abandoned hospital site, organized wards, placed the wounded under technicals and returned the next day to the rear for supplies.

On October 12, Private McGinnis was given a machine gun position atop a hill to protect. With an M-1 rifle he stayed in position, receiving enemy machine gun, pistol, rifle and artillery fire. Within six hours he repelled vigorously six enemy counter-attacks. Once, finding that the tripod of his gun prevented him from covering all the approaches, he held the gun on the rocks and caused 13 enemy casualties.

Bronze stars went to Maj. Wallace M. Hanes, white, Dallas, Tex.; 2nd Lt. Ralph W. Rhodes, white, McLouth, Kas.; T/Sgt. Louie Hammonds, Memphis, Tenn.; Sgt. Sylvester Badgett, Sumner, Miss., who is missing in action—his next of kind, Mrs. Emma L. Badgett, has been notified; S/Sgt. Robert L. Johnson, Amherst, Va.; Cpl. Floyd Jones, New York City; S/Sgt. Nathaniel I. Johnson, Baltimore, Md.; T/4 Clarence M. Palmer, Durham, N.C.; T/5 Leon V. Miller, Dayton, Ohio; Pvt. Elmer A. Patrice, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.—all for meritorious service in combat.

Combat infantryman badges went to Lt. Col. George Weber, Capt. Curtis Javey, Sgts. Elihu Jackson, Eddie Lee, Robert Grady, Kelious McDonald, Charles Smith, and Eligia Glass, S/Sgts. Alfred Richards, Elwell Wilson and Keith Goodall, Pvts. Beobrac Moss, Daniel Hewett, Frederick Allseyne, Samuel Lewis, H. L. Lanier, and O. B. Daniel—for exemplary action against the enemy.

Awarded Silver Star For Heroism In South Pacific

12-23-44 N.Y.

YONKERS N. Y. — Friends here are congratulating the family of Corporal Technician Marcus P. Sanchez, 192 Warburten avenue, who has been awarded a silver star for gallantry in action.

The citation accompanying the award said:

On May 29, 1944, he exposed himself to mortar and small arms fire, without regard to his safety, successfully to rescue a platoon of men from a dangerously exposed position in the vicinity of Parai Jetty, Biak Island, New Guinea. A member of the crew of an amphibious truck, he accomplished a mission of evacuating wounded personnel from there and evacuated in an operation requiring two trips. This act, under heavy fire, saved the lives of those men."

First Victoria Cross For Colored Colonial

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

12-9-44

The first Victoria Cross to be won in this war by a non-European soldier, and the first to be won by a non-white colonial, has been awarded posthumously to a Fijian corporal who deliberately sacrificed his life to save his comrades in action on Bougainville, Solomon Islands, according to the London Gazette of November 4.

He was Safanaia Sukanaivalu, of the Third Battalion of the Fiji Infantry Regiment. His surname with tragic irony, means "Returned from the War," for he was born in 1919 when men of the Fiji Labor Corps returned after serving in the last war in France and Italy. 12-9-44

The Fiji Military Forces, composed solely of volunteers from the British Fiji Islands, have many times before won high praise for their gallantry and skill. The American forces, with whom they are now fighting, have paid tribute to them on many occasions.

The citation published in his honor follows: 12-9-44

"On June 23, 1944, at Mawarada, Bougainville, in the Solomon Islands, Corporal Sefanaia Sukanaivalu crawled forward to rescue men who had been wounded when their platoon was ambushed and some of the leading elements had become casualties.

"After two wounded men had been successfully recovered, this NCO, who was in command of rear action, volunteered to go on further alone to try and rescue another one, in spite of machine gun and mortar fire but on the way back he himself was seriously wounded in the groin and thighs and fell to the ground, unable to move.

"Several attempts were made to rescue Corporal Sukanaivalu, but without success, owing to heavy fire being encountered on each occasion and further casualties caused. This gallant NCO then called to his men not to try and get to him as he was in a very exposed position, but they replied they would never leave him to fall alive into hands of the enemy.

"Realizing his men would not withdraw as long as they could see he was alive and knowing that they were all in danger of being killed or captured, Corporal Sukanaivalu, well aware of consequences, raised himself up in front of Japanese machine-gun fire and was riddled with bullets.

"This brave Fijian soldier, after rescusing two wounded men with greatest heroism and being gravely wounded himself, deliberately sacrificed his own life because he knew that it was the only way in which the remainder of his platoon could be inducted to retire from a situation in which they would have been annihilated had they not withdrawn."

The action in which Corporal Sukanaivalu died has been called by a correspondent a "small-scale Dunkirk." The Fijian battalion, with an American field artillery battery and engineers, set out to raid a Japanese position many miles beyond the Allied perimeter. After penetrating deep into enemy territory they ran into fierce opposition from a superior Japanese force and the commanding officer decided it would be necessary to fall back to the nearest beach and withdraw by sea.

In response to a radio appeal, the American corps commander sent landing barges and escort vessels to the point indicated and the first platoon of the battalion reached beach just as darkness was falling. The last platoon did not arrive until nearly two hours later, and throughout that time the Japanese were making desperate attempts to cut off the Allied forces.

An officer said: "Men came out with group, where his fathe all their arms, some walking wounded went to the Davulevu others staggering along helping one near Suva in 1938 another, some carrying dead and worked as a carpente wounded on their backs." Men came and later at the gold tiently for their turn to board the barges. It was during this withdrawal that Corporal Sukanaivalu's home was at Yathata in the Fiji s father still lives. He ilevu Technical school 1938 and afterwards rpenter first in Suva gold mines at Tavua 1942.

12-9-44

Bronze Star For Gallantry

Norfolk - Journal & Guide

Norfolk Va.

Staff Sergeant Mandy James, of Newport News, Va., a soldier of the 92nd Infantry Division, was recently awarded the Bronze Star for gallantry in action October 12 when he, braving intense machine gun fire, gathered a group of men and led them to the rescue of his commanding officer who had fallen painfully wounded during the bloody battle for a mountain on the coastal sector of the Fifth Army front. The men carried the wounded officer from the exposed position, where he had fallen, to a place of comparative safety.

MANY AWARDS GO TO NEGRO SOLDIERS

N.Y. Times
N.Y., N.Y.

29 Receive Bronze and Silver Stars and 188 Purple Heart in Europe and the Pacific

12-18-44

Negro soldiers operating tank destroyers in the front lines, constructing airfields in forward areas, baking bread under enemy fire and moving supplies to enable our armies to advance without a "hitch" have won high praise from star rank officers, according to War Department announcements made public yesterday making public the Bronze and Silver Stars to twenty-nine men and the Purple Heart decoration to 188 aviation engineers. 12-18-44

Working under back-breaking schedules, often going for days without sleep, Negro soldiers in the Quartermaster Corps kept gasoline flowing to the front to enable the First, Third and Ninth Armies to maintain their steady advance through France and into Germany. In asking official recognition for men of his unit, one commander summed up their achievement by simply saying: "They deliver."

For "fidelity and proficiency" a Negro engineer aviation battalion, representing nearly every State in the Union, was honored as it moved into forward combat area in the central Pacific. Since it was alerted for overseas, the group has not had a single AWOL case, an almost unbelievable record, more remarkable, according to the battalion's commander, because the average age of the men is 22 years and there is a very high percentage of 18-year-olds.

Master Sergeant Christopher T. Green of 140 Somerset Street, Newark, N. J., sergeant-major of the battalion, rewarded for initiative and ability in the handling of administrative work, won the stripes for the highest enlisted men's grade in the short space of four months. His capability, according to his battalion commander, is not limited to administrative functions, as he is an excellent field soldier as well. 12-18-44

Under hazardous conditions members of the 4353d Quartermaster Bakery Company in France have been turning out bread for 78,000 combat-boun dtroops each day. The special mobile unit consists of eighty-one Negro soldiers who have moved with the Army since Paris was freed. They were baking bread while bullets still were whistling through the streets.

For gallantry and heroism in combat, seven Silver Stars and twenty-two Bronze Stars were awarded to Negro soldiers with the Ninety-second (Buffalo) Division in Italy. Those from the New York area are: 12-18-44

SILVER AND BRONZE STARS

Second Lieut. Albert E. Seay, 366-A Grand Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Corp. Floyd Jones, 16 Laurel Avenue, Hempstead, L. I.

Pfc. Elmer A. Patrice, 15½ Pershing Avenue, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Corp. Carroll F. James, 16 Hopper Avenue, Newark, N. J.

Private Mathew Ragland, 135 N. Division Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Private Wilburt E. Royce, 98-03 32d Avenue, Corona, Queens.

The aviation engineers who received the Purple Heart were in action in the South Pacific and were attached to the 855th Engineer Aviation Battalion. The recipients in the New York area follow:

NEW YORK—Tech. 4th gr. Marshall James, 262 West 154th Street, New York; Sgt. Sidney A. Johnson, 940 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York; Tech. 5th gr. Iverson Carter, 105-32 172d Street, Jamaica; Tech. 4th gr. Reuben R. Carter, 145-151 Arlington Terrace, Jamaica; Pfc. James Farrow, 322 Putnam Avenue, Brooklyn. Pfc. Joseph Holland, 1377 Pacific Street, Brooklyn;; Tech. 3d gr. Alfred I. Jordan, 74 Hunter Street, Ossining.

NEW JERSEY—Corp. Earl R. Daniel, 377 Whiton Street, Jersey City; Tech 5th gr. William H. Jones, 123 Livingston Street, Newark; Corp. Edward Pickett, 2,000 Rutherford Avenue, Asbury Park.

Jersey G. I. Awarded for Unique Ability

N.Y. Amsterdam News
N.Y., N.Y.
11-18-44

Sgt. Jesse J. Holbert Of Orange, N. J., Cited "Somewhere in Italy"

PENINSULAR BASE HEADQUARTERS, Italy (ANP)—Sgt. J. L. Holbert of Orange, N. J., was recently awarded the Legion of Merit during ceremonies in the area of his port battalion, somewhere in Italy. The medal was presented him by Col. Francis H. Oss, commanding officer of this base, while the following citation was read.

The Citation

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in North Africa from June 1, 1943, to May 1, 1944. As labor foreman in charge of all lumber at the Transatlantique dock, Bizerte, Tunisia. Sgt. Holbert exhibited unique ability in organizing, training and supervising Arab labor, and later Italian prisoners of war, in vital stevedoring tasks.

"Endowed with an unusual aptitude for drawing the maximum amount of work out of individuals and yet keeping them satisfied, Sgt. Holbert maintained an efficient and smoothly working operating supply of port labor during a most critical period of Allied operations in North Africa, increasing the port turnover of tonnage and saving the United States government large sums of money. His continued energy, leadership and administrative ability enabled Sgt. Holbert to contribute conspicuously to the success of the port operations conducted in direct support of the allied landings in Sicily and Italy."

Lived With Aunt

M-Sgt. Jesse Holbert makes his home with his aunt, Mrs. Maude A. Hill, of the Orange address. He has been in the army since March, 1941 and helped form cadre of his present organization in February 1942 He served in the Tunisian campaign and later moved with his unit to Italy, where he has now completed his 27th month of duty overseas.

Philadelphia Tribune Wins Croix de Guerre

Penn.

Pvt. JONATHAN HOAG, of Banger, Okla., member of a chemical battalion, was warded the Croix de Guerre by Gen. Alphonse Juin, Commanding General, FEC, for courage shown in treating wounded, even though he himself was wounded, in the Fifth Army, Pozzilli area, Italy, last March.

'Red Ballers' Lauded By Ike

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
10-13-44

HEADQUARTERS EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS—On behalf of General Eisenhower, Major General E .S. Hughes, decorated Corporal Robert F. Bradley, of Lynchburg, Virginia, Negro truck driver on the Army's famed "Red Ball Highway," with a Bronze Star Medal, and lauded the work of the thousands of Negro quartermaster truck drivers who are hauling vital front-line supplies over this 400-mile one-way loop, day and night, to the fighting fronts.

Sixty per cent of the drivers are Negroes. Stopping huge convoy on the outskirts of Paris, Major General Hughes pinned the decration on Corporal Bradley, in a surprise ceremony which caught the entire trucking group unaware. He told me that he would have liked to present all of them with medals, but that "Bradley was chosen as a representative of the whole Red Ball Highway, including the men who repair the roads and bridges, put up the telephone wires and do all the service work in the rear. 10-13-44

General Eisenhower realizes that you men soldom get the same recognition as soldiers in the front line and wants you to know that the part you're playing is vital. His message is for every man engaged on this vast project; the troops at the front couldn't do without you."

The Motor Transport Brigade initiated the Red Ball Highway in August to meet the needs for swifter delivery of supplies to the First and Third Armies in their drive towards Germany.

Major General Frank Ross, Chief of Transportation, Communications Zone, disclosed that the route is four times the length of the Burma Road and that in its first 26 days of operation it hauled and delivered more than 200,000 tons of supplies to advanced depots, where front-line units pick it up with their hauling units. 10-13-44

Speedier supply became acutely necessary when Lieutenant General George S. Patton's Third Army broke through at St. Lo, and rapidity through France. And so the Red Ball Highway came into existence, with thousands of truck drivers pulling 24-hour a day shifts, as the long convoys rolled across specially designated one-way military highways through France. 10-13-44

The vast line has become the biggest chain of supply being maintained by U. S. forces today.

47b-1944

Highest Award Won By Colored Seaman

Informer — Houston, Texas

8-12-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The highest award to a merchant seaman, The Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal, of which approximately only 70 have been awarded since creation of the medal by Congress in 1939, was presented last week by President Roosevelt to a Negro seaman, Fred C. Archibald of Columbia, South America, for distinguished service in the line of duty.

The presentation of the award was made in San Pedro, California on behalf of the President by Telfair Knight, assistant administrator in charge of training for the War Shipping Administration.

Archibald, because he was off duty to get his American Citizenship papers of nine days before receiving this honor, was saved from a horrible death or injury in the recent explosion of the liberty ship E. A. Bryan at Port Chicago, California on which he was serving, which killed over 300 men.

8-12-44

The citation accompanying the award to Archibald reads:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Merchant Marine Service Medal to Fred C. Archibald for distinguished service in the line of duty.

Defend Ship

"For 18 months the ship in which he was serving operated in the Southwestern Pacific under especially hazardous conditions, as it was at all times in the danger zone, was unescorted ,and only a little armed. In the attack on Port Darwin and in the nine succeeding days when most of the crew had left the ship, he, with his captain and four officers and men manned two machine guns and so successfully defended the ship that it was the only one of twelve merchant vessels in the harbor not destroyed.

"After the first attack this small group protestingly left the ship upon orders of the military authorities, but subsequently returned, got under way and took their ship into the harbor each morning and returned to the deck each night to discharge cargo so as not to endanger the dock during daylight.

"Because of the indomitable determination and courage of these six men, they succeeded in delivering gasoline so vitally necessary to Army operations.

"His loyalty to his ship and his devotion to duty have added another inspirational chapter to the history of the United States merchant marine."

8-12-44

The citation was signed for the President by Admiral Emory Scott Land, chairman of the United States Maritime Commission.

Army Hero

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

4-17-44

CPL. JAMES A. THOMAS recently received a commendation. A fire started on the back of a 1½ ton truck which was hauling trash. The fire spread rapidly through the trash-laden truck and would have reached the gasoline tank had it not been for the quick-thinking of the driver, Cpl. Thomas. At the risk of being severely burned or possibly killed by an explosion of the gasoline tank, he took the fire extinguisher in the truck and climbing aboard the back of the vehicle, kept the flames from the gasoline tank until proper fire apparatus arrived.

RECEIVES MEDAL—First Sgt. Ernest O. Crique, of New York City, receives the Soldier's Medal from Maj. General Lawton Collins, commanding general of the 7th Corps. First Sgt. Crique, who is attached to a quartermaster truck company, received the citation for meritorious service in line of duty. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo)

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va. 11-18-44

Lieut. General Clark Awards Purple Hearts To First Casualties Of 92nd Division In Italy

Age — New York, N.Y.

10-14-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy—Nine wounded Negro infantrymen from the 92nd Infantry Division, now fighting with the Fifth Army, and one of their officers recently were awarded Purple Hearts by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, who pinned the medals on them in their wards at the 56th Evacuation Hospital, the War Department disclosed today.

Among the first casualties of the Division, which was committed to the front line late in August, the Negro doughboys were told by the Fifth Army Commander that their unit had discharged itself well in its initial battle experience. General Clark asked each one the circumstances and nature of his wounds and wished him a speedy recovery.

Several of the wounded men reminded the General that they had heard his talk to them at the front the day they went into action.

Those who received decorations were Private First Class Herman Bradley of 928 West 27th street, Indianapolis, Indiana; Private First Class Ernest Hainsworth of Southern Pines, North Carolina; Private First Class Turner Joiner of Valdosta, Georgia; Staff Sergeant Wayne Stine of Mount Enterprise, Texas; Private First Class Nathaniel Coffey of 3719 4th street, New Orleans, Louisiana; Private Theodore Coleman of West Helena, Arkansas; Private Frank Earsery of 1311 West Walnut Street, Louisville, Kentucky; Private First Class Isaac Milton of 18 Northwest Boundary Savannah, Georgia; and Private First Class David Foster of 108 Oscar street, Greenville, South Carolina.

10-14-44

Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Kimpton of 7700 Chappell Avenue, Chicago, a battalion commander who also was among the division's first casualties, received his Purple Heart at the hospital ceremony.

Directed Arab Italian Prisoner Of War Labor

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va. 11-18-44

PENINSULAR BASE HEADQUARTERS, Italy—(ANP)—Sgt. Jesse J. Holbert of Orange, N. J., was recently awarded the Legion of Merit during ceremonies in the area of his port battalion, somewhere in Italy. The medal was presented him by Col. Francis H. Oss, commanding officer of this base, while the following citation was read.

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in North Africa from June 1, 1943, to May 1, 1944. As labor foreman in charge of all labor at the Transatlantique dock, Bizerte, Tunisia, Sgt. Holbert exhibited unique ability in organizing, training and supervising Arab labor, and later Italian prisoners of war, in vital stevedoring tasks.

"Endowed with an unusual aptitude for drawing the maximum amount of work out of individuals and yet keeping them satisfied, Sgt. Holbert maintained an efficient and smoothly operating supply of port labor during a most critical period of allied operations in North Africa, increasing the port turnover of tonnage and saving the United States government large sums of money. His continued energy, leadership, and administrative ability enabled Sgt. Holbert to contribute conspicuously to the success of the port operations conducted in direct support of the allied landings in Sicily and Italy."

11-18-44

M Sgt. Jesse Holbert makes his home with his aunt, Mrs. Maude A. Hill, of the Orange address. He has been in the Army since March 1941 and helped form the cadre of his present organization in February, 1942. He served in the Tunisian campaign and later moved with his unit to Italy, where he has now completed his 27th month of duty overseas.

Lauded by New AFRO-American 5th Army Head

Balt., Md.

13 Silver, 5 Bronze Stars; 2 Air Medals

12-30-44

3 LEGION OF MERIT

2 Get E Citations, 1 Appointed Lieutenant

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92nd DIVISION IN ITALY—In the largest and most colorful ceremonies of the kind ever held in this area, Lt. General Lucian Truscott, new Fifth Army commander, paid tribute Wednesday to the 92nd Division, personally pinning awards of the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Air Medal and one second lieutenancy battlefield promotion on twenty-five of it new heroes.

The decoration ceremony was held amid ideal springlike weather in this war-torn, shell-wrecked town with heavy artillery fire from the nearby front lines furnishing a grim, realistic reminder of what occasioned the awards.

Nine Easterners, including Second Lieutenant Ulysses D. Glover, were also among recipients.

Other Easterners Honored

Other Easterners include S/Sgt. Roys Savage, Fort Bragg, N.C.; Milton S. Byam and Freda E. Crockett, NYC; Pvt. Ernest E. Haskins, Maitland, W. Va., Bronze Stars, and First Lieutenant Charles Phillips, Glens Falls, NY, Legion of Merit; Sgt. Eugene Gra-

The one area combat appointment went to T/Sgt. Jonnie Birdsong, Dallas, Texas, and marked the sixth made since the Ninety-second entered combat four months ago. Birdsong, the only double recipient in Wednesday's awards, also received the Legion of Merit.

Others Given Awards

Others honored were;

2242 Reed Street, Philadelphia, Silver Star, and S/Sgt. Lawrence O. Crampton, 657 N. Frazier Street, Philadelphia, Bronze Star; also among recipients.

Legion of Merit—T/Sgt. Thomas T. David, Uniontown, Pa.; Silver Star—T/Sgts. David Harris, Port Arthur, Texas; Fred Thodes, Bienville, La.; Sgt. Ernest Grice, Quincy, Fla.; T/4 James Taylor, Laurel, Miss.; 12-30-44

Bronze Star — S/Sgts. Leonard Durant, Houston, Texas; Horace L. Pass, Christian, Miss.; A. L. Tover, Montgomery, Ala.; Pvt. Earl Riley, Kansas City, Mo.; Pfcs. James Humes, Detroit; Ernest Hollis, Columbia, Pa.; Second Lts. Thomas J. Johnson, Dover, Ky.; Lt. James Faulkner, Chicago, Air Medal.

First Lts. Robert L. Wren, Cincinnati, Ohio, and James E. Woodson, Topeka, Kans., both pilots, were awarded E citations for performing thirty-five field artillery observation sorties against Germans in Italy during the period August 29 to September 26.

Baltimorean Proves Hero

Lt. Glover, whose mother, Mrs. Claudia Glover, lives at his Baltimore address, won his citation for his successful leadership of an important reconnaisance patrol on the night of November 24, during which he endangered his own life

Gets Efficiency Award

M/Sgt. Parks was awarded the Legion of Merit for his efficiency as operations sergeant of his combat team during the period from July 31 to September 9, during which his efforts made possible the unit's clever operation after its executive officer was killed and additional duties imposed on other staff officers. He was employed in a Washington undertaking establishment prior to induction. He has a wife, Lillian, and no children. Parks is a former Villanova student. 12-30-44

Sergeant Graham was cited for gallantry in action on November 22 when, as radio operator for his platoon, attacking an important objective, he braved intense enemy machine gun and heavy mortar fire alone to climb to a vantage observation post and direct successful counterfire on the Germans by radio, silencing the machine gun and several of their mortars. Unmarried, his mother, Mrs. Irma Graham, lives at his Philadelphia address.

S/Sgt. Crampton was cited for bravery in action while a squad leader of a unit attempting to take an enemy-held hill on December 5. In the face of heavy enemy fire, he advanced alone to a point where he could direct his unit's fire on German positions, aiding in the capture of the objective.

Courage Wins Recognition

T/Sgt. Birdsong won the Legion of Merit for courageous action on the night of August 30 when he was second in command of the first American reconnaissance patrol to cross the Arno River. Birdsong, after his commander and several other members became separated from the unit in darkness, led the remaining men across for the accomplishment of his mission successfully.

Returning, Birdsong found that he was short of one man, so he went across the river again alone, under enemy fire, and directed his companion back safely. He was commissioned as a result of this and his previous exhibitions of leadership qualities. He has been in the Army two years and has a wife, Lottie.

S/Sgt. Davis, the other of the three Legion of Merit winners, which is the fourth highest Army award, was cited for exceptional work in preparing his combat team for action while functioning as operations sergeant. Barely 5 feet tall and weighing less than 110 pounds, fully equipped, Sergeant Davis holds the Combat Infantryman badge and is the smallest man I have seen in combat.

Gen. Truscott Satisfied

He is unmarried and a former case reader in the Department of Public Assistance in Uniontown, Pa. 12-30-44

Following an inspection tour of several 92nd units, General Truscott stated that he was highly pleased with what he had observed and expressed the belief that the men are capable of meeting any test.

Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, 92nd commander, at an elaborate luncheon following the ceremony, reminded the men that he desired that the division make its most creditable eorts now so that it will lon gbe remembered after the war. He stressed the fact that worthwhile results and not just good intentions are needed from officers and men.

As a parting thought, General Truscott, veteran theatre campaigner, advised the men that he expected them to keep in tiptop physical condition through knowledge of their jobs from division officers and men, adding that these would determine their accomplishments.

Returned Veteran Pilot Gets DFC

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Southern France

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12-16-44

15th ARMY AIR FORCE BASE IN ITALY (By Cable) — Capt. Harold E. Sawyer, 24, of Columbus, Ohio, P-51 Mustang Pilot in the fighter group now headed by Major George S. Roberts, is the

Lt. Sawyer

latest winner of the Distinguished Flying Cross, according to an announcement here Sunday. Having been overseas more than ten months, before he recently returned to the States on leave, Captain Sawyer was previously awarded the Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters for meritorious service with the group.

Downs One; Damages 2

The DFC was awarded as a result of a bomber escort mission over Linz, Germany, last July 25 when his efforts as element leader of one flight of his squadron were credited with successfully driving off forty-odd German planes which were attacking the bombers.

During the attack, the veteran combat pilot destroyed one ME-109 and damaged two others. He now has two air victories to his credit and was among several of the group's pilots credited a few months ago with sinking an enemy destroyer.

Captain Sawyer's DFC citation reads:

"On July 25, 1944, while on an escort mission to Linz, Germany, Captain Sawyer was element leader of the last flight of his squadron. Upon entering the target area this squadron was attacked by 40-plus ME-109 enemy aircraft.

Repels Second Attack

"Sighting the enemy, Captain Sawyer instantly seized the initiative, turned with his wingman and closed in. Almost immediately he was informed that the guns on his wingman's plane were not functioning.

"Fully realizing the responsible position into which he had been thrown, Captain Sawyer, with calm efficiency, took upon himself the protection of his comrades against overwhelming odds.

"In the ensuing battle, not only did he succeed in this endeavor, but also managed to thwart the effectiveness of the enemy's initial attack and repel another attack that six ME-109 enemy aircraft were making on the bombers.

"In the encounter he destroyed one ME-109 and severely damaged two others. Finally, after all his ammunition had been expended, he broke away from the enemy and with his wingmen returned safely to base.

Made 70 Missions

"Captain Sawyer has demonstrated this same extraordinary courage and devotion to duty and steadfastness throughout his outstanding record of seventy successfully completed missions against the enemy.

"His superior leadership and flying ability have reflected great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces of the United States of America."

Captain Sawyer is a 1942 graduate of Tuskegee Institute and finished the Army Flying School there April 29, 1943. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll S. Sawyer, live in Columbus.

ATLANTA Constitution

Atlanta Negro Gets Bronze Star For Achievement

12-11-44

An Atlanta Negro boy, a field artillery sergeant, played a part so prominent in keeping American guns and soldiers supplied with ammunition during the "breakthrough" in France and the drive into Germany, that he has been awarded the Bronze Star, one of the higher awards for meritorious service in combat.

He is Sgt. John A. Burns, 23, who went into the Army in Atlanta in 1942. Left an orphan at an early age, he was reared by two aunts, who are as proud a pair of sisters as Atlanta knows today, because of the accomplishments of "their boy." They are Trained Nurse Lena Carter and Cateress Polly May Cummings, who took over the rearing of the boy when his parents died.

He graduated at David T. Howard school and went to Washington High school. Howard school has already had a celebration in his honor.

Sgt. Burns kept the long line of ammunition trucks moving night and day, over roads subjected to frequent enemy air attack, and his feat in keeping plenty of ammunition at the front and not losing a man or a truck, won him the medal and citation which reads:

"Technical Sergeant John A. Burns, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 20 July 1944 to 3 October 1944 in France. Sergeant Burns performed outstanding and meritorious services as commander of the battalion ammunition train." 12-11-44

Sgt. Burns, during this period, kept his battalion constantly supplied with ammunition without loss of a man or truck of his detail.

"Due to the initiative and untiring efforts exemplified by Sergeant Burns, the ammunition train kept on operating during the nights despite the congested roads frequently subjected to enemy air attacks. The continuous devotion to duty and aggressiveness displayed by Sergeant Burns reflect great credit upon himself and constitute the highest traditions of the armed forces."

N.Y. N.Y. 12-23-44

Brooklyn Soldier Receives Fifth Bronze Combat Star

Brooklyn Tribune

With the 3052nd Engineer Combat Battalion in France—A fifth bronze combat star went to Corporal Philip J. Mattera, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Mattera of 1142 39th Street, Brooklyn here recently.

veteran of campaigns in Africa, Sicily, Italy and France, Cpl. Mattera landed in Normandy on D-Day, June 6th, and on two of his earlier invasions also on D-Day. In the fourth he arrived on the hostile shore on "D-plus-3". He has been overseas 17 months.

Cpl. Mattera now is eligible to receive the silver campaign star to wear on his European-Mediterranean-North Africa theatre of operations ribbon for having participated in five campaigns.

Since D-Day in France, his unit has helped construct a tremendous supply machine for equipping the Armies that have raced across France and into the Low Countries. 4 7 1

Cpl. Mattera attended Dewey High School, Brooklyn.

L.A. ANGELES TRIBUNE CAL.

9 Californians get Purple Heart

12-25-44

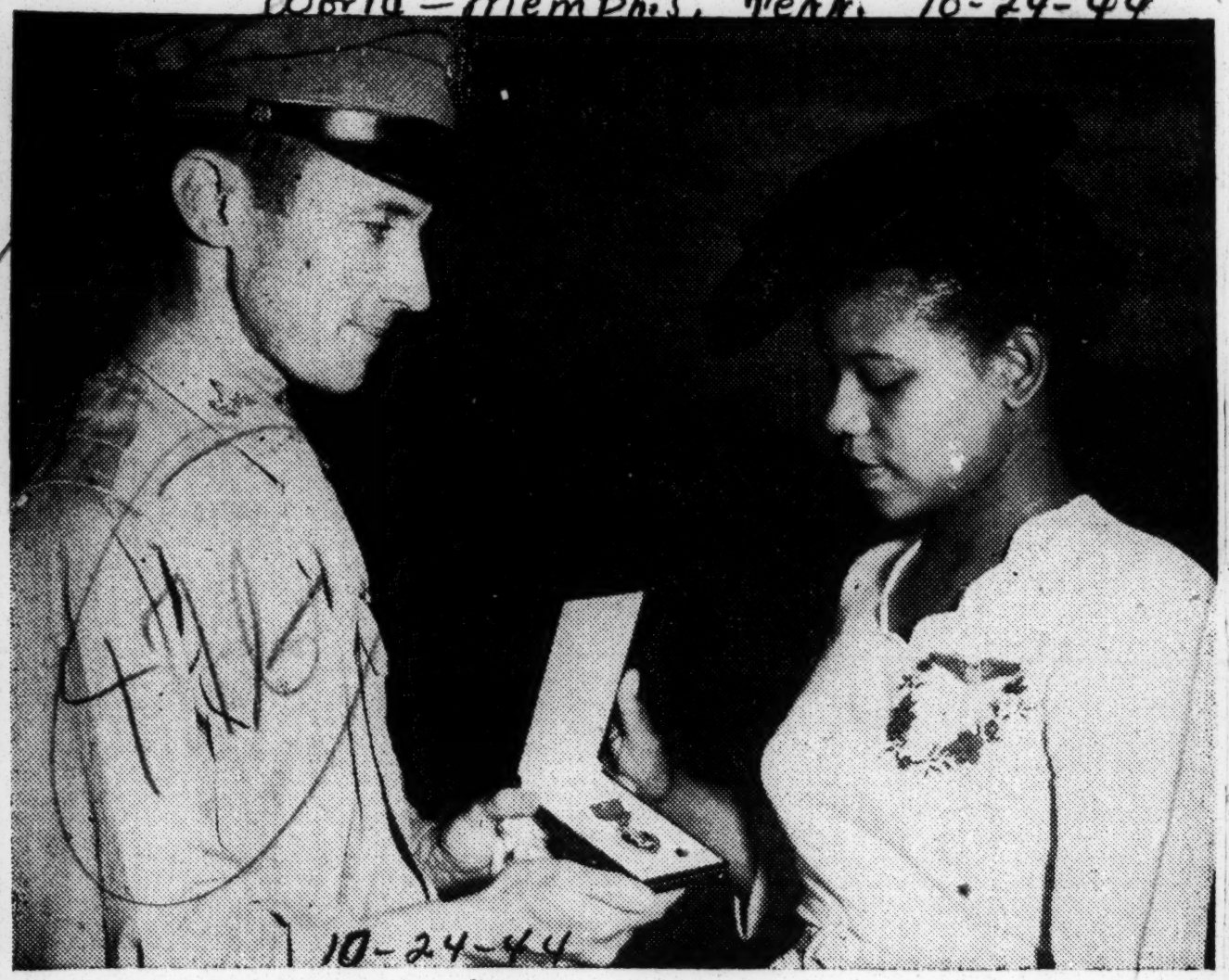
WASHINGTON, D.C.—For wounds received in action in the South Pacific, 188 Negro soldiers of the 855th Engineer Aviation Battalion have been awarded the Purple Heart, the War Dept. announced today. The names of 9 Californians in the group follow:

Los Angeles—Tech. 3rd Gr. Bolden E. Hines, son of Mrs. B. Hines, 424 Westlake ave.; Tech. 5th Gr. Orian T. Jones, husband of Mrs. Marjorie Jones, 1361 E. 43rd st.; Pvt. Floyd R. Waller, husband of Mrs. Dorothy Waller, 1765 Imperial Highway; Staff Sgt. Clarence H. Markham, husband of Mrs. Marie C. Markham, 926½ E 52nd pl.; Tech. 5th Gr. Kenneth L. Thompson, son of Mrs. Katie Jefferson, 663 E. 48th st. Oakland—Sgt. Alonzo Hall, son of Mrs. Bertha Hall, 3442 School st. San Mateo—Tech. 5th Gr. James Prentiss, brother of Miss Hartana Taylor, 1000 Tilton ave. Riverside—Pvt. Huggar Sherrod, husband of Mrs. Lula Sherrod, 4045 Park ave.

47b-19-4

Posthumous Award For Aviation Hero

World – Memphis, Tenn. 10-24-44



10-24-44

Mrs. Annie E. Laird, widow of Lt. Edward Laird of Brighten, Alabama, is seen receiving the Purple Heart, awarded to her posthumously in honor of her husband who was killed in action while on a flight mission over Italy last June. Presenting the award at formal ceremonies at the Tuskegee Army Air Field is Colonel Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of the famous home of Negro fighter pilots. A graduate of Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta, Ga., Mrs. Laird, who is the former Miss Annie E. Motley of Tuskegee, Alabama, has three brothers serving in the armed forces. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Augusta Motley of Tuskegee, Alabama. She was married to the young pilot while he was receiving his training at this station.—(Official U. S. AAF Photo by Training Command)

GENERAL EISENHOWER GIVES CITATIONS TO TWO UNITS

Tribune – Brooklyn, N.Y.

9-18-44

, American Negroes may be proud of the citations General Eisenhower has just given to two Negro units which took part in the D-day operations in Normandy. One was an anti-aircraft battalion which landed "under artillery, machine-gun and rifle fire" and despite losses "carried out its mission with courage and determination." The other was a quartermaster company, which also went ashore under fire, salvaged most of its equipment and within three days had 90 percent of its vehicles "operating on a twenty-four-hour basis." Americans who are not of the Negro race may be proud of these men, too.

9-18-44

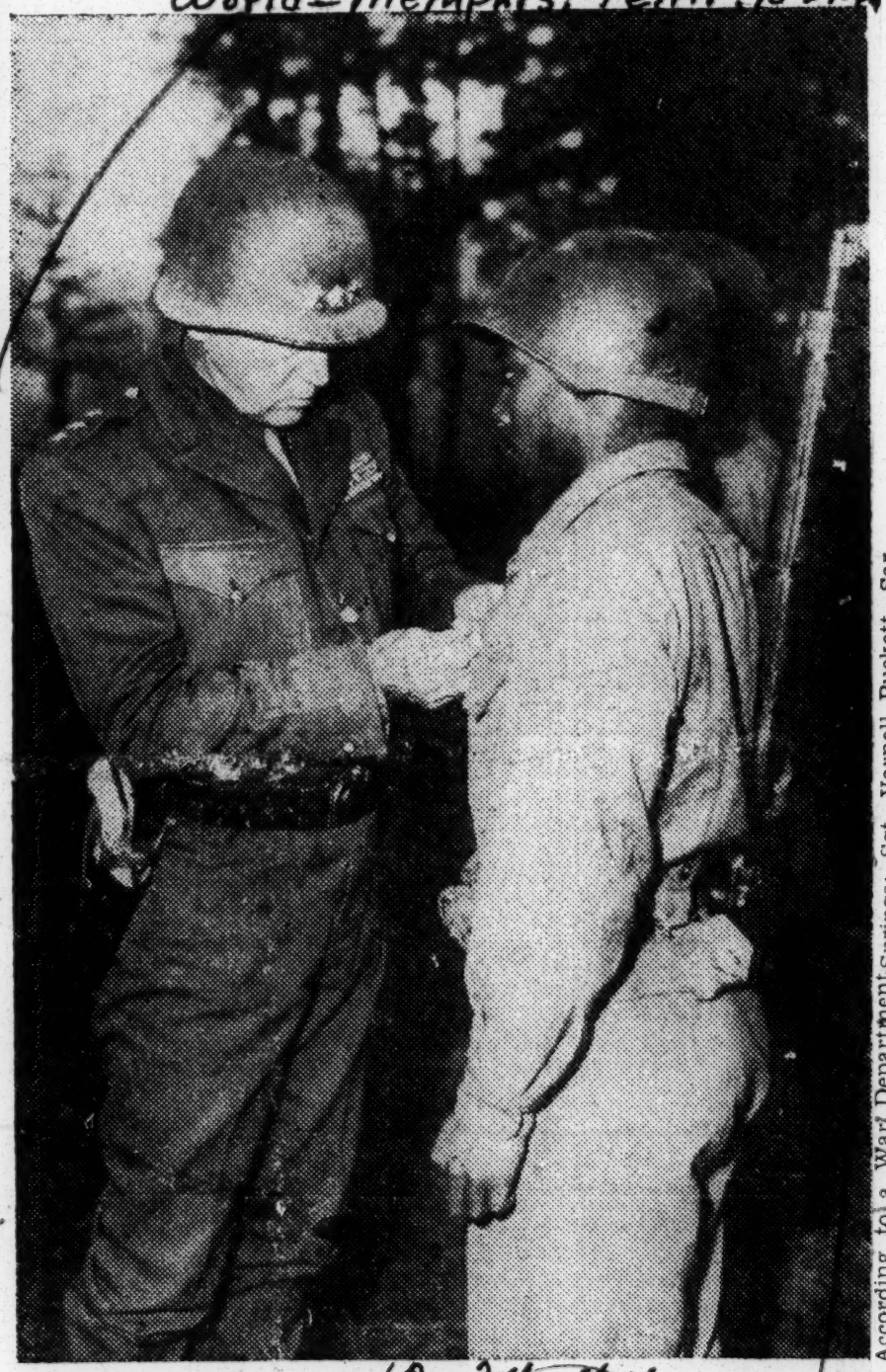
Nor should there be surprise at the record. The Negro furnished more than 340,000 men to the Army in the first World War. Nearly half of these soldiers worked as stevedores, performing their tasks faithfully, sometimes under fire, but without the glory that came to combat troops. The Negro divisions, the 92nd and 93rd, saw front-line service. Of those two divisions two companions broke in one of the Argonne offensives perhaps because of mistaken orders. Even in those companies three Negro officers behaved so gallantly that they were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Both divisions received warm praise from both the American and the French high commands, some entire units received decorations, and many individuals were cited for conspicuous gallantry.

9-18-44

In courage, loyalty and sacrifice there are no racial distinctions among Americans. That was the lesson a quarter of a century ago. It is being taught again.

Gen'l Patton Decorates Hero

World – Memphis, Tenn. 10-24-44



10-24-44

Lieutenant General George S. Patton, Third Army commander, pins the Silver Star on Private Ernest A. Jenkins of 510 West 147th Street, New York City, heroic member of a Quartermaster battalion serving in France. Entering Chateaudun, France, August 16-17, before the town was liberated, Private Jenkins and the officer he was driving, Major Charles W. Ketterman of Pasadena, California, located and knocked out an enemy gun position by killing three and wounding other members of the enemy crew. After silencing the gun, Private Jenkins assisted Major Ketterman in the capture of 15 German soldiers found in a cave. Private Jenkins was credited with assisting notably in the capture of the city.—(U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo)

7 NEGROES COMMENDED FOR INVASION SERVICE

Landing on the shores of Normandy shortly after the initial invasion, seven Alabama soldiers, members of an Army Negro Transportation Corps' amphibious company, have been on a continuous 24-hour schedule with the U. S. forces in France. According to a War Department release, the company has been under the command of Capt. Varnell Puckett, Sar Springs; Sgt. Hatchechubee; Pvt. Frank Auburn; Pvt. Lacy Ardis, Birmingham; Tech. Fifth Grade Robert Copeland, Montgomery, and Corp. Cheatham, 305 East-st, Butler. 2106 10th-wy., Pratt City; Samson S. Pic. Eugene Wilson, Jr., Union Brewton.

Army Award for Henry Winston

The Worker – New York, N.Y.

HENRY WINSTON (inset) member of the National Committee of the Communist Political Association and now on leave to the armed forces, was the first man in his outfit to receive the award reproduced below. Said the citation: "This office feels that PFC Henry Winston has been performing his mission in a superior manner. . . ."

10-15-44

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERA
UNITED STATES ARMY

476

This

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

is awarded to

P.F.C. Henry Winston 32238136

10-15-44

IN RECOGNITION OF CONSPICUOUSLY MERITORIOUS AND OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF MILITARY DUTY

Citation

Private First Class Winston on his own initiative solicited a high number of volunteer donors of type O blood from his organization.

EDWARD WILLOWE LT COL C.E.
COMMANDING

Va. State Prexy And Ex-Lincoln U. Teacher Honored At Camp Lee

Tribune – Philadelphia, Pa.

10-14-44

CAMP LEE, Va.—Dr. Luther H Foster, president, Virginia State College, was one of the eleven individuals awarded the Camp Lee Certificate of Commendation by Maj. Gen. Edmund B. Gregory, Quartermaster General, at a retreat review here last week.

Among the other recipients were Col. James H. Johnson, commander of the Army Service Forces Training Center; Col. Max R. Walner, Director, Quartermaster Board; Chaplain David L. Brewer, and Master Sgt Joseph Boulhac, of Philadelphia, instructor in the Salvage Service and Railhead School.

The award issued by the commanding general of the post honored Dr. Foster for "his untiring interest and zeal which have been responsible for many facilities which have increased the effectiveness of the morale program in behalf of troops in training at this camp." The Certificate further lauded the Virginia educator for his cooperation which "has fostered a genuine understanding between the camp and the civilian community which has worked to the mutual advantage of both."

Chaplain Brewer's Certificate praised him for "his fine spirit of service, wise counsel, and broad understanding of problems."

The camp commander honored Sgt. Roulhac for "the assistance he rendered the officer in charge of th Service and Railhead Schools, in the preparation and execution of a training program. By his keen insight, ability as a teacher, devotion to duty, and sympathetic treatment of the men trained under his direction, he has been able to achieve marked results in the training of Service Troops."

10-14-44

Sgt. Roulhac was an instructor at Lincoln University (Pa.) before being called to service.

The ceremonies were attended by nearly a score of generals and other high ranking officers of the Quartermaster Corps who were attending a conference here.

Purple Hearts Awarded 92nd Enlisted Men

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.

9-9-44

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright. Reproduction Forbidden)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—via wireless—Lt. Gen. Mark Clark, commanding officer of the famous Fifth Army, recently presented purple hearts awrds to nine enlisted men and one white officer of the 92nd division's combat team which recently went into action with the Fifth Army.

Lt. Col. Theodore Kimpton, 7700 Chappell street, Chicago, was the officer who earned the purple heart. He was a battalion commander.

The enlisted men who received the awards, presented September 3, were: Pfc. Herman Bradley, 928 West 27th street, Indianapolis; Pfc. Ernest Hainsworth, Southern Pines, N. C.; Pfc. Turner Joiner, Valdosta, Ga.; Staff Sergeant Wayne Stine, Mount Enterprise, Tex.; Pfc. Nathaniel Coffey, 3719 4th street, New Orleans, La.; Pvt. Theodore Coleman, West Helena, Ark.; Pvt. Frank Earsery, 1311, West Walnut street, Louisville, Ky.; Pfc. Isaac Milton, 18, Northwest Boundary street, Savannah, Ga.; and Pfc. Davis Foster, 108 Oscar street, Greenville, S. C.

A Hero Looms in Philippines

Call – Kansas City, Mo

11-10-44

Steward's Mate Risks Life in Blazing Inferno

By FLETCHER MARTIN
War Correspondent in Pacific

ON THE LEYTE BEACH. — (By Cable) — Because he volunteered to enter a raging inferno which threatened to engulf his ship, Steward's Mate Clement H. Carrington of Brooklyn, N. Y., has been cited for bravery by his ship's officers.

Carrington is one of the few Negroes now participating in the operations in the Philippines.

Enemy aircraft repeatedly strafed the LST on which the Negro has served throughout the war. The fire had spread on the bow. Carrington was the first to dash forward into the blaze and succeeded in halting the flame.

When the blaze was noticed in the first hatch, an officer asked for volunteers to go in and fight the fire with chemicals. He stressed the difficulty of the mission, but stated that the possibility of the ship's staying afloat depended upon it.

11-10-44

Carrington stepped forward, followed by a shipmate. The boy from Brooklyn stayed in the hold until the fire abated and save for minor burns, returned unscathed.

A soft-spoken resident of Brooklyn, Carrington has been torpedoed three times—in the Pacific, in the Atlantic and in the Red Sea. In these narrow brushes with death, he has spent 42 days in lifeboats.

Carrington escaped uninjured each time, although many casualties resulted from the incidents. The Brooklynite has sailed in every war theater from Murmansk to the Philippines. Carrington's superior officers stated that in their years of sailing, they have seldom seen such courage as that exhibited by Carrington.

LT. COL. DAVIS COMMENDS D-C. TECH. NON-COM

Tribune – Washington, D.C.

6-3-44

Tech. Sgt. Dennis P. Tinney, 34, of 1021 Lamont Street, Northwest, was recently commended by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of a Negro Air Fighter Group in the Mediterranean area.

The commendation read in part: "It has been the observation of the undersigned that at all times you have exemplified the highest traits of leadership, and capably assumed all of the responsibilities expected of a non-commissioned officer of the United States Army."

6-3-44

Sergeant Tinney was inducted on August 3, 1942. He is administrative non - commissioned officer in the Group S-4 Department. The fighter group to which he is assigned is a part of the 12th Fighter Command, the AAF component of Mediterranean Allied Coastal Air Forces.

Gen. Clark Decorates Negro Infantryman

Constitution – Atlanta, Ga

9-3-44

ROME, Sept. 2.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Clark personally visited a wounded Negro infantryman and awarded him a Purple Heart today as the 92d Infantry Division, a Negro outfit, killed its first Germans and suffered its first battle casualties in the Fifth Army drive between Pisa and Florence.

"You men of the 92d will be on the final battle when we completely crush our enemy and bring victory to our great nation," Clark told the soldiers.

Two Receive Soldiers Medal

Informer – Houston

11-4-44

WITH THE 92d INFANTRY DIVISION IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA.—When two of their buddies slipped and fell into the ocean while embarking in the Solomon Islands, Pvt. James Williams, 147 McLeon Place, Indianapolis Indiana, and Private William M. Murray, 1000 Walnut street, Vicksburg, Mississippi, immediately dived into the water and attempted to save them from drowning.

In recognition of their heroic efforts, Williams and Murray have been awarded the Soldier's Medal, the War department announced.

Private Williams is the husband of Mrs. Ola M. Williams of Indianapolis address, while Murray is the son of Mrs. Eliza Murray of Vicksburg.

47b-1944

General Decorates Son

Amsterdam News New York Age
9-23-44

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENJAMIN O. DAVIS of the Inspector General's Department, highest ranking Negro in the U. S. Army, is shown (left) as he pinned the Distinguished Flying Cross on his son, Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., in Italy. Col. Davis is commanding officer of a fighter group of the Fifteenth Air Force in this theatre. —Signal Corps, INS

57 Awards on Bougainville for Colored Combat Troops

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
7-15-44

Men Receive 48 Purple Hearts, 3 Silver, 6 Bronze Stars; Looie Gets Oak Leaf Cluster

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the South Pacific

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BOUGAINVILLE—(Via Army or Navy Wire)—Colored combat troops who helped vanquish the enemy on this island have so far received total of 57 awards—48 Purple Hearts, 3 Silver Stars, 6 Bronze Stars and recommendations for even more such awards are under consideration.

Lieut. Charles Collins, Chicago, who led the Reini River patrol is the only surviving colored officer to receive an award. His is the Purple Heart, with Oak Leaf Cluster—for five wounds received in two ambush engagments of five fought by 93rd Reconnaisance troops.

Mrs. Ollie Davenport, Phoenix, Ariz., received the Purple Heart for Lieut. Oscar Davenport, first 93rd officer to die in action.

Recipients of star award, members of 24th Infantry, are: Sgt. Richard Smith, Chamberlin, La.; S/Sgt. James Johnson, Albany, Ga.; Pfc. Bett Pierce, York, Ala.—Silver Star; Pfcs. Louis Russell, Bainbridge, Ga.; William McFarland, Macon, Ga.; Ballard McCullough, Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Andrew Webb, Omaha, Ga.; Alie Clements, Adams, Ga.; S/Sgt. Joe Ross, Madison, Fla. — Bronze Stars.

7-15-44

Eleven in 24th Honored

Eleven members of 24th have received Purple Hearts:

T/Sgt. Frederick Bell, Valdosta, Ga.; Cpl. Edward Griffin, Baton Rouge, La.; Sgt. James Johnson, Albany, Ga.; Sgts. Charlie Ford, Millsville, Ga.; Odell Mayfield, Halls, Tenn.; Pfcs. Robert Hughes, Ashburn, Ga.; Ernest Cash, Augusta, Ga.; William McFarland, 1603 Idlewood Avenue, Richmond, Va.; Charles Williams, Ferroldy, La.; Pvt. Robert Nance, Akron, Ohio.

Three white officers also received this award, while two received Silver Stars and two others received Bronze Stars.

36 Purple Hearts to 93rd

Among thirty-six members of 93rd Combat Team receiving Purple Hearts are:

7-15-44

S/Sgts. Berry Bullock, Tarboro, N.C.; William King, Brooklyn, Pfcs. Frank Portee, Clover, S.C.; Samuel Wright, 116 N. Bond St., Baltimore; Jessie Dickey, McConnellsville, S.C.; James Gaines, Swedesboro, N.J.; Richard Hale, Big Stone Gap, Va.; and Pvt. Callie Simpson, Greenville, N.C.

14 New Casualties

Ninety-third casualties announced since the previous report are Nehemiah Hodges, Deormy Raye and Moses Davis. Fourteen killed in action during 24th action on beach included:

Pfcs. Leonard Brooks, Jacksonville; Lee Jerry, Artesia, Miss.; Nehemiah Frasher, Cross, S.C.; Pvts. Annies Jolly, Oglethrope, Ga.; Edward Bryant, Jessup, Ga.; Ernest Hill, Cartersville, Ga.; Edward Thomas, Bessemer, Ala. Pfc. Joseph McKinney Tifton, Ga., died of disease.

7-15-44

Memorial services for members of the 93rd were held May 30, during which Brig. Gen. Leonard Boyd said:

Memorial Services Held

"This service has special significance because it is the first in which we honor many of our comrades, who have given their lives on the field of battle. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the loved ones of these heroic crusaders.

"They are the first of the colored race to die in the Pacific in combat for their country and the principles of freedom—freedom from domination by Japs and Nazis and freedom from injustices and Intolerance.

7-15-44

"These men, by dying, have set a shining example of strength, fortitude, bravery, loyalty and devotion to duty. Let us then conduct ourselves in training and combat so as to avenge their deaths and honor their memories."

Recent promotions elevated W. B. Sanderson, Washington, and John Strong, Pittsburgh, to first lieutenants.

4 Air Medals Given in Italy

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
9-9-44

30 Oak Leaf Clusters Also Awarded ONE POSTHUMOUS Honor Mustang Pilots for Meritorious Work

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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15TH AAF BASE IN ITALY—(By Air Mail)—Four air medals and thirty oak leaf clusters were recently awarded pilots of the P-51 Mustang Fighter Group commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis for meritorious aerial performance during missions into enemy held territory.

Air medals went to Lts. Edward C. Gleed, Horton, Kans.; Virgil J. Richardson, NYC; William F. Williams, Jr., Cleveland, and Starling B. Penn, NYC.

Lt. Sawyer Gets Two

Lt. Harold E. Sawyer, Columbus, Ohio, received his second and third oak leaf cluster. First and second bronze oak leaf clusters were won by Capts. Joseph D. Ilsberry, Langston, Okla., Claude B. Govan, Newark, N.J., Lts. Gleed and Alfred M. Gorham, Waukesha, Wis.

Capts. Howard L. Baugh, Petersburg, Va., and Erwin B. Lawrence, Cleveland, and Lt. Frederick D. Funderburg, Philadelphia, received their second cluster.

Posthumous Award

Third oak leaf clusters were awarded Capt. Leon C. Roberts, Pritchard, Ala., posthumously; Capt. Lemuel R. Custis, Hartford, Conn., and Lt. Willie Ashley, Sumter, S.C..

9-9-44

The first oak leaf cluster was awarded to the following:

Capts. Elwood Driver, Trenton, N.J.; Armour G. McDaniel, Martinsville, Va., and Lee Rayford, Washington; First Lts. Robert W. Deiz, Portland, Ore.: Arnold W. Cisco, Chicago; William J. Faulkner, Jr., Nashville; Joseph P. Gomer, Iowa Falls, Iowa; Robert H. Wiggins, NYC;

Second Lts. Wilson V. Eagleson, Bloomington, Ind.; Clarence H. Bradford, St. Louis; Robert H. Daniels, Corona, N.Y.; Robert J. Friend, NYC; Stanley L. Harris, St. Paul, Minn., and Leonard F. Turner, Washington.

9-30-44

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa

TWO HONORS IN WEEK — Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group of the 15th Air Force in Italy, receives the Legion of Merit six days after he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Doing the honors is Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commander of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces. —Army Air Forces Photo.

Posthumous Honor Goes To Navy Steward

Journal + Guide — Norfolk Va
7-8-44

Awarded Medal Fo. Heroic Action In Sea Tragedy

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Negro youth, who was sented to the youth's father, Jos- For heroic action in rescuing serving aboard the Coast Guard eph H. Deyampert, survivors of a torpedoed cutter Escanaba that later was United States transport in following an explosion of un- the North Atlantic, Warren determined nature, was instru- T. Deyampert, a Coast Guard mental in saving many lives of colored steward of Marion, survivors of the stricken trans- Ala., has been awarded post- port, diving repeatedly into icy humously the Navy and waters to bring half-frozen men Marine Corps Medal. to safety.

7-8-44

Colored Fifth Army Unit Cited For Military Honor

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa. 3-25-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy—It has been said that during the World War Quartermaster units were so far behind the lines that only one member of such units became a casualty, and he, it was ironically stated, was kicked by a mule.

True or false, the record of one Quartermaster Battalion which landed in Italy with the initial combat forces of the Fifth Army in September, 1943, proves, as do many others, that no such statement can be made about the Quartermaster units in this war.

CITED FOR HONOR

The following recommendation from the command to a certain Quartermaster Service Battalion testifies to the part Quartermaster units are playing toward the ultimate defeat of the Axis:

"Companies B and C, . . . Quartermaster Service Battalion are commended for outstanding devotion to duty and meritorious conduct. 3-25-44

"Disregarding personal danger, fatigue and discomfort, officers and enlisted men of these units worked untiringly for seven days and nights unloading boats and bringing ashore needed supplies. On shore, they cleared the supplies from the beaches, set up dump installations, and issued critical materials to the invasion force.

"The speed and efficiency with which members of these companies handled vital supplies were important elements in the success of the initial landings and subsequent operations. Their courage and devotion to duty reflect highest credit upon themselves and the Army of the United States." 3-25-44

There were some casualties but no deaths in this unit. The following men have been awarded the Purple Heart since being overseas: Pfc. James Cornwell, of North Carolina; Pvt. Russell Coleman, of Pennsylvania, and S/Sgt. Milton Winkley, of Texas.

Five Awarded Medals For Heroism In Fire

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

10-5-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Five Negro seamen have been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroic conduct in fighting fires on burning ammunition cars after the explosion of the United State Naval Magazine, Port Chicago, California, last July 17, the Navy Department announced this week.

At the same time the Navy and Marine Corps Medal were presented to three Naval officers and a white enlisted man by Rear Admiral Carleton H. Wright, USN, Commandant of the Twelfth Naval District. 10-5-44

Those who received medals included: John Andrew Haskins, Jr., Pharmacist Mate Third Class, USNR, of 322 Hopkins Court, Alexandria, Va., who volunteered to proceed to the scene of the explosion from his regular station at Mare Island; and the following Port Chicago personnel, who risked their lives to bring the flames under control in an area made highly dangerous by burning ammunition box cars; James A. Camper, Jr., Seamon First Class, USNR, 112 Main Street, South Port Norris, N. J., William Edward Anderson, Seaman First Class, USNR, 609 Bridge Street, Murphysboro, Ill.; Richard L. McTere, Seaman First Class, USNR, 425 East Hancock, Detroit, Mich.; and Effus S. Allen, Seaman Second Class, USNR, 7335 Cameron Street, Detroit, Mich. 10-5-44

Herbert C. Reinhardsen, Pharmacist Mate Third Class, USN, of 355 Hawthorne Terrace, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Lt. George W. Laidlaw, II, USNR, 7628 Washington Blvd., River Forest, Ill.; Ensign Howard T. Healy, USNR, 7 John Alden Road, West Roxbury, Mass.; and Ensign Lester Pecan, USNR, 189 Belmont Parkway, Hempstead, N. W., were the white enlisted men and officer who received awards at the same time. 10-5-44

Presentation of the medals were made in a ceremony at Port Chicago on October 27.

For Bravery

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 7-1-44

7-1-44

SILVER STAR — Chaplain (Captain) James L. Jones, 2711 Thomas avenue, Dallas, Texas, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry under fire at Anzio. Attached to a combat quartermaster unit of the Fifth Army, Chaplain Jones recently returned to the United States from Italy. (Signal Corps Photo.)

10 Win Purple Heart in Unit's First Battle

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

9-9-44

Infantrymen Open Way for Break in Nazis' Vaunted Gothic Line

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondents with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—(By Cable)—Following their patrol action of the previous two days, elements of the 92nd Division Saturday crossed the Arno River in face of heavy enemy resistance, 9-9-44

Slugging it out every yard of the distance after crossing the river, the troops advanced to the Southeastern slopes of Mount Pisano, the dominating hill of a mass which had afforded the enemy excellent observation over the entire west coast sector of the Italian front.

This advance is markedly important in that it threatened the German's main observation lookout and secured a bridgehead for passage of armored elements spearheading a drive expected to push the enemy back to the Gothic Line—supposedly stouter defensive wall. 9-9-44

10 Get Purple Heart

In the initial 92nd action, nine enlisted men and one white officer were wounded. All were awarded purple hearts at an evacuation hospital by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commanding general of the American Fifth Army, who declared the 92nd had discharged itself well in its first combat attack. 9-9-44

The unit's performance was headlined by eagerness to carry the fight against the forces of intolerance.

The unit was reactivated October 15, 1942, at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., where it trained until moving to Fort Hauchuca, Ariz.

Former Record Recalled

It's action on the Fifth Army front recalls this unit's brilliant record during the last war, when it was activated as a national service division at Fort Riley, Kans., and saw service with the AEF, distinguishing itself in the battle of the Argonne Forest.

One regiment gained special recognition by remaining in line three months without relief, for which it received a French citation. 9-9-44

Now elements of the division are fighting side by side with other Allied armies, hoping to surpass a record of their famed predecessors.

Gen. Davis Visits Front

Their first combat efforts coincided with a visit to the Fifth Army front by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the Inspector General's Office, War Department; Lt. Col. Charles Dollars, morale division; Maj. Homer B. Roberts, bureau of public relations, and Carlton Moss of the special coverage unit in Hollywood.

The latter three are gathering material for a historical record of the work done by colored troops and documentry film shots on their activities.

General Davis was the guest of General Clark on the tour.

The publicity group also visited many other units along the Fifth Army front, paying particular attention to the work of a colored anti-aircraft battalion and the 92nd Engineers, both previously praised for their excellent work. 9-9-44

Accompanied by correspondents, the group visited one battery of the ack-ack unit where crewmen, long anxious to exercise their trigger fingers, blasted away for the movie camera.

Sgt. Clark Hilton of Pine Bluff, Ark., selection chief, introduced the crew, which included:

Cpl. Wilmer Huey, Baton Rouge, La.; Pfc. Charles E. Foster, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Pfc. Arthur E. Boston, Holmesburg, Pa.; Cpl. Edward J. Brembry, Paris, Tex.; Pfc. Elmore R. Johnson, 133 D Street, Washington; Pfc. Moses Phillips, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Pvt. Albert Horton, Memphis; Cpl. Davis Haynes, Stanford, Conn.; Pfc. Samuel Emery, New Orleans, Pvts. R. W. Dyson, Manassa, Va.; Charles Davis, Philadelphia; Elmer Bullock, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Sgt. Vincent P. Jones, 915 W. Lee Street and Cpl. Eldridge, 1310 Idlewood Avenue, both of Richmond.

The crew went through its paces with glee, declaring, "It is too bad this isn't the real thing. Jerry has just about been run out of the sky."

Legion Of Merit To Col. Davis

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

9-23-44

Second Decoration For Fighter Group Commander In Week

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
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MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN ITALY—(Via Wireless)—Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of the Fighter Group in Italy, was awarded the Legion of Merit here Sept. 16. This was the second major decoration awarded in impressive ceremonies at the Mustang pinned on him by Gen. Davis, MAAF Chief, by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., commanding officer of the Inspector General's office, War Department, and other high ranking officials after the presentation.

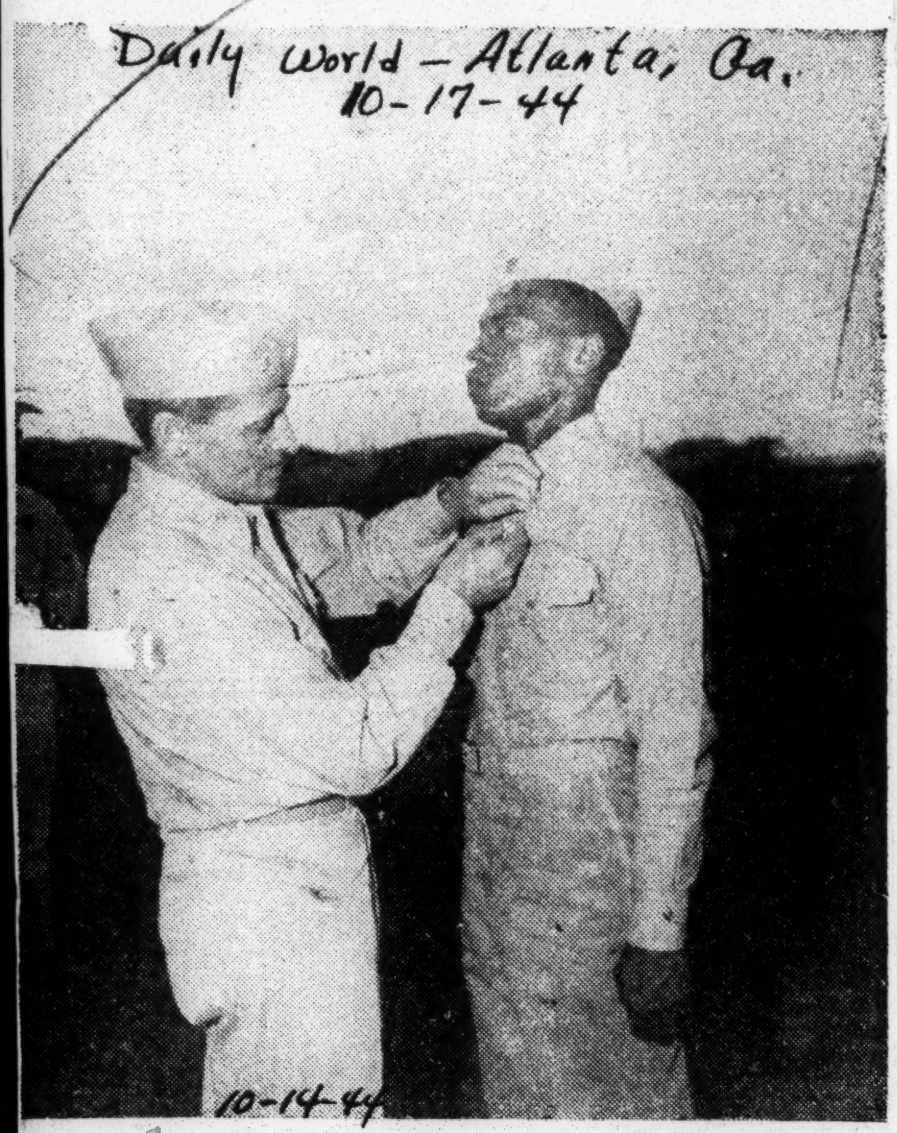
The Legion of Merit was awarded on Col. Davis in one week. He had previously been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, which monies which were witnessed by Gen. Davis, MAAF Chief, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., Col. Davis and other high ranking officials after the presentation.

The Legion of Merit was awarded by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commander of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, amid impressive cere-

47b-1944

First Marine To Be Cited

Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.
10-17-44



10-14-44

Marine Private first class Jeff Smith, 29, of 1608 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, is one of the first of his race in the Marine Corps to receive the Purple Heart. Smith, who was wounded at Saipan on D-Day, is receiving his decoration somewhere in the Pacific from Marine Lieutenant Colonel E. T. Peters, of Danville, Cal. The ceremonies included a battalion parade of Smith's unit which he reviewed with his commanding officer (Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo.)

Lt. Octave J. Rainey Receives Air Award

Informer – Houston, Texas
9-16-44

Churchill Greets Jones; Louisianians Commended

Lt. Octave J. Rainey, Jr., of this city, stationed Somewhere in the Pacific with the United States Army Air Corps, was awarded the Airity's Medal of Hor recently, it was disclosed by the War Department on Monday. Lt. Rainey is the husband of Mrs. Jeanne Davis Rainey, 4321 LaSalle street.

Experienced

Even before the United States entered the present war, Lt. Rainey has been proficient in the handling of airplanes and is recognized as one of the first Negro Orleanians to enter that field.

Graduating from Xavier university of Orleans, with a B. S. degree in 1935, Lt. Rainey was employed at Hackett's Drug Store, Cohn and Leonidas streets; in 1937 he was employed at Thompson's Drug company in Chicago, Ill., and in 1938-39 he was employed as clerk in the United States Post Office at New Orleans.

While attending Xavier university, Lt. Rainey was considered one of the outstanding tennis players in collegiate circles. 9-16-44

Entering the West Virginia State Civilian Pilot Training program in 1940, he studied aeronautics and the same year he made his solo flight. In 1940, also, he completed his secondary cross-country training at Tuskegee and with his instructor, made an air trip here landing at the municipal airport. That same year he received his commercial license.

In 1941, Lt. Rainey gave up the opportunity to become a civilian air instructor to enter the Army Air Corps and serve his country. Later he taught instrumental flying in the Air Corps until he requested a transfer to Fort Sill, Okla., in 1942.

Liason Flier

At Fort Sill he became a liason flier, received his wings in January, 1943 and received the rating as staff sergeant qualified to do reconnaisance flying. 9-16-44

Later in 1943, he was attached to the 93rd Division at Fort Huachuca, and early this year was ordered to the war zone. While aboard the ship to the South Pacific, he received his commission as second lieutenant in February, 1944.

Further evidence that Lt. Rainey has had much experience in handling aircraft is found in government records. In 1941, as the result of a government examination, Lt. Rainey was appointed Civilian Air Comptroller at Memphis, Tenn. His appointment was made directly from Washington, D. C. He has also had training in handling seaplanes.

Lt. Rainey was a member of the Xavier university Alumni Association and the New Orleans Branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

a section chief in the unit.

"I'll never forget that," said Sgt. Jones later. "The prime minister spoke very sincerely and shook hands as though he really meant it."

General Davis Presents Flying Cross To His Son

Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.

Three Other Air Heroes Are Given Aviation Medals

9-15-44

HEADQUARTERS, 15th ARMY AIR FROCE, ITALY—(S N S)—Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, commanding officer of an all-Negro Fighter Group of the 15th Army Air Force in Italy, and three other Negro air heroes, were presented with the Distinguished Flying Cross Sunday, September 10, by Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis of the Office of the Inspector General, the War Department announced Thursday.

The ceremony, described as stirring and attended by Lieutenant General Ira C. Baker, Commanded-in-Chief, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces; Major General Nathan Twining, commander of the 15th Air Force, and Brigadier General Dean C. Strouther, commander of a fighter wing, was held before a formation of the entire fighter group and 15th Air Force band which were drawn up in review.

OTHERS HONORED

Distinguished Flying Crosses also were presented to Captain Joseph D. Elsberry, 114 West Washington Boulevard, Langston, Oklahoma; First Lieutenant Jack D. Holsclaw, 2301 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington, and First Lieutenant Clarence D. Lester, 5329 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. 9-15-44

The citations accompanying the awards said:

COLONEL DAVIS: "For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight as pilot of a P-47 type aircraft. Colonel Davis, group commander, led his group on a penetration escort of all bomber wings on an attack on industrial targets in the Munich area on June 9, 1944. The bomber formation was attacked by more than 100 enemy fighters near Udine, Italy. Faced with the problem of protecting the large bomber formation with the comparatively few fighters under his control, Colonel Davis so skillfully disposed his squadrons that in spite of the large number of enemy fighters, the bomber formation suffered only a few losses. During the engagement, Colonel Davis led on flight against more than 15 enemy fighters which were making repeated attacks on one group of bombers. His courage and combat ability have reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States of America."

CAPTAIN ELSBERRY: "For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy in the North African and Mediterranean Theatres of Operations. Throughout the extensive air offensive against the enemy in direct support of our ground troops and against targets of vital strategic importance deep within hostile territory, he, through his aggressiveness and courage, has consistently aided in the success of combat operations. Against heavy opposition from both aggressive and persistent fighter aircraft and intense, heavy and accurate enemy antiaircraft fire, with his plane frequently seriously damaged by enemy fire, he has battled his way to his targets, defeating the enemy in the air and destroying his vital installations on the ground. Through severe and adverse weather conditions over treacherous mountain terrain, he has continually surmounted overwhelming obstacles for successful completion of his assigned mission to attack and destroy the enemy. Through his outstanding leadership and personal example, completely disregarding his personal safety at times of great danger, he has contributed to the ultimate and final defeat of the armed forces of the enemy, has upheld the highest tradition of the military service, thereby reflecting

Capt. R. L. Campbell, World War Veteran And College Official, Gets Purple Heart

Age – New York, N. Y.
8-19-44

GREENSBORO, N. C. — Capt. Robert Lee Campbell, USA (Ret.) member of the adminstrative staff of Greensboro A and T College and a veteran of two wars, was presented here recently with the Purple Heart for conspicuous service and sacrifice rendered during World War I.

Capt. Campbell was wounded and gased during the Argonne Offensive in 1918. He also wears the Distinguished Service Cross and the French Croix De Guerre, awarded twice, for gallantry in action.

The Purple Heart was presented by Col. Converse R. Lewis, commanding officer.

After suffering wounds and being gased, Capt. Campbell rescued a wounded runner and carried him to safety across a field swept by intense enemy machine gun and shell fire.

And although wounded and gased, he refused to be evacuated with his men (Co. I, 366th Infantry) at the front.

On October 19, 1918, Capt. Campbell was awarded the French Croix De Guerre, with one brown star, was made.

Overseas Replacement Depot here in a special ceremony at the AAF

Capt. Campbell was former professor of military science and tactics at A and T College here and in Huntsboro, Ala. He served in the Span-American war and in the Philippines under Gen. Arthur MacArthur, father of Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

8-19-44

Mayor W. H. Sullivan of Greensboro presented the award of the French Croix De Guerre at the A and T College campus. Later a second one star, was made.

Capt. Campbell was former pro-

8-19-44

The Worker 11-6-44

New York, N.Y.

First to Fire: Pfc. Arthur J. Broadnax of Autaugabile, Ala., is the first Negro trooper to fire an artillery shell into Germany. This he did on Oct. 2. He was also the first Negro Yank to fire a shell in France.

Five Men Decorated For Courage

Call-Kansas City, Mo. 11-10-44

Fought Fires On Burning Ammunition Cars

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) — A week after convicting 50 of the survivors of the Port Chicago ammunition ship explosion in California of mutiny and disobedience of orders, the Navy announced last week the decoration of five of the heroes of that explosion. The men were given Navy and Marine Corps medals "for heroic conduct in fighting fires on burning ammunition cars after the explosion" on July 17.

The men, who were further commended because "by unselfish devotion to duty they averted further explosions and possible loss of life", were:

John Andrews Haskins, jr., pharmacist mate 3rd class, who lives at 322 Hopkins Court, Alexandria, Va.

William Edward Anderson, seaman first class, of 609 Bridge St., Murphysboro, Illinois.

James A. Camper, jr., seaman first class, of 112 Main St., South Port Norris, New Jersey.

Richard L. McTere, seaman first class, of 425 E. Hancock St., Detroit, Mich. 11-10-44

Effus S. Allen, seaman second class, of 7335 Cameron St., Detroit, Mich.

The medals were presented by Rear Admiral Carleton H. Wright, commandant of the Twelfth Naval District, in a ceremony at Port Chicago, Cal.

Negro Troops' Chaplain Is Decorated by Clark

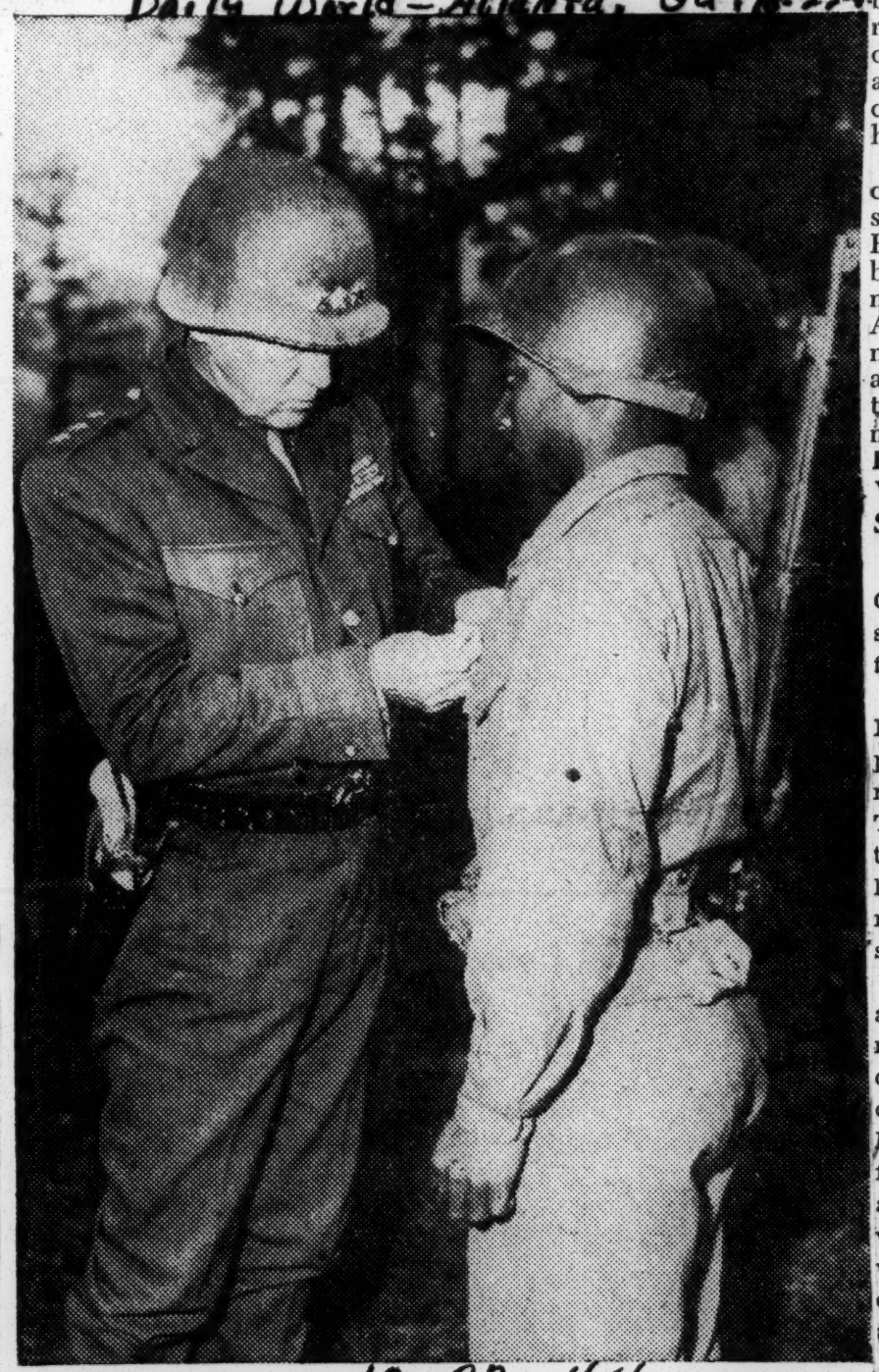
Constitution—Atlanta, Ga. 10-22-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY, Oct. 21.—(AP)—In a visit to Negro troops on the Italian front, Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark presented the Silver Star for gallantry in action to Capt. Allen L. Johnson, Jackson, Miss.

Capt. Johnson, chaplain of a 92d Division Regiment, has been overseas two years, serving first in the Southwest Pacific. He holds the Purple Heart for wounds received on the Fifth Army front.

Gen'l Patton Decorates Hero

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga. 10-22-44



Lieutenant General George S. Patton, Third Army commander, pins the Silver Star on Private Ernest A. Jenkins of 510 West 147th Street, New York City, heroic member of a Quartermaster battalion serving in France. Entering Chateaudun, France, August 16-17, before the town was liberated, Private Jenkins and the officer he was driving, Major Charles W. Ketterman of Pasadena, California, located and knocked out an enemy gun position by killing three and wounding other members of the enemy crew. After silencing the gun, Private Jenkins assisted Major Ketterman in the capture of 15 German soldiers found in a cave. Private Jenkins was credited with assisting notably in the capture of the city.—(U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo)

10-22-44

Nine Port Fire Heroes Decorated

PM—New York, N.Y. 10-29-44

By United Press

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 28.—Three naval officers and six enlisted men, five of them Negroes, have been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps medal for heroic conduct in fighting fires on burning ammunition cars after the Port Chicago explosion July 17, the Navy has announced.

Those who received medals included: Ens. Lester Pecan, Hempstead, N. Y.; Ens. Howard T. Healy, West Roxbury, Mass.; Herbert C. Reinhardsen, pharmacist's mate 3/c, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; John Andrew Haskins, Jr., pharmacist's mate, 3/c, Alexandria, Va.; Richard L. McTere, seaman 1/c, Detroit, Mich., and Effus S. Allen, seaman 2/c, Detroit, Mich.

PRAISE NEGROES OF THE WATERFRONT FOR RECORD-SETTING INVASION WORK

Bystander—Des Moines, Iowa 10-26-44

Headquarters, European Theater of Operations—Here is a story of unsung heroes who cover the waterfront!

Over two hundred members of a Negro Quartermaster Service Company stood in formation recently to receive praise where praise was due. They had again been commended for their record-setting work overseas in loading supplies destined for continental operations, this time by the sub-port commander.

This was not the first time. Brigadier General Clarence H. Kells, commanding general of the San Francisco Port of Embarkation and former commanding officer of the Boston Port of Embarkation, had once before cited them for their efficiency and endeavor. This Port Company was part of the Army personnel which took over the Boston docks during a crisis and kept them operating in spite of severe rain storms.

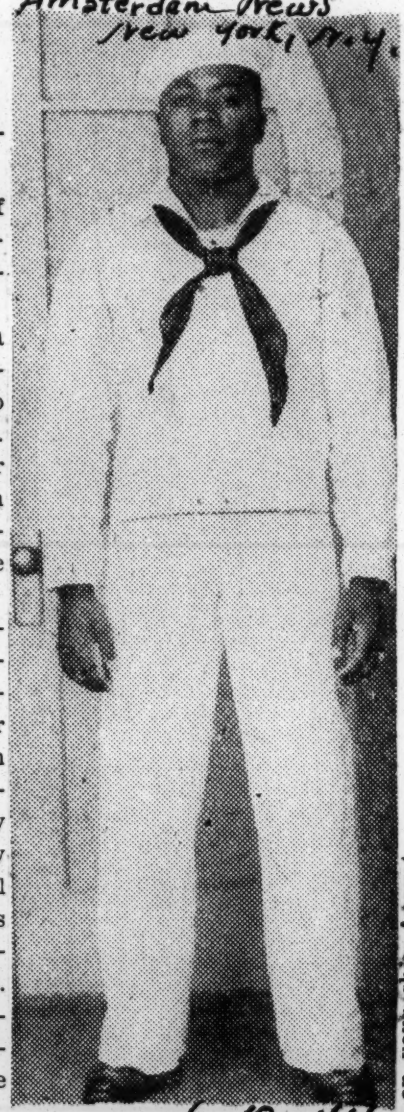
It was here that this company established a new record for the greatest amount of tonnage loaded in one day's time. 10-26-44

They loaded war supplies for overseas shipment, and as First Sergeant William D. Burton of Wilmintgon, Delaware declared, "We loaded chow for the ETO, and then came over ourselves to eat it." Some of the boxes they loaded in the United States are the same they are now receiving.

Activated at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania in November 1943, the company, commanded by Captain Leonard L. Kern, arrived overseas in England in May 1944. Immediately setting to work on supplies for the invasion, they loaded bombs and ammunition which later were to rake the French coast on D-Day. Working day and night on their highly important mission, they again set a new overseas record for daily tonnage loaded.

Naval Hero

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y. 6-10-44



ADIS E. ISLER of Brooklyn, crew member of U. S. S. Enterprise, was given a citation for his heroic deed. His citation in part read: "During the enemy attack on your ship August 24, 1942, you were stationed on a 20 mm. gun battery as a magazine loader and ammunition passer. By your cool and deliberate performance of duty, you were of particular assistance to the gunner whom you served, thereby contributing materially to the excellent performance of his battery."

47b-1944

Saved 'Skegee Fighter Pilot, Receives $500 Carnegie Award

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

5-20-44

R. C. Daniels, 32, of Doth, Ala., was one of the fourteen individuals honored last week by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission for performing outstanding and heroic deeds of bravery at the risk of personal injury or death.

On last September 22, Mr. Daniels, who at that time was a civilian worker at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, saved the life of a fighter pilot, Lt. Andrew H. Doswell, of Cleveland, Ohio, who crashed into a bridge in his P-40, near a construction job on which Mr. Daniels was working.

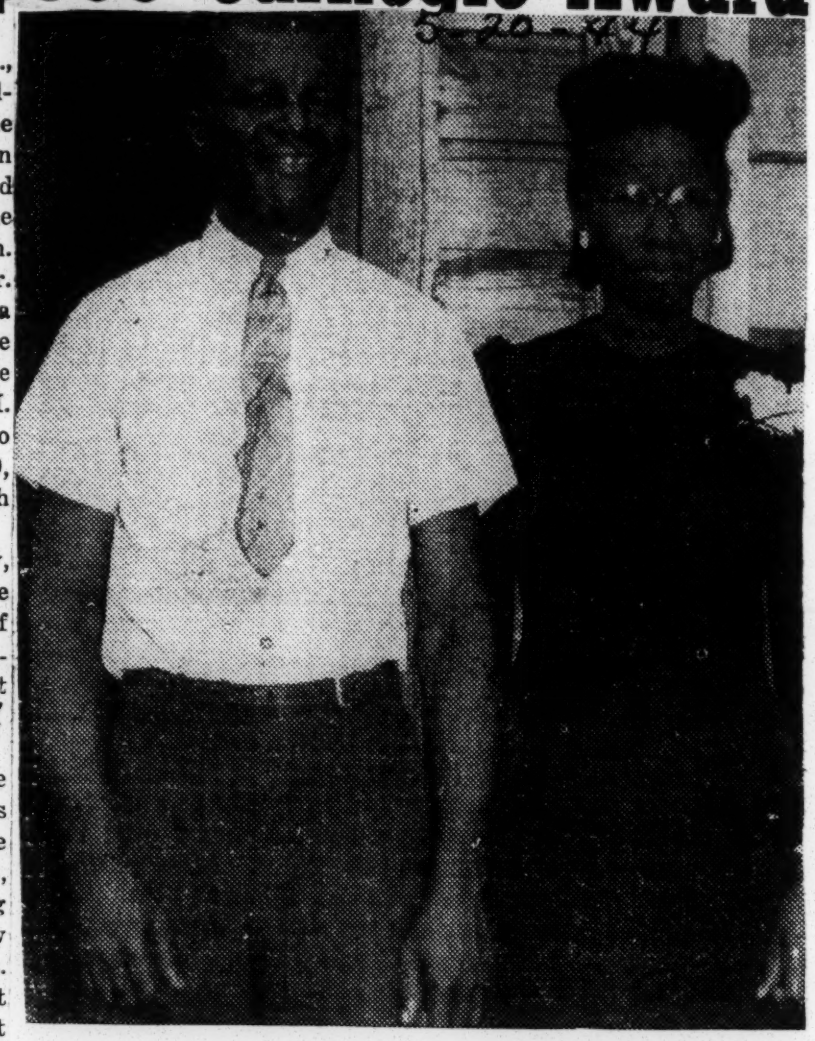
Disregarding his own safety, Mr. Daniels climbed onto the burning plane and with a piece of 2 x 4 lumber, pried open the jammed cockpit cover and pulled out the injured pilot. 5-20-44

Fellow Workers Cleared Out

Asked about his reaction at the time of the crash, Mr. Daniels said: "I was scared of course when the plane fell so near us, and at first I thought of running to safety with all my fellow workers who cleared out fast. However, I could hear the pilot crying for help and I couldn't stand the thought of him burning to death. So I just decided to help him, and you know the rest."

Daniels won praise from Col. N. F. Parrish, commanding officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, who commended him for his heroic work in saving the officer's life. His courage was also acknowledged by Maj. Gen. T. J. Hanley, Jr., commanding general of the Eastern Flying Training Command, who wrote that Mr. Daniel's "alertness and quick thinking in rescuing this pilot were in keeping with the best tradition of the American spirit of unselfish sacrifice." 5-20-44

The Carnegie Award includes a sum of $500 in addition to a bronze medal. Mr. Daniels is married and plans to use his money to purchase the home he lives in at present, and to help



MR. AND MRS. R. C. DANIELS

educate his four minor children.

La. Hero Saves 3 Wounded By Japs, Gets Silver Star

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(NNPA War Correspondent)

DUTCH NEW GUINEA — (By Courier) — Sgt. Richard Smith, Jr., of Chamberlin, La., has been awarded the Silver Star by the commanding general, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area. 9-2-44

The citation reads: "When his patrol (24th Infantry) came under intense enemy fire while attempting to cross a shallow river on Bougainville, April 14, Sgt. Smith distinguished himself by unselfishly braving the hail of bullets to rescue three wounded comrades from an exposed position. Although it took him twenty minutes to complete the task, Sergeant Smith never hesitated or faltered. During the whole period he was a target for enemy sniper and machine gun fire."

The whole story is one of courage and a devotion to duty. The 24th was commissioned to cross the Mavavia river and reconnoiter an area where the enemy was thought to be. It was very difficult to determine from our positions whether the enemy was still there, or withdrawn. The jungles lay thick and quiet—a quietness shocking in its intensity. Not a bush moved. The patrol moved slowly, then it happened. 9-2-44

Trapped By Ambush

As our troops waded across the muddy Mavavia, the enemy opened with seven light and three heavy machine guns. The men were trapped like rats in a maze. Several had been wounded on the first burst. Jap fire continued. From a prone position Smith moved slowly toward the first man to fall.

On our side of the river, Lieutenant Bill Manotti (Pennsylvania) had moved forward with a rescue squad. Kept on the alert, the squad, armed with automatic weapons, inched toward the river. One sergeant crouching alongside Manotti fell dead from a bullet wound through the head. He sprawled out toward the river's edge.

Our patrol was pinned flat. An alert enemy commanded the approach to his position. The river lay to our back. The enemy commanded this also. He had allowed our men to enter the swift stream before he opened. Because of intense automatic fire there was but one out for our troops, withdraw, if possible, back to our lines. We were grossly outnumbered. The Japs had played a waiting hand before revealing their strength.

Brings Back Wounded 9-2-44

Smith threw a smoke bomb. This gave him some protection as the air clouded. He crawled toward the first casualty, pulling him toward the stream. Twice more he crawled forward, bringing back a man. Enemy fire was now being directed toward the clouds of smoke. Smith had to work slow. the sand was heavy, the bullets hotter than the torrid weather.

He was succeeding. Eager hands on the other side grabbed the casualties, speeding them to safety. The medical officer, Major Wigginton (Memphis, Tenn.) had crossed the river, and with a stretcher bearer scurried back across with one man. His casualty died enroute to the aid station, his head riddled by machine gun fire.

We lost two men. And had it not been for Smith's gallant action, maybe more would have been lost. The enemy has been known to drop knee mortars near the wounded.

The report brought back was completely affirmative—the enemy was there in numbers. Several days later reenforced platoons moved into the area destroying every mother's son of the enemy who had chosen to stay and fight. The 24th swept the beach from the Mavavia to the Moy river, five hundred yards of sand littered with Jap dead. 9-2-44

When Sgt. Smith received his award, he wore the smile of a school kid receiving his first diploma.

Gen. Davis Pins Award on Son

Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

Elsberry, Lester and Holsclaw Honored

SUNDAY CEREMONY

9-16-44

Fighter Unit Destroys 29 Planes on Ground

By ART CARTER

ALLIED AIR BASE IN ITALY —In a setting replete with drama that bordered on the Hollywood style, four pilots of the Mustang Fighter group, including its commanding officer, Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Sunday.

The most dramatic and sentimental phase of the colorful 30-minute ceremony was the pinning of the picturesque bronze cross on the chest of Col. Davis by his father, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, Sr., who declared that the occasion was "the happiest moment of my life."

Gen. Davis also pinned awards on three other recipients: Capt. Joseph D. Elsberry, 1114 W. Washington Boulevard, Langston, Okla.; First Lts. Clarence D. Lester, 5329 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, and Jack D. Holsclaw, 2301 W. College Avenue, Spokane, Wash.

Perfect Setting

The setting for the presentation was perfect with silver-colored planes providing a realistic backdrop as the honorees lined up abreast in front of a representative gathering of officers and men of the group, looking resplendent in their suntan uniforms.

The ceremony opened promptly at 11 a.m., after huge transports slipped in from a clear Italian sky bringing a party of brass-wearing officials for the occasion. 9-16-44

Bathed by the hot sun, the officials escorted Gen. Davis to a parade point where Maj. George S. Roberts, acting as group commander in place of Col. Davis, presented the assembled group. With music furnished by the Fifteenth AAF Band, while Brig. Gen. Davis made presentations, the group then passed in review.

High Officers Present

In the reviewing party were Lt Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commandin general, MAAF; Maj. Gen. Natha F. Twining ,commanding genera Fifteenth AAF; Brig. Gen Davis inspector general's office; Brig Gen. Dean C. Strothers, commanc er, Fifteenth Fighter Commanc Col. Howard Queen, commande of the all-colored infantry regiment serving with the Fifteent AAF; Maj. Homer Roberts, Pul lic Relations Office, War Depar ment. 9-16-44

Squadron commanders, Capt Lee Rayford of Washington, ar Melvin T. Jackson of Baltimor led their units in the parade, whil Capts. William T. Madison an Howard L. Baugh of Petersburg Va., served in similar capacities for the other squadrons.

Award for Victories

Awards to Lt. Holsclaw we On the same mission, Lt. Hol claw destroyed two ME-109's.

Capt. Elsberry's award was th result of his triple triumphs i the air over southern France o July 12.

Faced with problems of protec mission with the ing the big bombers with only in P-47 Thunder few fighters at his command, C Col. Davis has co

The award citations were rea extraordinary aerial achievemen during bomber escort mission by Capt. Thomas J. Monri, grou adjutant. The award to Capt. Els deep into enemy territory. Co berry had previously been ar Davis's award was the result o nounced, but the other three DF(his leadership of cover escor winners were presented upon ar on June 9, during an attack upo nouncement, making five colore industrial targets over Munic fiyers to receive this high aeria Germany. The bombers were a award. Capt. Charles B. Hall, no siveness ,enabled them to g in the States, is the other. by over 100 enemy aircraft. The group wa

Award for Escort Duty

The basis for the awards wa

They encountered 300 enen

July 12.

There was a banner day for the group on Friday when a flight led by Capt. Melvin T. Jackson of E. Twenty-third Street, Baltimore, strafed two airdromes in Yugoslavia, destroying 29 planes on the ground. One squadron provided top cover while the other two peeled off and coolly took time to insure the complete destruction of the crowded airfield.

Wreck Remaining Ships

After the two lead squadrons had passed over the Ilandza airdrome, ten planes were aflame, sweeping in close behind, the third squadron set fire to the remaining three enemy ships.

Still powerful with ammunition, the pilots swept to an auxiliary target at Alibunan Field, where they went in to destroy 16 more ships, thus depriving the Luftwaffe of 29 of its fast ships in a brief period. 9-16-44

Jackson declared: "There will be more parties like that," while Lt. Lester beeffed: "Damned selfish of those fellows in the lead squadron to leave just three planes for us to knock out."

Flight leaders on the strafing job included Capt. Madison, Conway, Ark.; Dudley M. Watson, 557 W. 121st Street, New York City; First Lts. Albert N. Manning, Martsville, S.C.; Herbert Houseton, Detroit; John Daniels, Chicago; John X. Briggs, Anderson, Ind.; Charles E. McGee, Champaign, Ill., and Second Lt. Walter J. Palmer, 3162 W. 121st Street Park Avenue, New York City.

MEMPHIS NEGRO GETS AWARD FOR HEROISM

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn.

Arthur Jones Given Silver Star By Admiral Stark

10-5-44

Steward's Mate 1/c Arthur Jones, 23-year-old negro of 2143 Stovall, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action at a naval hospital at Charleston, S. C., where he is recuperating from wounds received in action off the French Coast.

The medal was awarded the Memphis sailor, who attended Manassas High School, by Admiral Stark, commander of U. S. Naval Forces in Europe. He also holds the Purple Heart.

When Steward's Mate Jones was compelled to abandon ship, he saved the life of a shipmate by holding him up in the water, although badly wounded and under constant fire from German shore batteries, during the first assault on D-Day.

Legion Of Merit Won By Soldier For Conduct

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

Eisenhower's Order Credits Morale Boost To Sergeant

6-17-44

HEADQUARTERS, European Theater Of Operations—(ANP)—By command of Gen. Eisenhower, 1st Sgt. Arthur L. Bennett of Dallas, stationed with a Negro engineer company in England, was recently awarded the Legion of Merit.

In the words of the citation, Sgt. Bennett's "high standard of soldierly conduct, military courtesy and dependability has been a decisive factor in creating an excellent morale and discipline" throughout his organization. The men of his company, to whom he is affectionately known as "Top," received news of the award with great enthusiasm.

A graduate of the Navasota, Tex., high school in 1932, Bennett was president of his class in his junior and senior years and was active in school athletics.

Entering military service from Dallas, where he lived for six years, Sgt. Bennett received his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Several days after his promotion to first sergeant on May 1, 1942, he was sent to Camp Claiborne, La., as a member of a cadre to activate his present organization. Working with inexperienced personnel, Sgt. Bennett was instrumental in developing high standards of duty and initiative and efficient headquarters of organization. 6-17-44

His own high level of soldierly conduct, military courtesy and dependability gained from the outset the confidence of the officers and enlisted men. Sgt. Bennett's knowledge of administrative procedure, states the citation, enabled him to perform a multitude of administrative details that would otherwise be handled by a staff officer."

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Callie Bennett, live in Navasota, Tex.

Hero Loses Life To Save Mate In Icy Ocean Rescue

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

2-26-44

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — A husky Negro mess attendant on a Coast Guard combat cutter was this week acclaimed a hero after giving his life to save his executive officer and others during a dramatic rescue operations in the North Atlantic.

The central figure in the story, one of many heroic incidents that followed torpedoing of a transport last year, was Charles W. David Jr., 26, of New York City.

David dived repeatedly into icy seas, in total darkness, to haul survivors to safety and finally rescued Lieut. Langford Anderson, the executive officer, who had gone overside to set an example for his rescue crews. The air temperature was below freezing at the time, and the water temperature only slightly above. The sea was building up before a rising wind.

Four or five submarines were known to have been shadowing the convoy at the time the transport was hit and sunk, and the rescue operations were conducted under the ever-present hazard of a new attack. During her own rescue work, the cutter acted as a screen for another cutter similarly engaged.

Many of the survivors, on life rafts, in life boats that were awash, or buffeted in life jackets, were unconscious or semi-conscious and unable to aid themselves. The rescue crews went overside on cargo nets, working in the pounding seas to snatch men from boats and rafts, and to rig bowlines with which they could be lifted to the deck. The nets from which they worked steadily iced up. 2-26-44

"David was over the side on at least three occasions," Lieutenant Anderson said, "and due to his extreme strength he facilitated the task of getting survivors aboard who were frozen to such a degree they were like logs." 2-26-44

Lieutenant Anderson, slight of build, was working on the lower net when he was seized by a desperate, drowning man and pulled under the water. David sensed the situation, dived from the net, succeeded in breaking the survivor's stranglehold on his officer, and rescued both. The cutter picked up 94 living men from the torpedoed ship.

David died of pneumonia following his exposure and exertions.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles David, Bronx, New York, the Coast Guardsman was a graduate of the Bronx Vocational high school. His wife, Kathleen W. David, lives in New York City, with their only son, Neil Adrian. The officer he rescued later became commanding officer of the cutter.

Wins Silver Star

CITED FOR CONSPICUOUS gallantry in action at Humbolt Bay, Dutch New Guinea on April 23, 1944, Sgt. Kenneth Mitchell, 22, of 28 St. Nicholas Place, N. Y. C., was awarded the coveted Silver Star decoration, third highest Army award. Before entering the army, Sgt. Mitchell, a tap dancer by profession played in Michael Todd's "Hot Mikado," then toured southern army camps with USO shows. Since then he has entertained overeas in Australia. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard T. Mitchell.

Port Commanders Honor Two Soldiers Who Saved Marine

U.S. Navy & Marine Corps News

9-2-44

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — "Your initiative and determination is what makes the American soldier the finest soldier in the world," Col. C. J. Wilder, deputy port commander at Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation, told two Camp Hill soldiers at a ceremony there in their honor last week.

The soldiers, Pvt. James A. Caldwell, Pfc. Charley Squirewell, of the 3165th Quartermaster Service Co., are given credit by Warwick County police officials for saving the life of Philip Charles Massie, the Marine who was found buried alive in the Warwick County dump, Aug. 13. They also furnished the police with information which led to the arrest of Duke L. Stanaway, of Copeland Park, and later identified Stanaway readily and positively in a lineup at Newport News police headquarters. He is now in jail on a charge, of attempted murder. Massie, found with two bullet wounds in his head and one in his neck, is expected to recover at Portsmouth Naval Hospital.

9-2-44

REMEMBERED CLUE

Pvt. Caldwell of 136 Royal avenue, Florence, Ala., and Pfc. Squirewell, of R. No. 2, Box 113, Ridgeway street, encountered Stanaway in the disposal lot on Route 168. Stanaway opened the conversation by asking if they'd heard any dynamite blasts then wanted to know where he could get a drink. He advised the soldiers to leave, telling them they'd get a ticket for parking sure if they "hung around." He showed them a receipt for a fine he said he'd paid for driving without a license as a result of being caught around the dump. This was the information which led to Stanaway's capture.

The soldiers pretended to take his advice, but in reality drove a short distance up the road and returned on foot through the woods. Through the bushes they saw Stanaway dragging a body to a hole, which he covered with refuse and then a large car door on top. When he left, the soldiers notified the police who found Massie still breathing.

Leroy Woody, chief of police at Hilton Village, stated that Stanaway would have never been caught had it not been for their alertness.

9-2-44

KILPATRICK LETTER

Caldwell and Squirewell were commended by Brig. Gen. J. R. Kilpatrick, commanding general, HRPE, in the following letter:

"I have received a report of your activities in connection with the solution of the case of the attempted murder of Philip Charles Massie on the evening of August 13. With disregard for your own personal safety you investigated the suspicious actions of one Duke Stanaway and without doubt are primarily responsible for the apprehension of the criminal and the pos-

The parade in honor of the soldiers was led by the Camp Hill band, under the direction of M/Sgt. Arthur White.

9-2-44

PARADE FOR HEROES

47b-1944

Purple Heart Hero Home

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

Tuskegee, Ala. — The first member of the famous 99th Fighter Squadron to be awarded the Purple Heart, First Lt. Thomas N. Malone, Supply Officer of the 366th Service Squadron attached to the 99th, recently returned to Tuskegee Army Air Field while on a convalescent leave. During an engagement in Sicily in which the 99th Fighter Squadron was working in close cooperation with the British Eighth Army, Lt. Malone received orders to establish an advanced base of operation. He and a party of men set out in a "six by six" to make a reconnaisance of the proposed site. Nearing their objective, the wheels of their truck ran over a land mine, and the explosion threw the occupants to the ground unconscious. As a result of the fall, Lt. Malone's right arm became paralized. For this injury received in a combat zone, Lt. Malone was awarded the Purple Heart. Lt. Malone is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas N. Malone, Detroit, Mich. On his visit to TAAF he was accompanied by his wife, the former Janis Johnson of Montgomery, Ala. The returning hero is a former student at Wayne University where he received his A. B. in 1940. While in college Lt. Malone was a member of the track and boxing teams and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

3-1-44

Negro Soldier Wins Legion of Merit For Work in Speeding English Airfield

PM N.Y. 5-2-44

By WILLIAM J. HUMPHREYS

(Copyright, 1944, by Chicago Sun and Field Publications)

U. S. BOMBER BASE, EAST ANGLIA, May 2.—For devotion to duty in an aviation engineer battalion that was an inspiration to his regiment, a 26-year-old Mississippi Negro soldier has been awarded the Legion of Merit.

He was Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Hardy of Dundee, and is believed to be the first member of his race so honored in this theater of the war.

Although he had worked on his father's farm until inducted into the Army two years ago, and prior to that had never had any experience with heavy mechanical equipment, Hardy mastered the operation and repair of several kinds of machines used in the building of airdromes, which is the job of aviation engineers.

The citation read before his regiment yesterday while he was decorated by Maj. Gen. Cecil R. Moore, Chief Army Engineer in Britain, said that Hardy had perfected mechanical skill in one year's time. Because of the shortage of mechanics he often volunteered to work both shifts of the long working days required to rush priority airfield construction.

Maj. C. E. Lemay, leader of one of the 8th Air Force's heavy bombardment divisions, who accepted this newly-completed field, told the regiment that they and Hardy had materially shortened the highway to Berlin by their brilliant fast work.

It was the second field the Negro aviation engineer battalion has finished within a year.

Tuskegee Negro Is Carnegie Medal Winner

Mont Advertiser 5-6-44

TUSKEGEE, ALA., May 5.—(AP)—R. C. Daniel, 32-year-old negro was awarded a Carnegie bronze medal for heroism today for saving a negro fighter-pilot trainee from burning to death in a wrecked plane last Sept. 22.

On that day, Army Air Trainee Andrew H. Doswell, 26, was pinned in the cockpit when the plane he was flying hit a pile-driver in Unhapee Creek near Tuskegee and dug its nose into the bank. Spilling gasoline ignited.

Daniel, apprentice carpenter working on the pile-driver, suffered an injured knee in the crash but quickly clambered down a ladder, ran to the flaming plane despite warnings shouted to him that the plane might explode, and pried open the jammed cockpit hatch with a timber.

5-6-44

The pilot fell out of the upended plane but a strap of his parachute snagged in the cockpit. Daniel unfastened a harness chest strap, freed Doswell and helped him from the burning plane.

The flier was severely burned but recovered. Daniel was not burned.

Awarded Legion Of Merit

Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth Army in Italy, pins the Legion of Merit on Technical Sergeant William C. Chaney, 16 McGruda Heights, Williamsburg, Virginia. The Medal is in recognition of his services as personal aide to the Fifth Army commander.—(U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo)

5-10-44

FOUR GEORGIANS CITED FOR ARMY PERFORMANCE

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

3-28-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY—ITALY—(S N S)—For the "performance of services invaluable to the Fifth Army," a Negro service unit has received the first Fifth Army plaque presentation to be made since the establishment of that award several months ago. The unit is one of three others that have been similarly recognized for the same month of service.

Four of these unit members are Georgians. They are:

Sgt. Rufus Bailey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jordan Bailey, of 783 Mitchell Street, Atlanta; Cpl. Willie R. Bray, son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Bray, of 308 Nichols Street, Warrenton; Pvt. Johnnie Barksdale, son of Jack Barksdale, of Lincleton, and 1st Sgt. Aaron Banning, brother of Willie Banning of Greenville.

3-28-44

The award was in recognition of the unit's activities at an important Italian harbor. Each evening during December the unit provided the smoke which screened the harbor and its installation from air observation, and in many instances performed that function under heavy attacks from enemy aircraft. Using smoke pots and special smoke generators, the men remained on duty throughout the night, keeping a constant vigil against sneak air raids.

A citation from Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth Army, accompanied the awards.

Woman Awarded Equivalent To Service Medal

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

4-16-44

Entered Section Of Burning Plant And Saved Others

WASHINGTON—(S N S)—Mrs. Annie Marie Young, a 40-year-old production worker in the ammunition division of the Pine Bluff (Ark.) Chemical Warfare Arsenal, has become the first woman to receive the War Department's highest civilian award for exceptional service, the War Department Civilian Service Medal, was presented by Brig. Gen. A. M. Prentiss, in behalf of said this week. The citation was given in recognition of bravery in twice saving fellow workers from burning to death.

The Emblem for Exceptional Civilian Service, which is the civilian equivalent of the Distinguished Service Medal, was presented by

half of the Secretary of War.

On two occasions—October 13 and November 16, 1943—fire broke out in the plant's incendiary section near where Mrs. Young was working. Although the flames in no way threatened the area in which she was working, Mrs. Young entered the burning area and dragged out two workers whose clothes were enveloped in flames, threw them on the ground and beat out the flames with her bare hands. Her calm judgment and presence of mind inspired other workers to assist her in the rescue work, the War Department reported.

In the citation accompanying the award, Mrs. Young was praised for her "exceptional conduct in performance of outstanding service beyond the call of duty" in the two fires. 4-16-44

Mrs. Young began work at the arsenal on July 9, 1943.

Medal For Heroism Awarded To Negro Saving Flier's Life

News-Birmingham, 5-6-44 p14.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(AP)—A Carnegie bronze medal for heroism has been awarded to R. C. Daniel, 32-year-old Negro, for saving a Negro air force cadet from burning to death in a wrecked plane last Sept. 22.

The award was made Friday.

The air force trainee, Andrew H. Boswell, 26, was pinned in the cockpit of his plane when it hit a pile driver in a creek near Tuskegee and dug its nose into the bank. Gasoline dripping from the tank ignited. 5-6-44

Daniel, an apprentice carpenter working on the pile driver, clambered down a ladder, ran to the blazing plane, and despite warnings shouted to him that the machine might explode, pried open the cockpit with a piece of timber. The pilot fell out of the up-ended plane, but a strap on his parachute tangled in the cockpit. Daniel unfastened a harness trap and freed Boswell.

The pilot was severely burned, but recovered.

Wife Receives Purple Heart For Mate

Dr. F. D. Bluford, president of the Agricultural and Technical College of Greensboro, North Carolina, is shown pinning the Purple Heart on Mrs. Sam Bruce, on behalf of her husband, Lt. Sam Bruce, who was killed in action somewhere in Europe, January 27, 1944. 4-11-44

Others in the photo, left to right are: Captain A. W. Ferguson, adjutant, who escorted the honoree, Corporal Simpson White, and Staff Sergeant Lafayette Simpson.

The presentation took place on the A. and T. College campus.

Slain Air Gunner Is Awarded Medal

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
4-19-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) —A Negro flying sergeant, killed in action over Italy, was honored posthumously April 2, 1944, by the Army Air Forces at a ceremony held in the St. James Presbyterian Church, of Greensboro, N. C., when Mrs. Louise Mears, the mother of Technical Sergeant William G. Mears, received the Air Medal with the Oak Leaf Cluster, the War Department reported today.

Sergeant Mears had completed five missions as an aerial gunner on a Flying Fortress and had an enemy Messerschmitt 110 to his credit before his plane was shot down in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations April 26, 1943. The 31-year-old sergeant entered the service from Buffalo, N. Y., though his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Mears, live in Greensboro.

Captain George H. Fitch, representing Colonel Victor R. Woodruff, Commanding Officer of the AAF Technical Training Command's Basic Training Center No. 10, made the presentation to Mrs. Mears.

Race Unit First To Receive New War Dep't Award

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
3-29-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—(SNS)—A Negro service unit is the first to be presented with the Fifth Army Plaque, an award of merit established several months ago, the War Department announced today. The unit is one of three others which have been similarly recognized for service rendered at the same time.

In the citation which accompanied the award, Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth Army, wrote: "Often in the face of serious obstacles and always with unswerving devotion to the supreme purpose of destroying the enemy, you have established an outstanding record in the performance of services invaluable to the Fifth Army. Each of you should feel justifiable pride in a job well done, and in your comrades and your unit. Especially you should take pride in having so active a part in protecting and maintaining the principles which we fight."

The reward in recognition of the unit's activities at an important Italian harbor. Each evening during December the service group provided the smoke which screened the harbor and its installations from air observation, and in many instances performed that function under heavy attacks from enemy aircraft. Using smoke pots and special smoke generators, the men

47b-1944

Hero's Widow Gets Medal

NEW YORK CITY.—The widow of Coast Guardsman Charles W. David, Jr., a steward's mate first class, formerly of the Bronx N. Y., receives posthumously the Navy and Marine Corps Medal from Rear Admiral Stanley V. Parker, district Coast Guard officer. Watching the presentation are Lt. Robert W. Anderson of Brooklyn and the hero's son, three-year-old Neil Adrian. David saved the life of Lt. Anderson and helped save nearly a hundred others who were thrown into the stormy, freezing Atlantic last year when a transport was torpedoed. Diving again and again into the dark seas, David finally succumbed to pneumonia from exhaustion and exposure. The medal, one of the highest Naval awards given, was accompanied by a citation signed by Secretary of Navy Forrestal praising David's valor and bravery.—(U. S. Coast Guard Photo from OWI)

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga
7-1-44

First Negro To Win DFC

CHICAGO, Ill.—Honor of being the first Negro to win the Distinguished Flying Cross went to Capt. Charles Hall of Brazil, Ind. He visited Chicago with his wife, Maxine, to address the Urban League. He said, although he's a dive bomber pilot, a roller coaster is "too tough for me."

BRONZE PLAQUE, UNVEILED

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga
7-7-44

7-7-44

FORT BENNING, Ga. (SNS) — The bronze plaque, unveiled at the dedication of George Watson Field at Fort Benning's Reception Center, will honor Private George Watson, of Birmingham, Ala., first colored inductee of the Reception Center to win the Distinguished Service Cross. Shown above, left to right are Jesse Hill, brother of the soldier who lost his life in the southwest Pacific, Mrs. Emma Gaines, grandmother of Watson, from Birmingham, Ala., and Col. John P. Edgerly, commanding officer of the Reception Center. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

First 99th Man to Win Purple Heart Visits Tuskegee

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
3-4-44

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Emerging from the Mediterranean theater of operations as the first member of the 99th Fighter Squadron to receive the Purple Heart award, First Lt. Thomas M. Malone of Detroit was a visitor here recently.

He is a Wayne University grad and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. The officer was on leave from the Army Convalescent Hospital at Coral Gables, Fla. First Lieutenant Malone served as supply officer of the 336th Service Group Squadron, attached to the 99th Fighter Squadron.

A trifle thinner and with the strain of days spent in combat still showing in his eyes, 1st Lieutenant Malone was as jocular as ever, but he is unable to use the right arm that had so often been "pumped" by his commanding officer for commendable work done while a fledgling officer at this station.

How It All Happened

It all happened like this:

The advance of the British Eighth Army, supported by the 99th Squadron, had been so rapid that the ground echelon of the 99th received orders to move up to another sector, and Malone and his men were instructed to get a store of vitally important supplies to a proposed advance base without delay.

2-4-44

After instructing his men, Malone set out with a small party in a cargo truck. The truck, hurtling over a shell-shocked road, was suddenly rocked by a terrific explosion—a land mine planted by the retreating Nazis—the occupants being thrown to the ground unconscious.

The officer regained consciousness while propped-up in a hospital behind the lines. Slowly he realized what happened. In answer to his insistent demands, he was informed that his men had pushed the supplies through and on time.

Youth Who Gave Life To Rescue Others Is Cited

Daily World -
Atlanta, Ga.
2-25-44

Navy And Marine Corps Award Is Given David

OFFICER PRESENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)— The medal, one of the highest Coast Guardsman Charles W. Da-naval awards, was presented to the vid, Jr., 26-year-old Negro mess at-Coast Guardsman's widow, Mrs. tendant who gave his life last-Kathleen W. David, of 343 West year in rescuing the executive of-122nd Street, by Rear Admiral ficer of his ship and others from-Stanley V. Parker, District Coast the icy waters of the Atlantic dur-Guard Officer, with the Davids' ing rescue operations of a torpe-three-year-old son, Neil Adrian, ded transport, was posthumously-standing by.

2-25-44 his unselfishness in sacrificing himself was an inspiration to every officer and man on board the cutter. We were all impressed by his alertness, for his quick thinking and heroic daring in face of certain death was responsible for the saving of the lives of many men, including myself, who would be dead today."

David was a mess attendant

awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal Tuesday, June 20, 1944, at Coast Guard Headquarters, 42 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Lt. R. W. Anderson, Brooklyn, Coast Guard officer whose life was saved by David's heroic action, was also present. Lt. Anderson, who has previously been decorated for his bravery during the rescue paid tribute to the men, including myself, who would

dead hazardous conditions and

first class aboard a Coast Guard cutter which rescued nearly a hundred men from a torpedoed transport in the North Atlantic. In a heavy sea, with freezing temperatures hampering operations, David dived countless times, into the sea, in total darkness, to haul survivors to safety.

DIVED OVERBOARD 6-25-44

When the rescue operations were nearly completed, David noticed that Lt. Anderson was near exhaustion from his work on a life raft off the side of the cutter. Passing the word along to the bridge, David, himself near collapse from his efforts, dived overboard and hauled Lt. Anderson back aboard. He died shortly after from pneumonia, exhaustion and exposure as the result of his heroic actions. 6-28-44

The citation accompanying the medal, signed by Secretary of Navy James Forrestal for the President, reads in part:

"Quickly realizing that the benumbed and suffering men were too exhausted to climb aboard the rescue vessel because of the heavy seas and intensely cold wind, David unhestitantly volunteered to go over the side to assist them. Despite the rough, near freezing water and gale, he worked tirelessly with several comrades until ninety three survivors had been rescued from certain death in the steadily mounting seas. His great courage and unselfish perseverance contributed to the saving of many lives and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service." 6-25-44

David, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles David of the Bronx, was a graduate of the Bronx Vocational High School.

NEGRO CHAPLAIN IS AWARD WINNER

Age Herald - Birmingham, Ala.

WASHINGTON, June 25—Chaplain (Capt.) Charles H. Dubra, Gulfport, Miss., is the first Negro chaplain to win the Legion of Merit, the War Department reported. 6-26-44

The first American chaplain assigned to duty in New Guinea, Chaplain Dubra received the award in recognition of his "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in New Guinea from April, 1942, to March, 1944." 6-26-44

"He served the widely-scattered units of his regiment under difficult and trying conditions," according to the citation. "His sympathetic understanding and unfailing devotion to duty were of great benefit in the welfare of his men. He gave valuable assistance to commanding officers and to other chaplains in maintaining a high degree of efficiency," the citation concluded.

Widow Is Given A Hero's Medal

World-Telegram New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Kathleen W. David of 343 W. 122nd St., widow of Coast Guardsman Charles W. David, Jr., 26-year-old Negro mess attendant who died of pneumonia after helping to rescue survivors of a torpedoed transport from freezing north Atlantic waters, today received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, awarded her husband posthumously. 6-20-44

Lt. R. W. Anderson of 291 E. Eighth St., Brooklyn, executive officer of David's ship, paid a special tribute to the Coast Guardsman's heroism. Lt. Anderson said David's quick thinking and heroic daring in face of certain death was responsible for saving the lives of many men, including his own.

Gets Merit Award

Daily world - Atlanta, Ga. 4-18-44

1ST. SGT. HENRY J. JOHNSON who has been awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious service in the training of Military Police personnel overseas. Sgt. Johnson, who hails from 154 Charleston Street, Newark, N. J., received the medal while a patient at Ashofrd General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo.)

Dived In Icy

Waters To Save Countless Lives

World - Memphis, Tenn

Navy, Marine Award Presented To His Father

7-7-44

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — For heroic action in rescuing survivors of a torpedoed United States transport in the North Atlantic, Warren T. Deyampert, a Coast Guard Negro steward of Marion, Ala., has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps medal posthumously.

The Negro youth, who was serving aboard the Coast Guard cutter Escanaba that later was lost at sea when the craft sank following an explosion of undetermined nature, was instrumental in saving many lives of survivors of the stricken transport, diving repeatedly into the icy waters to bring half-forzen men to safety.

A citation accompanying the medal and signed by the Secretary of the Navy, stated:

"Despite the menace of possible enemyusbmarine action, Deyampert risked his life in the black and icy waters of the Atlantic to aid in the rescue of unconscious and helpless survivors. Realizing the danger of being crushed between the rafts and the ship's side, or of being struck by a propeller blade if the engines backed, he swam in under the counter of the constantly maneuvering Escanaba and prevented many floating survivors from being caught in the suction of the screws. Deyampert's gallant voluntary action in subjecting himself to pounding seas and bitter cold for nearly four hours contributed to the rescue of 145 persons and his courageous disregard for his own personal safety in a situation of grave peril was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service." 7-7-44

The medal was recently presented to the youth's father, Joseph H. Deyampert, 117 Clement Street, Marion, Ala.

Deyampert's heroism was cited as an example of the important contribution that young Negro men are rendering in the Coast Guard. Recruiting officers pointed out that the Coast Guard is still accepting volunteer 17-year-old Negro youths for service as steward's mates at shore stations and afloat. Recruits receive three month's basic training and indoctrination at Curtis Bay, Baltimore, Md., before assignment to duty.

Purple Heart Recipient

Daily world Atlanta, Ga. 4-29-44

Mrs. Grace Foy Bruce, who was recently awarded the Purple Heart on behalf of her husband, Lt. Sam Bruce, a former member of the 99th Fighter Squadron, who was killed in action over Italy, January 27. Since his death, Mrs. Bruce has returned to A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C., to study. She has received a number of letters from civilians and men in the Armed Services expressing their sympathy to her in the loss of Lt. Bruce, who so gallantly paid the supreme sacrifice. 4-29-44

Miss. Chaplain Wins Legion Of Merit In South Pacific

World — Memphis, Tenn.

7-7-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(Special) Chaplain (Capt.) Charles H. Dubra, of Gulfport, Miss., is the first Negro chaplain to win the Legion of Merit, the War Department reported recently.

The first American Chaplain assigned to duty in New Guinea, Chaplain Dubra received the award in recognition of his conduct in the performance of outstanding services in New Guinea from April, 1942, to March, 1944.

"He served the widely scattered units of his regiment under difficult and trying conditions," according to the citation. "His sympathetic understanding and unfailing devotion to duty were of great benefit in the welfare of his men. He gave valuable assistance to commanding officers and to other chaplains in maintaining a high degree of efficiency," the citation concluded. 7-7-44

Chaplain Dubra, a graduate of Claflin College (B. A. 1928) and Gammon Theological seminary (B. D.) is a native of Moss Point, Miss. He is a minister of the Methodist Church and was commissioned a first lieutenant in the Chaplain Corps on August 27, 1941 His wife lives at 1302 32nd Ave., Gulfport, Miss.

47b-1944

Wins Soldier's Medal For Saving Life Of His Pal

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

3-30-44

HEADQUARTERS, 12TH AIR FORCE, North Africa—(S N S) — Although painfully burned, Staff Sergeant (then sergeant) Robert Lee Thomas, of Dallas, Texas, smothered the flames engulfing a fellow soldier with his own body and ripped off the burning clothes with his bare hands, the War Department learned today.

For his heroism, the 38-year-old non-commissioned officer recently received the Soldier's Medal in the presence of his Military Police battalion drawn up in formation at a North African air base. Quite embarrassed by the display, Sergeant Thomas blushed boyishly and muttered "I'm mighty proud" as Major Melvin V. Engstrom, of Rawlins, Wyoming, base commander, presented him with his decoration.

Sergeant Thomas, who entered the service in February, 1941, and was once discharged for "overage" saved the life of one of his fellow soldiers on December 28, 1943, when the latter's clothes became ignited from the flames of a burning pyramidal tent. The victim, frantic with pain, fled from the tent.

Took Burning Clothes Off Man With Bare Hands

"As the victim ran out into the open, fanning the flames, Sergeant Thomas pursued him and flung him to the ground," the citation reads. "Although painfully burned in the process, Sergeant Thomas smothered the flames with his own body and tore off the burning clothes with his bare hands. 3-30-44

"The soldier suffered multiple second and third degree burns and quite probably was saved from fatal injury only by Sergeant Thomas' quick action and total disregard for self.

Sergeant Thomas' heroism and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service of the United States," the citation concluded.

Negro Soldier In Defender Wyoming Gets Chicago, Ill.

Legion Of Merit

1-1-44

FT. WARREN, Wyo.—The first award of the Legion of Merit to a member of the command was made at this post Thursday with a full-scale review on Argonne parade ground in which 14,000 troops participated, and in which the man honored was a Negro soldier.

Recipient of the coveted medal was Master Sgt. Norman Harding, World War I soldier and veteran of 20 years in the service. The medal, bestowed for "extraordinary fidelity and essential service," was awarded to Sergeant Harding for his activities in organizing Negro administration and supply schools at this post and his contribution to their successful operation.

Sergeant Harding, 48-year-old member of the 248th QM. Depot Supply company, has been stationed at Ft. Warren since March, 1941. He was assigned to the 248th upon deactivation of the schools, where he served in the capacity of assistant senior instructor.

Frequently commended by officers under whom he has served since 1918, Sergeant Harding in April of this year was the subject of a commendation from Brig. Gen. H. L. Whittaker, commanding general of the existing QMRTC, for "diligence, efficiency, and attention to duty." It was one of the first official acts of General Whittaker following his assumption of command here. 1-1-44

Like many serving in the armed forces, Sergeant Harding has very definite ideas concerning his post-war plans.

"I'm going to ask for a 90-day furlough and just sit around and talk about World War II like the old soldiers talked about World War I," he said.

But as long as there's a job to do, he's just going to "kinda stick around," Sergeant Harding added. Records show that he has had exactly four furloughs during his 20 years of service.

The grandfather of an infant boy, Sergeant Harding enlisted in 1918 and was sent overseas in August where he was assigned to engineers. After the war he remained in service for four years, then took a six-year "holiday" to return in 1929.

For the next 10 years, until 1939, he was a member of the 24th Infantry at Ft. Benning, Ga., then at Ft. Bragg, N. C., and Ft. Wayne, Mich., until transfer to Ft. Warren.

Risks Death to Evacuate Paratroopers; Wins Award

Iowa Bystander - Des Moines, Iowa

1-13-44

With the Fifth Army, Italy— For taking 12 wounded paratroopers from the front lines to safety with his truck, after officers said it was impossible, Private Woodall I. Marsh, of 3 Miller street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has been awarded the Silver Star, the War Department announced this week.

Major General John P. Lucas presented the award to Private Marsh at a ceremony held near the front lines on December 21, 1943. Private Marsh thus became the first Negro to receive the Silver Star in this theater.

Private Marsh drove his truck through water up to the hubs of the wheels, and under terrific fire from the enemy, to reach the paratroopers. He had to build his own road as he went along, making his trip long and tiresome. 1-13-44

On his return trip, Private Marsh had to select an alternate route which proved as hazardous as the journey forward. He was forced to dig his truck out of the muck and mire many times. For thirty minutes, during the trip, he was subjected to heavy mortar and artillery fire.

WINS HIGHEST AWARD

Defender - Chicago, Ill

1-29-44

The Soldier's medal, highest army award for heroism elsewhere than in battle, was given to S-Sgt. Charles Davis, of Blair, S. C., by Brig. Gen. Lehman W. Miller, commander of Camp Sutton, N. C., for risking death by freezing to save three other men's lives.

Rescues Trio In 30 Below Cold To Win Soldiers Medal

Defender - Chicago, Ill

1-29-44

CAMP SUTTON, N. C.—The Soldier's Medal, highest army award for "heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy," was presented here last week to S-Sgt. Charles Davis, of Blair, S. C., by Brig. Gen. Lehman W. Miller, the camp's commanding general.

Repeated acts of bravery and hardihood, which saved at least three and probably five men's lives in northwest Canada last winter, won Sergeant Davis his decoration.

A member of a General Service Engineer unit working last winter on the road system which now connects Alaska to the United States proper, Davis had a smash-up while driving "Old Betsy," the regimental shop truck, over a pioneer road in sub-Arctic wilderness. All three of his crew were seriously injured. Unloading them, Davis built them a roaring fire. Stripping to his coveralls—the temperature was 30 below zero—he wrapped the worst-hurt man in his winter clothes, then made his way on foot 12 miles back to camp for help. Still summer-clad, he came back with the rescue-truck.

Metal Worker

Slight and mild-mannered, Sgt. Davis is one of three soldier-sons of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Davis of Blair, S. C., and prior to his induction was a metal worker with the Empire Sheet and Tin Plate company, of Mansfield, Ohio.

He claims to feel elderly and in-firm—he is 29—but on the night of the accident he went back to try to reclaim Old Betsy. She finally consented to run, after much coaxing, but three miles from the base she burst into flames, forcing the sergeant to hike for the second time that day. He admits, with unbelief, that he collapsed when he got back.

On another occasion, this time, rations and nothing with which to cut wood. The sergeant organized the machine moving. With the thermometer registering 60 below, a truck carrying Davis and two other men broke down on the base camp thawing them into shifts to break branches and keep a fire going. He himself worked on the frozen truck, thawing with the heat of his hands every few minutes.

It was five days later that he got to camp," said Sgt. Davis, "I couldn't have done so, they would have been doomed, for the base camp was not expecting them back and the advance station didn't know they were coming. 1-29-44

Kin of Seamen Lost in Action Presented Medals

Register, San Antonio, Tex. May 26, 1944

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The widow of 11 Negro seamen who lost their lives in active service in the merchant marine were presented with Mariner's medals last week, as the nation celebrated "national maritime day" on Monday, May 22.

The medals were accompanied by personal letters to each relative from Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, war shipping administrator and

Had he not have been Calif.
camp was not and the ad- know they 5-26-44
o camp," said t have been r was over." as motor-ser- eer regiment nded by Lt. e of Fresno ows, mothers or other next-of-kin

chairman of the United States Maritime commission. May 26, 1944

Those who received the medals Monday, included one Texan, Mrs. Ida Guss, Third avenue, South Texas City, Texas, aunt of Lucius J. Lastrap, Jr., messman, lost on April 10, 1942.

The Mariner's medal, created by the congress of the United States, is awarded to any seaman who, while serving in a ship during the war period, is wounded, suffers physical injury, or suffers through dangerous exposure as a result of an act of an enemy of the United States. May 26, 1944

In the event any such seaman dies from the wounds or injuries before the award can be made to him, the medal may be presented to the person named in the war risk policy as his beneficiary.

The 41 Negro casualties were included in a list of several hundred posthumous awards of the Mariner's medal.

Soldier's Medal Is Awarded Duo

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga
6-2-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY — (ANP) — Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, fifth army commander, recently cited Pfc. Roy H. Scott and S-Sgt. Jesse V. McAfee, engineers by awarding them the Soldier's medal for heroic action in saving a bridge vital to army operations.

Members of a Fifth army engineer regiment in Italy, Scott's home is in Cleveland, Tenn., while McAfee lives in Halletsville, Tex. Their courageous action occurred in February while they and other members of their unit were repairing a bridge along the Volturno river.

CLEARS STRUCTURE

They were repairing a bridge across the flooded Volturno river when large pieces of floating timber and debris became entangled in cross-braces under the bridge. The accumulation seriously threatened the structure, and several unsuccessful attempts, were made to dislodge the clog. Pfc. Scott climbed over the railing, and hanging from the understructure in complete darkness, tied ropes and cables to the timbers and made possible the prompt, clearance of the obstruction. 6-2-44

"His heroic and efficient action," the citation stated, "resulted in saving a vital bridge from complete destruction or serious damage."

Sgt. McAfee was supervising a group of men also repairing a bridge across the river. Floating driftwood caused the bridge to lean, and the entire structure was in danger of collapsing. Completely disregarding his own safety, McAfee climbed below the bridge and cleared the debris from the bents.

CITED FOR ACTION

Later, when another piece of driftwood damaged a bend, he again went below to assist in fastening a cable to anchor the bridge.

"His courageous actions, performed in complete darkness and in constant danger from rushing flood waters, floating debris and the precarious condition of the structure, aided in saving a bridge vital for military traffic," according to his citation.

Soldier's Heroism In India Brings Promise Of A Medal

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

By HARRY McALPIN
(Washington Correspondent of Atlanta Daily WORLD and NNPA)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The heroism of a 20-year old Negro soldier attached to a quartermaster company in India which has earned him a recommendation for a Soldier's Medal was learned exclusively by the NNPA this week. The soldier is Pfc. Douglas D. Hopper of the 1905th Quartermaster Company. Commended once before for heroism in rescuing pilots from a burning plane that had crashed, he will, on receipt of the medal, become one of the three men in his outfit to be so decorated. 5-26-44

The incident which won Hopper the medal recommendation occurred in a river in India. Two officers were in a rubber boat which struck a log and capsized. One of the officers reached the bank safely, the second was marooned on a log.

Hopper, with Sgt. Jack E. Daniels came along shortly afterwards in another rubber boat and promptly joined the officer on the bank in attempts to rescue the marooned officer. Twice they carried their rubber craft upstream and sailed down, trying to grab the log as they went by, but the swift current foiled them.

SWAM TO SANDBAR

Finally, Pfc. Hopper volunteered to swim out to a sandbar upstream from the marooned officer so he could throw him a life preserver. Plunging into the dangerously swift stream, he managed to reach the sandbar and throw the life preserver to the man on the log. The latter, reaching to catch it, lost his footing and slipped into the river. 5-26-44

Knowing that the officer was a poor swimmer, Hopper promptly dived into the rapids after him, fully clothed but was barely able to reach the bank himself where he kicked off his shoes and prepared to try again. By this time, however, the struggling officer had been carried far downstream. The other officer was out in the boat trying to get to him. All efforts failed and the man drowned.

BEYOND CALL OF DUTY

In a letter of commendation to Hopper's commanding officer, the Air Transport Command praised Pfc. Hopper's act in voluntarily swimming out to the sandbar despite the dangerously swift current. Pointing out that below the sandbar the river is much worse, being "extremely rapid, dangerous and hazardous" the letter characterized Hopper's act of plunging in fully clothed when the officer was swept under as "far above and beyond the call of duty."

The letter, which also praised Sgt. Daniels for his part in the incident, ended with the statement that a recommendation is being submitted that Pfc. Hopper be awarded the Soldier's Medal. 5-26-44

NEGRO AIR HERO, FIRST TO WIN A D.F.C., IS FETED

Daily Tribune
Chicago, Ill.
6-24-44

2 Flyers Tell Club of Famed Squadron.

Capt. Charles B. Hall, 23, of Brazil, Ind., first Negro to win the distinguished flying cross, and one of his pilot companions of the 99th fighter squadron, Lt. William Ashley, 23, of Sumter, S. C., were honored at a luncheon yesterday by the Chicago Urban league in the La Salle hotel.

Wearing a D. F. C. ribbon given him by Maj. Walter Mahurin, Fort Wayne, [Ind.] ace because he has not yet received his own, Capt. Hall traced the advancement Negro pilots have made since his squadron, the first composed of Negroes, went overseas 13 months ago.

Form Two More Negro Units.

"We now have the 332d fighter group, under Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., son of the only Negro general in the United States army, which is fighting in Italy, and a squadron of bomber pilots which is expected to go overseas soon," Capt. Hall said. 6-21-44

He described the casualties in the original squadron as "light" and explained that the replacement schedule was so out of ratio with losses that at one time there were twice as many pilots as planes. Capt. Hall is credited with shooting down three planes and has made 108 missions in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy.

A graduate of Eastern Illinois State Teachers college, Charleston, he enlisted in the air corps three years ago, and went on his first mission June 2, 1943. He left Chicago yesterday for Atlantic City, N. J., where he will spend two weeks in a rest camp.

Clark's Pilot Also in City.

Another returned Chicago pilot told of flying Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark over the Anzio beachhead in Italy soon after the landing at Salerno. He is Lt. Harold Nelson, 24, of 5922 Byron st., who entered the army as a private two and one-half years ago. His present furlough was granted after he completed 121 missions from Africa and Italy during 13 months overseas. Lt. Nelson has been awarded the air medal.

Nelson, who formerly worked at the Pyramid Metals company, 1335 N. Wells st., attended Steinmetz High school. His wife, Patricia, lives with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Nelson, at the Byron st. home. After four weeks at a Miami, Fla., rest camp he will be eligible for reassignment.

Legion Of Merit Awarded Is Gets Silver Star

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
7-15-44

Chaplain (Captain) James L. Jones, 2711 Thomas Avenue, Dallas, Texas, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry under fire at Anzio. Attached to Negro combat Quartermaster unit of the Fifth Army, Chaplain Jones recently returned to the United States.—(U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo. 6-25-44

Given Chaplain In Pacific

Mississippian Daily World First To Win Atlanta Coveted Medal
7-2-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Chaplain (Captain) Charles Dubra, of Gulfport, Miss., is the first Negro chaplain to win the Legion of Merit, the War Department reported today.

The first American chaplain assigned to duty in New Guinea (B. D., 1932), is a native of Moss Point, Miss. He is a minister of the Methodist Church and was commissioned a first Lieutenant in the Chaplain Corps on August 27, 1941. His wife lives at 1303 32nd Avenue, Gulfport.

formance of outstanding services in New Guinea from April, 1942, to March, 1944."

"He served the widely scattered units of his regiment under difficult and trying conditions, according to the citation. "His sympathetic understanding and unfailing devotion to duty were of great benefit in the welfare of his men. He gave valuable assistance to officers and to other chaplains in maintaining a high degree of efficiency," the citation concluded. 7-2-44

Chaplain Dubra received the award in recognition of his "exceptional meritorious conduct in the per-

Chaplain Dubra, a graduate of Claflin College (B. A., 1928) and Gammon Theological Seminary

476-1944

First Negro To Win DFC

World — Memphis, Tenn. 7-4-44

476

7-4-44

CHICAGO, Ill.—Honor of being the first Negro to win the Distinguished Flying Cross went to Capt. Charles Hall of Brazil, Ind. He visited Chicago with his wife, Maxine, to address the Urban League. He said, although he's a dive bomber pilot, a roller coaster is "too tough for me."

Purple Hearts Go To 92nd Wounded

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

10-1-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY— (SNS) — Nine wounded Negro infantrymen from the 92nd Infantry Division, now fighting with the Fifth Army, and one of their officers recently were awarded Purple Hearts by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, who pinned on them in their wards at the 56th Evacuation Hospital, the War Department disclosed today.

Among the first casualties of the Division, which was committed to the front line late in Aug. the Negro doughboys were told by the Fifth Army Commander that their unit had discharged itself well in its initial battle experience. General Clark asked each one the circumstances and nature of his wounds and wished him a speedy recovery. 10-1-44

Several of the wounded men reminded the General that they had heard his talk to them at the front the day they went into action.

Those who received decorations were Private First Class Herman Bradley of 928 West 27th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana; Private First Class Ernest Hainsworth of Southern Pines, North Carolina; Private First Class Turner Joiner of Valdosta, Georgia; Staff Sergeant Wyne Stine of Mount Enterprise, Texas; Private First Class Nathaniel Coffey of 3719 Fourth Street, New Orleans, (Louisi- 4th Street, New Orleans, Louisiana; Private Theodore Coleman of West Helena, Arkansas; Private Frank Earsery of 1311 West Walnut Street, Louisville, Ky; Private First Class Isaac Milton of 18 Northwest Boundary, Savannah Georgia, and Private First Class David Foster of 108 Oscar Street,

Lieuttan Colonel Theodore Nathaniel Coffey of 3719 Fourth Kimpton of 7700 Chappell Ave., Chicago, a battalion commander who also was among the division's first casualties, received his Purple Heart at the hospital ceremony.

"Figure this one out. It's funny, isn't it, that the two peoples on this earth who are responsible for the fact that decent Americans are suffering and dying today—the Germans and Japanese rulers—are eactly the two groups who believe in 'race superiority' and 'race inferiority' and who are out to murder everybody who doesn't agree with them. So—if you want to be a German or a Japanese stooge, you know how to go about it. Just get out in the street or talk to your neighbor and preach race prejudice. "Hitler will bless you. Hirohito will applaud you. In fact, you'll be a damned good Japanese, a damned good German.

"There's only one thing you won't be. 10-1-44

"You won't be a good American

Sergeant Wins Soldier's Medal

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va.

FORT SILL, Okla.—(FAS)—Staff Sergeant Samuel A. Turner, Baton Rouge, received the Soldier's Medal for heroism recently at an impressive review held on the Old Post Parade Grounds. The presentation was made by Major General Orlando Ward, commandant of the Field Artillery School.

9-23-44

Sergeant Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Turner, 2104 Carolina street, Baton Rouge, was recommended for the award following his actions last May when at the risk of his life he stopped an enraged soldier, who, with a loaded rifle, was advancing towards the company mess sergeant threatening to shoot him.

DISARMED SOLDIER

According to the citation, Sergeant Turner heard the threat against the mess sergeant "and seeing the soldier with the rifle aimed directly at the mess sergeant, at the risk of his own life, overpowered him and with the assistance of another soldier, disarmed him." 9-23-44

Personnel of the 3555th and 886th Quartermaster Truck Companies passed in review following the presentation of the medal. Also taking part was the 211th Army Band.

Sergeant Turner was inducted into the Army June, 12, 1941. He is a platoon sergeant in the 3555th Quartermaster Truck Company.

Awarded Legion of Merit

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

6-3-44

Maj. Gen. C. R. Moore, Chief Engineer for the U. S. Army in the E. T. O., presents the Legion of Merit to T/Sgt. Lawrence Hardy, of Dundee, Miss., (left) for especially meritorious work in building an airfield in Britain. The airdrome, which was built almost entirely by colored engineers, has been handed over to to the U. S. A. A. F. The rapid progress made by the men working on the field was commended by Army officials.

Colored Major Gets High Honor

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

6-10-44

By GEORGE PADMORE, Our London Correspondent

LONDON—(Censored)—For disregarding physical danger and leading two companies of British Tommies in an offensive against crack German troops in Italy, a colored officer, Major James Clarke, has been awarded the Military Cross, one of the highest British decorations.

Describing Major Clarke's action—he is only 23 years old—the British War office says that: "On the night of December 1, 1943, Major Clarke was in command of two companies whose task was to infiltrate by night to the edge of San Vito and to send a patrol into town.

"Major Clarke led his two companies over most difficult country which he had not been able to reconnoitre. Having established a base on the high ground overlooking the town, Major Clarke dispatched a platoon into the town which killed Germans and created alarm and confusion in the town. At dawn he advanced his force to the lip of the high ground overlooking the town and the main road from the south. This advance wiped out several pockets of enemy resistance. 6-10-44.

CAPTAIN KILLED

"A counter-attack, estimated two companies in strength, was driven in with great force by the enemy. This was repulsed with loss to the enemy, including a German captain. The Germans were determined to remove this threat to their main line of withdrawal, and for five hours they attacked frontally and from both flanks. For two hours Major Clarke's force was completely surrounded, but the combatted companies remained firm, although suffering considerable loss. During this period Major Clarke organized the defense of his position with the utmost calm, and personally led a counter-attack which cleared up enemy infiltration on the left. His cheerfulness and cool courage as he walked around his position under mortar and machine-gun fire inspired the men to hold fast. By holding this ground Major Clarke's force must have seriously influenced the enemy's decision to withdraw from the river to the south, and when the enemy endeavoured to withdraw by the main road, the Forward Observation Officer with Major Clarke was able to scatter his marching troops."

The War office citation concludes in these words: "Major Clarke's work in this action deserves the highest praise; in spite of being in grave physical danger he remained unruffled and sound of judgment, revealing the qualities of a great leader."

The young major is the son of James H. Clarke, a native of Jamaica, West Indies, who carried on business as a builder and contractor in the small Surrey town of Horley, England. The major was educated in this country and like many other colored commissioned officers in the British Army was inducted into the British Army with thousands of other colored men on a temporary basis as a builder and contractor in the British Royal Air Force.

Posthumous Award To Hero Coastguardsman

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

7-1-44

NEW YORK CITY—A 26-year-old Coast Guard mess attendant, Charles W. David, Jr., who heroically pedoed transport, was posthumous-

ly faced death in the icy waters of the Atlantic to save the lives of perhaps a hundred men on a tor-

MOTHER GETS YOUTH'S DECORATION

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 10-7-44

10-7-44

The Army paid tribute to a hero from another branch of the country's service recently at Camp Carson in Colorado when Capt. Lee K. Bailey, commanding officer of the 42nd Veterinary Company at the camp, presented the Mariners' Medal to the mother of the first Negro youth from Colorado Springs, Colo., to win a decora-tion in this war. Before a guard of honor and color guard, Capt. Bailey presented the medal to Mrs. Fredericka Banks, 314 Williamette avenue, Colorado Springs, as a posthumous award to her son, Charles C. Banks, 27-year-old merchant sailor who lost his life in the North Atlantic. Banks died when his ship, the S.S. Minotaur, was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine on Jan. 9, 1943.

ly awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal in a simple ceremony at Coast Guard headquarters here last week.

Coast Guardsman David's widow, Mrs. Kathleen W. David, received the medal from Rear Admiral Stanley V. Parker, district Coast Guard officer. She held her 3-year-old son, Neil Adrian, dressed in a Navy play suit, in her arms as Admiral Parker read the citation.

Coast Guardsman David was mess attendant aboard a Coast Guard cutter that went to the rescue of a torpedoed transport in near-freezing temperature in the Atlantic. The Coast Guard reported that countless times David dived overboard to rescue men struggling in the icy waters. He kept diving, despite his own waning strength, until nearly a hundred men had been saved.

When the rescue operation had been nearly completed word came from the cutter's bridge that Lieutenant R. W. Anderson, of Brooklyn, executive officer of the cutter, was exhausted and in danger of drowning. Lieutenant Anderson was on a life raft at the side of the cutter helping rescue operations.

David dived once more. He rescued his commanding officer, but died soon afterward of pneumonia induced by exposure. 7-1-44

Lieutenant Anderson was present at the ceremony, at which Coast Guardsmen and Spars stood at attention as Admiral Parker read the citation which said in part: "His great courage and unselfish perseverance contributed to the saving of many lives and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Admiral Parker paused in the reading o fthe official citation to declare: "It must be remembered that the numbing chill of the water is as great a hazard as being under fire."

Lieutenant Anderson said after the ceremony: "David's bravery under the most hazardous conditions and his unselfishness in sacrificing himself was an inspiration to every officer and man on the cutter."

GETS MARINER'S MEDAL

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 6-10-44

Mrs. Virginia O'Bryant of Washington, D. C., was one of more than a score of Negro recipients of the Mariner's Medal awarded on Maritime Day to the next of kin of merchant seamen who suffered loss of life or severe injury in getting munitions of war overseas. Mrs. O'Bryant is shown holding the medal as Lt. (j.g.) David L. Church of the U. S. Maritime Commission reads a letter from the Rear Admiral in praise of her late son, Leroy Melvin O'Bryant, fireman, who lost his life January 25, 1944 when his ship was torpedoed.—Official OWI photo.

HONORED TWICE IN WEEK

Defender Chicago, Illinois 9-30-44

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group of the 15th Air Force in Italy, receives the Legion of Merit six days after he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Doing the honors is Lieut.-Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commander of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force. The ceremony took place on September 16.

Officer Wins Silver Star For Routing 5 Nazi Tanks

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 7-15-44

FORT BENNING, Ga. — (ANP) — In the presence of Col. John P. Edgerly, commanding officer of the parade ground, reception center, Friday.

For gallantry in action in the Italian campaign last fall, 2nd Lt. James J. Curran received the Silver Star award during ceremonies given in his honor on the second battalion, post commander, decorated the

7-15-44

"By his efficient maneuvering of his platoon," continued the citation, "and the skill with which he directed the firing he was instrumental

young officer with the Silver Star, in pulling one of the enemy tanks After the award was made Lt. Curran was honored with a review held by reception center soldiers of the 2nd battalion.

Major Boyd Q. Baggett, adjutant of the reception center, read the citation.

Lt. Curran came to Fort Benning from Camp Croft, S. C., where he was placed in the officers replacement pool following his return from overseas. The citation followed him from Croft to the reception center. Since receiving the award he has been ordered to Fort Devens, Mass. After he had landed in Italy in the invasion, the citation read, Lt. Curran, platoon leader, led his men toward a certain objective when the platoon was suddenly attacked by five enemy tanks. He skillfully directed his men to deploy themselves along a rock wall. Constantly exposing himself to enemy fire, Lt. Curran ordered his grenade launcher riflemen to take positions at the corners of the walls and to open fire on the tanks.

out of action, the turret blown off by an exploding grenade. The remaining four tanks were driven away by effective fire. Although severely wounded by shell fragments, Lt. Curran refused to go to the station aid hospital, but continued to lead his platoon until his objective was reached."

47b-1944

DFC To Oklahoman

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

Mid-West Pilot Gets 3 FW 190's

Joseph Elsberry Second Negro To Get Flying Cross

8-26-44

ALLIED AIR BASE IN MEDITERRAENEAN THEATER. — Captain Joseph D. Elsberry, 1114 West Washington St., Langston, Okla., was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross last Wednesday for his outstanding performance during a dangerous and hazardous mission over Southern France on July 12.

On the mission which gained signal honor for the 23-year-old Oklahoma pilot, Elsberry shot down three FW 190's. He has four German planes to his credit altogether and is currently the outstanding colored flyer in the Mediterraenean theater with 23 bomber escort missions besides his victories.

8-25-44

Second To Get DFC

He is the second colored pilot to win the DFC, the first recipient of this high honor being Captain Charles B. Hall, now in the States on assignment.

Captain Elsberry's feat was highlighted by his disregard of personal danger in leading a P-51 Mustang group on escort formation for bombers in spite of hazardous weather conditions.

The climatic conditions were extremely bad, pilots being forced to maneuver through a solid overcast, but Elsberry skillfully led his formation through jeopardizing difficulties to give all-important protection to the bombers on the mission.

Meet 16 Nazi Planes

The bombers were attacked by 16 FW 190's but Captain Elsberry through courage and aggressiveness led his flight into the thick of battle, personally destroying three enemy planes.

Lt. Harold Sawyer scored his fourth victory in the aerial flight. On the return trip home, Elsberry found his plane low on gas and was forced to land at another field but returned to base the following day to receive the personal commendation from Col. B. O. Davis Jr., his commander, for the successful completion of his mission.

8-26-44

The Oklahoman also received a promotion to the captaincy on that day and now, 35 days later, has been awarded the DFC. As flight leader in the squadron commanded by Captain Lee Rayford of Washington, Captain Elsberry has displayed extraordinary achievement, continuously leading the flight against enemy targets of vital stragetic importance deep within hostile territory.

A Modest Pilot

The overwhelming obstacles which he successfully surmounted on which the mission award was based is merely one of the many instances of his outstanding flying.

Elsberry is a modest, typical fighter pilot full of confidence but not cocky. He received his education at Langston university and later studied at Tuskegee. He was graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air school on September 6, 1942, and was assigned to the fighter group at Selfridge Field, Mich., March 29, 1943, and has been a member since that date. He is not married.

British Town Gives $2100 To Hero For Rescue

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

9-16-44

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON. — Afro-American heroism and British appreciation netted a Negro soldier $2,100 and a gold watch this week.

The mayor and citizens of Crayde Devon gave Corporal Rudolph Johnson their civilian equivalent of the Purple Heart for risking his life and losing his watch to save a drowning British woman.

Corporal Johnson, passing along the seashore, saw a young woman batner drowning and screaming for help. He handed his wristwatch to a woman bystander for safe-keeping and plunged into the sea to save the bather.

Staggering upon the beach with the rescued woman, Johnson discovered that the woman holding his watch had disappeared. He reported the matter to the town police.

9-16-44

When the mayor of the town heard what happened, contributions were collected to buy Johnson a new gold watch in compensation for the stolen one.

In addition, Johnson was presented with a check as testimony of British appreciation for his gallantry in saving a drowning woman.

Gen. Clark Honors 92d Division Negro

World Telegram—New York, N.Y.

9-2-44

By the Associated Press.

ROME, Sept. 2.—Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark visited a wounded Negro infantryman and awarded him a Purple Heart today as the 92nd Infantry Division, a Negro outfit, killed its first Germans and suffered its first battle casualties in the Fifth Army drive between Pisa and Florence.

"You men of the 92nd will be in on the final battle when we completely crush our enemy and bring victory to our great nation," Gen. Clark told the soldiers.

Four Win Distinguished Flying Cross In Italy

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

9-16-44

ROME, Italy.—The thrill of a lifetime was experienced here this week by Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group, when he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by his father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., ranking Negro commissioned officer in the U. S. army.

Three other Negro officers, all members of Col. Davis' command, were also presented with the coveted flying medal at the same ceremony. They were Lt. Clarence D. Lester, 5329 Prairie avenue, Chicago; Capt. Joseph D. Ellsberry, 114 W. Washington boulevard, Langston, Okla., and Lt. Jack D Holsclaw, 2301 W. College avenue, Spokane, Wash. Both Lester and Ellsberry are accredited with shooting three Nazi planes down in a single action. Lt. Lester has been awarded the Air Medal and four Oak Leaf Clusters.

The D.F.C. presentations came as a result of the 332nd's brilliant battle over northern Italy on May 9 when, led by Col. Davis, it attacked more than 100 enemy fighters attempting to intercept American bombers.

9-16-44

Prior to the four awards last week, only one Negro pilot had received the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was Capt. Charles B. Hall of the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

The 332nd Fighter Group, first all-Negro unit of its kind in the Army Air Forces, has completed over 1,100 missions with more than 10,000 individual sorties to its credit during the six months of service in the Italian theater of operations. It is a part of the 15th U. S. Air Force.

The group pilots of the unit's oldest fighting squadron have been accredited with 60 victories, 586 missions and 3727 individual sorties in air combat.

The group total is well over 200 enemy planes.

9-16-44

In a raid on the Ilandza and Alibunar airfields of Yugoslavia last week, the outfit, flying P-51 Mustang fighters, destroyed 29 Nazi planes on the ground, the first formation accounting for 26. Said Lt. Clarence Lester, who flew in the second formation: "It was damned selfish of those fellows in the first formation to leave us only three planes."

Negro General Pins DFC On His Son, Colonel Davis

Times—New York, N.Y.

9-12-44

ROME, Sept. 11 (U.P.)—Brig. Gen. Benjamin Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the United States Army, pinned the Distinguished Flying Cross yesterday on his son, Col. Benjamin Davis Jr., a Mustang pilot, in a ceremony held at the 332d Fighter Group base.

Lieut. Gen. Ira C. Eaker and Lieut. Gen. Nathan Twining, Air Force commanders, witnessed the presentation.

9-12-44

Colonel Davis was decorated for action on June 9, when, while escorting heavy bombers in northeastern Italy, his group of Mustangs attacked 100 German fighters. Three other Negro fighters received the same decoration.

AIR AWARD WON BY NEGRO YOUTH AT CAP SESSION

Tribune—Chicago, Ill.

9-10-44

Sgt. Wardeen Mason.

Master Sgt. Wardeen Mason, 17, 520 Browning av., of the civil air patrol, was one of nine outstanding cadets to be awarded an air forces identification bracelet recently at the Chanute field, Rantoul, Ill., encampment for CAP cadets.

Four hundred cadets, selected from the thousands in the state, were the guests of the army air forces at Chanute field for 10 days. They attended classes and maintained the same schedule as the regular army flight trainees.

Sgt. Mason was in command of the 17 Negro youths from Chicago who attended. He plans to enter the air forces after his next birthday and hopes eventually to pursue a career in aeronautics. While at Chanute field he was promoted from technical sergeant to master sergeant.

Negro General Pins DFC Award on Son

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.

9-12-44

ROME, Sept. 11 (UP). — Brig. Gen. Benjamin Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the American Army, yesterday pinned the Distinguished Flying Cross on his son, Col. Benjamin Davis, Jr., a Mustang pilot, in a ceremony held at the 332d Fighter Group base.

Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker and Lt. Gen. Nathan Twining, Air Force commanders, were present at the ceremonies, headquarters announced.

9-12-44

Davis was decorated for action on June 9 when, while escorting heavy bombers in northeastern Italy, his group of Mustangs attacked 100 German fighters. Three other Negro fighters received the same decoration.

Father Receives Honors Awarded Son Posthumously

Age—New York, N.Y.

7-8-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — For heroic action in rescuing survivors of a torpedoed United States transport in the North Atlantic, Warren T. Deyampert, a Coast Guard Negro steward of Marion, Ala., has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps medal posthumously.

The Negro youth, who was serving aboard the Coast Guard cutter Escanaba that later was lost at sea when the craft sank following an

A citation accompanying the medal, which was signed by the Secretary of the Navy, said Lt. Haywood has completed 18 missions.

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.

9-16-44

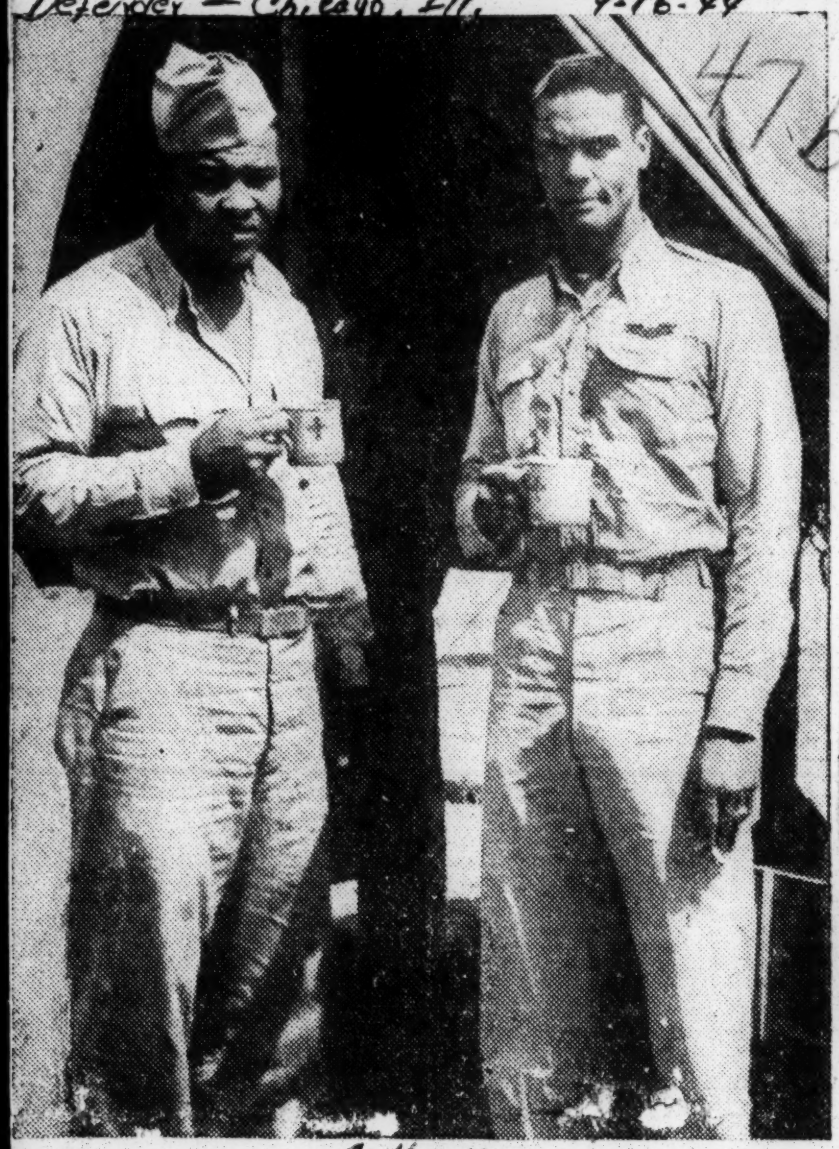
Oak Cluster

WITH 15th AAF IN ITALY—(ANP)—For "meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustaining operations in Italy which is commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Lt. Col. Lieut. Haywood has completed 18 missions against the enemy."

Lieut. Earns

COLONEL DAVIS WINS DFC

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 9-16-44



9-16-44

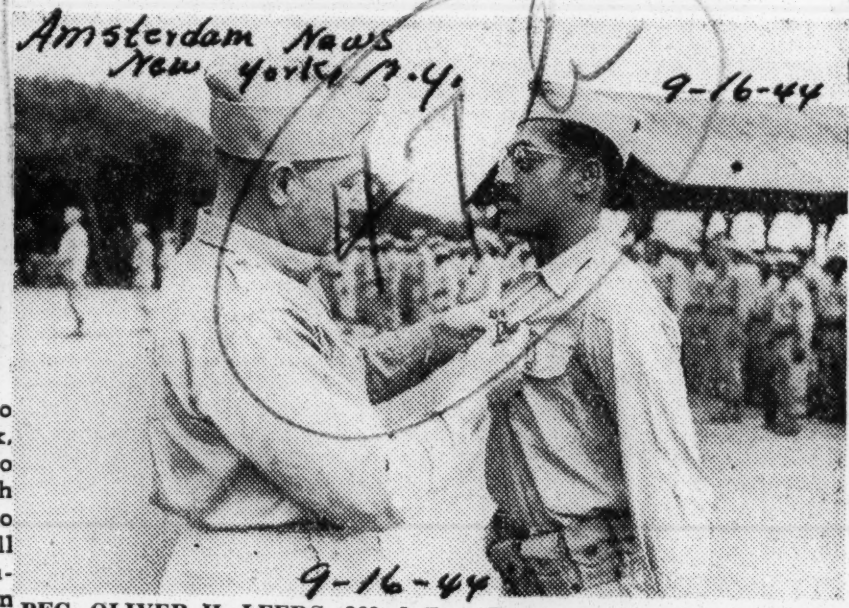
Winner of the Distinguished Flying Cross which was presented to him by his father, Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., in Italy this week, Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of the all-Negro fighter group now battling the Nazis in European skies, chats with Heavyweight Champ Joe Louis during the latter's recent visit to the group's air base in Italy. It is believed that Colonel Davis will return to the United States soon to assume the position of commanding officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field, which is to have an entirely colored personnel in the near future.

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

IN MEMORY OF FIRST TO DIE—Mrs. Harry G. Mitchell (third from right), of Washington, D. C., mother of First Lieutenant Paul G. Mitchell, the first Negro pilot killed in combat, visits the "Mitchell Village" housing project erected in his honor at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama. Others pictured are, from left, Mrs. W. D. Jackson, of Tuskegee; Lt. Walter R. Harley, director of Mitchell Village; Miss Janet E. Sessoms, of Columbus, Ga.; Chaplain Douglas Robinson, Lt. Lewis H. Fenderson, assistant Public Relations Officer, and Mr. James B. Porter, of Columbus, Ga. (Army Air Forces Photo.)

Awarded Medal for Heroism

Amsterdam News New York N.Y. 9-16-44



9-16-44

PFC. OLIVER H. LEEDS, 362nd Eng. Rgmt., South Pacific Area, is shown receiving the Soldiers Medal Award from Brig. Gen. William I. Rose CG Island Command, of Boston, Mass., and Salt Lake City, Utah, for heroism in voluntarily risking his life to save another soldier from drowning at Noumea, New Caledonia, April 7, 1943. When the soldier, a member of the longshoreman crew, fell off the dock, Private Leeds unhesitatingly plunged in after him and carried him to safety. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Leeds, 254 West 154th Street and has three young sisters, Ivy, Althea and Lucille. In New York he graduated from Stuyvesant High School and has been in service more than two years. He is interested in newspaper work and edits a journal for his outfit.—N. H.

Memphis Sailor Visits Mother

World — Memphis, Tenn.

For First Time In Five Years

With Medals For Eight Sea Fights

6-16-44

A proud Memphis mother did some righteous 'doting' over her only child last week. The child is her strapping six-foot sailor son Chief Cook 1st Class Morris T. Dais, 26, who was home from the sea for the first time in five years.

Young Davis, the son of Mrs. Ethel Davis, 487 Georgia Avenue, has been in the United States Navy ever since he graduates from Booker T. Washington High School, nine years ago in 1935.

He has taken part in eight major sea battles since being stationed on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific Ocean. He was present with the Navy in Midway, the Marshall-Gilbert, Islands raid, the occupation of Gaudalcanal, the Carol Sea battle the first attack on Wake Island and the fighting in the Solomon Islands.

Ordinarily Chief Cook Davis presides over the scientifically-operated Naval ship kitchen on the warships on which he serves; but during combat his job is to go into an ammunition 'handling-room' where he, along with ten other men, send up anti-aircraft shells as fast as possible.

6-16-44

Like most men who have seen actual battle experience, Davis was not very talkative in giving details. However, he did say that his ship was struck several times. He could not tell how badly at the time of the hits, because of place where he was serving, and because the size of the ship served to counteract any immediate reaction from men who were not in the vicinity of the hit.

The youth wears medals showing that he was in the service prior to Pearl Harbor. He mentioned that his ship, a mine-sweeper was steaming into Pearl Harbor at the time of the first Jap sneak attack.

Before Pearl Harbor 'Chief' Davis visited many far places in the world. He recalls with enthusiasm trips to Paris, France, Oslo, Sweden, Rio De Janierio, Brazil, Holland, England, ports of Asia and Australia. The only continent he has missed is Africa.

The Memphis youth stated his belief that "the experience, training, opportunity for travel, and many other favorite conditions give men, especially Negroes, a type of invaluable opportunities which should fit them to be better citizens and men of greater understanding and knowledge, which should be of personal benefit to them and of general good to the community."

The youth is married. His wife lives in Los Angeles, California. On his trip to Memphis last week, Davis pointed out. "I last saw my wife when my ship left San Diego some time ago . . . that was from the West Coast . . . . my ship put in at an eastern port for a rest for the crew and other matters and I came from that direction to see my mother."

6-16-44

The Navy cook hopes to see his wife the next time his ship touches on the West Coast.

Leaving Memphis as a mess attendant when he first joined the Navy, Davis now wears a Petty Officer's stripes. He counts as one of his most thrilling experiences, the receiving of a citation at the hands of a U. S. Navy Admiral for the part he and his crew played in one major engagement at the battle of Santa Cruz. He also wears a bar bearing four stars indicating that he took part in a specified

3 D.C. SOLDIERS' UNIT IS PRAISED

Tribune — Washington D.C. 6-10-44

For superior performance in colored members of a Transportation Corps installation in England, three Washingtonians, were commended recently by their commanding officer, Col. C.A. Nobel.

Washington members of the unit 1108 Eighth Street, N.W., and James O. Lewis, 330 O Street, N.W., also Pfc. Thomas H. Slauther, 913 French Streeet, of a U.S. Army N.W.

47b-1944

Three Win Silver Stars For Heroism In Pacific

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.
9-30-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Journal and Guide and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)

SCHOUTEN ISLANDS — (Via Courier—Delayed)— For heroic action, which they accomplished without orders, three soldiers of a tough, sure-fisted amphibious truck unit, were awarded silver stars, after a hard, grinding operation which resulted in the Allied establishment of a beachhead on the Biak Islands in the Southwest Pacific.

The awards were made to T 5 Marcus P. Sanches, Yonkers, N. Y.; Pvt. Ralph A. Nicholas, Chicago; and T 5 Joseph Nesmith, Philadelphia.

The commendation accompanying the awards tells the story in brief. It reads as follows: "Under enemy fire, and without orders, these men returned to a beach and delivered a group of casualties to an LCV and evacuated 40 men who had been left behind in an exposed position. This necessitated two trips to the beach under heavy enemy fire. Their courageous performance saved the lives of many."

9-30-44

A STIRRING SAGA

But this brief official commendation doesn't begin to tell the story of this courageous action. The mission which culminated in the Silver Stars is a saga within itself.

An amphibious landing had been made several hundred yards down the beach from the original beachhead. They were moving in closer to the first aerodrome, Mokmer strip. Evidently, the enemy sensed this move, causing a concentration of enemy fire on this point. Our troops were trapped in cross fire. The situation took a serious turn. Already the casualty list mounted.

The DUKWs were commissioned to take in more ammunition. That meant to pick up these supplies from the beachhead and convoy to the spot of attack. Enemy mortar and automatic fire did not make this trip any too easy. The Japs held the advantage being atop the towering cliffs. However, the DUKWs got in—and started out with the wounded.

CITED FOR COURAGE

After this operation, T/5 Sanches played "a hunch," thinking there may be more wounded ashore. He, along with Pvt. Nicholas and T/5 Nesmith, started back up the stream. The rest is told in the official citation.

TOUGH BUNCH

One of the toughest bunch of people to ever set foot on Biak Island is this group. They admit that they're tough. But also do one Lt. General, two naval officers, one shot-down Army pilot, and several enlisted men from an ack-ack unit. And they are a tough-looking bunch—all wearing the cunning look of the fox who polished off the prize pullet.

9-30-44

Commenting on his unit, a sad-eyed New Yorker, Lt. Herbert Janthor, explained:

loes (amphibious tanks) in on D-Day, landing artillery pieces before the infantry disembarked. Finding Jap rice cooking, they ate that and polished it down with Jap beer. With their trucks still gunning, they returned to sea—without orders—and made repeated trips evacuating wounded as Japs on towering ridges powdered the beachhead with exploding shells and automatic fire. They hauled blood plasma, field pieces, rations, ammo, personnel returning with wounded."

NARROW ESCAPE

Janthor talked on as the buzzing orderly room became more crowded with grease-stained drivers. He faced the group, saying:

9-30-44

"The best thing to tell the people back home about these guys is, that they just don't give a damn."

When initial operations were over on the crusty, coral-bedded island, and breathing space, three men had earned Silver Stars, and written commendations. One from no less a person than the wizened chief himself, Lt. General Kreuger, Sixth Army. Approximately 150 landings had been made—under fire. One DUKW was lost, the lone casualty. A Jap .37 shell tore through the dashboard of Technical Corporal Ralph Johnson's (NYC) vehicle narrowly missing him and killing an officer who at the time was assisting in the evacuation of casualties.

Construction Unit Given "Best Company Award"

CAMP SUTTON, N. C. — For two consecutive weeks, Company A, 1318th engineer construction battalion, was selected the best company under a system of weekly awards, recently inaugurated by the battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Walter Torres, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico.

PLATOON LEADERS

The platoon leaders, first sergeant, and commanding officer of Company A are: First Lieutenant Denham A. Stiers, Cincinnati, Ohio; First Sergeant Lawrence Griffin, San Angelo, Texas; Staff Sergeants John Mills, Laurens, S. C.; Harrison Robinson, North Little Rock, Ark.; Otis Cooley, Wharton, Texas, and Maurice Brown, Chicago, Ill.

Sergeant Cooley also was chosen as the "Best Soldier of the Week," and received a cash award and a three-day pass.

Soldiers Get Cited; Awarded Purple Heart

People's Voice — New York, N. Y.
5-20-44

INDIA (ANF)—An impressive citation ceremony during which American soldiers, members of two port battalions, were presented with the Purple Heart decoration for wounds received during enemy action, was held here recently. The presentations were made by the commanding officers of the companies during a program at Club George Washington Carver, an American Red Cross enlisted men's club in an area where many Negro troops are stationed.

5-20-44

Those receiving the decoration were Pvt. Johnson Burage, Daville, Miss.; T/4 Martin C. Hunter, Williamstown, N. J.; T/5 Reginald McCartney, New York City; Pfc. McKinley Williams, Farmhaven, Miss.; T/5 Herbert A. Butts, Philadelphia; Sgt. James A. Brown, New York City; Pfc. William Foote, Port Arthur, Tex.; Cpl. T. J. Jackson, Dothan, Ala.; T/Sgt. Junius Jones, New York City; Sgt. Gerald T. Kenny, Poplar Bluff, Mo.; and T/5 Robert Steele, Philadelphia.

Sgt. Clayburn D. Knighten, New York City, was master of ceremonies.

Bronze Star Award Earned By 3 Soldiers

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
9-23-44

BOUGAINVILLE, Northern Solomons— For heroic achievement against the Japanese on Bougainville, three colored soldiers have been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the War Department reported today.

The medals were presented to Carolinians, Technician Fifth Grade Moses S. Davis of Macon, North Carolina, and Private Deeriny Ray of St. Paul, North Carolina, for services performed the same day, and Private First Class Wade Foggie of Anderson, South Carolina. The award to Davis was made posthumously.

9-23-44

Davis, with disregard for his own safety during a fire fight with the enemy, voluntarily exposed himself to heavy enemy fire in an effort to crawl to the aid of a wounded comrade. He was killed during this undertaking. Davis is survived by his mother, Mrs. Lula Davis, Route 2, Macon.

Killed In Crash Of Bomber

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Purple Heart, Air Medal Go To Carolina Mother

4-22-44

GREENSBORO, N. C.— A colored gunner-hero of the AAF was posthumously honored here at the St. James Presbyterian Church, April 2, when Mrs. Louise Mears, 418 Beach street, mother of T/Sgt. William G. Mears received the Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster on behalf of her son, who was killed in action on a mission in the Mediterranean theatre of operations.

MAKES PRESENTATION

The presentation was made by Capt. George H. Fitch, special service officer at BTC 10, before the congregation of St. James Presbyterian church at the close of the morning services. Capt. Fitch represented Col. V. R. Woodruff, commanding officer of the local air forces training center.

4-22-44

Sergeant Mears had completed five missions as an aerial gunner on a Flying Fortress and had an enemy ME-110 to his credit before his plane was shot down.

The 31-year old AAF hero entered service from Buffalo, N. Y. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gaston F. Mears, have lived in Greensboro for the last 20 years.

BROTHER WITNESSES CEREMONY

Pvt. W. P. Mears, a brother of the deceased soldier, came up from Camp Blanding, Fla., to attend the ceremony. Another brother George, who is a USO worker, was also present.

The citation issued at headquarters, Northwest African Air Forces, over the signature of Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, read: ". . . For meritorious achievement while participating in five sorties against the enemy and for the destruction of one enemy aircraft, Type ME-110, on April 17, 1943. 4-22-44

The Rev. H. C. Miller, pastor of St. James' Church introduced Capt. Fitch.

with the Oak Leaf Cluster, the War Department reported. Sergeant Mears had completed five missions as an aerial gunner on a Flying Fortress and had an enemy Messerschmitt 110 to his credit before his plane was shot down in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations April 26, 1943.

Flying Fortress Gunner Gets Air Medal, Cluster Posthumously

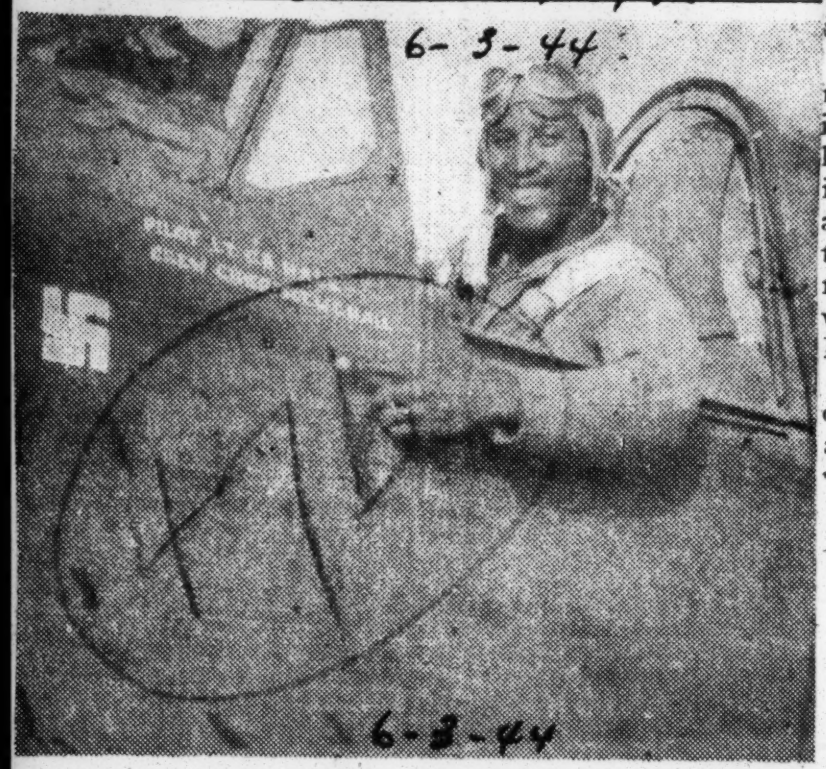
Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-22-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A Negro flying sergeant, killed in action over Italy, was honored posthumously on April 2 by the Army Air Forces at a ceremony held in the St. James Presbyterian church, Greensboro, N. C., when Mrs. Louise Mears, mother of T/Sgt. William G. Mears, received the Air Medal

Receives High Decoration

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

6-3-44



6-3-44

Captain Charles B. Hall, first Negro in the Air Forces to be decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross, as he appeared when photographed by Guide War Correspondent Thomas W. Young, shortly after he scored the first of his three air victories over Nazi planes. He registered his first triumph on last July 2, and his next two on the same day, last February 28. (For details, see story on this page.)

Prejudiced General Reflects On Bravery Of Colored Soldier

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

CLOSELY following the unfortunate pattern set by his superior, Secretary of War Stimson, General A. D. Hunter, in command of Selfridge Camp, Michigan, gives out an interview reflecting upon Negro soldiers. Displaying slight regard for the established facts of history, General Hunter ventures the opinion that Negro soldiers and officers are inherently inferior to whites. He boldly asserts that the American Army so regards them and that it is only conducting an experiment with its black contingent.

5-20-44

He insists that the Army does not consider the Negro completely civilized, as he has been exposed to civilization less than three centuries. Regarding himself as competent to advise, General Hunter suggests that our Negro militant group be sent overseas and prove their merit before agitating for equal rights.

It may be a waste of thought and energy to wrangle with such a prejudiced soul.

The pamphlet recently published by the Public Affairs Committee and written by Prof. Ruth Benedict and Dr. Gene Weltfish of Columbia University, contains this unique statement:

"History proves that progress in civilization is not the monopoly of one race or sub-race. When our white forbears in Europe were rude stone-age primitives, the civilization of Babylonians and the Egyptians had already been eclipsed. There were great Negro states in Africa when Europe was a sparsely settled forest. Negroes made iron tools and wove fine cloth for their clothing when fair-skinned Europeans wore skins and knew nothing of iron."

If this beclouded General would devote a few moments to check up on the conduct of the black soldiers in the present war, it might serve to improve his intellect. He would easily find that the blood of Negro soldiers is already being spilled on the battlefields of Europe and Asia and Africa. It might help to change his attitude when he reads the record of the heroic 99th Squadron overseas, or of the 93rd Division of Negro soldiers who are battling with the Japanese Army back behind the Rising Sun in New Guinea.

5-20-44

Instead of showing racial bigotry, the commanders of our armed forces should devote their whole energies and perfect a united military machine to defeat our common enemies.

The Worker — New York, N. Y.

9-27-44

IN MEMORY OF THE FIRST TO DIE: Mrs. Harry G. Mitchell (third from right), Washington, D. C., mother of First Lieutenant Paul G. Mitchell, the first Negro pilot killed in combat, visits the Mitchell Village Housing project erected in his honor at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama. Others pictured are, from left to right, Mrs. W. D. Jackson, of Tuskegee; Lt. Walter R. Harley, director of Mitchell Village; Miss Janet E. Sessoms, Columbus, Ga.; Chaplain Douglas Robinson, Lt. Lewis Fenderson, Asst. Public Relations Officer, and James B. Porter, Columbus Ga. —Army Air Forces Photo.

Captain Hall Presented Flying Cross At Tuskegee

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

9-30-44

By VENICE T. SPRAGUE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Capt. Charles B. Hall, former member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, hero of the Anzio beachhead, was presented the Distinguished Flying Cross by Col. Noel F. Parrish, post commander of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, in a small but impressive ceremony here last week.

Captain Hall was cited for extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight as pilot of a P-40 type aircraft on January 28, 1944 while leading an eight-plane patrol over Anzio, Italy.

The presentation ceremonies took place on the parade grounds and athletic field of the post. Officers and men comprising the parade group were selected from several sections on the post. Marching in regular retreat formation, they added a colorful note.

9-30-44

Included in the group were cadet fledglings for whom the circumstances of the ceremonies were especially significant, in view of the long road over which they must travel before achieving their first goal—their wings. Many are less than a month from graduation. Overhead, the roar of scores of planes lent a familiar tempo to the honored occasion.

The citation read by Lt. Lewis, enumerated Hall's many missions throughout the Sicilian and Italian campaigns.

The Brazil, Ind., youth who prefers strafing in a P-51 Mustang, and has flown every type of mission in which the fighter-type of aircraft can be used, was a pre-medical student at State Teachers' college, Eastern Illinois, before entering the Army.

9-30-44

He hopes to remain in the Army Air Corps when the war is over, preferably in a tactical outfit. He says many of the Negro pilots have the same ambition, however, they would also be interested in transport flying. At present he is stationed at the TAAF as an instructor, but would like to move out any day with an outfit for overseas duty again.

Purple Heart Is Awarded to Hero of 99th

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

Daring Feat Over Enemy Territory Wins Medal For Lt. Hamilton

4-8-44

By ART CARTER
(Amsterdam News and Afro-American Correspondent)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—Lt. John Hamilton, newest hero of the 99th Fighter Squadron, was awarded the Purple Heart this week in recognition of the most daring feat yet made by one of "our boys" wounded in action.

The diminutive Los Angeles pilot suffered severe wounds in the right leg four weeks ago while on a dive-bombing mission over enemy territory in Anzio.

Officials identified the other soldier of his squadron.

Lt. Hamilton was on his twenty-seventh mission at the time and was credited with having brought down his base "on the wheel.

Mechanics later found several flak holes in the plane's fuselage which indicated that he was in trouble and made a perfect landing before collapsing at the base.

Such a feat was most difficult, other pilots revealed, and that the Germans had done their best to get the daring pilot.

Honored also this week was Corp. Henry Laguna, of 129 E. 113th St., who was awarded the Soldiers Medal. Corp. Laguna saved another from drowning recently.

Lt. Hamilton told members of his squadron that he was joined the 99th as fresh pilots

4-8-44

Lt. Hamilton received the coveted honor at the hospital nearest the famed squadron's base, Lt. George Pratt made the award.

Col. ed one leg useless.

The 23-year-old airman was flying a P-40 Warhawk when the plane dived into the center of enemy aircraft activity.

The attack occurred on March 9.

"I never knew what happened until my leg began to pain," Lt. Hamilton told members

Rather than land on an emergency strip not far from the enemy, Lt. Hamilton flew 300 miles back to

because of the constant necessity of kicking the rudder to properly steer the plane.

4-8-44

Dangerous Mission

the Warhawk back to its base "on one leg" because the injury rendered useless.

Such a feat was

Harlemite

Negro Steward On Destroyer Landsdale Which Was Sunk, Praised As Real Hero By Survivors

Age—New York, N. Y.

5-20-44

Add the name of Marion Anthony Porter, Steward's Mate, Third Class, U.S.N.R., to the list of Negro mess attendants who have performed heroically for the Navy in the present war. Steward Porter was a member of the crew of the Destroyer Lansdale which was sunk April 20 in the Mediterranean by

German torpedo planes.

Porter, and several other Negro mess attendants, manned an anti-aircraft gun when the ship was attacked. Survivors of the ill-fated craft told how the Negro gun crew continued to fire at the attacking planes after they had been ordered to abandon ship. 5-20-44

Lieutenant (j. g.) Frederick Gehlmann, U.S.N.R., 24, of 558 Bonnie Brae street, River Forest, Ill., gave an eye-witness account of Porter's exploits. "Well, they just listened to the Captain saying 'abandon ship' sort of half mumbled 'yes sir' and went right on shooting, that's all. Porter, 19, of 337 Bacmon street, Spartanburg, S. C., was lying on the deck hanging on to one of the gun mounts—I didn't know then that the explosion had thrown him against a bulk-head and broken his leg in two places—and as I tried to get around him, he said 'pardon me' and then got up again to aim that 40mm. gun..

Gehlmann then reached for a book. He spread the leaves of the book so that one cover rested on the table and the other hung over the side.

"Now this back-bind is where the starboard rail of the ship was. See—the guns on the portside—and that's where Porter's crew was—were almost in the water—that's the water off the table. But that's the direction that Jerry plane took, so that gun was directed just off the top of the waves and kept firing until that bomber kissed the water for the last time. After that, Porter and his crew went over the starboard side." 5-20-44

Steward Porter was born in Spartanburg, S. C., on September 6, 1924 and joined the Navy on February 6, 1942. He attended Dean Street School in his native city until shortly before he entered the service. He took his basic training at Norfolk, Va., and on March 31, 1942, was assigned to the USS Lansdale.

His next of kin is his wife, Mrs. Marie Dawkins Porter, 337 Bacmon street, Spartanburg, S. C., whom he married shortly after entering the service.

Seamen Cause Black Market in Africa

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Sailor, Back from Abroad, Says Hospitals Have No Segregation

5-6-44

By RICHARD DIER
(Passed by Censor)

Before he was hit by shell fragments during the North African campaign, James Brennan, merchant seaman, knew little about the wonderful medical care and attention given Allied soldiers, colored and white, in African hospitals. Nor did he have the opportunity to see the black market in operation there.

"You really can't give enough credit to the doctors and nurses who live under such tough conditions and still are willing to work around the clock, if necessary," he said this week in an exclusive AFRO interview.

"Come to think of it, I'm glad I got the chance to see these things for myself.

"I was injured during an enemy bombardment from shore directed at our ships. Days later I found myself in the hospital.

"There were plenty of Allied soldiers lying in beds in the same room, all veterans of the bloody African campaign. I saw one man with both of his legs shot off. He had a lot of guts, never complained. A bomb had dropped near him while he was helping some wounded buddies.

"There was also a soldier in the bed next to mine. He had broken bones in his neck. It will be stiff the rest of his life. He always had a smile for you.

Praise for Nurses

"Many times the nurses got together and bought eggs and passed them on to us. They work very hard. They sleep outdoors in canvas tents, no stoves, and it gets pretty cold sometimes.

"During the entire time I was hospitalized, I never saw any discrimination. They treated everyone alike. In fact, we were all handled like babies."

After leaving the hospital the seaman got the real low-down on the African black market.

"There is no system to it, and there is no person or group of people running it. 5-6-44

Sailors Sell Belongings

"The seamen who come into port are indirectly responsible for its operation. It works this way:

"When a sailor goes ashore, he usually runs short of cash because he is unable to draw his pay. The easiest way to get some money is to sell some of his clothes, cigarettes, or personal things to the people in town.

"There's always a buyer, because rationing is strict and there isn't enough of certain items to go around.

"Naturally, these sales do more harm than good. They upset the whole rationing idea, which is to give everyone a break on whatever is available.

Rich Hog Show

"This way, the people who have a lot of money hog the whole show. Friction is created between the haves and have-nots, and the situation becomes serious.

"Those people who are continuing this practice are hurting the war effort. The Allied governments are fighting this kind of profiteering, and I hope they clean it up real soon." 5-6-44

Brennan, a native Californian, said that he intends to return after the war is over. He is married and has two children.

He recently saw the motion picture, "Lifeboat," with Tallulah Bankhead and Canada Lee, and was so disgusted that he wanted to walk out, right in the middle of the picture.

Picture a Phoney

"It's a phoney, if ever there was one. The picture is an insult to American seamen who are daily risking their lives to get the supplies across, and aren't afraid of any high-pressured Nazi.

"Throughout the whole picture, it shows our seamen being dominated, and quivering before the superior Nazi officer until he controls the whole situation. Even at the end of the picture, he still is the most important character.

"It's all a big lie. We men who have faced the enemy are not afraid of him. We hate and despise everything that smells of Fascism. 5-6-44

"I believe that I speak for all colored seamen when I say that we have no fear for anything that represents Nazism and preaches race hatred.

"The picture should be banned, especially at a time like this."

Pittsburgh Courier

DARING PILOTS HONORED

Pittsburgh, Pa.

By OLLIE HARRINGTON
Courier War Correspondent

AN ADVANCED AIR-BASE IN ITALY—The coveted Distinguished Flying Cross, the highest decoration for American airmen, has been awarded six more pilots of Colonel Davis' Mustang fighter group in Italy for exceptionally meritorious performance in the skies above bomb-scarred Europe.

The fliers are Capt. Edward C. Gleed, Lawrence, Kans.; Capt. Andrew Turner, Washington, D. C.; Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt, St. Louis, Mo.; Capt. Melvin Jackson, Staunton, Va.; Capt. Dudley Watson, New York City, and Capt. Alonzo Davis, Omaha, Neb. The decorated airmen are all veterans in Colonel Davis' colorful group.

TWO SQUADRON LEADERS

Two of them, Turner and Jackson, are squadron leaders; the others are element leaders. Captain Jackson is an ex-boxing and wrestling champ from Virginia State college and is leader of the cocky and clannish group of fliers composing the hottest squadron in the group, leading their Mustang flying comrades in planes blasted out of the air and ships shot up on the ground. Jackson, a cool, calculating type of leader, inspires his men with determination and dependability. 11-4-44

Captain Turner, a Howard university medical student before he entered the service, was the sidekick of Major Tresville and took over the leadership of the squadron when the gallant major spun in many months ago. Turner leads the squadron as the late Westpointer undoubtedly would have.

MOST COLORFUL PILOT

Undoubtedly the most colorful and daring pilot of the group is Captain Pruitt of St. Louis who flew his 70th mission this week. Pruitt is a flier's flier, according to veteran airmen. A natural saying at the base is, "if Pruitt can't do it, it can't be done." Between missions he flies acrobatics above home base for relaxation. The 23-year-old veteran is the idol of every young pilot in the group.

Capt. Alonzo Davis has been operations officer performing a splendid job on the ground and also taking active part in air operations. Recently he was moved to become squadron leader of the famed 99th while Major "Spanky" Roberts becomes deputy group commander in Colonel Davis' absence.

EXPERIENCED TEST PILOT

In terms of experience in flying a variety of ships Captain Gleed takes top honors as a result of errors in orders last Spring when he was sent to Africa on detached service to test-hop new fighter planes. When he arrived at the new post Gleed was kept on because of the shortage of test pilots, thus shattering an Army tradition. When the group finally asked for his return the new outfit was reluctant to let him go.

During this time Gleed test-hopped every fighter ship flown by Anglo-American fliers, in addition to several captured Italian and German ships. He had also checked out twin-engined fighters, bombers and transports and had been at the controls of a B-17 before he rejoined the group.

The announcement of the awards came simultaneously with the groups celebrating of their 100th mission with a raid over Germany during which no enemy ships were sighted. The mission was a bomber escort one in extremely difficult weather, but the Mustangs had to get through to cover the bombers which had broken through to their target.

According to one returning pilot, it was impossible for each pilot to see more than two ships through the swirling clouds. Capt. Tony Weaver, newly promoted public relations officer of the group, describing the end of the mission, said: "For hours this base was a haven for every type of aircraft in the theatre as they came running in like frightened hawks with the weather closing in all over Italy."

Legion of Merit to Aviation Mechanic

AFRO - AMERICAN
Balt., Md.

Unit to Get High Honor

R.I. Sergeant First in SERVES IN FRANCE

12-30-44

Helped Build Bomber Staions in England

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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FRANCE — Marking the first presentation of its kind in this aviation battalion, Major General Ralph Royce, commanding general of the new First Tactical Air Force, today conferred the Legion of Merit on T-Sgt. Charles H. Edwards of East Providence, R.I., "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services as a machinist."

The presentation was made at a French field near the banks of the Mosell river in the presence of the entire battalion.

The citation read, in part: "T-Sgt. Edwards was materially responsible for the successful completion of a heavy bomber station in England."

He also organized an efficient spare parts system after his outfit came to France.

12-30-44

Sgt. Edwards is married and his wife, Evangeline, resides at 196 Spring Street, Fall River, Mass., with their son, Charles H., Jr. He attended East Providence (R.I.) High School and has been overseas nineteen months.

His commanding officer, Major E. L. Miller of Tulsa, Okla., said of him today: "Sgt. Edwards's work has been superior in every respect."

47c-1944

ARMY'S NO JIM-CROW ORDER

The riot at Seattle between Italian prisoners of war and colored soldiers could have been averted had the post commander put into effect the War Department order, dated July 5, forbidding segregation in Army exchanges, buses and theatres.

Afro-American, Baltimore

First word of the new Army order was published in the AFRO four weeks ago. The daily papers discovered it last week.

9-2-44

When the AFRO learned that the order was not being posted by camp commanders, the War Department was advised. It replied that the "no jim-crow order" was addressed to commanders, rather than to the troops, and the commanders will be held responsible.

In this case it would appear that the responsible camp commander at Seattle should have a tin can tied to him.

Aside from this, the War Department's order barring segregation represents an important change in policy. We have nothing but praise for it. However, we could wish that it had been issued openly; that copies had been given to the press to be published, and announcement bravely made that it would be enforced immediately.

Selfridge Air Units Shifted to Dixie

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

5-13-44

BULLETIN

WASHINGTON

War Department sources on Monday discounted reports that tense race relations in Detroit were responsible for the transfer of aviation units from Selfridge Field, Mich., explaining that they had completed their training there.

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — The 477th Bombardment Group and 553rd Fighter Squadron, both colored training units of the Army Air Forces, were moved from this base, Friday, after a week of field restrictions.

In the surprise action, the bomber unit was sent to Fort Knox, Ky., and the fighter unit to the Walterboro Army Air Base in South Carolina.

It is rumored that Selfridge is being changed to a rehabilitation camp for returning army veterans. However, much unrest had followed the court-martial trial of Lieut. Milton Henry, who was dismissed last week for insubordination.

Racial Reminder Hinted

Both groups have reputedly been sent to camps where they could be reminded of their racial status. Especially has the fighter group the reputation of being just as willing to fight for democracy here as overseas.

5-13-44

Maj. Dwight H. Bridges has been automatically promoted to Selfridge base commandant, being the senior flying officer remaining.

11,200 TO FACE INDUCTION IN NEXT 2 MONTHS

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

12-30-44

Seven Per Cent Of All Inductees To Be Colored

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Draft calls for Negro youths will be increased during January and February with a total of 11,200 scheduled for induction in these two months, War Secretary Henry Stimson revealed this week in response to a query from the Chicago Defender.

Stimson disclosed that Negroes will constitute approximately seven per cent of the 160,000 men to be called into the army in the two months.

At the same time the war secretary told a news conference that 2,000 Negro soldiers have been shifted to the army ground forces for infantry replacements to make up for increasing American losses on the western front.

Coming largely from army service forces of which there is an estimated total of some 408,000 Negroes, these men are a part of a radical change in the army ground forces recently indicated by Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, commanding general, which has resulted in getting an overall total of 65,000 soldiers from air and services forces.

Calls Declined to Five Percent

The increased calls on Selective Service for these months, the secretary said, are "based on replacement needs."

12-30-44

Through informed sources it was learned that army service calls for Negro men began a decline in late summer of this year, and by fall had reached a low of five per cent of all men called. This ration represented a drop of about one-half as compared with the peak period, 1942 through mid-1944, when the proportion of Negroes called approached more nearly the ratio which they bear to the total population.

This decided drop in calls for Negroes was brought to light by Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director, National Selective Service.

Shift of Negro Troops Into Infantry

Commenting on the shift of Negro troops into infantry, General Lear said, "This is not a sudden manpower shift to balance the scales by any means. It can be taken instead, as an index that under the changed mission of the ground forces, the usefulness of these soldiers ceased in their previous services and now exist to a greater degree in the ground forces."

12-30-44

Many trained Negro combat units, among which were the 9th and 10th Cavalries, crack units with more than 80 years of outstanding service in the regular army, were placed in service units last year in line with an army conversion program.

Army Silent on Transfer of Soldiers from Ga. Camp

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

11-11-44

CAMP GORDON, Ga.—The War Department has offered no official explanation of the transfer of colored soldiers from this camp last week, although it is rumored that the transfer may be part of a plan to move colored troops from the South.

Other reports are that the army may have yielded to Southern demands urging the removal of the troops to avoid conflict between the army's no-segregation order and Dixie jim-crow laws.

"Since government officials seem to cater to the desires of Southern whites," said one colored leader, "we wonder which, if any, of the rumors contributed to the evacuation of the colored troops from the camp.

Soldiers Mistreated

"Our soldiers have been treated brutally by civilian policemen and bus drivers," he continued, "and had to have passes to walk on Broad Street of Augusta, one of the city's large business streets, as it was off bounds."

The new swimming pool, which was one of the finest for colored soldiers, the service club, cafeteria, guest house, library and post exchanges will now be turned over to the whites, citizens around here point out.

The only colored unit left near here is Service Detachment No. 2, which has been moved near the white area. Local citizens fear that they will be reduced to the status of laborers and will be at the mercy of hostile whites.

47c-1944

Examiner For FEPC Is Victim

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
11-24-44

U. S. Court Erred In Sending Theodore Brown to Leavenworth

Orders from Major General Lewis B. Hershey, national director of the Selective Service System in Washington, to the commanding officer of the Ft. Leavenworth induction center Nov. 16 stopped the illegal induction into the Army of Theodore E. Brown, 29, examiner in charge of the FEPC office in St. Louis.

The St. Louis office is a branch of the regional FEPC office in the Rialto Bldg in Kansas City and until it was opened in September, Brown was an examiner in that office.

Although he is an honorably discharged veteran of World War II and holds a I-C (disch.) classification. Brown was taken to the Fort Leavenworth induction center Wednesday, Nov. 15, on orders signed by Federal Judge Albert E. Reeves. 11-24-44

The technical charge was that Brown had failed to notify his draft board each time that he moved from city to city in his work which requires him to be moving constantly. 11-24-44

Had Honorable Discharge

Despite the fact that he had Honorable Discharge papers from the Army Air Force and a letter from his draft board in New York saying that he was not delinquent, Brown was ordered for immediate induction following a hearing before David A. Thompson, U. S. Commissioner, Wednesday morning in the federal courthouse.

He was not given opportunity to obtain enough clothing to last two or three days as registrants are urged to do upon leaving for the induction center. He was rushed from the hearing to draft board No. 2 in the Grand Avenue Temple Bldg. and from there to the bus station and to Leavenworth.

In Leavenworth, Brown was not processed or examined because the Army officials viewed his being sent there as "irregular." They consulted with National Selective Service headquarters in Washington to find out whether they had the right to induct a man with a Class 1-C card.

The clerk in charge at Draft Board No. 2 in Kansas City, through which Brown was sent to Ft. Leavenworth, objected to sending him because she said the regulations forbid the induction of a man with a 1-C status.

Volunteered For Service

1-C is the classification given to men honorably discharged from service in World War II. Brown volunteered for service in the Army Air Corps on July 17, 1941, and was in the first class of air corps cadets sent to the Tuskegee Army Air school. He was honorably discharged in September, 1941, as being unsuited for pilot service. 11-24-44

A letter from Brown's draft board, No. 60 in New York, said definitely that Brown is not delinquent with that board. His Honorable Discharge papers by mistake had been sent to local board No. 62 in New York instead of to Board 60. For that reason, Brown never received a new classification card from his board following his discharge.

The draft board sent Brown his new 1-C classification card on Nov. 9 in a letter which said, "As it turns out the mistake was not your own, so this local board does not consider you delinquent." Despite this communication from the board, Brown was ordered for induction.

Attorney Contends

Carl R. Johnson, attorney for Brown in the hearing before the commissioner and a member of draft board No. 4, contended in his argument for Brown's release from custody that the Selective Service regulation does not require a man to send a "constant stream of letters and telegrams to his draft board every time he goes into a city for two weeks or a month."

NEGRO TROOPS PRAISED BY WHITE COLONEL

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
12-1-44

Boston, Dec. 1. (ANP)—The following are excerpts from a personal letter sent by Col. John Sherman, in charge of training recruits in Washington, to a professor emeritus at Cornell university, Ithaca, N. Y.

"By my request, I have the Negro recruits, 1800 at the moment. . . . I like to work with Negro troops. . . . They present more problems, and more interesting ones. Also they really need sympathetic understanding and friendship and that I truly have for them. Colored men as individuals have occasionally disappointed me, but no oftener than whites. And no colored group has ever let me down.

"As drafted soldiers these southern plantation and levee workers have rather little to fight for. Most of what we whites are fighting for has been stolen from them long ago.

"But they will do anything, endure anything for love and loyalty to officers who treat them fairly as friends, developing their personal and organizational pride and their self-respect as soldiers of the United States Army. They don't ask that they shall like the officer, but only that he shall like them. They seen to know instinctively who is putting on an act and who honestly loves them in his heart. That latter leader they will follow anywhere and they will not let him fall."

Negroes Participate in Varied Program at Topeka Army Air Base

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
12-8-44

By EDYTHE MAE JONES

A recent visit to the Topeka Army Air Field, Topeka, Kas., revealed many interesting duties performed by the personnel.

Section C, is the all Negro unit, with its own non-commissioned officers, recreation room and the USO. Section C has its own administrative adviser and personnel workers. 1st. Sgt, Cole W. Gillum is in charge of the men and doing a splendid job with his company. He is from Newberry, S. C., and a former student at Benedict college, where he was a member of the football team. Pvt. Felix Sloan, whose home is in Seneca, S. C., works in the medical laboratory. He assists the physicians in taking blood pressures, administering shots and other general duties.

S-Sgt. William H. Heckstall takes care of all administrative duties which come up in section C. Sgt. Heckstall comes from Windsor, N. C., and was a former student at Hampton Institute, Hampton Va. Sgt. Junie C. McNair is a clerk-typist and assists in keeping records at section C. T-Sgt. James W. Champion of West Virginia, is a member of the field basketball team, and Pvt. Albert J. Crawford is a former student at Tuskegee Institute.

Military Police Capable 12-8-44

In the motor pool section there are 22 colored drivers who operate every type of machine in the motor pool. Section C has 6 Military police who performs their duties capably.

In talking with 1st Lt. Broox Hoyt, public relations officer, he stated, "I feel that any man whether he is colored or white, who works on the heating systems here at the air base is fullfilling an arduous duty worthy of comment." He spoke very highly of the men from section C who are on three 8-hour shifts. He also stated "that firing furnaces here at TAAF has, so far as possible, been made a military function." At first men from each section were assigned to the detail, but last year the job was handed to section C, with excellent results.

Men for the work are chosen carefully, is it is a type of work which requires close and constant attention over a long period of time. Lack of proper heat in the building on a cold day can reduce immeasurably the efficiency of a department. At the present time there are 21 posts on the field with a fireman for each post. Each has from 5 to 7 furnaces to attend. In addition there are a number of furnaces attended by civilian firemen. 12-8-44

On duty day and night, checking on the fires, is a "non-com." detail headed by T-Sgt James Carter. These men are charged with carrying on inspections day and night, and seeing that fires are kept at proper level and furnaces operating at mixmum efficiency. Others are Sgt. James McRae, Cpl. Leonard Strickland Cpl. Alvin Gant, Sgt. Lee, Pfc. Howard Young, Pvt. Robert Shelby. Pvt. Julius Fogg, Pvt. Ulysses Draines and Howard Graves.

Outstanding In Sports

In the "Gremlin," a paper published by and for enlisted personnel of TAAF, they carry all of the TAAF news and happenings. Members of the staff are: Lt. Col. Clair E. Ryan, commanding officer; Capt. Carl J. Holcomb, information and education officer; 1st Lt. Broox Hoyt, public relations officer; Sgt. Al Martin, editor; Cpl. Edward Osadchey, circulation manager. The "Gremlin" has an artist who should be praised for his excellent work, Sgt. Duane Bryers. He contributes each week large numbers of sketches about members of Section C. 12-8-44

In sports, Section C is outstanding. Lt. Hoyt said "that it wouldn't surprise him if Section C took the base championship in football," which they did, completing an undefeated season on Nov. 6, by defeating the men of the medical section. Pvt. Al Crawford and T-Sgt. Jim Champion are doing their part for the TAAF basketball squad. They are the only members from Section C who are members. There are seven white "non-coms." on the team.

Summarizing activities of men on this base, one gets a birdseye view of the varied occupations and work of the men of the army throughout the nation.

WORTHINESS OF NEGRO SOLDIERS

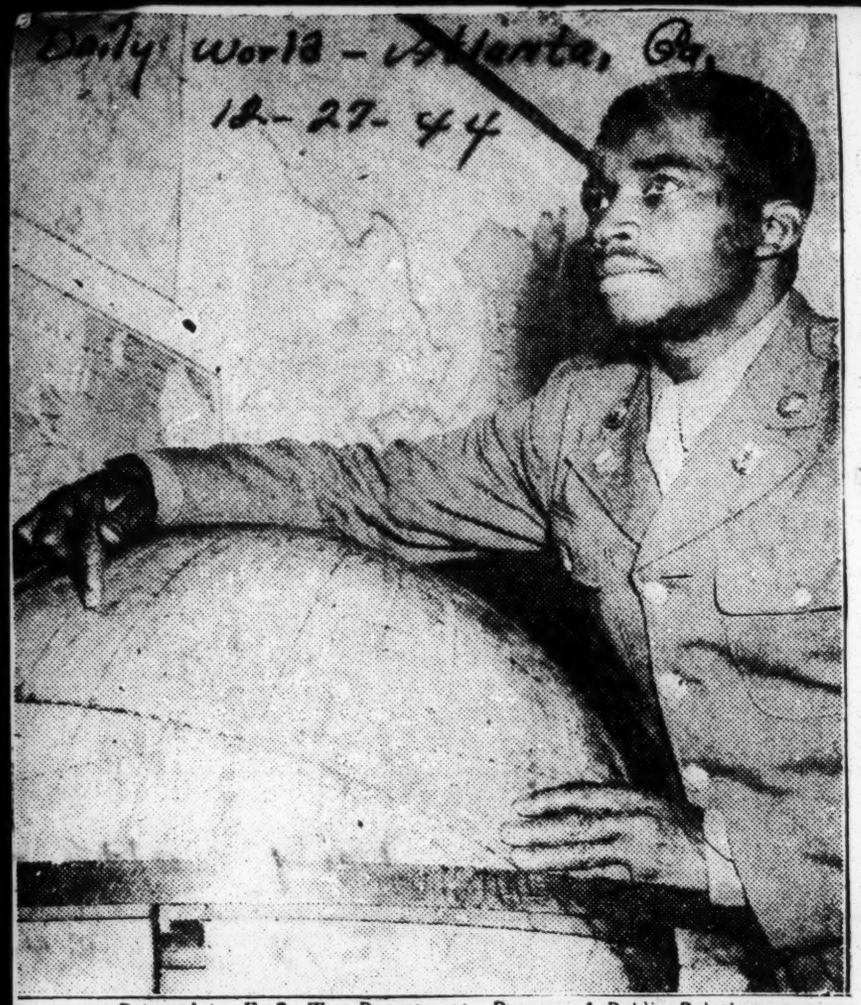
Savannah Tribune Ga.

We are certainly deeply appreciative of the notice given by The Morning News to Negro soldiers and sailors in the armed forces of our country. We are glad the Morning News recognizes the courage, initiative and efficiency with which they battle for the establishment of democracy in the world as well as in their own country, and we hope the Morning News will join with other agencies that are waging a campaign for implementing democratic ideals to the extent that they shall apply to the humblest citizen in the land, whether he be white or black, or rich or poor. 12-28-44

The Negro soldier wants to think as much of his uniform and rank as any other soldier, and he wants to feel that it entitles him to all of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by other Americans. He yearns for the time when "American" will be the designation for all Americans because all of them will be participating equally in the blessings of the democracy for which all of them are fighting and dying; they long for the time when all Americans can, in truth, without reservation, pledge "allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

We also appreciate the fact that the News not only gave recognition to "America's Negro Fighters," but it attempts to justify segregation as a principle. There is still lack of understanding of the Negro's position as to segregation. To him segregation means difference in opportunity and treatment, in the army, in industry, in education, in politics, in every phase of American life; it means discrimination both in quantity and quality of services and facilities. In all of these areas he looks into blind alleys because of segregation.

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
12-27-44



Released by U. S. War Department. Bureau of Public Relations

LINQUIST—Sousou, Voloff, Foulah and Milinki are five of the African languages spoken by Private Ernest Koda Robert, in addition to Spanish, French, English, German and Italian. Now stationed at Scott Field, Illinois, parent radio school of the Army Air Forces Training Command, Private Robert was born in French West Africa, the son of a native chief. Curiosity about the strange places he saw on maps led him to join the French Merchant Marine, during which time he visited all the story-book places he read about. He entered the U. S. Army in 1943. (Army Air Forces Photo from BPR.)

Son of French W. African Chief a GI at Camp in Ill.

Afro-American Balt., Md.
12-23-44

SCOTT FIELD, Ill.—Son of the chief of the Province of Diountou in French West Africa, Pvt. Ernest Koda Robert is now stationed at Scott Field, parent radio school of the AAF Training Command.

Educated in the Arabian and French schools of his native province, Robert, a French Senegalese, is an expert linguist, speaking not only five African dialects, but also Spanish, French, English, German and Italian.

The private, who accompanies his letters home, written in Arabic, with French translations for the benefit of the censor, joined the French Merchant Marine at 18 and spent three years traveling completely around the world, touching nearly every major seaport.

Interested in Religions

His interest in peoples and races is equalled only by his interest in their religions and their places of worship. A Mohammedan, he is a student of religion and frequently lectures on the subject in nearby St. Louis.

After leaving the sea, Pvt. Roberts settled in New York, where he attended Wadleigh High School. He entered the army in September, 1943. and received his basic training at Lincoln Army Air Base in Nebraska.

Awarded the Good Conduct Medal since his arrival here, he has two brothers in the Free French Army with whom he intends to go into business in Africa after the war.

SUDDEN ORDER ENDS LONG FIGHT ON SEGREGATION

Army Buses Won't Obey Dixie "White Only" Rules In Future

WASHINGTON D. C.--The long standing policy of segregated post exchange and theatre facilities on army reservations has been officially blasted out of existence by the United States army.

In an order dated July 18, the Adjutant General of the War Department directed the use of all buses, post exchanges and theatres by all army personnel without regard to race. This far reaching order applies to all service commands.

This means that, particularly in the South, Negro service men will share with white soldiers the post exchanges, where soldiers make purchases on the post. The old practice of separate theatres for Negroes and segregated sections of theatres white also attends is expressly prohibited by the order.

Observers doubt there will be much change in the bus situation, since most of the buses in the South, wher Jim Crow seating is the custom, are privately owned. The order applies only to buses operated by the army, on or off the post.

1. No theatre or performance may hereafter deny admittance to a member of the armed forces because of race.

2. All races will be permitted to use army exchange on the post without segregation.

3. U. S. buses and trucks or those owned or operated by the U. S. or army or other U. S. agency may not refuse colored passengers, or Jim Crow them to certain seats. This applies to U. S. buses and trucks on the post or off the post.

Defender--Chicago, Ill. 8-12-44

Ft. Knox Negro Soldiers Nearly Riot On Jim Crow

BY HARRY McALPIN

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--Flagrant violation and disregard of the recent orders of the War Department to cease discrimination and segregation of Negro troops in post facilities throughout the country almost resulted in a riot at Fort Knox., Ky., last week.

Hundreds of enlisted men at Goodman Field, Ky., an adjunct to Fort Knox, gathered in an ugly mood when two of their number returned to the post after having been ordered out of the Fort Knox theatre following their refusal to be shunted into a segregated section "reserved for Negroes."

The men at Goodman, already to the breaking point because of grievances in their own camp, were prevented from marching on the theatre for a show-down by the quick and hasty action of three of their Negro captains. One hundred and fifty white military police had been stationed aroung the theatre, fully armed, when word spread that the Negroes were incensed.

Colonel N. Butler Briscoe, commanding officer of Fort Knox, told the National Negro Press Association that he sees no reason for changing the segregation policy at the theatre, despite the orders of Maj. General Ulio, adjutant General of the U. S. Army. He claimed never to have seen the war department order.

In an interview last week, he put the blams on a few "blank blank agitators.

Amsterdam News-New York 9-2-44

43 GI's Face Trial in Italian's Death

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Md.
10-11-44

SEATTLE, Wash.—The Army announced Monday that forty-three colored soldiers will be court-martialed for participating in an attack on members of an Italian service unit at Fort Lawton on August 14, which resulted in the death of one Italian private.

Three of the soldiers are charged with murder.

Army Mum on Cause

The Italian private's body was found hanging from a tree 500 or 600 yards from the barracks in which the assault took place.

While Army authorities released no official statement giving the cause of the trouble, a number of soldiers agreed that the colored troops, vexed at the treatment accorded the Italians, which they thought was too "soft," got "beered up" in the post exchange and decided to clean out the Italians.

47c-1944

Selective Service Findings

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

Negro Selectice Service registrants in 10 Northern and border states showed up better in mental tests than did white registrants in 7 southern states, it was revealed in a survey just published by committee of Negro educators.

These educators point out four reasons why the equalization of education opportunities should be handled on a national basis. Such inequalities, they insist, result in a reduced reservoir of manpower for the armed deferment of a man in Georgia for illiteracy leads to the drafting of a skill worker or father in New York; reduced efficiency of the military service; and in reduced social efficiency of large elements in the population. 8-23-44

Although the fasts disclosed by the survey do not represent any new finding, the use to which they have been put together with the methods of treatment, is both interesting and convincing.

Science has long ago made definite pronouncement of the fact that racial differences provide the most obvious excuse for antagonism which really spring from sheer selfish desire to dominate others. Beyond this simple and obvious truism nothing seems to justify the arguments of those seeking to prove the superiority of one race over another. 8-23-44

In his presentation of the Spingarn Medal to Dr. Charles R. Drew at the recent NAACP Wartime Conference, Dr. Earnest A. Hooton said: "The hatreds that arise from human campetition easily shift their emotional expressions from race to nationality, to economic class, to religious affiliation, or to any other handy pretext whereby an ugly sentiment, a sordid motive, or downright viciousness may be rationalized or white washed. We shall have to improve individual human quality before we can get an amelioration of group behavior as manifested in race discrimination. class-rivalry and religious persecution."

690,000 Negroes In 4-F Facing Drastic Action

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 8-23-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—A sub-committee of the house military affairs is about to collect the views of army and navy officials on the possibility of utilizing men classified 4-F for certain type jobs in the services where it is found these men are not now engaged in an essential industry.

One of the latest estimates placed the number of Negroes in 4-F at roughly 690,000.

To date two other plans have been advanced, both by Rep. Clare Booth Luce, each looking to the utilization of these same men. Her first would establish an army-navy maintenance corps into which deferred registrants would be inducted and [illegible] to non-military jobs. The [illegible], more recently introduced, would make these men available for work in canning, lumbering and similar type jobs.

It was Rep. Costello (D) of California who last Monday indicated he might call the service officials to get their views. At present the army and navy are reluctant about accepting men for other than general service. Limited service jobs are being filled by men whose injuries would not permit them to return to active combat.

As the congressman explained it, "All the war and navy departments would need to do is notify selective service. "We will take 4-Fs noting essential industry capable of performing the following jobs . . . Then they could list the jobs that have to be done around any permanent post. They range all the way from duties of a hospital corpsman to KP duty and cleaning up."

West Africans Trained Secret By British Army

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 3-18-44

Trained in secret for three years and now in action on the Burma Front where they are scoring daily successes against the Japanese, the native soldiers of the Royal West African Frontier Force are the finest jungle fighters in the world, the British Information Service told the U.S. Office of War Information this week.

According to official British communiques, these West African troops—fighting 5,000 miles from their native villages—continued their advances in the Kaladen Valley on the Burma front by attacking Apaukwa, south of Kyauktaw, on March 2 and capturing a majority of the enemy positions. Earlier they had repulsed Japanese counterattacks east of Kyauktaw.

The strong contingent of the Royal West African Frontier Force arrived in India shortly before the Burma offensive opened, the BIS said, but the units had lived almost continually in dense jungle country for months before they embarked on the Indian assignment.

The present campaign is only one of a number participated in by various units of the force. Early in the war, two West African infantry brigades—one from Nigeria and the other from the Gold Coast—were put into the field against the Italians in Abyssinia and played an important part in the liberation of that country. 3-18-44

The placing of these two brigades in the Abyssinian field left the four West African colonies practically defenseless during the early days of the African war, the BIS stated, but when the triumphant native troops returned to West Africa, they found that an entirely new army had been organized in their absence.

It was an untrained army at that time, the BIS pointed out. The majority of the British officers and non-commissioned officers were still learning to adapt themselves to African conditions. The thousands of Africans who had voluntarily joined the Force were enthusiastic, but untrained in modern warfare.

Heartened by the Abyssinian victory and undaunted by the complexities of mechanical warfare, the Force settled down to the task of making itself a first class fighting outfit. There was plenty of good fighting material. The Hausas of Northern Nigeria and the tribesmen of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast had long been recognized among the finest colonial troops in the world.

For its technicians and tradesmen, the Force turned to the more literate tribes near the seacoast—the Yorubas and Ibes of Nigeria, the Fantis and Gas of the Gold Coast, and the town-dwellers of Sierra Leone and Gambia. Many training schools were opened. Under the British and African instructors, thousands of young recruits quickly learned to be drivers, fitters, carpenters, electricians, stenographers and survey assistants. Others joined engineer companies, the medical services, or anti-aircraft batteries that guarded West Africa's important airfields. 3-18-44

The main burden of training during the last two years of silence in the African jungle schools fell on the comparatively small number of British officers and NCOs serving in West Africa, the BIS said. For them it was an exacting life, with tropical diseases and long periods of service in isolated stations. Secrecy surrounded what was being done. The Force was known in West Africa as the "Forgotten Army."

Finally, however, the Force was ready. And within a short time after its arrival in India, it was already adding to the great tradition of the Royal West African Frontier Force which was formed by Lord Lugard near the end of the last enemy to preserve the internal security of British possessions in West Africa.

In the last war the Force served with distinction against the Germans in the Cameroons and East Africa.

Army Won't Reveal Any Statistics

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa. 4-22-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Statistics relating to the number of colored soldiers in the Army and their assignment to combat and service units cannot be revealed for security reasons, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson advised Representative Louis Ludlow, Democrat, of Indiana, in a letter dated April 18.

Mr. Ludlow made public last Monday his letter of inquiry under date of March 20, and Mr. Stimson's reply in which the Secretary reiterated that "military personnel is distributed and employed solely in conformance with military considerations which, of course, are entirely unrelated to racial derivations."

NOW NINE PER CENT NEGRO

"As you perhaps know," Mr. Stimson wrote, "the Army is accepting and absorbing Negro personnel corresponding to the registration ratio (10.4 per cent) of its authorized male enlisted strength. At present approximately nine per cent of the total Army male enlisted strength is of the Negro race, but it is anticipated that the 10.4 per cent ratio will be reached during the course of the current year. 4-29-44

"Our plans contemplate that of our total enlisted personnel 6,245,720 will be white, 709,280 Negro, and of the Negro personnel approximately 14 per cent are scheduled for assignment to combat organizations."

50 PER CENT OVERSEAS

With respect to the utilization of colored units in combat, Mr. Stimson said "obviously the details of the employment, locale, and disposition of overseas organizations, whether white or Negro, cannot be disclosed for security reasons. However, it may be stated that of the total Negro strength of the Army, approximately 50 per cent are now overseas or en route. Moreover, 32 per cent of the Negro contingent overseas are combat and combat support troops.

"I am sure you realize that, as is the case with many white combat units, a number of Negro combat units will not be employed in combat until concentrations are completed for projected major tactical operations scheduled for the future. 4-22-44

RACE UNITS IN COMBAT

"Although publication of data on the number and type of units engaged in combat, whether white or Negro, would constitute a violation of security in that it would tend to reveal our deployment, I will state that Negro units, like white ones, are being shipped to combat areas as rapidly as their state of training and transportation facilities permit and that Negro units have participated and are participating in combat.

"It may also be stated that additional Negro units will be utilized in combat in the future, though again for security reasons, it is not possible to reveal units, times, or places."

MAKE LOW SCORES

Negroes and whites fell by Army general classification tests; 80 per cent of the men in class V, irrespective of race, have been established at seven tests; 80 per cent of the men in class V, irrespective of race, have been established at seven and 26 per cent of the men in class IV and V. Courses of instruction are offered to combat and service units cannot be revealed for security reasons, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson advised Representative Louis Ludlow, Democrat, of Indiana, in a letter dated April 18.

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courses, out of 29,000 Negro trainees approximately 90 per cent were retained in the Army and assigned to more advanced training.

"Many excellent soldiers have been developed out of men who have initially made a low score in the Army general classification test."

Ten Per Cent

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

The announcement of Secretary of War Stimson that Negro troops will soon be increased from 9 per cent to 10.4 per cent of the total strength of the Army, with 50 per cent of them already overseas, emphasizes the extent of our contribution to the war effort.

It is doubtful if as much as 50 per cent of the white troops in the Army are overseas. 4-29-44

With a Negro total of 709,280 soldiers, the Secretary asserts that approximately 14 per cent are scheduled for assignment to combat organizations.

But in this war, more than in the past, every man is vital to the war effort, whether he carries a machine gun, cooks meals or lays out an airfield.

The vast army of Negro truck drivers hurrying supplies to all parts of the British Isles make possible the bombing raids on German industrial cities.

If there were no one to lay out and service the numerous air fields in England, Italy and Sicily, American raids on FESTUNG EUROPA would be impossible and the fighting would be reduced to a stalemate.

Negro engineer troops laboriously cutting roads through the wilderness of Assam and Burma, make possible the increasing attacks on Japanese positions athwart the way to China.

Land-based American air strength in the South Pacific is dependent upon the hard work of Negro engineers and air forces auxiliaries who are seldom featured in the news, but are always doing their job.

And now Negro combat troops are coming into their own wherever there is fighting, whether in Italy, New Guinea or Bougainville. 4-29-44

We should all resolve that this vital ten per cent shall come back to a better America, an America with less color discrimination and segregation, an America in which they shall play a political and economic role equal to that of other citizens.

They are earning this place by their sacrifices.

It is up to us to see that they get it, and the time to begin work on that project is right now.

Who Fights This War?

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Certainly Not the Inefficient Dixie

New York has 571,000, approximately half as many colored people as Georgia (1,084,927), so you would think that Georgians would outnumber New Yorkers in the Army and Navy two to one. 8-5-44

But they don't. Actually New York has 6,000 more colored men in the armed forces than Georgia.

Strange isn't it that a State like New York, with a relatively small colored population, should have more fighting men than a Southern State twice its population size?

Are the Southern States lying down on the war? Are they 4-F's?

Here is the official explanation: Georgia does draft twice as many colored men as New York, but by the time it defers some to work on farms and rejects others for physical defects and illiteracy, New York is able to qualify for service more men than Georgia.

This is not an isolated case. Pennsylvania and South Carolina send the same number of men into the army, but South Carolina has nearly twice as many colored people as Pennsylvania.

North Carolina sends twice as many colored people into the armed forces as Maryland, but it ought to send three times as many because its colored population is three times larger than Maryland's.

Little New Jersey, with only 226,000 colored people, has almost as many colored boys in the military service as big Arkansas, which has 482,578 colored people.

For a clincher, look at this table. It shows that five important Southern States have a total population of over four million and send a quarter of a million colored men in the armed services. 8-5-44

For comparison, there is a list of seven Northern and Western States which also send a quarter of a million men in the armed services, but their total population is approximately half of that of the Southern States.

NORTH			SOUTH		
Population	State		Population	State	
226,973	New Jersey	In Armed Services 251,000	1,084,927	Georgia	In Armed Services 250,100
470,172	Pennsylvania		1,024,502	Mississippi	
571,222	New York		814,164	S. Carolina	
301,931	Maryland		981,298	N. Carolina	
180,000	D.C.		482,578	Arkansas	
393,039	Illinois				
341,081	Ohio				
2,484,418—Total			4,387,469—Total		

These Southern States are not carrying their full weight. The less populated Northern and Western areas are 100 per cent more efficient in furnishing soldiers and seamen for the armed forces.

That's what segregation and race hate do for the South. It is so backward as a producer of fighting men that a larger burden is being borne by colored men from the North and West.

That is who is fighting this war.

Two 'Indians' Are Convicted

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Refused Designation as Colored for Army

GIVEN TWO YEARS

Four Relatives Were Previously Convicted

8-5-44

RICHMOND. — Two more self-styled Indians, declaring themselves unwilling to serve in the armed forces under the racial designation of colored, were sentenced Friday by Federal Court Judge Robert N. Pollard to serve two years each in prison.

They were George D. Pollard, 23, and Hill Byrd Pollard, 25, brothers, of Guinea, Caroline County, both convicted of violating the Selective Service Act.

They brought to six the total number of relatives from Caroline County who have been convicted on similar charges.

Claim Indian Ancestors

All contended that their ancestors were members of the Rappahannock Indian tribe and refused to serve in the Army classified as colored.

The Pollard brothers retained neither counsel to represent them nor offered witnesses to testify in their behalf.

Both defendants told the court that, though willing to serve in the Army, they absolutely refused to be identified as colored when called for duty and instead preferred to take their chances with the law.

Both Sent Notices

An official of the draft board in Caroline County testified that the younger Pollard had been sent four notices to report for pre-induction and induction examinations, but refused to submit to them. 8-5-44

He testified that the older Pollard was given similar notices on two occasions and each time he failed to comply.

Both brothers explained that they transported themselves to the Belgian building, in Richmond, for an examination, but when they learned that they were designated as colored they refused.

Four Others Convicted

Those convicted previously on similar charges were Oliver W. Fortune and Robert P. Byrd, of Central Point, and Edward A. Nelson, of Alps, sentenced in January, 1943, to serve two years, and Everett H. Byrd, of Central Point, given the same sentence the following April.

Appeals Get Nowhere

Appeals were immediately noted by the first three after their convictions, but they got nowhere. 8-5-44

It was explained at their trial by draft board officials that persons who claimed to be Indians, but had colored blood are classified by the Army as colored.

One of the trio is a graduate of Virginia State College and taught at a colored school at Central Point.

The clan is not recognized as white and its members are not admitted to white schools in Caroline County.

Fla. Camp Makes Soldiers Slaves

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—The story of slave-like conditions and racial discrimination existing at this camp was revealed by a Pennsylvania soldier here this week. 7-15-44

The soldier, who has been in the army over a year, stated that colored men in the station complement who are unfit for full field duty because of physcial defects are forced to do hard work while whites in this class have cards marked "no duty" or "light duty."

He said further that many men are denied proper medical treatment and cited the case of a soldier suffering with athlete's foot who was reportedly told by a white doctor, "Tie a towel around your middle and have someone drag you around."

No Service Club, Guest House

The AFRO was also told that the service club and guest house are for whites only, and that colored soldiers cannot sit in booths in the PX. 7-15-44

In the post theatre, the soldier said that whites may take seats in the colored section but that colored soldiers can never take any empty seats in the white section.

SEN. BANKHEAD RAPS ARMY BAN ON JIM CROW

Plaindealer — Kansas City, Kan.

9-1-44

Washington.—War department policy forbidding discrimination between white and Negro troops at army posts has been condemned by Senator Bankhead (Dem.) of Alabama as "not in the best inter-

ests of the colored race in the South."

"I desire to enter a vigorous protest against it," Bankhead wrote Sec. Stimson. "It will raise strife and animosity between the races, which does not now exist. It will render no good service. I feel that you do not understand the possible consequences of such protest to President Roose-

of Alabama has sent a telegram
of protest to President Roose-
velt.

"It was explained at their trial by draft board officials that persons who claimed to be Indians, but had colored blood are classified by the Army as colored. They can only be unhappy for both the white and colored men in the station complement order.

47c-1944

646,000 Negroes In U. S. Army

Age - New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The number of Negroes serving in the Army was 664,066 as of February 29, 1944, an increase of 81,205 over the August 31, 1943 total of 582,861, the War Department reported Monday. 6-3-44

There were 77,335 Negroes assigned to the Air Corps and an increase of 593 commissioned officers, the report revealed. Of the increase noted in the six-month period, the greatest change occurred in the number of Negroes serving overseas.

A partial breakdown follows: Infantry, 44,022; Coast and Field Artillery, 50,995; Cavalry, 9,043; Engineers, 106,514; Air Forces, 77,335; all others, 376,197; Total, 664,066.

Commissioned officers, 4,979; including Dental Corps Officers, 77; Nurses, 219; Other Medical Corps Officers, 467; Chaplains, 205.

T/5 Lee A. Dixon, Little Rock, Ark.; Pfc. Russell L. Ellis, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Cpl. Emanuel M. Ford, Los Angeles, Calif.; Pvt. Jefferson D. Green, San Antonio, Tex.; Pfc. John L. Hamilton, Houston, Tex.; Pvt. Frank Hughes, Hearne, Tex.; Pvt. Walter Jackson, Somerville, Tex.; T/5 Henry Jupiter, Decatur, Mich.; Pvt. Loary M. Moore, Ellinger, Tex.; TZ5 Willie Prevost, Franklin, La.;

Pvt. Robert Sanders, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Freddie L. Simmons, Rocksprings, Tex.; Pvt. Elva Shelton, St. Louis, Mo.; Pvt. Samuel Snow, Leesburg, Fla.; T/5 Nathaniel T. Spencer, Detroit, Mich.; T/5 Leslie T. Stewart, Austin, Tex.; T/5 Arthur L. Stone, Detroit, Mich.; Pvt. Richard L. Sutliff, Houston, Tex.; T/5 Booker T. Thornton, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. Booker Townsell, Milwaukee, Wis.; Pvt. Freddie Umblance, Jeanerette, La.; T/5 David Walton, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. John R. Brown, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.;

Pfc. Arthur Williams, Cairo, Ill.; Pvt. Wallace A. Wooden, Chicago, Ill.; Pfc. Sylvester Campbell, San Antonio, Tex.; T/5 Willie S. Curry, Shreveport, La.; Sgt. Ernest Graham, Steamboat Springs, Colo.; T/5 Herman Johnson, Greenwood, Miss.; T/4 John S. Brown, Lancaster, S. C., and Sgt. C. W. Spencer, Forrest City, Ark.

Innocence Pleaded In Army Trial

Pittsburgh Courier

SEATTLE, Wash.—At the preliminary session of the Army's largest domestic court-martial last Thursday involving 43 Negro soldiers charged with rioting at Fort Lawton, Washington, and the murder of an Italian prisoner of war, all of the defendants pleaded innocent to rioting. The three defendants charged with murder of the Italian also pleaded innocent. The court-martial action follows an alleged attack by Negro soldiers on the sleeping quarters of the Italians last August 14.

The defendants facing possible death sentences on the murder charge are: Cpl. Luther Larkin, 23, Helena, Ark.; Sgt. Arthur J. Hurks, of Houston, Tex., and Pvt. William G. Jones, 21, Decatur, Ill.

The maximum penalty on the rioting charge is life imprisonment. The following men face this charge: T/5 Nelson L. Alston, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. Richard Barber, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. Willie C. Basden, Miami, Fla.; Pfc. Milton D. Bratton, Excelsior Springs, Mo.; T/5 Lee A. Buckner, Houston, Tex.; Cpl. Johnnie Ceaser, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. James C. Chandler, Kansas City, Mo.; Pfc. James Coverson, Houston, Tex.;

99 Per Cent Rifle Score Questioned, GI Makes It Perfect

AFRO-American Baltimore, Md.

FORT SILL, Okla. — When officers questioned his score of 199 out of a possible 200 in a carbine rifle firing test recently, Pfc. Oscar Simms of the 686th FA battalion of the Field Artillery School here repeated the test, this time scoring 200 out of 200. 6-3-44

He was required to fire from the prone, standing and kneeling positions at 100 and 200 yard distances.

A native of Austin, Texas, Pfc. Simms has been using firearms since he was 14 years old. During his basic training, he had a 135 out of a possible 150 on the M1 Springfield rifle.

Army Fosters Interracial Friendship

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa. 4-22-44

In orientation lectures and in special readings for illiterates of both races undergoing special training in the army, interracial goodwill is being fostered by accounts of the exploits of Negro soldiers in various services and fields of combat. Picked out for especial mention are the 99th Fighter Squadron, whose feats in the Sicilian and Italian theatres are retold, and the Negro units of the Army Engineers that helped construct the Alaska highway.

In these readings, the pride of America in these Negro units is stressed, as is also their ability with machines. In the case of the Alaskan units particularly, the friendship and teamwork of Negroes and whites working side by side is singled out for mention.

It is significant that these lectures and readings are not for Negroes alone, but for illiterates of both races in the army, a large proportion of which are Southern whites.

701,678 Negroes In the U. S. Army

P.M. New York, N.Y.

The War Dept. has disclosed that 701,678 Negroes were enrolled in the U. S. Army on Sept. 30. Of this number 411,368 are on duty overseas.

Of the total, 49,483 are in the infantry, 36,302 in the coast and field artillery, 867 in the cavalry, 133,180 in the engineers, 73,686 in the air forces, and 408,160 in other branches.

There are 5804 Negroes holding commissions. 12-11-44

FBI Chief Lauds Negroes for Aid in Nabbing Draft Evaders

Tribune - Washington, D.C. 5-6-44

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, this week, commended Negro groups and individuals for assisting the bureau in enforcing the Selective Service Act.

"Persons of all races and from all walks of life, with the Negro taking a conspicuous role, have in the past rendered the FBI valuable assistance in enforcement of the Selective Training and Service Act., Mr. Hoover said. "Today, with new and more stringent regulations in effect, even further co-operation is needed."

While FBI records reveal that Negro American Legionnaries and other groups have assisted the bureau in apprehending a number of deliberate draft evaders, the director revealed that "among Negroes, it has been found that a vast majority of the draft delinquencies are unintentional. They result for the most part from carelessness, misinformation, or a lack of knowledge concerning the draft law and its requirements."

The first step to avoid trouble with your draft board is, if you are between 18 and 65 years of age and have not registered, to so at once.

Over 700,000 Negroes in Army

Bystander - DesMoines 12-21-44 Iowa

Washington, D. C.—At the end of September, 701,678 Negroes were carried on Army rolls, the War Department reported today. In the seven-month period between February 29, 1944, and September 30, 1944, the Negro strength increased 37,612.

The report revealed an increase of 49,912 soldiers of color assigned to overseas stations in the three-month period following June 30, 1944. A slight decrease in commissioned personnel and slight increase in the Infantry and Engineers were noted during this same period.

Following is a partial breakdown of Negro strength as of September 30:

Infantry	49,483
Coast & Field Artillery	36,302
Cavalry	867
Engineers	133,180
Air Corps	73,686
All Others	408,160
Total 12-21-44	701,678
Commissioned Officers	5,804
Including:	
Dental Corps Officers	101
Nurses	247
Other Medical Corps Officers	463
Chaplains	236
Serving Overseas	411,368

The navy total estimate carries to Oct. 31, but the breakdown covers only the period ending July 13. These revealed the following: navy, 17 officers, 142,628 enlisted men; marines, 15,771 enlisted; coast guard four officers, 3,675 enlisted. Whatever increases there were between July and October were among enlistees in all branches, the survey reveals.

Riot Trial of 42 Negro American GI's Under Way

Baltimore, Md. 12-2-44

SEATTLE — The rejection of evidence offered by a defense attorney and the testimony of a former Italian air force pilot highlighted recent sessions of the mass court-martial of forty-two colored soldiers at Fort Lawton here charged with rioting and murder.

Three of the men are being tried for the murder of Pvt. Guglielmo Olivotto, who was found hanged from a tree after the attack on the barracks of Italian war prisoners on August 14.

Major William T. Beeks on November 28 offered as mitigating evidence proof that the colored soldiers had broken up fights between white American soldiers and the Italians on several occasions.

Despite his contention that the evidence was material in that it revealed the state of mind of the colored soldiers who saw or heard about such incidents, the evidence was not admitted by either the judge advocate or the presiding judge. 12-3-44

In November, an unnamed Italian flier, who testified that earlier he had witnessed an outbreak between companions and several colored soldiers, identified one of the three men charged with murder as the leader at that time.

The soldiers facing possible death sentences for the murder are Sgt. Arthur J. Hurks, Houston, Tex.; Cpl. Luther Larkin, Helena, Ark., and Pvt. William G. Jones, Decatur, Ill.

Facing a maximum sentence of life imprisonment on the rioting charge are:

T/5's Nelson L. Alston, Booker T. Thornton and David Walton, Cpl. Johnnie Ceaser, Pvts. Richard Barber, Robert Sanders and Wallace A. Wooden, all of Chicago; T/5's Arthur L. Stone and Nathaniel T. Spencer, both of Detroit; Sgt. C. W. Spencer, Forest City, Ark.; T/5 Leslie T. Stewart, Austin, Tex.; 12-2-44

Many from South

Basden, Miami; Kansas City, Mo.; San Antonio; ner, Houston, Tex.; Lee A. Dixon, Lit- sior Springs, Mo.; James Coverson, tle Rock, Ark.; Henry Jupiter, De- Houston; Russell L. Ellis, Oklahoma, catur, Mich.; Willie Prevost, Frank- City, Okla.; John L. Hamilton, Hous- lin, La.; Freddie L. Simmons, Rock- ton; Pfc. Arthur Williams, Cairo, Ill. Springngs, Tex.; Willie S. Curry and Sylvester Campbell, San Antonio, Shreveport, La., and Herman John- Tex.;

Pvts. Willie C. Basden, Miami; Lancaster, James C. Chandler, Kansas Coverson, Frank Hughes, Hearne, Tex.; Loary M. Freddie Umblance, Jeanerette, La.; Elva Shelton, and John R. Brown, Mt. Vernon, N.Y. Snow, Leesburg, Sutliff, Houston; Milwaukee, Wis.; Booker Townsell,

Birmingham News

Former Italian Flier Describes Trouble With Negro Soldiers

AGC Fri Sung ALa. 11-26-44

SEATTLE—(AP)—A vivid description of trouble at Ft. Lawton which led to the storming of Italian service troop barracks by Negro soldiers and eventually to this nation's largest court-martial of the war was given the court by a former pilot of the Italian Air Force.

The pilot, clad in an American Army blouse and British trousers, was in a group of Italians when the initial trouble started. During his testimony late Friday, he picked as a leader of the Negroes one of three men on trial for murder.

A total of 42 Negro service command soldiers are charged with rioting. Three of the number are charged with murder of Pvt. Guglielmo Olivotto, who was found hanged after the riot had been quelled by military police. The prisoner identified was Pvt. William Jones.

* * *

IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS, the former pilot, whose name is withheld, testified he and two companions were going to their quarters when they passed a group of Negroes "and one of them expressed vulgar words which I understood. One of my fellows asked me what was said. . . ."

"I took several steps," he added, "and turned around. . . . I saw one of the Negroes strike a blow at—(a comrade)."

"Did he have anything in his fist?" the court asked.

"I saw something shiny. Then my comrade struck the Negro and he fell down. I called and said we'd better go before there was trouble."

* * *

THE COURT ASKED if trouble developed, to which the witness replied in the Latin version of "and how!"

As the Negroes stormed their barracks with stones, clubs and axes, the former flier said a comrade was hurt and as he picked him up the Negroes burst in the door. He tried to call them to halt in both Italian and English, he repeated for the court, the English words he used:

"We are Italian soldiers. Please make stop."

The attackers did not stop and when the riot was ended, Olivotto was found hanged by a tent rope over a nearby creek.

ALL'S NOT WELL AT CLAIBORNE

Chicago Defender Ill.

By JOHN LeFLORE

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ALEXANDRIA, La.—Camp Claiborne is still seething with hate and Jim Crow, despite recent War Department "assurances" that all is well here. 11-18-44

Information, which continues to leak out of the camp, reveals that flagrant violations of the Adjutant General's July 8 order of non-discrimination have not ceased. A short time ago the camp was the scene of a race riot between white and Negro soldiers.

Complaining soldiers state that the no-discrimination order has never been carried out. The directive was issued against segregation at post exchanges, army trucks and buses and in Army motion picture theaters.

A copy of the order has not been read to the colored soldiers, they say, and only a few of the men actually know the contents of the directive. The Negro soldiers charge that after the order was sent down in one of the distributions, officers immediately picked up all copies.

Several soldiers stated that due to the recent riot and other racial disturbances, the majority of the colored units have had all small arms and gas masks taken from them, and they are not even permitted to keep their bayonets.

They told of how all officers, white, have been issued carbines for the purpose of spreading fear among the Negro soldiers. The men relate stories of going on maneuvers and upon reaching the firing range discover that the firing pins had been removed from their rifles.

Negro soldiers going into town on overnight passes are deprived of their dress shoes, and forced to wear the heavy GI boots for dress.

Seeking to break the iron-handed rule of white officers, the soldiers are appealing for a thorough and impartial investigation of the camp. Their morale is very low, and most of them would prefer overseas combat duty to the deplorable conditions they are forced to endure at the reservation.

Camp Claiborne, they say, is ruled by the race hate of the whites in Alexandria and not the Army.

Lynn Case to Supreme Court

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Committee Continues Fight on Draft J.C.

PLANS EXPANSION

Will Extend Scope to Training Abuses

NEW YORK — The Winfred Lynn jim crow draft case is being appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. 5-6-44

The National Citizens' Committee for Winfred Lynn, in announcing the plan this week, revealed that Arthur Garfield Hays, chief trial lawyer, is preparing to file a request for a writ of certiorari within the next few days.

Lynn, now a corporal in the Army and on duty in New Guinea, fought induction on the grounds that racial segregation in draft quotas and assignment to jim crow units violate a provision of the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940.

Expansion Planned

At the same time, the committee announced plans for expansion of its activity, pointing out that the Lynn case, while important, is limited by the fact that it attacks only the question of discrimination in the selection of colored inductees. 5-6-44

Under the new name, Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces, its expanded program will cover other cases involving segregation and discrimination in training procedures.

"As the war proceeds," the committee states, "the glaring inconsistency between our war aims and the method of treatment of our colored citizens has become more and more evident and more unbearable to those who are asked to fight and die for democracy throughout the world when they are not granted it at home."

The committee cites a draft law prohibiting discrimination on account of race or color "in the selection and training of men . . . and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this act." 5-6-44

Lynn's brother, Conrad Lynn, an attorney who represented him at the outset of the case, has also been drafted.

SHIPS LOADED BY SOLDIERS

Times—New York, N.Y.

Skilled Negro Troops Speed War Cargoes at Philadelphia

12-31-44

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30—Soldier stevedores loaded war supplies on ships at Philadelphia docks today and Army and War Manpower Commission officials said they expected the bottleneck in the movement of material destined for American fighting men to be broken next week.

The troops, members of an especially trained Negro unit, were brought here at the request of Col. Alexander B. MacNabb, commandant of the Philadelphia Port of Embarkation, who said that otherwise the shortage of longshoremen was so critical as to delay sailings.

Wirning of the greatest delivery test in the port's history next month, Colonel MacNabb appealed to all longshoremen and stevedores who are still celebrating the holiday season to get back to work immediately. 12-31-44

The WMC announced that it would upgrade freight car loaders now on the job to stevedores and raise their pay from 85 cents to $1.20 an hour in an effort to meet next month's crisis.

871,010 Negroes In Armed Forces

Call Kansas City, Mo.

701,678 in Army Navy Has 169,332

12-15-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A survey just completed by the Associated Negro Press discloses that there are 871,010 Negro officers and enlisted men in all branches of the armed forces as of Oct. 31.

Figures were unavailable for identical periods, but those given revealed that there were 701,678 Negroes in the army and 169,332 in the navy. The War department report goes to Sept. 30, and shows an increase of 2,767 soldiers over the June figure.

The breakdown shows that there were 5,804 commissioned officers included in the army total, the largest number, 463, being in the medical corps and 247 in the army nurse corps.

There were 49,483 in infantry; 36,302 in the Coast and Field artillery; 867 cavalry; 133,180 engineers; 73,686 air corps, and 408,160 all others. 12-15-44

The navy total estimate carries to Oct. 31, but the breakdown covers only the period ending July 13. These revealed the following: navy, 17 officers, 142,628 enlisted men; marines, 15,771 enlisted; coast guard, four officers, 3,675 enlisted. Whatever increases there were between July and October were among enlistees in all branches, the survey reveals.

Crow Center

northeastern and New England areas and is at present one-fourth full, due to the holidays. Gibson said shortly after Jan. 1, a second center will open in a famous Old Quaker hotel in Atlantic City and will also operate completely unsegregated.

emy. Activities embrace all of the winter sports, including bob sled-ding, sleighing, skiing and ice skating. Dancing, movies and other entertainment is arranged for the evenings.

The center serves men from the

Returning Veterans Find Jim Crow 'Frozen Out' At Lake Placid Center

Chicago Defender—Nat'l. ed. 12-23-44

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Just back from an inspection trip of the swank army redistribution center at Lake Placid, N. Y., Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, said this week that Negro soldiers are participating in the activities of the redistribution center on a completely unsegregated basis, sharing eating, living and all recreational facilities equally with white soldiers quartered

gro soldiers going home for holidays, Gibson talked with one of the original six who had remained. He was Cpl. Spencer Washington of Worchester, Mass. member of the 367th Infantry stationed somewhere in Italy.

Corporal Washington, formerly of South Carolina, whose family moved to Massachusetts when he joined up, has been back in the states for more than a month, ten days of which have been spent at Lake Placid. Currently sharing a lodge with 14 whites, he says that he had been no semblance of segregation.

the their wives. Cpl. Washington is unmarried.

Smilingly he told Gibson of an incident occurring in the barber shop when he first arrived. Walking up to a barber, he asked for a haircut, to be told, "I can't cut your hair." Washington thought this was the payoff, but before he could remonstrate, all the other barbers chorused, "I can."

After having been sheared, the CO told the number one was not doing. Truthfully he couldn't cut anybody's hair . . . he didn't know how.

Enjoy Winter Sports

The center is [illegible] of Col. E. [illegible] Dodge

No Jim Crow

In fact he found it difficult to get

47c-1944
Nashville, Tenn., Banner
January 7, 1944

Negro Preacher, Nine Others Get 3 Years In Draft Evasion

Jackson, Tenn., Jan. 7—(Special)—In a case which may reach the United States Supreme Court, Judge Marion S. Boyd in Federal Court here last night sentenced each of 10 Negroes convicted of Selective Service violations to three years in a special institution.

The Rev. John Reloy Marshal, who was also fined $1,000, was convicted on charges of obstructing the draft by counselling, aiding and abetting failure of the other nine defendants, all members of his church, to report to their draft board for final type examination prior to assignment to work of national importance.

Defense Counsel Martin Exum and P. L. Harden indicated that they will take the case to the Court of Appeals at Cincinnati and to the Supreme Court if necessary on claims that an order to unwilling work is a violation of the 13th amendment to the United States Constitution.

On the witness stand Marshall declared "if this government stands for making these boys not serve God according to the dictates of their conscience, we may just as well quit talking about free government . . . our country . . . and start worshiping that box."

Race Bias Tests In Draft Unlikely

6-6-44

No case testing racial discrimination in Selective Service is now pending in the courts and there is no likelihood of such being brought because the Army can moot any by removing the soldier from the court's jurisdiction, the American Civil Liberties Union said today.

Arthur Garfield Hays, the Union's general counsel, declared the recent refusal of the Supreme Court to review the case of Winfred William Lynn, of New York, who claimed he was unlawfully inducted under a "Negro quota" and not strictly in the order of his serial number, indicated this was true. Lynn was sent overseas, the Supreme Court then ruling:

"The cause is moot, it appearing that the petitioner is no longer in the respondent's custody." 6-6-44

The respondent was Lynn's commanding officer at Camp Upton, a colonel, who had been served with a writ of habeas corpus.

Draft Examinations System Is Modified

Journal + Guide - Norfolk, Va.
1-15-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — National Headquarters of the Selective Service System has announced that, henceforth, all registrants, with the expection of those ordered to report for induction prior to February 1, will be given pre-induction physical examinations at least 21 days before being inducted into the armed forces.

Because of the period to be allowed between the pre-induction physical examination and induction, the period of three weeks in the enlisted reserve now granted by the Army to inductees and the one week period which the Navy grants will be eliminated after February 1.

NO LOCAL EXAMS

The announcement, made in cooperation with the War and Navy Departments, whose examiners will conduct the pre-induction physical examinations, also said that the present local board screening examination generally will be discontinued except for registrants who have obvious physical defects.

Prior to February 1, local boards will continue to give serological tests but after that date necessary blood tests will be made at the armed forces' induction stations.

METHOD EXPLAINED

As a general rule, only registrants who are in Class 1-A will be ordered to report for pre-induction physical examinations, Selective Service said.

To carry out the intent of Congress in recent legislation, however, a registrant may request his local board to forward him for a pre-induction physical examination and the local board is authorized to order any registrant to take such an examination when it determines that his induction will shortly occur even though he may be in a class not normally considered available for service.

CALLS TO INCREASE

While for the time being, men may be inducted 21 days after qualifying for service at the time of their pre-induction physical examination, Selective Service emphasized that this period will be extended as soon as a large enough pool of physically acceptable men has been established. 1-15-44

So that such a pool may be started this month, local boards in addition to ordering men to report for induction to meet the normal January call of the armed forces, will begin at once to order a substantial number of men now in Class 1-A to report for pre-induction physical examinations.

This number will be increased month by month to enlarge the pool and extend the time between the registrant's pre-induction physical examination and induction

ABOUT DELINQUENTS

A registrant who is delinquent by reason of failure to comply with the Selective Service law or regulations will not be entitled to any intervening period between his physical examination at the armed forces induction station and the time of induction.

Also, any registrant may sign a request for immediate induction at any time prior to the time he takes his pre-induction physical examination. If he is found physically qualified at the induction station for service, he will be inducted at once.

FATHERS LAST

Registrants ordered to report for pre-induction examinations, as a general rule, will be called by order number first from volunteers, then non-fathers, and finally from the father group.

At the induction station, they will be examined and if they are found acceptable for service will be returned to their local boards with the report that they are qualified for "Army-general service," "Army-limited service," or "Navy," which includes the Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

Those who are rejected for all types of service will be classified in Class IV-F by their boards. After the registrant's records have been returned to the local board, the board will mail him a certificate of fitness showing whether he is acceptable for service and, if so, the type of service for which he is qualified. 1-15-44

NEW PROCEDURE

Under the new procedure local boards will receive Army and Navy calls instead of one general call for men as heretofore.

As all of these men will have been found acceptable at the time of their pre-induction physical examination, it is anticipated that when they are finally ordered to report for induction they will be taken into the armed forces, almost without exception.

MAY REQUEST TEST

As the armed forces will not accept the results of a pre-induction physical examination after 90 days, Selective Service said that a registrant found to be physically qualified for service upon pre-induction physical examination, but not ordered to report for induction within the 90-day period, will be reexamined before being forwarded for induction.

While the present local board screening examination generally is to be eliminated, Selective Service said that a registrant who believes that he has a disqualifying defect which is manifest may request and be given an examination by a local board examining physician prior to the time of reporting for a pre-induction physical examination. 1-15-44 Such an examination will be permitted so that a registrant who is manifestly disqualified for service may be rejected at the local board level without having to undergo the complete physical examination given by the armed forces.

EVELYN HANNA
Constitutes Human Is Jesse Body's Brother
Atlanta, Ga
6-20-44

When the selective service board of Upson county was endeavoring to find out if a colored man whom we will call Henry Farnsworth had dependents, they mailed a routine notice to one Sallie Chandler, colored, asking her to come to the office. Sallie was said to be caring for Henry's children, and the board expected nothing from her but routine answers.

They probably stifled a yawngia," she wrote, then she] on the dull February morning tell her own story. when she appeared, and Sallie, "Henry Farnsworth said he with no idea why she had been married my sister's child, Elvira summoned, or what the selective Wilson I know they did live to service board did was quite at gether and have two children, ease with the clerk, Mrs. Riley Thomas, about eight years old, and Summers. R. J., about five years old. Elvira The usual questions were asked and Henry have been separated and Mrs. Summers began taking for four or five years, ever since down Sallie's affidavit. R. J. was a baby. Elvira married "I, Sallie Chandler, reside at Human Body about three years 906 —— street, Thomaston, Geor-ago—"

HUMAN BODY?

Follower of Gandhi Tells Why He Refuses to Fight

Afro-American - Baltimore Md.
2-12-44

Wilberforce Graduate Says He Believes in Peace, Faces Draft Dodge Charge

WASHINGTON — Why Bayard Rustin, follower of Mahatma Gandhi, who spoke here Monday at Asbury Methodist Church under auspices of the Institute of Race Relations, is now awaiting trial as a draft dodger was revealed to the AFRO this week.

Rustin, a Wilberforce University graduate and a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, said that he resists conscription on both racial and religious grounds.

Arrested in New York City on January 16 for failure to carry a draft card and report for physical examination, he said he was arraigned in Federal Court there January 18 and is now out on $500 bond.

Classified as a conscientious objector (4E) in October, 1940, he refused to comply with a local board order on November 13, 1943, summoning him to report for a physical examination and assignment to a conscientious objectors' camp.

Returned Draft Cards

On November 16 he returned his draft cards to Local Board No. 63, 2050 Amsterdam Avenue, NYC, stating his intention of disobeying the orders in a letter which read, in part, as follows:

"I was compelled to resist war by registering as a conscientious objector in 1940 because of my religious convictions and beliefs. A year later, I became convinced that conscription as well as war is equally inconsistent with the

BAYARD RUSTIN

teachings of Jesus.

"I must resist conscription (compliance with the provisions against Japanese—that ends justify means, that 'from unfriendly of the Selective Service Act) also. War is wrong. Conscription is a acts a new and friendly world concomitant of modern war. Thus can emerge. conscription for so vast an evil as war is wrong.

"The conscription act denies brotherhood—most basic New Testament teaching. Its design and purpose is to set men apart—German against American, American

"Just a moment, Sallie," sa. Mrs. Summers. "What was that name?"

"Human Body."

"You mean Herman?"

"Naw'm, Human, just like you and me, Miss Simmons."

"And is his last name Body?"

"Yes, ma'am. Human Body."

"All right. Go ahead, Sallie."

"Well, just like I said, Elvira married this Human Body about three years ago, at least they said they was married. I have been keeping Thomas and R. J. off and on ever since Elvira has had this Human Body. If it hadn't been for me I spec the little things would have been dead. Their grandma, Missouri Cobb, who is my sister, has also kept these children off and on. About two weeks ago Missouri and the children were with me when their mother, Elvira, come and got them and carried them home with her.

LIVES AT BLACKANKLE

"Elvira and Human Body has fell out and she is living at Blackankle. I don't know who she lives with or who she works for, but I can find out from the Body.

"Henry Farnsworth hasn't ever give me any money for his children and ain't ever offered me one penny for them. Far as I know, he ain't ever give anybody anything for them children."

Her testimony about Henry concluded, Sallie became confidential. "Miss Simmons, have you heard about this war?" she asked, leaning forward in her chair.

The clerk of the selective service board nodded. "Yes, Sallie, I have." 5-20-44

"Well," said Sallie, "I been going by the name of Truman, who was my first husband. He is dead now and I am married to John Chandler. I am going to change my name now to Chandler because he might have to register and go to this war. Me and him been separated, but he come back when this war started. He is about 46 and may have to register later. I want to sign my name as Sallie Chandler now on account of the war."

So Sallie made a large cross mark on the line designated "Signature," and Mrs. Summers wrote, "Sallie Chandler, her mark."

The following summer when young men were required to register, a colored boy named Jesse Body was among the number. When asked if he knew Human Body, he replied, "Yes'm, that's my brother."

Now, Elvira's possession of a human body reminded us of a similar condition on Broadway. A deceased first wife, Elvira, assumes human form and, by all odds the most adorable ghost ever to flit across the boards, she returns to haunt her husband and his second wife—the play is, of course, Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit."

BALL AND CHAIN 6-20-44

But the restrictions of the human body have long plagued mankind. The body is a ball-and-chain holding the spirit down to earth; a heterogeneous assortment of inherited disabilities: Grandmother Wilcox's legs, Great-grandfather Hills' aquiline nose, and Great-aunt Maria's frosty blue eyes; it is subject to Uncle Jonas' gout, Aunt Henrietta's asthma, Cousin David's jaundice—to say nothing of bad tempers, inclinations to profanity and an eye for pretty girls. It limits work and pleasure and all the fine fancies of the mind: the poetic, dramatic, heroic deeds which are born and die in man's imagination.

In the early days man created gods who were not bound by these limitations; but when the gods took on traits that were not only human, but indeed, all too human, they were discarded. He created elves, sprites, dryads, nymphs, mermaids, fauns, unicorns, and later—gremlins and Superman. Shakespeare, wearying of Pistol, Doll Tearsheet, Falstaff and even the Kings of England, turned to Titania, Oberon, Ariel, Bottom and Peablossom. Debussy conjured up in notes of almost transcendental beauty "The Afternoon of a Faun." And there are, we understand, still to be found in certain glens of Scotland fairies who wear the traditional blue chiffon robes, but due to the climate, red flannels are worn underneath.

There is no confirmation of this, however. And for all we know, they may be as extinct as leprechauns. Only one thing is certain: that is, when Henry Farnsworth returns from this war, the Elviras will still have their human bodies.

Army Breaks Up Family of Ten in Washington

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md. 2-12-44

47C

Joseph C. Brown, 1001 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast, Washington, who was inducted into the army Saturday, poses with his wife and eight children. Shown left to right are: Paul, 6; Dolores, 12; Veronica, 7; Joseph, Jr., 14; Baby Cecile, 8 months; Mrs. Veronica Brown; Joyce, 2; Mr. Brown; Charles 10, and Yvonne, 4.

Bayard Rustin Defies Draft; Goes To Prison

Defender - Chicago, Ill 3-4-44

NEW YORK.—Bayard Rustin, co-secretary of the Race Relations Department of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and a leader in non-violent direct action against Jim Crowism, began a three-year term Monday in federal prison as a result of his refusal to obey the Selective Service Act.

Rustin, who attended Wilberforce university and the City College of New York, and who is a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity, registered in 1940 as a conscientious objector; but in November, 1943 refused to report for his physical examination preparatory to assignment to a conscientious objector's camp. He based his decision on both religious and racial grounds.

Cites Reason

Declaring that the Conscription Act "denies brotherhood," Rustin referred to the segregation of Negroes and whites in its application, and wrote: "Such segregation is based on the moral error that racism (American) can overcome racism (Fascist), that evil can overcome evil, that men virtually in slavery can struggle for a freedom they are denied. This means that I must protest racial discrimination in the armed forces, which is not only morally indefensible, but also in clear violation of the Act."

Rustin is a member of the Society of Friends (Quakers), and after graduation from college did volunter work for the American Friends Service Committee both in this country and in Puerto Rico. He began work with the Fellowship of Reconciliation in 1941, and became so-secretary with James Farmer of its Race Relations Department last fall. He is the author of Interracial Primer and of several published articles, and is a follower of the methods of India's leader, Mohandas K. Gandhi.

ONLY THREE OUT OF 39 NEGROES ACCEPTED

Local - Sylvester, Ga.

Apparently the military authorities have no desire for Worth county negroes in the army. 4-27-44

According to W. H. Jenkins, Jr., clerk to the Worth county Selective Service Board, only three of the 39 negroes sent up recently for examination were accepted.

It would be interesting to know the reasons for turning down the other thirty-six.

Negro Soldier Gets $468 Monthly

Review — Memphis, Tenn

FORT WORTH.—The highest paid man in the Fort Worth military police unit is not its commander, Maj. Harry W. Roberson.

The distinction of drawing the most pay goes to a negro technical sergeant, Tully B. Bond, 52, veteran of 34 years' army service, whose pay and allotments total $468 a month. 6-16-44

Bond draws base pay of $114 a month, and $94 monthly for subsistence. His wife and 10 children, who live at Junction City, Kan., receive $260 a month support money. The father was in France 14 months during World War I and won the Distinguished Service Medal in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. He was assigned here last Tulley Bond, Jr., with an ammunition unit in Australia, and Sgt. Edgar Bond, cook with a unit in England, week from San Antonio.

47c-1944

Camps

VIEWS and Reviews

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

5-6-44

(This column represents the personal opinion of Mr. Schuyler and in no way reflects the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors)

The disgusting and infuriating extent of crackerism in the United States Army and Navy, the petty and moronic devices by which supposedly big men attempt to demonstrate a "racial" superiority which every intelligent person recognizes as non-existent, and the preoccupation of so many highly paid officers with maintaining the color line while in the midst of a war for survival, still far from won, must reduce almost to nil any respect for or confidence in these people.

My uniformed emissaries all over the world constantly send or bring me accounts of the jim crow global war, and I think the meanest I have heard recently has had to do with the great campaign to shove aside and discredit the Negro officer. It is a deplorable revival of the sickening tactics the "crusaders for democracy" used in 1917-18, with some modern angles introduced by a more "enlightened" generation. And the most depressing aspect is the studied Uncle Tomism of Negroes, uniformed and in mufti, in the War Department who are supposed to run interference for their people with the brass hats, but do not.

5-6-44

Here is one intelligent Negro's account of the slimy jim crowism at Fort Huachuca. He writes: "Every colored person and many white people are well aware of the flagrant discrepancies existent in our armed forces, particularly as these defects operate to the disadvantage of the colored soldier. However, I wish to mention the unjust and undemocratic practices of a specific unit, namely the 92nd Division. Recently there have been a few scattered 'appeasement' promotions which had the desired effect—a sort of peace offering. However, the fact remains that most of the colored officers are still second lieutenants as they were long ago and the chief qualification for a promotion continues to be the possession of a white skin. With an air of smug condescension the ranking white officers are conceited enough to assume that the colored officers should accept the discriminatory lack of promotions without any apparent display of discontent.

"Last May . . . the brass hats of the Division organized an Officers' Inefficiency school. The alleged purpose of this so-called school was to improve and bring up to standard on certain military subjects those officers who were not on par with the others. While much might be said of the merits of such a school in itself, it was in reality a disgrace and insult to the intelligence of the colored officers. And here is why—every one of the 56 students of this school was colored—mind you, not a single white officer. Now any sane person will concede that in a given group of men some are more proficient than others, irrespective of race, but to contend and imply that only colored officers—and no whites—were deficient in some particular phase is so ridiculous a hypothesis that it borders on the insane. The inference is clear and tends to support the view that a premeditated attempt was made to intimidate and humiliate the colored officers, solely on account of color.

5-6-44

"Then there is the matter of court-martials, which in the 92nd Division has reached an atrociously all-time high. For extremely minor offenses, colored officers are court-martialed with alarming frequency. If it were possible to check the records you would find that over 90 colored officers—against NO whites—have been court-martialed since activation of the Division. You can just about bet your bottom dollar that this number will more than treble that of any other division, here or abroad. For a colored officer to secure an acquittal is a mathematical impossibility. Here is how it operates. The court is composed of from six to eight bigoted white officers and two or three colored officers, but since a two-thirds vote will secure a conviction the vote of the two colored members is practically nil and the entire process represents nothing more than the simulation of justice by a mixed court. Suffice to say that any officer who expresses dissatisfaction at the prejudiced status quo is sooner or later, by some pretext, the hapless victim of the above mentioned procedure.

5-6-44

"The entire policy of the Division in regard to colored officers and enlisted personnel is such as to warrant the utmost condemnation. These outrages in a military unit supposedly dedicated to the preservation of democracy constitute a most bewildering paradox. If these practices are representative of the things we are fighting for, then it is one helluva note."

Brethren, I believe every word of this letter. Don't you?

Unhappily this seems to be what the colored brethren are fighting to preserve, except in the Russian Army and Navy where jim crow was buried long ago—along with kulaks, real Communists and so-called counter-revolutionaries. Certainly the other Allied armies are shot through with Negrophobia and color caste. It is a global disgrace, but such eminent mouthmeticians as Churchill, Roosevelt, De Gaulle, Eden, Wallace, et al, will not even mention it because they do not intend to disturb it. Our local Communists and fellow-travelers will not mention it either, but continue to yammer for victory over fascism—meaning Hitler and Tojo's variety, not that which runs our armed forces.

Army Bulletin Offers Hope Of New Policy

People's Voice — New York, N. Y.

4-22-44

By BEN RICHARDSON

Special

The War Department has taken definite and praiseworthy steps to better the condition of the Negro soldier in the armed forces of our nation. A twenty-page pamphlet entitled "The Command of Negro Troops" has been issued with the sole intent of bringing a fuller degree of undestanding between Negro soldiers and the white men who now, or may in the future, command them.

The pamphlet has received the endorsement of General G. C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, and Major General J. A. Ulio, the Adjutant General. It comes as a publication for the information and guidance of all concerned, and bears the authority of the Secretary of War. 4-22-44

BRINGS REASSURANCE

In these times when Negroes have so much reason to fear for the well-being of their men in the service of America, this publication brings certain reassurances of the basic good intent of our country, and of the true effort towards democratic leadership fostered by the present Administration.

The pamphlet is divided into several subjects all of which are handled frankly, scientifically, and in behalf of the comfort and security of the Negro soldier.

Commanders are told point blank that Negro soldiers frequently have lower averages on the Army General Classification Tests than do white men processed at the same time, but this is the result, it says, of Negroes having been denied opportunities in technical trades or jobs as civilians. They are further told that the comparatively low averages that occasionally appear, must not be taken as a sign that the Negro soldier cannot learn, but that he has not been given a chance previously and must be given one now. 4-22-44

BLAMES OFFICERS

All efforts must be made, the pamphlet goes on to say, to give those of advanced skills every chance to find their places in such branches as fit their training. Literacy classes are to be contantly conducted to assure the gradual progress of the intelligence and efficiency of the troops. Commanding officers are warned against blaming the soldier for the inefficiency of an outfit when the officer's failure to get the most cooperation from his men represents his own failure to treat them in the most representative and soldierly way. 4-22-44

Racial theories are dubbed a waste of time and manpower. The pamphlet says in positive terms that all theories of racial superiority are idiotic and lend to the defeat of the cause of the Allies. Officers of Negro troops are informed that they will get the maximum cooperation from their men when they treat them as Americans, with no reservations or beliefs about inherited or natural traits that make them different from white troops.

4-22-44

WORD LIST

The use of words offensive to Negroes are strictly ruled out, and a full list of such words is included. Among them is the word "Nigra' which as the pamphlet states, is a compromise between "nigger and Negro." Officers are advised to use "Negro" or "Colored" when referring to the race of their colored command. In this same section, the matter of Negro and white facilities is discussed and it comes as a revelation to learn the result of polls taken among Negroes and whites regarding mixed regiments, that the number of Negroes who wanted mixed regiments was about as large as that of those who did not. White soldiers, by a large majority, according to the pamphlets figures, preferred separation. Negro troops were shown to prefer northern training camps, and resented the unequal transportation facilities accorded them.

Finally, the question of communities adjacent to camps quartering Negro soldiers was considered. The people were admonished to be at the

4-22-44

of the war, the Negro and all troops in all phases of the war, the pamphlet closes. issued, and that a corresponding It is by far the best item of the rise in Negro army and civilian from the War Department may follow.

and tlhough it is not document to be at the the press, it is hoped mention of its presence to crystalize Negro a positive way toward

sort to come from the partment, and was praised for its honest protest, and the commanding officers were a public disposal of the told to establish good relationships between themselves and the press. With an optimistic note relative to the future inclusion of the opinion in a pos

British Point Way To Democracy, Train Mixed Group on U. S. Soil

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

6-17-44

While some of our American troops and officers have endeavored to transplant to England the racial prejudices typical of deepest Mississippi and of the nation's capital, the British have brough to America an example of democracy-in-action from which our War Department could well learn a lesson.

The first British unit to train on United States soil since before the Revolutionary War, an infantry line unit composed of volunteers, has been recruited in the Caribbean and Bermuda, consolidated here and is training for eventual overseas duty.

The existence of the new combat unit, called the First Caribbean Regiment, was made public here for the first time last Thursday in connection with a ceremonial parade by the troops in celebration of the birthday of King George VI.

6-17-44

Mixed Officers

The regiment is a mixed unit of white, colored and black men. (The West Indies observe the triple designation). The percentage of Negroes is about the same as of the population of the territories, islands and garrisons represented. No distinctions are made in the unit, because of race or color, in the training, opportunities for advancement, quarters, mess, etc. The mixing exists in the officer ranks as well as in the enlisted personnel. One Negro is a major, next to the highest ranking officer among the natives is a lieutenant-colonel, and is white. 6-17-44

Trinidad, with about 22 per cent of the volunteers, has the largest representation. Next in order come Jamaica (including the Turks and Caicos Islands), Barbados, British Guiana, Bermuda, the Windward Islands, the Leeward Islands, British Honduras and the Bahamas.

The unit, which has its own supporting weapons, including Bren guns, mortars and anti-tank guns is expected to take its place as a full fledged line unit along side of other regular British infantry.

Inspected

6-17-44

Lt. Gen. G. N. Macready, commander of the British Army staff in Washington reviewed the unit and presented to its commanding officer, Lt. Col. Hugh Wilkin, special messages from the British secretaries of State for War and the Colonies, Sir James Grigg and Col. Oliver Stanley. Senior U.S. Army officers also took part in the ceremonies.

Members of the regiment were said to be enthusiastic in their praise of the cooperation of U.S. Army officers and enlisted men. Particularly appreciated, several of the troops recalled, was the reception given the contingents at the dockside upon their arrival by a U.S. Army band and Red Cross workers. 6-17-44

The regiment was established on April 1, and early that month small parties from outlying islands gathered at local centers until their numbers were complete. The first contingent to arrive in the U.S. was from Bermuda. Their place of training in the U.S. was not disclosed.

13 Guilty In Mutiny Trial

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa

10-14-44

CAMP CLAIBORNE, La. — The court-martial trials in connection with the August 17 disturbance here have resulted in 13 convictions out of 14 trials, the final trio convicted being Pvts. Willie Gale, 29, Porters, Tex.; Albert Young, Newport News, Va., and William Woodson, Cincinnati, Ohio. The three men were sentenced to 25 years at hard labor for "willful disobedience of their superior officers" and for "illegally carrying rifles and ammunition."

Prior to the final three convictions, the court-martial sentenced four other soldiers last week, Brig. Gen. Louis F. Guerre, Camp Claiborne commander and former superintendent of Louisiana State Police, announced. The four included:

10-14-44

1st Sgt. Thomas A. Terry of Washington, D.C.; Sgt. Charlie B. Coleman of Huntington, W.Va. and Pvt. Lawrence M. Beale of Philadelphia, charged as "ringleaders in an attempt to incite soldiers to mutiny and refusing to obey orders from superior officers." Each received life sentences.

T/5 Willie C. Edwards of Lovelady, Tex., received a sentence of 30 years at hard labor for joining a group that attempted to storm a supply room "in attempt to procure ammunition."

47c-1944

South Still Fighting

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Army 'Jim Crow' Order

9-9-44

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—According to reports which continue to come in, the South is holding its own in its fight against democracy in the U. S. Army.

Information being gathered on conditions at a number of Army camps throughout the South indicates that the War Department's directive outlawing segregation and discrimination at post exchanges, in camp theatres, and on Army buses, is being flagrantly defied by commanding officers and their subordinates.

Colored soldiers of several troop trains which passed through Montgomery during the past three days, presumably bound for the fight in the Pacific against the Japanese, when asked about the War Department's order against racial segregation and discrimination, knew nothing of it "officially." Evidently the order is being carefully concealed from them by prejudiced or cowardly white officers.

Stalwart and intelligent, these colored soldiers emphatically stated when interviewed as they passed through this city (incidentally, Montgomery was the cradle of the Rebellion, and is keeping in line today with a fascist-like attitude on the so-called race question) that the democracy for which they were told they are bound for battlefields to fight for, is definitely non-existent in the camps they left behind.

One soldier who had to break ties with a wife and three small children in Washington, to do his bit for his country, expressed keen disappointment in what his country has offered him in return.

9-9-44

"I left a wife and three small children at home. They are as dear to me as Gov. Sparks' family might be to him." When advised that Alabama's Governor is not married, the Marine continued, "Well, at least some of the other race scare mongers have wives and children, and what I shall be called upon to give for the protection of this country when I fight and perhaps die in battle, will mean immeasurably more to the nation than anything they are doing for, if what is read in the daily press is being correctly stated, they are tearing down the foundations of good government with expressions and acts of hatred toward other Americans, merely because these other Americans happen to be black."

9-9-44

Developments in Alabama, one hotbed of secession against true democracy in the Army, during the week include a statement by Gov. Sparks, leader of the fight to prevent the abolishment of segregation on Army reservations in the South, with inference that the War Department's anti-segregation order for Army camps has political implications.

The Governor warned that if true "then we of the South will find it difficult to hold the South within its traditional Democratic allegiance in the years to come."

He expressed disappointment that President Roosevelt had ignored his, the Governor's telegram of protest against the Army's new policy on the race question, which was sent on August 24.

9-9-44

Rep. Joe Starnes, of Alabama, member of the Dies Committee and regarded as a Negrophobe, also entered his protest against the directive from his Guntersville home. Starnes was defeated in his bid for renomination in the Democratic primary of last May by Albert Rains, Gadsden attorney. The CIO's Political Action committee is said to have contributed to Starnes' defeat.

Rep. Frank Boykin, another member of the Alabama congressional delegation, wired Governor Sparks from his Mobile home as follows: "I believe the time has come when we will have to do something about the Negro problems and in many cases it is not the fault of the Negroes. The next thing they will want the Negroes in the white schools and colleges of the South, the law and medical schools.

"The whole fabric of Southern philosophy of segregation and white supremacy is at stake. I believe also I would take this up with the leaders of Tuskegee and our other Negro leaders in the South and see how they feel about it."

Here's Army's No J.C. Order

(Continued from Page 1)

Segregation Forbidden

Under the new directive, race segregation is forbidden in post exchanges and theatres and on buses owned or operated by the Federal Government, on or off a post, camp or station, regardless of local civilian custom.

Substance of this order was published in the AFRO a month ago when it was posted at Fort Benning, Ga. Alabama papers got hold of it just last week.

9-2-44

Representative Rankin, dubbed the leader of the "white-trash bloc" in Congress, said on the floor of the House, Thursday, that the directive was an attempt to wipe out segregation throughout the South and predicted that it will precipitate race riots.

Called "Standing Policy"

At the War Department, a spokesman explained that the directive was a general letter to all Army establishments directing attention to the department's standing policy against race discrimination.

The War Department would not release the text of the directive, explaining that it was in "a restricted classification," but Representative Rankin was so choleric because of the order that he inserted its full text in the Congressional Record. It follows:

"Restricted" Order Published

War Department,
The Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, D.C., July 8, 1944

Subject: Recreational Facilities.

To Commanding Generals, Army Air Forces, All Service Commands, Military District of Washington:

1. Reference is made to letter A.G. 353.8 (March 5, 1943) OB-S-A-M, March 10, 1943, subject as above, in which it was directed that all personnel, regardless of race, would be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy recreational facilities on each post, camp and station.

9-2-44

2. While in general the spirit of the above-mentioned letter has been observed, occasional reports indicate that practices exist on some installations that are not in harmony with its provisions.

3. Exchanges: While exchanges and branch exchanges may be allocated to serve specific areas or units, no exchange will be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race. Where such branch exchanges are established, personnel will not be restricted to the use of their area or unit exchange, but will be permitted to use any other exchange on the post, camp or station.

END TO J.C. ON BUSSES

4. Transportation: Busses, trucks, or other transportation owned and operated either by the Government or by a governmental instrumentality will be available to all military personnel regardless of race. Restricting personnel to certain sections of such transportation because of race will not be permitted either on or off a post, camp, or station, regardless of local civilian custom.

5. Army motion-picture theaters: Army motion-picture theaters may be allocated to serve certain areas or units but no theater or performance in any theater will be denied to any group or individual because of race.

9-2-44

ORDER TO BE ENFORCED

6. Effective compliance with War Department policies enunciated herein will be obtained through inspection by responsible commanders and inspectors general.

Each inspector general will be directed that if, during a periodic inspection of a post, camp or station, he discovers evidence of racial discrimination or direct or indirect violation of War Department policies on this subject, he will inform the commanding officer of the installation that such discrimination is contrary to War Department policy.

If subsequent inspection of the installation indicates that proper remedial measures have not been taken, the commanding general of the service command will initiate action to insure full compliance with the announced policy.

7. The commanding general, Army Air Forces, will bring the contents of this letter to the attention of each unit of his command which is authorized an inspector general.

By order of the Secretary of War:

J. A. ULIO,
Major General, the Adjutant General.

Camps

Huachuca To Close Oct. 15

Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va.

10-7-44

Personnel Drops From 25,000 To 300; Hospital Broken Up

By Associated Negro Press

FT. HUACHUCA, Ariz.—The announcement that Ft. Huachuca was scheduled for inactivation on October 15, made by Col. Edwin N. Hardy, post commander, posed many questions in the minds of the Negro people of this nation who had become interested in this largest Negro Army post in the country because it was the training grounds for the famed 92nd and 93rd divisions.

Normally a post of 25,000 persons, Huachuca is expected to shrink to a post of some 300 when it is closed down.

Many people are concerned about what disposition will be made of the largest colored Army hospital in the nation. This hospital is completely staffed by nearly 100 Negro officers and some eighty or more colored nurses.

RUMORS FLY

Rumors, which are fast, many and varied, have it that those doctors and nurses will be sent to other posts where they will be placed under white supervision; Douglas air base will be converted into an all-colored base and some of the medics will be sent there; a veteran hospital will be established and turned over to Negroes; the more qualified physicians will be distributed to certain white hospitals.

10-7-44

Despite radio requests for 3,000 additional nurses nearly 100 are here doing very little. The War Department needs doctors so badly that all limited service medical officers are to be re-examined with the idea of putting as many as possible on overseas assignments.

Medics here are desirous of offering their resignations en masse but are being discouraged by the commanding officer who wants them to await action of the War Department.

OPPOSE MIXING

Further rumors are that the general staff will not permit a mixing of colored and white units and despite the announcements relative to nurses being trained in white centers, they still come here. Though the surgeon general's office would like to solve all of this, the general staff and service commands will not permit it.

10-7-44

An announcement by Col. Hardy indicated that 6,000 Mexican laborers are to be quartered at Ft. Huachuca for a three month period, beginning Oct. 1.

An entertainment unit of 40 performers will go to Hotel Theresa, New York, Nov. 1. It is understood that Earl Renfree is enroute to the Pershing Hotel, Chicago, to head the dental unit; Col. West A. Hamilton will command the Pershing division and

Here It Is!

ARMY DIRECTIVE WHICH ENDED SEGREGATION AT ARMY POSTS

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

9-2-44

SUBJECT: RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.
TO. Commanding Generals
Army Air Forces
All Service Commands
Military Districts of Washington

1. Reference is made to Letter AG 353.8 (5 Mar. 43) OB-S-A-M, 10 March 1943, subject as above, in which it was directed that all personnel, regardless of race, would be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy recreational facilities on each post, camp, and station.

2. While in general the spirit of the above mentioned letter has been observed, occasional reports indicate that practices exist on some installations that are not in harmony with its provisions.

3. Exchanges: While exchanges and branch exchanges may be allocated to serve specific areas or units, no exchange will be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race. Where such branch exchanges are established, personnel will not be restricted to use of their area or unit exchange, but will be permitted to use any other exchange on the post, camp, or station.

9-2-44

4. Transportation: Buses, trucks, or other transportation owned and operated either by the Government or by a Governmental instrumentality will be available to all military personnel, regardless of race. Restricting personnel to certain sections of such transportation because of race will not be permitted either on or off a post, camp, or station, regardless of local civilian custom.

5. Army Motion Picture Theatres: Army motion picture theatres may be allocated to serve certain areas or units, but no theatres or performance in any theatre will be denied any group or individual because of race.

6. Effective compliance with War Department policies enunciated herein will be obtained through inspection by responsible commanders and inspectors general. Each inspector general will be directed that if, during a periodic inspection, a post, camp, or station, he discovers evidence of racial discrimination or direct or indirect violation of War Department policies on this subject, he will inform the commanding officer of the installation that such discrimination is contrary to War Department policy. If subsequent inspection of the installation indicates that proper remedial measures have not been taken, the commanding general of the service command will initiate action to insure full compliance with annpunced policy.

7. The Commanding General, Army Air Forces, will bring the contents of this letter to the attention of each unit of his command which is authorized and inspector general.

4-2-44

By order of SECRETARY OF WAR:
[Signed] J. A. ULIO,
Major General - The Adjutant General.

5 Soldiers In Florida Mutiny Sent To Prison

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

5-20-44

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (ANP)—The court-martial trial for alleged mutiny involving five Negro privates came to a close here this week with three of the defendants drawing sentences of 13 years and the remaining two 15 years.

Arthur Boyd and James Crowley of New York, and Joseph Kent of Evanston, Ill., received the lesser sentences, while Leo M. Jones, Philadelphia, and William Flemons, Washington, D.C., were recipients of the longer terms.

Defense counsel for the men hope to gain clemency for them when the case is reviewed at Tampa. Defense Counsel McCabe and Levinson who came from Philadelphia to defend Jones and Kent, along with S. D. McGill of Jacksonville representing Flemons, believe that their clients will be favored at the reviewing of the case.

5-20-44

The five men were indicted on the charge of mutiny. Jones and Flemons were designated as the leaders. According to the prosecution the men were urged to stay in their cells when ordered out to work. It is claimed that Jones was the one to speak to the men. There were approximately 50 prisoners in the guardhouse at that time.

It was shown that tear-gas was used to get the prisoners out of the guardhouse when they continued to disobey the order to fall-in for work. The gas bomb was thrown by one Sgt. Bechtel, a 200-lb M.P.

The prosecution was handled by Maj. George B. Lurie. He made clear the point that under military law a concreted action of disobedience to an order constituted a mutiny.

5-20-44

It was brought out during the trial that the men had not been informed as to the procedure to get a hearing whenever they had grievances. It was further brought out that the men did not know they were guity of mutiny if they acted together.

Capt. Andrew V. Peterson, Richfield, Utah, was chief defense counsel. He was assisted by Lt. Phillip Landrum, Nelson, Ga. The civilian lawyers worked with these men. Maj. Lourie, Newton Center, Mass., was aided in the prosecution by Lt. Isadore A. Lehrer, Hartford, Conn.

Air Base Jim Crow Revealed

Tribune—Philadelphia Pa. 9-2-44

(Editor's note: The following story is the first in a series, written by the Washington Correspondent of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association after four days "on the spot" at Godman Field, Ky., where the 477th Bombardment Group is preparing for overseas duty. The many stories and rumors of low morale, crushed spirits and delaying tactics led the NNPA to send a man to the scene to bring you this first hand account. The entire series will appear, one each week, in the Philadelphia TRIBUNE.)

9-2-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Can an efficient bombardment team, capable of holding its own in combat overseas, be developed under a condition that crushes the spirit of officers and enlisted men, destroys their morale, puts them on the verge of psychoneurosis, and makes them hate the guts of their commanding officer?

Can such a group continue to maintain the top-ranking safety record, maintenance record and flight per plane record in the First Air Forces when it lacks confidence in its supervisors, instructors, and commanders?

Can a group of men with the high intelligence required for success in the air corps—among both officers and enlisted men—be treated like children and yet be expected to fight like men?

These are the question-marks over shadowing the 477th Bombardment Group now stationed at forsaken and isolated Godman Field, Ky.,—the first Negro unit of its kind in Army history.

9-2-44

These circumstances and the resultant reactions which give rise to these questions are the subject of this and a series of articles to follow, written from first hand observation and interviews by this correspondent at Godman Field.

To understand fully the implications of the facts, opinions and criticisms which will be revealed in this series, one should know something of the historical background of the Negro in the Air Forces.

No less an authority than Judge William Hastie, former Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, declared in a statement accompanying his resignation from that position on February 1, 1943: "It should be understood from the beginning the Air Command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since. Moreover, even now, the Air Command views the use of the Negro as an "experiment" designed to determine whether he can do this or that in the field of aviation. . . The tragedy is that by not wanting the Negro in the first place and by doubting his capacity, the Air Command has committed itself psychologically to courses of action which themselves become major obstacles to the success of Negroes in the Air Forces."

9-2-44

Back in 1940, the Air Forces authorized 10 units of Aviation Squadron (Separate). They were Negro units which served no specific military need. They never had a define function. They performed odd jobs of common labor at air fields.

Not until March, 1941, were applications accepted from Negroes for aviation cadet training. Several months later, actual training began at the segregated Tuskegee Air base. This training was limited to pursuit flying—the most difficult flying job in the Army.

In spite of handicaps, humiliations and humbug, the Negroes who entered and successfully completed training as pursuit pilots went on to establish an envious record in combat overseas.

9-2-44

On September 2, 1943, the Assistant Secretary of War, John McCloy, who was Acting Secretary of War on that day, announced in a press conference that Negroes would start cadet training as bombardiers and pilots in a B-26 Transition School on October 3, 1943.

By December, 1934, he promised, training of navigator and bombardier officers would begin. This training was to last 18 weeks after which the trainees were to go to gunnery school.

"All this training," the Acting Secretary gave assurance, "will be with white students."

The Medium Bombardment Group "must be activated by July 1, 1944," with complete crews, he said.

On November 15, 1943, the first twelve Negro flying officers to receive wings as twin-engine pilots were sent from Tuskegee and Selfridge Field and assigned to the B-25 Transition School at Mather Field, Cal.

9-2-44

The 477th Bombardment Group was organized and stationed at Selfridge Field in Michigan, near Detroit in February, 1944. It was placed under the command of Col. Robert Selway, who had been in command of the training of the fighter group turned over to Col. Benj. O. David, Jr. and sent overseas. Col. Selway is still in command of that 477th.

Many of the problems which now exist at Godman were born at Selfridge Field. The most noticeable incident at Selfridge—excluding the shooting of a Negro soldier by Col. Coleman, then base commander, last fall—was the officer club incident. That incident is explanatory of much that is happening today. Here it is as never revealed before:-

The officers club at Selfridge was at one time used by all officers, white and colored. When Col. Benj. O. Davis, Jr., then a lieutenant colonel, was returned to the United States from overseas and assigned to the fighter group then training at Selfridge, a reception was given him in the officers club.

9-2-44

After the 477th was activated, there was an occasion when three Negro officers went to the club and ordered beer. They were served. But while sitting at a table, a white major came up to them and told them they did not belong there. He told them to leave. One of the three officers informed the major that the club was for officers and gentlemen, that they were officers and gentlemen, and that they saw no reason to leave. When the officer repeated the suggestion, he asked if that was an order. He turned on his heels and went upstairs for Col. Boyd, then the post commander, who was present at the club during the time.

Col. Byod came down, approached the men and told them they had better leave. He was told of the existence of War Department Order 210-10, which said all buildings and facilities were available to all men on a post. He insisted the men leave the club. Asked whether that was an order, the colonel left without saying more.

9-2-44

Following this incident, the Negro officers, in their individual capacities and not as a protest or petition filed applications for membership in the club. Their quarters were inadequate and no other recreation was available to them on the post. The apparent sudden change in policy, as indicated by the experience of the three officers, had stunned them.

Col. Boyd wrote a letter in which he refused to take favorable action on the club membership applications. He told one of the Negro officers at the base to go back and tell the boys that "I am the big fat s-O-b who said for them not to use the club, and tell them I said so."

Col. Selway, then as now the group commander of the 477th, called a meeting of the Negro officers and told them that Negroes were not to go to the club and were not to make application for membership. He read Col. Boyd's letter, and said: "In my group, if you want to make the team, you will play ball my way. If anyone in my group protests the decision of the post commander, I will give an unsatisfactory efficiency rating."

Many of the men withdrew their applications for fear of being reclassified.

9-2-44

But word of the incident reached the White House. From there it is reported to have gone to the top officials of the Army. An investigation was made substantiating the complaint. This conclusion is drawn from the fact that the top Army officials took the matter in hand and ordered it cleaned up. The War Deparment, to the embarrassment of the Air Forces, stood behind WD 210-10 and immediately after the investigation, Col. Boyd was transferred away from the base, the commanding officer of the 553rd Fighting Group was transferred, as was also the major who instigated the incident in the club with the three Negro officers.

9-2-44

It was after this action had been taken by the War Department that Gen F. O. D. Hunter came to the base and made a speech on the incident. He was apparently giving the Air Forces' answer to the Army action. He said that in the past there had been no racial problems at the base and that he did not intend to have any now.

He stated the War Department is not ready to recognize Negroes on a plane of social equality with white men. Whether this was right or wrong, he said he did not know. He added that this group is no place to try to advance your race. Wait until you go overseas and do something to make your race proud of you, he told the men.

He concluded by saying all agitators would be weeded out and dealt with.

9-2-44

A decision was then made to avoid future embarrassment to the Air Forces, since the Army had shown an inclination to uphold the officers in their rights. It was just a short time later that the 477th and he 553 were transferred from Selfridge to Godman Field in Kentucky and Walterboro, S. C. respectively, under conditions bordering on the ludicrous.

The men were told the movement was secret, though it had been released to the newspapers. The train going to Godman left Selfridge going NORTH to Port Huron, Michigan, then doubled back to Gary, Ind., and then headed SOUTH to Godman Field. At first, it was called a training trip. Then it was termed a temporary move. Later the men were informed they were being moved permanently.

When told that his officers believed the move was made to put them in a Southern atmosphere where patterns of segregation and isolation from white groups would eliminate a recurrence of the problem without solving it., Col. Selway admitted to this correspondent that the officer club incident had caused a "big furore." At the same time, he said, there was a big furore about the accidents to flyers. These accidents, he declared, were due to the poor visibility around Selfridge.

9-2-44

The move to Godman, he claims, was made to have better flying weather. But, it was not his decision, he maintains.

Accuse Southern Officers Of Bias In Florida Camp

World—Memphis, Tenn. 8-18-44

Troops Trained At Camp Dying For World Freedom

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—(ANP) — While Negro troops trained here are displaying courage in the European invasion, dying and winning praises of their commanding officers in this great fight for world freedom, other Negro soldiers are under going maltreatment right here in the United States.

8-18-44

Retention and enforcement of the Jim Crow practices here can be traced more to ranking Army officers than the white enlisted men. Colonel Alexander T. Murphy, Post Executive Officer and Lt. Colonel Dale G. Savage, Commanding Officer, Amphibian Truck Training group, two dyed in the wool southerners are said to be responsible for most of the practices of discrimination here.

USE SMALL AREA

Although the men are housed in the same wards, discrimination is practiced at the station hospital here. Space and equipment won't allow separate wards. When the patients go to eat they are segregated. Colored troops are forced to use a small area set aside for them but both white and colored soldiers enter and go to the steam tables for food in the same line.

At the main post theatre both races purchase their tickets in the same line, from the same cashier, and use the same water fountain and latrine, but they must sit in their jim crowd section after entering the theater. On several occasions near riots have almost resulted because of this practice.

The white soda fountain waitresses deliberately wait on white patrons first in the main post exchange even though colored troops may have arrived at the counter first.

8-18-44

HERDED IN BACK

Three buses, owned and operated by the army are used to bring civilian workers to and from work here. Colored workers are herded into the back and told to stay in their place by white civilian workers regardless to how crowded the buses might be. Observers say that the low ebb getting worse each day. Serious interracial trouble is feared.

Negro officers here are not permitted at the Post Officers club.

Army Rules Death For GI Amsg. Slay Case In Claiborne Mutiny

News—New York 10-7-44

ALEXANDRIA, La., (ANP)—Army justice took its toll of four of the five Negro soldiers involved in the recent disturbances at Camp Claiborne by sentencing two to life imprisonment, one to nine years at hard labor and one to die, according to announcements made last week by Brig. Gen. Louis F. Guerro, commanding officer. Pvt. William Smith

Jr., 29, escaped by acquittal.

According to court-martial verdicts Pvt. Leroy McGary, Chicago, must die for his share in the uprising that brought wounds to two Negro soldiers and one white officer, while Pvt. George S. Washington, Houston, and T 5 Phillip Davis, Montgomery, Ala., must serve life imprisonment sentences. Davis was accused of holding two officers prisoner during the outbreak. Sgt. Conway Price, Brooklyn, was sentenced to nine years at hard labor for failing to attempt to suppress mutiny.

McGary's death sentence resulted from charges of mutiny and other military offenses.

War Department Order Forbidding Discrimination At Army Posts Is Protested By Governor Of Alabama

Age—New York N.Y.
9-2-44

ORDER SENT RECENTLY

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—In a telegram to President Roosevelt, Governor Chauncey Sparks protested against a War Department order forbidding discrimination between Negro and white personnel at Army post exchanges and other facilities on Army installations.

Gov. Sparks urged the President to give his personal attention to the matter, declaring that the order read Thursday, to civilian Army personnel at nearby Maxwell field "breaks down the essential principle of race relationship in the South" and "grievously handicaps efforts to bring about better racial relationships." He added "I protest such an order, which violates a state wide practice and believe; it aggravates rather than helps."

The protest followed publication here of the news that segregation of the races at Maxwell Field Post Exchange had been terminated on War Department orders.

STARTED IN TUSKEGEE

Age—New York N.Y.
9-2-44

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The War Department order forbidding discrimination in post exchanges and other facilities on Army posts was read at the Tuskegee Army Air Field here and carried out early this month after Negro officers protested that the policy of having separate dining rooms in the exchange restaurant was a violation of the order issued by Major General Ulio in Washington, D. C., early last month.

White civilian employes and Army officers, who protested against having t oeat in the same dining room with Negro civilians were told that they would have to comply with the War Deparment's order. As a result most of the whites have stopped eating in the post exchange restaurant and either bring lunches to the Air Field with them or else eat in the town of Tuskegee which is unaffected by the Army Order.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The War Department said that the Air Forces had sent to all its commands recently a memorandum calling attention to the department's long-standing policy which forbids discrimination at post exchanges, theatres, and other recreational facilities at Army posts and by Army-operated transportation facilities.

Huachuca Colonel Defies War Department's Orders

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
7-29-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — Do the jim-crow orders of a post commander supersede the more democratic ones of a War Department regulation?

The answer to that question will determine whether or not army officials have a right to an "all-white" swimming pool.

Paper Upholds Jim Crow

The Apache Sentinel, official publication of Fort Huachuca, without referring to the article appearing in the AFRO-AMERICAN several weeks ago exposing the lily-white swimming facilities at this camp, upheld the jim-crow practices of the army officials.

"In accordance with Memorandum No. 45, the swimming pool on the old post was designated

7-29-44

Shots Fired on Colored Troops

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

92nd Ordered Not to Fire Back; Sergeant Fined, Jailed

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

8-5-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—(ANS)—Sgt. Cecil Sanderson of Kansas City, Kan., was sentenced to five years at hard labor, given a dishonorable discharge and forfeit of all pay and allowance due, or to become due, for having live ammunition in his possession during recent maneuvers in Louisiana. He has a wife and child.

De RIDDER, La. (ANS)—The U.S. Army admits that it cannot protect its soldiers from the wrath of persons in civilian communities, yet it will not permit soldiers to protect themselves.

During recent maneuvers in Louisiana, hostile Southerners often fired shots at colored troops, at least one being killed by a bus driver in Alexandria, La., and a number of other brutalities were heaped upon the troops.

in De Ridder, colored troops were allowed to walk on only one side of the street (this was broken up by colored troops going in town in large numbers and deliberately walking the forbidden side).

At that time, Gen. Almond, commander of the 92nd Infantry Division, put out orders and personally warned every man in the division against carrying live ammunition, stating that he would see that persons caught would get the full force of the law. Several were caught and given jail terms and fines.

Huachuca Most Infamous Camp, Says ex-Chaplain

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
10-14-44

BALTIMORE—Some of the un-American practices which make Fort Huachuca "the most infamous camp in America" were revealed this week by Grant Reynolds, former army chaplain, who served at the Arizona camp.

"Fort Huachuca is generally referred to as being a combination of the horrors of a prison camp and a military camp in Africa where black colonials are trained," the ex-chaplain said.

Mr. Reynolds, a Congregational minister, who also served as administrative assistant in the NAACP Washington Bureau, resigned from the latter post recently to participate more actively in the work of the Non-Partisan Council for the Abolition of Discrimination in Military and Veteran Affairs. 10-14-44

Cites Injustices

He charged this week that Huachuca, the training ground for the 92nd and 93rd Infantry Divisions, is known for long sentences meted out to colored soldiers as a result of false charges and unprovoked assaults by white officers upon colored enlisted men.

Other un-American practices common there, according to the ex-chaplain, are segregation of colored officers into squalid quarters, and maintenance of a white supremacy caste system over all the colored personnel.

Epithets Used

He said further that colored soldiers had attempted suicide there because of intolerable conditions, that the commanding general had referred to the colored soldiers as his "14,000 'n - - - s'," and that 30,000 troops were maintained there in a condition of degradation and cruelty. 10-14-44

Since Mr. Reynolds left Huachuca, most of the soldiers have been shipped out—the 93rd to the South Pacific and the 92nd to Italy.

BULLETIN
5-13-44
WASHINGTON

War Department sources on Monday discounted reports that tense race relations in Detroit were responsible for the transfer of aviation units from Selfridge Field, Mich., explaining that they had completed their training there.

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — The 477th Bombardment Group and 553rd Fighter Squadron, both colored training units of the Army Air Forces, were moved from this base, Friday, after a week of field restrictions.

In the surprise action, the bomber unit was sent to Fort Knox, Ky., and the fighter unit to the Walterboro Army Air Base in South Carolina. 5-13-44

It is rumored that Selfridge is being changed to a rehabilitation camp for returning army veterans. However, much unrest had followed the court-martial trial of Lieut. Milton Henry, who was dismissed last week for insubordination.

Racial Reminder Hinted

Both groups have reputedly been sent to camps where they could be reminded of their racial status. Especially has the fighter group the reputation of being just as willing to fight for democracy

Selfridge Air Units Shifted to Dixie

Afro-American
8-12-44

47c-1944

Dixie Major Flogs 9 Men, Gets Year Term

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 7-13-44

ATLANTA, Ga. — Found guilty of ordering nine bare-skinned United States army prisoners—three of whom were Negroes—flogged with bullet-weighted rubber tubes, Maj. Louis Rothchild Lefkoff of Atlanta was ordered confined for a year at hard labor by a seven-officer court martial, it was disclosed this week.

Maj. Lefkoff, found ill-fitted for active command, had been sent to Camp Van Dorn, a dreary clump of tar-paper barracks and huts some 50 miles south of Natchez, as a police and prison officer.

Army sources stated that the prisoners flogged were among 160 held at the Camp Van Dorn stockade under Lefkoff's supervision. The court martial was told that after a stockade guard refused Maj. Lefkoff's order to flog the prisoners, the officer called in 10 military policemen and instructed them to carry out the order. 7-15-44

The prosecution asserted that Maj. Lefkoff stood outside the guardhouse armed with a submachine gun while the MP's flogged the prisoners. Their trousers and underclothes had been removed. One prisoner collapsed and was taken to the camp hospital.

The defense given by Maj. Lefkoff was that he was unfamiliar with prison technique. He said that the prisoners were "uncontrollable" and had threatened him and members of his family.

A seven officer court martial convicted Maj Lefkoff of "cruel, inhuman and unusual punishment" of prisoners. He was ordered confined for a year at hard labor, forfeiture of pay and allowances, and dismissal from the service.

Fort Huachuca Inactivation Is Set For Oct. 15

Daily World — Atlanta Ga. 10-1-44

Many Rumors About Hospital Float Around

FT. HUACHUCA — (A N P) — Huachuca, training ground for the famed 92nd and 93rd infantry divisions and the site of the nation's largest Negro hospital, is destined for inactivation Oct. 15, according to an official announcement las tweek by Col. Edwin N. Hardy, post commander.

Though it is reported that the mid-October evacuation will cause a shrinkage in population from 25,000 to 300 persons, no official news have come forth concerning the disposition of the all-colored hospital staff, the nearly 100 officers in the medical officers replacement corps or the 80-odd Negro nurses stationed at the fort.

TO OTHER POSTS

Rumors, which are fast, many and varied, have it that these doctors and nurses will be sent to other posts where they will be placed under white supervision; Douglas air base will be converted into an all-colored base and some of the medics will be sent there; a veteran hospital will be established and turned over to Negroes; the more qualified physicians will be distributed to certain white hospitals. 10-1-44

Despite radio requests for 3,000 additional nurses nearly 100 are here doing very little. The war department needs doctors so badly that all limited service medical officers are to be re-examined with the idea of putting as many as possible on overseas assignments.

Medics here are desirous of offering their resignations en masse but are being discouraged by the commanding officer who wants them to wait action of the war department.

NO MIXING

Further rumors are that the general staff will not permit a mixing of colored and white units and despite the announcements relative to nurses being trained in white centers, they still come here. Though the surgeon general's office would like to solve all of this, the general staff and service commands will not permit it.

An announcement Tuesday by Col. Hardy indicated that 6,000 Mexican laborers are to be quartered at Ft. Huachuca for a three month period, beginning Oct. 1.

An entertainment unit of 40 performers will go to Hotel Theresa, New York, Nov. 1. It is understood that Earl Renfroe is enroute to the Pershing hotel, Chicago, to head the dental unit; Col. West A. Hamilton will command the Pershing division and that 80 WACs will be assigned to that station. 10-1-44

Here prominent Negro military heads are of the opinion that the National Medical Association stand ready to oppose any effort to mishandle the fort's colored medical officers.

White Officer Guilty in Flogging

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 7-15-44

CAMP VAN DORN, Miss. — Major Louis R. Lefkoff, white, a former dry goods store proprietor in Atlanta, was found guilty July 7 by court-martial of ordering the flogging of nine military prisoners, three colored and six white.

In violation of Army regulations, the men, none of whom suffered permanent injury, were beaten with rubber tubes weighed with .45-calibre bullets.

Guard Refused

According to testimony, Major Lefkoff had ordered a stockade guard to flog them, but when he refused was forced to give the order to military policemen who beat the men while the major remained outside the guardhouse.

The verdict said that the offense was believed to be the result of malassignment and incompetency rather than an inherent viciousness on his part. The major had testified earlier that he was unfitted by experience for penal work. 7-15-44

District Soldier Convicted in Army Mutiny

Post — Washington, D.C. 10-3-44

Four more Camp Claiborne riot convictions, including a local Negro, were anounced yesterday by Brig. Gen. Louis F. Guerre, camp commander, at the finish of 10 out of 11 trials of Negro soldiers in connection with rioting at the Louisiana camp on the night of August 18.

First Sergt. Thomas A. Terry, whose address was reported by the Associated Press as 3115 Georgia ave. nw., and two others were given life sentences on charges of acting as ringleaders and attempting to incite soldiers to mutiny, according to the camp public relations announcement. They also were charged with refusing to obey orders from superior officers.

Terry and Sergt. Charlie B. Coleman of Huntington, W. Va., also sentenced to life imprisonment, admitted being armed with carbines against orders, according to the announcements.

Another Negro was given 30 years for joining the mutiny.

Negro Ministers Protest Army Rule

World Telegram — New York, N.Y. 9-19-44

A resolution protesting segregation of Negro troops in rest and redistribution centers was adopted unanimously yesterday by the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York and Vicinity, representing 200,000 Negroes.

The conference wired President Roosevelt of its action and asked him to countermand War Department orders barring Negroes from 56 army centers.

White Officer Defies Anti-Segregation Order

People's Voice — New York, N.Y. 9-9-44

FT. BENNING (ANP)—Joining hands with white civilian forces in the southland against the recent war department order banning racial segregation in army camps last week was Col. J. P. Edgerly, commanding officer of the reception center here. He went on record of defying the war department's edict when he addressed a body of his men here, then used his Negro troops as targets of his race slander.

Encouraging disobedience to the war department's memorandum No. 97, Col. Edgerly told his men that it would not mean any new changes in their way of living. He reminded them that "this is Georgia," and implied the old saying that "when in Rome we do as Romans do." Those who heard the commanding officer are unable to point to any remark where he encouraged the same strict discipline to the non-segregation order as he has to other military orders in the past. 9-9-44

Col. Edgerly hinted that the order was merely a political move to win Negro votes. He assured those white troops who are stricken by Negrophobia that the order did not have to be complied with and warned Negro soldiers against any effort to carry out the war department's edict.

"I hope you will not try to carry out this order at Fort Benning," he told his Negro troops directly, "for if you should it will cause trouble." 9-9-44

Throwing the full force of his rank in the effort to continue racial segregation in the army, the colonel allowed his anti-Negro hatred to make his colored troops the targets of an unwarranted attack. He harshly criticized their way of living before entering the

Segregation Order Not Received On Peninsula, Officials Say

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va. 9-9-44

NEWPORT NEWS—The War Department directive to abolish all race segregation on Army posts which caused the governor of Alabama and the state's congressional representatives to enter vehement protests against enforcement, had not reached military posts on the Lower Virginia Peninsula up to Sunday, various public relations officers informed local newspapers.

DEVISES INSTALLED

The public relations office at the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation said that "no segregation of races has been practiced in the post exchanges," and "no devices for segregation are installed." 9-9-44

Colonel E. A. Lohman of the Langley Field office said that the post has no segregation in such respects, and that there are no segregation devices forquoted, pointed out that nal and Guide that exchanges places of the same service and are regarded as soldiers regardless of

NO TROUBLE IN AREA

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World — Memphis, Tenn

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10-3-44

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10-3-44

LARGEST POST

The largest training post in the country and used exclusively for Negro troops, Huachuca, since 1877, has been an important training center for soldiers, including those of the Indian wars and in World War I.

In 1940 military authorities saw fit to modernize the post and then several millions of dollars were expended toward building expansions and the reservation was increased to 73,000 acres or more than 117 square miles.

Although much additional Arizona territory was utilized for establishment of barracks, mess halls, hospitals, headquarters buildings, recreation clubs and centers, a field house and stadium which seats more than 11,000 persons, the general color was retained by the presence of Apache Indian scouts that are dispersed throughout the fort

10-3-44

Comprising Arizona's third largest population center, last October, during the training of the 92nd, the fort had a populaiton of more than 25,000 persons. It served as a supply center for all army camps in Arizona, many in New Mexico and some in California. Transportation of these supplies was by rails, truck and airlines.

At Ft. Huachuca a huge military laundry and dry cleaning establishment handled the clothing and bedding for over 30,000 soldiers. As a communication conter the fort's system could skillfully handle more than 24,000 telephone cals in 24 hours.

The two hospitals were equipped with 1,141 beds and there were three dental infirmaries with 42 chairs. The fort had at one time the only Negro commanded and staffed hospital in the army. Many of the country's foremost Negro physicians and dentists were staffed here.

10-3-44

With the inactivation of Fort Huachuca 300 officers, civilian employes and enlisted men must be on their way to other locations, and a center that was most important and interesting must be suddenly cut off.

SOUTH HANDICAPPED?

ANP—New York, N.Y.

OF ALL the silly reasons advanced by Alabama residents against the War Department's recent order banning discrimination between Negro and white personnel at Army post exchanges and other facilities on Army installations, the reason advanced by Alabama's Governor Chauncey Sparks is about the most assinine.

9-9-44

Last week, Governor Sparks in a telegram to President Roosevelt protesting the Army order, said that the order "breaks down the essential principle of race relationship in the South," and "grievously handicaps efforts to bring about better racial relationships."

How better racial relationships can be brought about under the existing Southern code of Negro-white relationships is hard to understand. Despite what Governor Sparks, and others of his ilk may say, racial relations will never be improved in the South so long as the attempted understanding proceeds on the present basis — that what the white man decides is best for the Negro is best, and that what the Negro decides is best for himself is mere agitation.

There are even those who have had the temerity to say that Negroes were satisfied with what the "good white people" were doing for them and that they wanted no interference with the purely sectional problem by outsiders.

It was refreshing to note, in this connection, that the Birmingham Baptist Ministers Conference, in commending the War Department order, also sent a telegram to President Roosevelt declaring that "we emphatically deny that we are satisfied with the evils of segregation."

If anything is responsible for the general low economic and educational status of the masses, both Negro and white, in the South it is the evils of segregation, coupled with the vicious denial of opportunities for the disadvantaged of both races.

If anything is responsible for the South being handicapped in its so-called attempts at solution of the racial problem, it is the South' attitude on the problem.

9-9-44

When even ordinary common courtesies are denied a race merely because of color, it would not appear that those who are responsible for the denial are sincere or want to do anything about it. For generations, most Southerners have justified the vicious policy of segregation and denial of opportunities to Negroes on the grounds that they must keep white womanhood pure and undefiled. Southern demagogues have for years had themselves elected to high office, both in state and federal elections, on the "white supremacy" campaign basis. Does that look like the South wants to do anything but keep the Negro down?

When the South learns that all the Negro wants is equality of opportunity to work, to live and to enjoy the fruits of democracy and accedes to that fundamental need, then, and only then, will there case to be a race problem. And only then, will the South cease to be handicapped.

THE ARMY ORDER

AND speaking of handicaps, the War Department order banning discrimination between Negro and white personnel at Army post exchanges and other facilities on Army installations, while commendable, is merely a step in fulfilling what Negroes want — no barriers raised in the military services because of race or color.

9-9-44

The recent order is certain to remove cause for plenty of complaint at Army posts in the South where heretofore the local pattern of separate accommodations for the two races has been strictly followed. But the order does not go far enough. It is, we hope, merely the first step in the right direction.

There is no basis for justification of the Army's present policy of jim crow regiments and divisions, except that it has been the practice for years. Every other nation practices the policy of complete integration of its citizens in its military forces except the United States.

As the leading exponent of democracy, then, the United States is in an untenable position in the eyes of the rest of the world because democracy's benefits are grudgingly doled out to the Negro who enjoys at best just second-class citizenship.

9-9-44

Agitation of the Negro Press and leaders and moulders of Negro opinion and action must continue until our government itself purges from its code of procedures jim crow army, air corps, and naval units. Democracy will remain just a beautiful ideal to Negroes until the government itself starts to practice at home what it is fighting to extend abroad.

NEGRO SOLDIERS DUEL WITH MP'S

Post-Birmingham, Ala.
5-26-44

By United Press

MOBILE, May 26.—An Army board of inquiry had been appointed today to investigate a midnight gun battle between Negro soldiers and Military Police at Brookley Field, Army Air Base near here.

The trouble started it was reported, after a white civilian employe of the field complained to MP's that he had been robbed by a Negro soldier. He was escorted to the Negro barracks for the purpose of identifying his assailant.

Troops Open Fire

Upon entering the area of the barracks, according to the official report, Negro occupants turned out all lights and opened fire on the white soldiers with rifles and pistols.

At that point, Brig. Gen. James A. Mollison, commanding officer of the Mobile Air Service Command, ordered more armed MP's into the area. General shooting ensued for approximately two hours, from midnight until 2 a. m.

Civilians living near the field said they also could detect the fire of two machine guns during the action, but this was not confirmed officially.

One Man Shot

One unidentified white soldier was nicked in the leg by a bullet when he failed to obey orders to halt. 5-26-44

The Negroes ceased firing after floodlights were turned into their barracks and field officers, including General Mollison, Lieut. Col. Donald Hudson and Col. Lionel Dunlap, calmly walked into the path of their fire and persuaded them to calm down.

All Negroes involved were confined to the military area today, pending completion of an official investigation. General Mollison promised that ring leaders of the incident would receive "proper justice."

Negroes At Brookley Confined After Fray

News-Birmingham, Ala.
5-25-44

MOBILE, Ala. — (AP) —Brig. Gen. James A. Mollison, commanding the Mobile Air Service Command, ordered all Negro troops at Brookley Field confined to the military area Thursday following an early morning exchange of shots between white military police and other soldiers there.

The commanding general said no one was killed or wounded in the exchange of gunfire, but that a white soldier suffered a minor gunshot wound in an accident.

Gen. Mollison promised "impartial justice" after an investigation of the affray, which occurred shortly after midnight. 5-25-44

A white civilian had complained to military police that he had been robbed by a Negro soldier, and the military police took him into the area where Negro troops are quartered in an effort to identify the robber.

Gen. Mollison went to the barracks area and addressed the troops after the shooting.

Negro Soldiers 'Shoot Up' Town

6-3-44
Advertiser, Montgomery, Alabama

DUCK HILL, MISS., June 2.—(AP)—Town Marshal Wesley D. Shamblee, of Duck Hill, said tonight that eight truckloads of a convoy of 25, carrying negro soldiers stationed at Camp McCain, Miss., had passed through the town Monday and opened up with what appeared to be carbine rifles.

The marshal said that military police, and State Highway patrolmen had warned the negroes to cease firing. 6-3-44

All shots went into the air and no damage was reported, Shamblee said. Last year negroes stationed at Camp McCain sent dozens of shots into Duck Hill residences. The negroes were later apprehended, given dishonorable discharges, and sent to Federal penitentiaries, the Camp McCain public relations office said.

Col. Ira A. Ryder, post commander at McCain, told reporters tonight that if the shooting occurred "the incident is of minor importance" and refused further comment.

Shamblee said that citizens of Duck Hill had met with Col. Ryder, demanding action be taken to prevent further incidents.

No result of the conference with Col. Ryder had been reported late tonight.

FBI Jails 7 for White Slavery

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

8 Others Sought in Ft. Huachuca Traffic

3 RACES INVOLVED

9-23-44

Cal. Ring Transported Mexican, White Girls

LOS ANGELES — Operations of a huge white slavery ring, suspected of transporting Mexican, colored and white girls to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., for immoral purposes, came to light here last week.

By Saturday, agents of the FBI had arrested seven persons and were searching for eight others. They revealed that the ring's operations had been under observation for fifteen months.

Mann Act Cited

All seven of those under arrest were booked on charges of violating the Mann Act.

Clyde Dorsey, 29, arraigned before U.S. Commissioner David B. Head, denied any criminal purpose in driving one of the women defendants across the California-Arizona State line to the Army post. His attorney, Walter B. Gordon, Jr., succeeded in having the suspect's bond reduced to $1500.

Fort Huachuca, where both the 93rd and 92nd Divisions were trained before going overseas, for more than two years has been the station for thousands of colored soldiers.

Journal & Guide-Norfolk, Va
6-3-44

CAMP LEE, Va. — First Lieut. Tyler E. Hill Jr., 29, of 1810 Taylor street, Lynchburg, Va., was found dead in a latrine early Sunday morning by Camp Lee officials. Death was due to asphixiation by hanging by his own hands, was the public announcement by the public relations office here. The body was cut down at 2:30 a. m. Time of death was not revealed.

Troops and Hospital Unit Gone

City-Kansas City, Mo.

Population Drops From 25,000 to 500

9-22-44

FT. HUACHUCA, Ariz.—(ANP)—Ft. Huachuca, which a few short weeks ago was teeming with life, today looks and sounds like a tomb. A census just a few months ago at Christmas time showed more than 25,000 soldiers here to say nothing of an army of civilian employes.

Today there are less than 500 persons on the post and most of those are expecting to be transferred at any time. The remainder of the 92nd division left here not long ago.

Good Hospital Site

There were those who thought that perhaps Ft. Huachuca would be retained as a sort of permanent headquarters for Negro troops. These felt that at least the station hospital which was the pride of the post and whose staff personnel roll sounded like a Who's Who in Negro medicine, would remain.

There was talk that, located in Arizona, an area beneficial to lungs, that it might become one of the hospitals to which returning veterans might be sent. This theory gained credence when Station No. 1, which was commanded by Col. Midian O. Bousfield, was combined with Station Hospital No. 2 and upgraded into a regional hospital. 9-22-44

Placed Over Bousfield

The only fly in that ointment was that Col. Maynard, white, in charge of Hospital No. 2, was put in charge. Col. Bousfield had built up No. 1 and not even the fact that Col. Maynard was an old army doctor served to soften that shuffle when Bousfield was left without any especial executive assignment.

Another reason for assuming that the Ft. Huachuca hospital would remain intact was that an air conditioning system was installed only two or three weeks ago and battleship lineoleum which had lain around for weeks waiting to see what the future held, was ordered lain. 9-22-44

However that may be, overnight and with the abrupt suddenness characteristic of the army, the hospital was shifted. No one here appears to be absolutely certain where the staff went but the general accepted opinion is that it was transferred to Ft. Sam Huston near San Antonio, Texas, a hospital important in the work of receiving veterans returning from overseas especially in the Southwest Pacific area.

Part of the 92d division of course has previously been reported in Italy. The 335th Station hospital activated at Ft. Huachuca here and commanded by Maj. Strickland went to the European area at the same time. How the division happened to be split up is not known.

57 Negro Soldiers Jailed In Arizona When They Strike Against Prolonged K.P. Duty

Age-Herald, New York, N.Y.
9-23-44

TUCSON, Ariz. — With a determination which may well dramatize a nation-wide problem, fifty-seven Negro soldiers working as Kitchen Police at the Marana Army Air Field near Tuscon, spontaneously went on strike. At 4:00 a.m. on the morning of September 11 the first shift of sixteen men reported to the mess hall and announced they were no longer going to work without the extra pay to which each was entitled. In the face of the most dire punishment, they sat down. The Military Police were immediately called and the strikers were imprisoned in the Guardhouse.

The executive officer of the Field, Major Tilden, and the white commanding officer of the Negro squadron, Lieutenant Shoupe, called a meeting in the day room of the second shift which was supposed to report at 1:00 p. m. The members of this shift told the officers they would not report for work either. These men, too, were sent to the Guardhouse. 9-23-44

The remaining two shifts did not report, but so far no disciplinary action has been taken against them.

The strike was really the desperate protest of men who have suffered many abuses and had no recourse to remedial action. Most of the soldiers in question have been on K. P. for upwards of nineteen months, performing day in, day out, the most dreary and menial work in the Army Air Forces. They have been under constant abuse of "pushers" who are notorious for their speed-up methods.

For the last nine months they have been serving cadets without being paid the extra fifty per cent of base pay to which each is entitled.

Policy Called Illegal

9-23-44

For punishment of minor infractions they have been obliged to serve their extra duty in the mess halls instead of their squadron area. This policy was recently declared illegal by an Administrative Inspector after having been in operation for over eighteen months.

Tucson, near which they are stationed, is the nearest sizeable town to the largest concentration of Negro troops in the country. Large detachments are stationed at Marana and Davis-Monthan Fields and Fort Huachuca is the largest Negro training center in the world.

Yet the recreational facilities are utterly inadequate. Civic leaders and military personnel have long petitioned for a Negro Service-men's Center near transportation and amusement centers, but in vain. They have met the successful opposition of local merchants and prejudiced city officials.

BEYOND THE NEGRO

Northwest Enterprise—Seattle, Wash.

Any comment upon the savagery and cowardice of the Negro soldiers who the other night attacked, without the slightest provocation, a group of sleeping and unarmed Italians in the same service, barbarously killing one and wounding many, is entirely superfluous, except to wonder how it could be possible for an entire company of soldiers trained under U. S. military

discipline to plan collectively such an attack, to arise in the middle of the night and move to another barracks without attracting the notice of any sentries and to carry out, undisturbed until it was too late, their foul enterprise. 9-13-44

It is not our province to discuss here what military measures of safety were omitted or not executed to permit the occurence of such a deplorable incident. But it is impossible not to try to ascertain where, beyond the Negroes immediately involved, the ultimate responsibility lies.

There can be no doubt that this is, primarily, a consequence of the uncontrolled campaign of hate which, in the name of a freedom that goes beyond all the limits of decency, certain members ofthe American press have been permitted to carry on undisturbed, even to the post, as it is seen, to incite acts of the most barbarous violence. But, in a smaller measure, a distinct part of the responsibility must go to the military authorities of the fort for having permitted, through a grave error of judgment, a situation to materialize whereby an incident of this kind could take place.

It seems that the Italian soldiers at Fort Lawton have been the victims for a long time, of innumerable provocations and insults against which they had strict orders not to react. In fact they did so, to the limits of human endurance, but their conduct, instead of pacifying the hotheads, had the opposite effect of emboldening them even more, by making them believe that what was sublime discipline was, intead, lack of courage.

It is evident that, were it only from a sense of fairness and justice, the authorities at the fort should have enforced the strictest disciplinary measures to discourage such insults and all attempts at provocation. If this had been done it is quite possible that matters might not have gone as far as they did and that the tragedy of the other night would have been averted. 9-13-44

We have no doubt that the military authorities will make a prompt and exhaustive investigation of the whole matter, but we hope that, beyond punishing the directly culpable, they will also attempt to find some remedy for the insufferable situation of these men who try to live among us as the most respectful of guests, whereas the host permits his servants to break all the rules of hospitality. That is, if we ourselves do not break all the rules of moderation by classifying murder as a breach of hospitality.

Non-Coms' Protest Against Commander Results In Arrests

Informer — Houston, Texas

7-8-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The arrest and imprisonment in Fort Hauchuca, Ariz., pending court martial, of 11 non-commissioned officers of the 370th Infantry regiment for protesting the attitude of their company commander stirred a storm of protest here this week.

Asks Probe

Leslie A. Perry of the Washington bureau, NAACP, has announced he is asking the war department for a thorough investigation.

The 11 platoon sergeants, squad and section leaders have been charged with violation of the 96th Article of War, which prohibits joint protests from members of the armed forces.

The men were arrested, confined to the post stockade and charges against them signed by Col. Sherman, their regimental commander, following submission of a letter which all 11 had signed. The letter asked that the signers be relieved of their ratings on the grounds that "they could not handle their men because of the present company commander."

With continuance of "existing conditions", the letter said, it would be "useless to continue in our present capacities because we would not be able to carry out our duties with the proper spirit and willingness as should be exercised by a non-commissioned officer." 7-8-44

Better Conditions

The signers, senior NCO's of their company, also urged "that adjustment should be made to better conditions."

Rapping the confinement of the men to the post stockade as contrary to all principles of military justice, Perry said he had also been informed that officers appointed to defend the men had not been notified until the evening before the court martial.

Admitting that by signing the letter jointly, the 11 men may have exposed themselves to the charge of violating Article of War 96, Perry cited Article of War 121 which authorizes an enlisted man or officer to complain to his next higher officer for redress of any wrong.

At the war department here, the stoning incident was branded idle rumor "without any foundation in fact." 7-8-44

Truman Gibson, civilian aide to the secretary of war, admitted that reports of the incident had been received in Washington but pointed out that confinement of the stockade after arrest is in accordance with regular procedure. The charges, he also pointed out, did not concern the subject of the protest but the joint signing of it.

Concerning the alleged last minute notification of defense counsel, Gibson said that no report of any court martial had been received and it was doubtful that one had been held in the case as yet.

Officers and Men Meet JC at Davis

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CAMP DAVIS, N.C. — Jim crow is something that the fifty-two colored officers stationed here do little talking about for publication, but there is no denying that they get a good whiff of that noxious American phenomenon.

There are several officers' clubs on the post, but colored officers almost exclusively confine their frequenting to the one in their area. 8-12-44

Convenience was the most frequently expressed reason. For the sake of accuracy, this club is no jim crow, as many white officers commanding colored troops visit it, too.

Unit Officers Separated

But the white officers of the 234th and 235th AA Bns. live in the same barracks, while colored officers in the 234th are quartered in one barracks and colored officers in the 235th are lodged in another.

There must be some reason for that, but none with whom I talked seemed inclined to provide it — the real one, of course.

Support Club, Banned

The most vilatious grievance I heard was that colored officers' club in Wilmington, thirty miles from here, but are not accorded membership privileges. At least they are barred from visiting the club.

There have been, in the past, flare-ups over the treatment colored officers receive when they attend the post theatres.

Some nasty incidents have developed when MP's attempted to enforce the North Carolina jim crow law on a Federal military reservation.

Unethical Officers Shifted

There is also talk of superior white officers formerly calling down colored officers before enlisted men. This practice is no more, because those guilty of it have been shifted.

Some white officers attached to colored units and their fellow colored officers seem to get along famously.

Unless what I saw was window dressing, I observed several of both races fraternizing on sincere basis.

Enlisted Men's Lot Worse

As for enlisted men, their lot is infinitely more difficult than that of their officers.

Nowhere in the South have I seen any army camp where so-called separate but equal facilities for colored men are comparable to those of whites.

Equality Non-Existent

Camp Davis is no exception. Whites have superior everything, including service clubs, PXs and libraries. Equality just doesn't exist. 8-12-44

There is no need to bring up the subject of transportation outside the camp area. It is as yet, unabatedly, one of the wickedest social problems colored members of the armed forces have been called upon to cope with.

234th Officers Once with 369th

CAMP DAVIS, N.C.—First Lt. Charles Tolbert and 2nd Lt. Stanton Blocker, Jr., former members of the 369th AA Group, are now assigned to the 234th AA Bn.

Lieutenant Tolbert left the outfit, which is now in the Pacific area, before it went overseas. He entered officer candidate school here and was commissioned.

Lieutenant Blocker, who was also commissioned at Camp Davis, accompanied the former New York National Guard unit, once an infantry regiment, overseas before being attached to his present outfit.

Soldiers Accuse Afro American Huachuca Captain

Baltimore, Md.

By DEREITH BURD

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — Colored officers stationed here have made out charges against Capt. Sam Adams, white, on the grounds of giving an improper order, the AFRO learned this week. 8-5-44

The incident, it seems, occurred about the same time that things were so hot in the 371st mess hall as the result of certain tables being set aside for "White Only."

Captain Adams is alleged to have told the colored officers that orders had been cut and would soon be down designating a certain table for white officers. No such order has been found.

Await Colonel's Action

On leave at the time the charges were preferred, Colonel Notestein, commander of the regiment, returned to duty this week and speculation is rife as to what action he will take.

If he follows the rule of his past actions, he will take the responsibility of the white officer upon his broad shoulders and apologize for his action, giving some flimsy excuse like "he was tired, etc."

Several weeks ago when Captain Carter, white, personnel officer, made a similar statement, the colonel apologized for him and he is still on duty. During recent maneuvers Captain Luther, white, struck a colored soldier. This was brought to the attention of Colonel Notestein. No action has been taken.

Ft. Huachuca Good Place to Be—from

Afro American
Baltimore, Md. 8-12-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—I, a former member of the 372nd Infantry, and a great many more former members of the regiment, unfortunately, are now stationed here not because we asked to come here nor because we were dissatisfied with our former officers, a soldier told the AFRO last week.

"The recent statement to the effect that if the men here were given a chance to vote on leaving here or staying in the Army 99.5 per cent would vote to go home still stands," he declared, adding:

"Under our former officers we really had something to fight for. Where the war should be fought is right here in Fort Huachuca. 'Boss Charlie' runs place and we all must follow

"Those who carry the news to Boss Charlie (and are given a pat on the back) will damn near kill daughters here should be interested. I know of no better place to be—from."

"The insignia of the 92nd Division is the black buffalo, but all I done, yet Boss Charlie is some- and guarded. He is not this place according to their brothers or that should not be Boss Charlie calls it crack (up) 92nd Division. Officers

"Says 92nd Division Mismanned

"Gosh, there's so much that brought out about this and enlisted men are all alike, if they're colored. Folks having sons

A REAL PATRIOT

He was just a little Negro urchin, a ragamuffin, but he stood out in our estimation as one of the greatest patriots Auburn ever produced. News-Birmingham, Ala.

He has never bought a War Bond, nor given a drop of his blood to the Red Cross, nor contributed to any war activity other than the one to which we saw him making his contribution.

Passing along the tin can bin on College Street early one morning, we saw this little urchin emptying a paper sack containing four empty cans. He was doing his bit to make the world a fit place in which to live. 6-1-44

And what an example he set for the rest of us!

Those four cans had no intrinsic value. That little Negro could not have sold them for even as much as a stick of candy. They were worthless, except as an agency of peace. They could spell the doom of a nation; they could contain enough tin to make the shot that some day might send a Tojo or Hitler to his grave; they could shape the destiny of the world, save broken hearts, turn world chaos into tranquil peace, write finis to the worst tragedy man's history will ever record, bring loved ones back to weeping mothers, and restore brotherly love to its place in a world torn asunder by greed and hatred. Who knows?

Four rusty tin cans, a little Negro ragamuffin and a patriot whose loyalty and devotion are as deep-rooted as those of the man who walks into a bank and buys a million dollars worth of bonds. 6-1-44

"And a little child shall lead them."—Lee County Bulletin (Auburn).

47c-1944

Conscription

DEBUNKING SUPREMISTS

Ore—New York, N.Y.

OUR Northern and Southern "white supremists" probably won't like this editorial because it tells the truth and shows how foolhardy they have been in denying proper educational facilities for Negroes. 9-2-44

Poor schooling has robbed the nation's military service of at least 15 full divisions, according to a study recently released by the American Teachers Association. The report, published under the title, "The Black and White of Rejections for Military Service; A Study of Rejections of Selective Service Registrants by Race, on Account of Educational and Mental Deficiencies," is the result of a survey conducted by a committee of five educators.

The committee included Charles H. Thompson, dean of Howard University's Graduate School; Martin D. Jenkins, associate professor of education, Howard University; Francis A. Gregory, principal of Armstrong High School, Washington, D. C.; Howard H. Long, assistant superintendent of schools, Washington, D. C., and Jane E. McCallister, professor of education, Miner Teachers College, Washington, D. C. 9-2-44

There were some startling facts disclosed in the survey. Up to September 1, 1943, a total of 341,200 registrants were rejected for military service because of educational deficiency, but about one-third of these men were taken later in the Army and brought up to minimum requirements by special intensive courses.

There was found to be a direct relationship between rates of rejections for educational and mental deficiencies and the per capita expenditures for schooling in each state. The rejection rate in Northern states for Negroes and whites was considerably lower than the rate for both races in the South. Rejection rates in the North were lowest in those states with the highest per capita expenditures, and vice versa. 9-2-44

The study certainly shows the need for enlightenment and education, not only of the rejectees but also of those responsible for denying them the proper educational facilities. The study shows the "white supremists" are penny-wise and pound foolish and have nothing of which they can be justly proud

47c-1944

General

Uncle Sam Gets Inductee Despite Negro's Dual Role

Post—Birmingham, Ala.
8-1-44

Earvin J. Foster, Birmingham Negro, is going into the Army for another man, although his own number has not been called.

Foster is delinquent with the West End Board under the name of Homer Lee Davis, but in good standing under his own name according to the story he told U. S. Marshal Raymond Thomason when brought here from Chicago by Federal authorities to face his draft board.

The prisoner, still in he blue uniform of a street car conductor which he will soon exchange for khaki, explained that he adopted the name of Davis prior to Selective Service legislation in order to get a job with the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Co. Waiting his turn at the employment office, he answered to the name when it was called three times without response by company officials who were offering jobs only to applicants named. He got the job but had no idea of the trouble ahead for him.

8-1-44

Foster was forced to register as Davis in 1940 to get a pass in and out of TCI gates. Immediately after leaving the company he registered a second time under his real name. Until the past three months he has kept the board posted on his and Davis' moves, but somewhere between Cleveland and Chicago, Davis got lost in the shuffle.

Then the draft board ordered Davis to report for induction. Federal officers moved in to pick him up for failure to notify his draft board and found—Foster.

This week Foster will report for Davis, although he hasn't yet gotten his own call.

Committee To End Jim Crow In Service Formed

Argus—St. Louis, Mo.
5-5-44

NEW YORK, May 1—The National Citizens Committee for Winfred Lynn has become the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces. Announcement of this change was made by unanimous decision of the committee.

In the committee's quarters at 260 West 125th Street, this city, Wilfred Kerr, co-chairman, explained that the recent decision was an attempt to meet the growing concern throughout the country on the matter of racial segregation and discrimination in training the nation's military forces.

"There is no greater contradiction in our American life today than that represented in a biracial American army, two armies in fact, one white the other black, waging a war for freedom and democracy abroad while it perpetuates at home those things against which it professes to fight." said Mr. Kerr.

The Lynn Committee is at present engaged with attorneys of the American Civil Liberties Union in the preparation of the case for argument before the Supreme Court sometime this Summer. It has the cooperation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Workers Defense League and the March on Washington movement. Each of these groups is preparing a supporting amicus curiae brief.

5-5-44

With its reorganization the Committee is prepared to assume new obligations towards certain cases of racial discrimination in the military services which have recently come to its offices and toward whatever other instances that may yet come.

122,429 White Men And 58,715 Negroes Inducted In Alabama

News—Birmingham, Ala.
10-15-44

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (AP) — From December, 1940, through November, 1944, there were 122,429 white and 58,715 Negro men inducted into the armed forces for Alabama, statistics released by Assistant State Selective Service Director Lt. Col. Charles W. Mills showed Saturday.

Jefferson (Birmingham) County led the state in the number drafted, 21,035 whites and 14,532 Negroes. In second place was Mobile county with 7,661 and 4,578, respectively. The third largest city and county—Montgomery—held its position with 3,469 Negroes accepted, but dropped to fifth in total whites called, 3,730 as against 4,176 for Walker County and 4,477 for Etowah County.

However, Etowah, third in the white column, ranked only 11th in the number of colored men taken, 957, while fourth ranking Walker in the white column was listed as 33rd in the colored with 559 inducted.

10-15-44

Emphasizing that credit for success of the program should go to local boards rather than state headquarters, a spokesman for State Director Col. James T. Johnson declared that the drafting had been done without affecting "appreciably" farm and industry production.

Illiteracy

47c-1944

DECLARE 184th COMMAND NOT INFERIOR TO WHITES

Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.
3-17-44

Chicago, Mar. 17. (ANP)—Revelation that the 184th Field Artillery regiment, formerly the old Illinois Eighth regiment, had the highest I. Q. rating of any army units known to the officers of the Fifth Infantry division came this week from Maj. Ovid E. Harris, former battalion commander, in a letter repudiating Secretary of War Stimson's charge that "many Negro units have been unable to master efficiently techniques of modern weapons," of which the 184th was one of the units mentioned in the charge.

Maj. Harris, now on the inactive list, sent his letter to the President and Secretary Stimson.

"It is both amazing and shocking to find your signature placed over so gross a misstatement of fact," Maj. Harris said to Stimson.

As a battalion commander of the 184th Field artillery regiment for three years, Maj. Harris said that every test given in handling weapons was passed with credit by his men. The test teams of the Fifth Infantry division gave "superior," "excellent" and "very satisfactory" ratings following a combat test. All of this went to naught, however, to Gen. Courtland Parker. 3-17-44

"Despite all that has been said to the contrary, your regiment is not ready for combat," Gen. Parker declared. "You can march, you can implace your weapons, and you have demonstrated your ability to fire, but until your housekeeping improves I'll never certify you for combat. Why, just this morning I made an inspection of your barracks and found a pair of unlaced shoes under one of the beds. That is poor leadership."

"More than 300 of the enlisted men were college trained, but as replacements came the I. Q. rating was lowered," the major revealed. "Of the first group received, 40 could not read nor write. Then we were called upon to furnish a cedre of 30 0men for a quartermaster unit. Instead of allowing us to keep our best material for the artillery requirements, the selection was made from personnel cards and our men with the highest I. Q. were transferred." 3-17-44

"Our communications were rated 'superior,'" Maj. Harris pointed out. "We were credited with peculiar adaptability for motor marches and our fire direction centers became quiz centers for all visiting artillery personnel. In the fall of 1941 the 1st battalion went to Camp McCoy, under my command, for firing tests. Its scores for the G. H. Q. tests 1 and 11, have not been equaled. Col. Lewing of the second army conducted the test. Four official commendations resulted. Then came the usual reward—350 men were transferred as cadre. Replacements were received. Our task started over again."

The 184th was gradually broken up and reorganized into the 930th and 931st field artillery battalions which the war secretary disclosed will be converted into combat engineer units. "Certain other existing Negro field artillery units are being converted to heavier artillery, but the 930th and 931st 155 mm. howitzer battalions have not been selected for conversion to heavier artillery or retention as field artillery owing to thte unsatisfactory records of both units," Stimson wrote Rep. Fish. 3-17-44

In his letter, Maj. Harris hit the mistreatment of Negro soldiers in the south. Colored officers were ousted from post theatres and denied the facilities of libraries, he said. Men and officers were openly insulted by post commanders and their complaints were turned back upon them as reprimands, he declared.

"No soldier can say that those men lacked discipline," he stressed. "Nor can it be said truthfully, despite the handicaps encountered, that they are unable to master efficiently the technique of modern weapons." Ft. Sill does not say it of these officers, nor can efficiency ratings certify them for combat and at the same time indicate that they are unable.

"In the interest of morale and the war effort," the major continued, "I suggest that the individual records of these units be examined prior to public condemnation. The pride and hope of these soldiers is to accomplish their assigned mission. Their desire is to perform as their precedessors did under the regimental flags of the Old Eeighth in Cuba, on the Mexican border and so gloriously in France—one country, one flag."

47d-1944

New Deal's 'Roll Of Shame'

Pittsburgh Courier

President Roosevelt is Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. armed forces. Under war-time exigencies, he has the extraordinary power to end segregation and discrimination in all branches of the armed services.

Below, The Pittsburgh Courier is publishing a list of some of the Negro boys IN UNIFORM who have met death . . . NOT KILLED IN ACTION FOR THEIR COUNTRY, but MURDERED by their country. They paid the supreme sacrifice on the Altar of Dixie prejudice and our COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF has not only said nothing . . . HE HAS DONE NOTHING.

HERE IS THE "ROLL OF SHAME":

Pittsburgh, Pa.

PVT. ROBERT SPECELY, killed by white bus driver in Durham, N. C.

SGT. WELLINGTON D. ABRAMS, shot by white MPs at Brookley Field, Ala.

PVT. THEODORE SAMUELS, fatally wounded by Mobile, Ala., policeman.

PVT. RAYMOND McMURAY, murdered by Gadsden, Ala., police officers.

PVT. RAIF G. WILLIAMS, killed by Little Rock, Ark., deputy sheriff.

PVT. TYREE JACKSON, shot to death by military guard, San Antonio, Texas.

SGT. THOMAS P. FOSTER, slain by civilian police, Little Rock, Ark.

PVT. ALLEN COX, shot to death by white woman near Kisatchie, La.

TEN SOLDI… killed by …nd military police d… …nt of Terror" riot at …a, La.

PVT. R… CARR, kille… …te policemen at Al… …a.

UN… SOLDIER, …sheriff at Centreville, …

P… …ENRY WILLIAMS, sla… by white bus driver at Mobile, Ala.

SGT. GILBERT WAGONER, shot by civilian police at Tampa, Fla.

PVT. HERMAN HANKINS, fatally shot by Mp at Camp Tyson, Tenn.

PVT. LAWRENCE BAILEY, killed by policeman at Pine Bluff, Ark.

PVT. BOYD BRYANT, mysteriously shot near Trenton, S. C.

Dept. Records and Research Tuskegee Inst. 8-3-45

.EDITORIAL.

" . . . Of all the indignities and injustices that have been practiced against the Negro, the most ironic and most cruel has been the discrimination practiced by and in our armed forces." — WENDELL WILLKIE.

* * * 11-4-44

Thousands of Negroes will oppose the re-election of Mr. Roosevelt this year because they are convinced that he should be repudiated for the unforgivable treatment visited upon colored men in the armed services of their country. A former chaplain in the United States Army said: "I know what it means to have my loftiest regard for my country transformed into bitterness. Because my Commander-in-Chief refuses to protect me against the brutalizing designs of my home-front enemies, I must oppose him."

True, Mr. Roosevelt has not done these things himself, but he has allowed the damnable philosophies of the South and its Hitler-like treatment of minorities to operate through the rank, file and fibre of the United States armed forces—SEGREGATION, JIM CROWISM, HUMILIATION and CRASSEDNESS have formed the pattern of treatment which has haunted American Negro soldiers.

* * *

This newspaper printed an open letter and sent the original of the same to the White House under date of August 23, 1941, telling how Negroes in the Selective Service Army were being treated. The editor of this newspaper personally called the President's attention to treatment of Negroes in the armed services on February 5, 1944, in the White House at Washington. And with the fair conclusion that the Commander-in-Chief must have heard of the thousands of protests that have flowed into the War Department and into his office about these un-American practices, we do not see how any forward-thinking Negro who respects his race and is in the fight to the death for first-class citizenship can afford to endorse such leadership.

There is absolutely no way in which the Negro people can fight for full citizenship in this country so long as they endorse and support an administration which plays one game in and with Dixie and plays another game in Pennsylvania, New York and the rest of the North. It was Wendell Willkie who said: "The Constitution does not provide for first- and second-class citizens. We must never forget that the essence of freedom is protection of minorities. I am totally against discrimination of any kind or in any form."

* * * 11-4-44

But of course that was Wendell Willkie. Honest men like Wendell Willkie are too rare and fine for this world and surely for this country; that is why we presume the Almighty called him home.

We hold that the basest type of political expediency was resorted to in the recent order permitting young Negro women to enlist in the WAVES and SPARS. White women have been permitted to enlist in those two services for over two years, but colored women have been subjected to the grossest types of insults when they presented themselves to enlist, despite the fact that our radios have resounded from morning till night telling of the many thousands of women needed for these services.

* * *

When the Selective Service law went into effect, provisions which gave Negroes hope were very clear. They left no chance for a misunderstanding. Section 4 (a) of the Selective Service Act reads: "In the selection and training of men under this Act, and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this Act, there shall be no discriminaton aganst any person on account of race or color."

Now this was the law which the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy was pledged to uphold and to execute without fear or favor. This law was no play thing. It had to do with men's patriotism; their feelings toward their country and way of life; their own lives. Later our country was attacked. The very nature of the attacking enemy made it necessary that we would need men—millions of men—both at home and abroad. The Negro people responded both on the home front and militarily (wherever they were taken in) with a fervor and with an enthusiasm comparable to any other group in this country.

* * *

But the Negro boys and girls who answered the call of duty were soon to meet with a very rude awakening. They found that instead of joining the United States Army, they were joining a revised edition of the Confederate army. The treatment accorded Negro soldiers in Southern camps while in the uniform of the United States Army, has been comparable to the brutal and inhuman treatment accorded the American Army on Corregidor and Bataan. Despite thousands of protests in the form of letters to the War Department, to the White House and to commanding officers in various areas, only just recently . . . since the conventions . . . has anything like an order gone out to correct the un-American practice of Army discrimination. 11-4-44

It certainly has been unfortunate for the Negro people in the United States of America that both World War I and World War II have been fought with the Democratic administration and its obvious willingness to cater to Southern domination of the army in power. We all remember that under Woodrow Wilson's administration, segregation in Government departments at Washington was born. The record will prove that the questionnaire sent out to all boys of draft age to register for the draft on June 5, 1917, carried this insulting instruction: "If of African descent, tear off the corner."

* * *

Our boys and girls in the service of this country . . . nearly a million of them . . . are fighting for a democracy that insofar as they are concerned is nothing but a sham. They are asked to fight and even die for the principles of justice and liberty while the same principles are denied them and their families. Surely it is asking a lot for a group to support an administration which has the power but refuses to correct this evil; this unceasing humiliation, this unspeakable barbarism, which is even now being visited upon our boys in the armed services. The President knows of these conditions. We have, on numerous occasions, called his attention to them through his white advisers.

The New Deal administration has treated prisoners of war . . . foreign enemies of our country . . . far better than it has treated Negro boys who are shedding their blood on the far-flung battle fields in defense of America's Constitutional guarantees. Poll-tax generals have carried their policy of Army segregation into every corner of the world where our troops are fighting. Natives in the islands of the Pacific have been taught to look with disdain on colored soldiers wearing the uniform of the United States Army.

* * *

The Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy . . . Mr. Roosevelt . . . has the extraordinary power to end segregation and discrimination in the armed forces over night. Evidently it has not been politically expedient to do so. Full blame for the mistreatment accorded the Negro men and women in the armed forces rests squarely at the door of the Commander-in-Chief. It was Theodore Roosevelt who said: "Any man who is good enough to offer his life in defense of his country is entitled to a square deal from that country. No man can ask for more; no man should receive less." 11-4-44

Scores of Negro soldiers have been brutally murdered in or near Dixie Army camps by Southern peace officers, by Southern bus drivers, by "Gestapo military policemen" and by white Southern Army officers. Hundreds of others have been mercilessly beaten and manhandled . . . all within the past three years . . . and not once has the Commander-in-Chief or any responsible member of the New Deal administration made a public statement about these illegal and dastardly acts. We publish at the beginning of this article a list of some of the Negro boys who have been MURDERED BY THEIR country, NOT KILLED IN ACTION FOR THEIR country. They have paid the supreme sacrifice on the altar of Dixie's prejudice; a prejudice which now seems to pervade the entire country. It is the New Deal's roll of shame.

* * *

There is a measure in Congress today which could have been rushed through months ago, giving full protection to United States soldiers by making it a criminal offense to wilfully harm a man wearing the uniform of this country. It seems strange that only a few days ago our Commander-in-Chief bitterly denounced a group of Italian patriots who lynched their Fascist slave masters under Hitler's Gestapo before they were brought to trial. It is easy to deplore such conduct in Italy and to attack the unthinkable treatment of Jews in Germany, but what about these American soldiers of the United States Army who have been killed under conditions for which the Commander-in-Chief must take full responsibility?

* * * 11-4-44

This is just a part of the record that Negro mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, wives and sweethearts of men in the armed services cannot ignore in evaluating the candidates and their parties, in this critical national election. We are interested in a progressive foreign policy. But it looks like folly to maintain in office a man who is SO concerned with international issues that he conveniently ignores home-front issues which affect the very principles he advocates in the international field. There is no consistency in this program. The names of the boys appearing above are martyrs. They have been sacrificed on the altar of color prejudice in these United States. They are victims of a

democracy that did not exist for them. They were taught the principles of liberty, freedom and equality, but they found out that they could be no part of it. 11-4-44

* * *

The only way to register a protest against the inhuman treatment and insults meted out to Negro boys and girls who are serving their country is at the ballot box. A straight Republican ticket is the strongest and most intelligent protest.

Racial Prejudice More Prominent In Some Areas

Informer — Houston, Tex. 5-13-44

(The Associated Negro Press is exclusively revealing for the first time sections of the report prepared by Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP, for the war department dealing with his visit to North Africa and Italy. These disclosures are being made in two parts, of which this is the first.)

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)— Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, returned to the states on April 15 from a 20,000 mile tour of two important theatres of operation on the other side of the Atlantic ocean.

Nine Page Report

Seven days later he layed before war department officials here a nine-page report plus four exhibits covering his observations in North Africa and the middle eastern theatres in which he declared that his "first and strongest impression was the difference in racial attitudes in active theatres of war as contracted with those in theatres of preparation for action." 5-13-44

In his conclusions White said in part: "Continuation of separation and discrimination is in part responsible for a less determined spir in the army than is necessary to mect the very crucial days which lie ahead before this war 's won," and added his "conviction that dark though the picture may seem at times, there is much ground for hope." 0 0

Not only did he concern himself with the matter of morale, utilization of troops, but also social patterns which are being transplanted by American officers and enlisted personnel, and the ways and means they are using to indoctrinate the English and the Italian peoples with their own type of thinking.

Petty Racial Prejudice Ignored

White, however, found, like others who have returned from fighting areas, that proximity to danger has been a great leveler. He reported: "As men approach actual combat and the dangers of death, the tendency becomes more manifest to ignore or to drop off jettiness such as racial prejudice. At the Anzio beachhead, for example, men eat, sleep, and associate together with apparent complete ignorance of race or color of their neighbors. Memories of dangers shared appear to leave a greater tolerance."

He learned though that "dangerous rumors" are beginning to be spread in England as compared to the situation in Italy regarding the combat ability of Negro soldiers. He attributed much of this to the heavy preponderance of service units in England whereas the presence and prowess of the 99th Pursuit squadron and the 332nd Fighter group have done much to dispel this erroneous thinking in Italy. 5-13-44

Regarding the conversion of the 2nd Calvary division to a service unit, White said he had been called upon to address several thousand of the officers and men. "I have never in my life faced so downcast an audience," he reported. "Because of the circumstances of my presence in the theatre, I did not discuss, after consulting with Col. Trudeau the details of the transfer which had just been made, but contented myself with saying that I was aware of the reasons for their unhappiness and would discuss it with the war department."

He brought back with him a leaflet which had been circulated in Naples purporting to be a Neapolitan street song to be sung to the tune of "The Cup of Coffee." According to the translation, it was titled "Italian Women Arm in Arm with American Negroes." 5-13-44

White recommended that G-2 (army intelligence) "or other appropriate agencies of the government, be instructed to ascertain who is responsible for the writing, printing and distribution of this and another anti-Negro publication which will be mentioned later.

The other instance mentioned by the NAACP official was the printing and posting in public places of Naples of a green placard with black lettering, approximately 24x36 inches, allegedly under the auspices of "The Italian American Committee for the Preservation of the Italian Race." American soldiers reportedly had posted the signs. Here is an excerpt from the placard, as offered in the White report:

"We Italian Americans, with deep pain must see that a certain feminine nucleus of Naples, having been dragged in the mire, dares to walk on the street with the Negro, and dares also to invite one home. . . . When will harsh reality enlighten you? When will your honor, your pride in being white and Italian incite you to justly scorn the Negro? . . . You cannot understand how you humiliate us: All Americans speak thus: Look, the Italian people are fond of Negroes."

Take Prompt Action

A third practice in Naples, White reported, was the supplying of manifestly forged orders to hotel proprietors forbidding them to admit Negroes. 5-13-44

Regarding such material White "strongly recommended that the war department instruct responsible subordinates to take more prompt and vigorous action against anti-Negro propaganda. This should be done," he added, "not only to prevent trouble, but because such propaganda increasingly disturbs the peoples of the countries where the racial pattern of states of the deep south is being transferred by some American officers and enlisted men, and brings into question the sincerity of the United States in the war itself.

"There is further reason that the brightest of all impressions I bring back to the United States with me is the considerable number of American white soldiers and officers who see the global implications of the race question, and who are eager to do something about it."

Jim Crow Signs at Camp Plauche

AFRO-American Balt., Md. 12-11-44

NEW ORLEANS—Despite the War Department order barring segregation in buses, post exchanges and post theatres, signs are still posted in special training schools here at Camp Plauche reading, "Colored Section" and "Colored Toilets."

Moreover, all of the post War Department theatres, as well as the bus system operated between this camp and New Orleans, have segregated setups.

Letters of Protest Sent

Letters of protest have gone out to the President, Mrs. Roosevelt and the Secretary of War.

The order of the War Department ending jim crow has not been posted prominently here and some of the personnel know nothing about it.

Rumors of an impending change were brought to an end this week when it was discovered that Col. John Rodgers of Trenton, N.J., had replaced Col. Frederick H. Huntington as camp commander.

Soldier Insists; Gets R.R. Seat

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

BLACKSTONE, Va.—How a soldier, who insisted on being seated on a crowded Norfolk and Western train en route here from Norfolk, forced the conductor to provide himself and others with seats in accordance with Virginia's jim-crow law was told here this week. 8-19-44

Leaving Norfolk, the train was composed of some twenty coaches, one and one-half coach being assigned to colored, although some fifty persons were standing on the ground trying to get into the car already jammed and packed with soldiers and civilians.

Asked to open the door to the other half of the coach, locked to prevent colored from entering it, the conductor refused, as did the porter, so when the porter unlocked the door to permit some passengers to pass through, the soldier and six of his buddies entered. 8-19-44

M.P.'s Refuse to Act

Ordered out of the coach twice by the conductor before reaching Suffolk, the soldiers kept their seats and were told they would be taken off the train at Suffolk the MP's having refused to move them on the conductor's orders. Officers also refused to molest the men at Suffolk.

Blocking the door with his body at Petersburg, the conductor called in a detective and an MP. After a conference with the detective, in which the soldier explained that the jim-crow law provides only for separation of the races, not where they shall be seated on the train, the detective took action. 8-19-44

The Petersburg city detective boarded the train and ordered the conductor to move the few white passengers from that coach to another, where there were plenty of seats, and had the standing colored passengers, who had refused to enter the car for fear of trouble, seated.

Army Blood Not Separated

WITH THE 280th STATION HOSPITAL IN FRANCE--Negro soldiers of the crack 483rd Port Battalion, holding all tonnage records in the giant port of Cherbourg, are giving blood as well as sweat in the drive of supply troops to meet the needs of troops at the front.

When Medical Corps authorities issued a special plea for blood donations in the port area, the tonnage champion unit produced more than double the number of volunteers that this hospital could process at one time.

"The need for blood, both whole blood and plasma, is being sharply felt in many places. The volunteer record of the Negro troops is especially heartening," said Major J. C. Dusard, Army Medical Corps, Bedford, Indiana.

There is no racial differentiation made in army blood collections.

Pittsburgh Courier-Pa. 12-3-44

47d-1944

VIEWS and Reviews

By GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

Courier, Pittsburgh

Pg. 9-9-44

(This column represents the personal opinion of Mr. Schuyler and in no way reflects the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors)

The white people's great fear of Negroes, which has marked interracial relations since the two peoples first began to associate on this continent continues without fundamental change. Contrary to the twaddle about Negro docility and satisfaction with a slavish status, the colored people from their earliest introduction to this country have kept white folks in terror. The first imported Africans came from highly organized states of West Africa which had been in existence in many cases much longer than any European countries of the time. In addition they were brave and warlike people who were not afraid to die. The Europeans were superior to them only in weapons. They were skilled in agriculture, arts, handicrafts and commerce, and large numbers were literate, a state which was unusual in the Europe of that day where most people could not read or write in any language.

* * *

No sooner were the Negroes brought to America than they began to poison, burn buildings, murder their masters, escape to the Indians and plot uprisings, many of which involved literally thousands of slaves. Even when these uprisings were put down with great bloodshed, the slaves often staged another insurrection in the same locality within a few months. Bands of black patriots armed with stolen pistols and muskets terrorized whole districts. Reliable historians have asserted that the whites, North and South, were fearful of the vengeance of these Negroes and scarcely a white person in the South but slept with a pistol under his pillow. The prospect of Negro uprisings made the South an armed camp, with every white man subject to call to defend the "sacred institution," and each community having a strong guardhouse for the assembly of militia. There was much greater fear of Negroes than of Indians, although I have heard even Negroes say that the Indians fought for their freedom while the Negroes did not.

* * *

It was this fear of servile rebellion that was behind the effort to send free Negroes to Africa and led to the founding of Liberia. Since those days every effort has been made to curtail the bearing of arms by Negroes and especially to prevent the commissioning of Negro officers to lead the few combatant black troops that were permitted. Lincoln hesitated to enroll Negro troops until imminent defeat of the Union forces and shortage of manpower necessitated it. He was fearful of emancipation and the granting of citizenship rights to Negroes, and said so. Indeed, Jeff Davis was probably as much a friend of Negroes as Lincoln. Lincoln's attitude has been that of the U.S. Government ever since, and explains the difficulty of Negroes getting a square deal in the armed services, and the reason why less than 50,000 of the 700,000 Negroes in the present army are combatant troops. It also explains the conspiracy against Negro officers.

* * *

General Dwight Eisenhower in decreeing that vacancies in the 92nd Division in and above the rank of captain shall be filled by white officers is following the traditional American policy. All Negro units, especially combatant units, must be commanded by white officers, no matter how deserving any Negro officers may be. The American officer caste (which will be multiplied by post-war conscription) has this as a cardinal policy. It handicapped and smeared Negro officers in the last war, and continues to do so.

American white people in positions of leadership have a bad conscience. They privately feel that they have treated Negroes so badly that they cannot entrust them with arms and under the leadership of their own people.

* * *

This corroding fear is behind our whole military and naval policy. It explains the transfer of highly trained Negro combat officers to Quartermaster units. It explains the promotion of incompetent white officers over competent Negro officers. It explains the transfer of Negro combat troops to labor work. And it explains, too, the opposition of the Administration to the formation of mixed units. In the old days there were always some whites who made common cause with Negro insurgents, and there is fear that if colored and white men served together in the same units, they would get too friendly and might make common cause against an oppressive ruling class.

When we know the historical background, it is easy to understand why General Eisenhower issued his order. Naturally our "friend" President Roosevelt is not going to counteract that order, election or no election. There are some things that white people in authority simply will not do no matter how much they profess to love us. The old fear and prejudice is still in their hearts.

Thurgood Marshall Says Evidence Insufficient Against 50 Now on Trial

Call - Kansas City, Mo.

10-20-44

N.A.A.C.P. Investigator Finds Men Did Not Refuse to Obey a Direct Order But Are Victims of Race Prejudice

YERBA BUENNA ISLAND, Cal. — After listening to three days of testimony from the 50 Negro seamen charged with mutiny, Thurgood Marshall, special N.A.A.C.P. counsel declared "These men are being tried for mutiny solely because of their race or color."

The men are charged with mutiny for refusal to load ammunition at the Mare Island depot on August 9.

Following an urgent telephone call from Joseph James, president of the local N.A.A.C.P. branch, asking that national office assistance be given the defendants immediately, Marshall flew to San Francisco, where he has been reviewing testimony and interviewing the men. In his report of the proceedings thus far he charged:

10-20-44

"The last of the defendants was on the stand today and the defense might close its case tomorrow. The Port Chicago explosion was on July 17 and many of the accused were in Port Chicago at that time. Many of them were hurt.

Some Fell Out, Others Stayed

On August 9 they were transferred to another Island and told to fall in for work, meaning loading ammunition. They did not. Their officers, including the Admiral talked to them. Then their officer asked them the following: 'All of you who are willing to obey all lawful orders stand fast. All who are not fall out and give your names to the officers.'

"Some stood fast and others fell out. Those who fell out were arrested. There were 257 altogether, but it ends up that only 50 are charged with mutiny.

"The men take the position that the above statement by the officer was not considered by them to be an order and what they meant by their actions was that they did not want to load ammunition. They did not mean to disobey an order.

10-20-44

Reason To Be Afraid

"A typical example of their testimony is that of Seaman Bordenave who is just 17. He had enlisted when he was 16; was released when they discovered his age and re-enlisted as soon as he was 17.

"He had only been handling ammunition a week and was a 'hatch tender' which meant that he was the one who directed the operator of the winch as to how to lower the ammunition into the hole... No wonder they were all afraid to load ammunition.

10-20-44

How Jim Crow Operates in the United States Army

AFRO-American

Two Colonels to a Regiment; Lieutenant Outranks Captain; Five Adjutants to One Unit

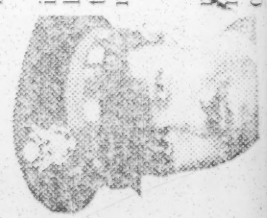
By GRANT REYNOLDS

Former Chaplain, U.S. Army

By an Act of Congress, an American receiving a commission in our military and Naval services becomes an officer and a gentleman. The ninety-fifth and ninety-sixth Articles of War, which govern his conduct, substantiate the assertion.

While I am in full agreement with this somewhat dubious statement, I am unalterably convinced that Congress cannot make a gentleman—white or black. The facts bear this out.

In the case of making officers, it has too often taken the equivalent of an act of God to confer this honor upon colored men.



Lowell Fight for [illegible]

No group of America's fighting men has faced quite the same [illegible] hominious treatment as the colored soldier. He has been [illegible] up in every way, with the [illegible] stacked against him.

Repeatedly ignored, more or less merely tolerated, frequently humiliated, the colored officer has run the gamut of everything insulting and debasing that American ingenuity could offer. Yet there has never rested upon any group greater responsibilities.

The War Department's reluctance to commission colored men in the first place, added to the strong convictions of many military brass hats that "it is inconceivable that a ——— should become officers," has made it impossible for the colored officers to once attached there were two promotions and the rank of major although the T.O. opportunities to qualify for them in this case, too, called for but given unassigned status, segregated one.

Incident Recalled

Incidents, officers' clubs, the colored officer In another instance, a group and barracks; the most creditable rec- of colored officers, among whom

were men in the field grades, them.
were sent from Michigan to the State of Washington, only to be told that there was no place for them to serve out there because they were colored.

The officers sat around, embarrassed and ashamed of their nation, while the military authorities frantically sought to transfer them to some post where there were colored troops. 11-4-44

Jim Crow at Huachuca

At Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., colored officers of an Infantry Regiment of the 92nd Division who worked with white officers throughout the training hours were jim-crowed in the regimental mess hall.

It is to the credit of these men that they refused to eat under the circumstances. They withdrew in a body and ate their meals elsewhere at great personal expense.

Incidentally, the colored chaplain in this case was severely reprimanded by the division chaplain (a colored officer referred to by the enlisted men as a "long coat") for sympathizing with the colored officers.

The officer who thus showed his manhood by resenting such an insult was soon relieved of his assignment and shipped off to the South Pacific.

Disciplinary School 11-4-44

At the same post, scores of colored officers assigned to the 92nd petty offenses. There never was a white officer so disciplined.

The commanding general of the division organized a disciplinary school for so-called "inefficient officers" to which only colored officers were sent.

The white officers in this division equalled, if not outnumbered, the colored officers. I suffered the personal embarrassment at this post of having been made subordinate to a white first lieutenant while I held the rank of captain.

5 Adjutants in One Unit

At Tuskegee, home of the famous 99th Pursuit Squadron, there are so many colored officers that as many as five are assigned to one squadron as adjutant.

The reason for this overstrength is the insistence upon War Depart policy of sending colored airmen to Tuskegee alone.

A similar unjustifiable arrangement obtained at Ft. Huachuca's Medical Officers' Replacement Pool. Here the Army assigned all newly commissioned medical officers of color when no immediate position with troops could be found for them. 11-4-44

Many of these men went to Huachuca from the Army Medical Training School at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. There they would be given temporary assignments in the jim-crow hospital until it could be decided what to do with

Money Wasted

Permanent assignments were often found for these men within a few hundred miles of Carlisle. But the Army would have to bring them back from Ft. Huachuca to such an assignment, a round-trip distance of more than 4,000 miles. 11-4-44

When it is understood that Army officers receive 8 cents per mile for traveling expenses, in addition to their pay, some idea is gained about the great expense involved in maintaining Army segregation.

The story of the colored officer and enlisted man in this war is one so sordid and pregnant with insult as to outrage the sensibilities of any decent American.

U.S. Philosophy a Mystery

Officers have written me, accounts of being refused food at railroad junctions while white prisoners of war were being fed.

How this nation can, in time of war, thus destroy the manhood of its fighting men, and then expect them to pay gladly with their lives for its protection, is one of the mysteries of this age.

But what else can be expected when the nation's military leadership is largely in the hands of Southerners who are totally void of human understanding?

Vet a Changed Man

America might just as well understand, however, that the returning colored veteran will be quite different from the sheltered boy who left home to join the Army. 11-4-44

These men, many of whom will have faced death from enemy fire and from dreaded jungle diseases, cannot, and should not, be expected to assume their former role of subservience to prejudiced white men. Nor will they accept with grace the role of America's forgotten men.

If, in their pursuit here at home of blessings for which they were ordered to die abroad, our soldiers precipitate bloody conflicts, the conscience of humanity must act ast their judge.

Basis Laid for Outbreaks

Mr. Roosevelt and the Southern mob which surrounds him have laid the basis for the most bloody outbreaks of violence after victory that this country has ever seen. 11-4-44

Unless this mob is repudiated at the polls in November, the blood of colored veterans will one day water the streets of American cities. A vote for Roosevelt is a knife stuck into the back of a colored service man.

Careers in Sewing Trade Two Blind Women Start New

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
10-14-44

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—When two women, both of whom are practically blind, started working on sewing machines at the Simon Manufacturing Company, Inc., 106 Seventh Avenue, on September 6, they attempted an experiment which is unique in the needle-trades industry.

Never before had industrially blind people been allowed to work side by side with their more fortunate co-workers. Previously, the only sewing machine operation done by the blind was in secluded places where efficiency and speed were no requisites.

Now, after several weeks of Miss Nora Gill, 40, of 179 Jefferson, 39, of 529 Herkimer son Avenue, and Mrs. Olga Rob- Street, both of Brooklyn, are breaking in, these two women, slowly mastering the intricacies of the trade. 10-14-44

In an exclusive interview with the AFRO, Al Simon, an owner of the company, stated that the experiment had proved a success.

"Do you know that twelve other companies refused to hire these women before we took them on?" he said.

"First, you've got to realize that even though they received five weeks of training under the Board of Education's War Industries Training Program, they are still beginners in the needles-trades industry.

Do Simple Operations

"Besides, they have to depend on their fingers to get the feel of things. They're still doing simple operations but are learning the more intricate things slowly. They should be able, in time, to reach the level of our other employees."

Mr. Simon explained that Miss Gill and Mrs. Robinson worked alone on another floor in the building during the first week of their employment, but he soon put them to work with all the rest.

"It's much better for them," he said, "and it won't make them feel as if they're isolated just because they can't see."

Fifty per cent of the working force is colored, he said.

The army and navy put more pressure on the company to turn out goods as fast as possible. Manufactured equipment includes sleeping-bag cases, mattress covers, mosquito bar nets, and insect nets. 10-14-44

Wages Based on Progress

As for wages, he continued, the blind women receive prevailing wage rates, based upon the progress they make.

Asked whether the company would be willing to hire more industrially blind people in view of the success of this experiment, he replied:

"Not just yet, because people like Miss Gill and Mrs. Robinson can only do very simple work in the beginning and I can't have lots of people doing elementary work when we have so much more complicated sewing operations. After a while, we may be able to take on another two women, but not right now.

"We're satisfied with the blind women's work and we think they're very happy to be occupied and earning a living."

Miss Gill, who has had cataracts for twelve years, told the AFRO that she used to do sewing work on aprons many years ago. She said she liked the work very much and was happy that she was doing something for the war effort.

Former Housewife

Mrs. Robinson, a victim of glaucoma for five years, explained that she never did sewing before. She was a housewife, and when she became blind, she decided that she couldn't just sit at home and do nothing; so she took the sewing course at the Board of Education and is now glad that she is engaged in worthwhile work.

At this point, Mr. Simon came over and laughingly told the women that they were going to get publicity. Mrs. Robinson said that it suited her fine. Then he instructed a girl to bring over more work for them, which they accepted with their eager and nimble fingers.

FEPC had 2,176 cases pending Oct. 1

Pittsburg — Los Angeles
11-13-44 Calif.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice docketed 283 new cases involving charges of employment discrimination because of race, creed or national origin during the month of September and closed 251 cases, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced this week.

Operational statistics for the month, Mr. Ross said, showed that satisfactory adjustment of complaint, in proportion to the total number of cases closed, increased from 33.4 per cent in August to 35.5 per cent in September.

The number of cases closed for lack of jurisdiction rose from 10 in August to 22 in September. Of the 283 new cases, or 85 per cent, alleging discrimination contrary to Executive Orders because of race, a slight decrease from the 89.3 per cent for the preceding month.

Cases charging discrimination on account of creed increased from 14 in August to 22 in September, and allegations of discrimination because of national origin rose from 8 in August to 21 during September. 11-13-44

Alleged discrimination in hiring, dismissal, or refusal to upgrade accounted for 201 of the 283 new cases. Those charging unwarranted dismissal—which are expected to reflect the influence of layoffs and cutbacks on the Committee's work—showed no noticeable increase, however.

As of Oct. the Committee had 2,176 cases pending, an increase of 41 over the total for Sept. 1.

Post Office Bars FEP Stickers In All Mails

Chicago Defender 11-25-44

By JOHN R. ROUSSEAU

NEW ORLEANS. — The United States Post Office Department regards the permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee as being "of controversial nature" and issued instructions to postmasters not to accept letters bearing which bear stickers which support for a permanent FEPC. The department ruling was made on November 27 after a resident of this city had inquired from local officials whether or not letters bearing the stickers being distributed by local FEPC movement would be accepted for side of mail matter, the stickers city, who, in turn, forwarded

On Thursday and Friday at least two Negro business concerns which had purchased blocks of FEPC stickers and had affixed said stickers to first-class mail matters, received the following communication from the local postoffice:

"The postmaster returned the above letter mailed by you, to which was affixed a sticker bearing the words 'FEPC' endorsement.

"In this connection, the Department, Washington, D. C., ruled that postmasters should not be accepted for mailing. Receipt is acknowledged by the letter of November 27th: your letter of November 11 (df:tf), regarding the use of stickers like the specimen submitted on the letter to the postmaster

"MAKE F.E.P.C. P
For Jobs and
March on Washington
"The use of stick
slogans of a contro
cannot be approved a
mail matter bearing
the specimen submi
not be accepted for m
"For your informatio
ance."

The letter was signed by Ralph Handlin, acting postmaster here.

On Thursday, a copy of the above letter was received by the Washington R. Butler, proprietor of a hosiery store at 324 South Rampart street; and on Friday a similar letter was received by the Standard Life Insurance company, 1560 North Claiborne avenue.

Evidence that postmasters out- side of New Orleans have been notified when a letter bearing stickers like those mailed by Mr. Butler to Miss Muriel Rahn, 359 Auburn avenue, Atlanta, Ga., was stamped asking the initials used in the letter to Miss Rahn on the cover of that letter to the postmaster of New Orleans.

Thousands of the FEPC stickers which bear the likeness of a Negro workman have been sold in New Orleans.

Mr. Alex Mollay, 2134 Annette street, a retired letter-carrier, is said to have sought a ruling from local postal authorities in order to settle a discussion in which he was engaged with members of a downtown club which had purchased a lot for a ruling.

The letters involved have been identified as those of officials in the New Orleans post office who wrote to the department in Washington

Writes To Randolph

47d-1944

Amsterdam News--N. Y., N.Y.
5-13-44

Britain Has Secret Jim Crow Orders; Result Of Protests

Great Britain's Enforcement Officers Given 'Super Order,' Reports NAACP's Walter White

WASHINGTON--One of the things Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP who recently returned from a 15-week tour of war fronts, discussed with War Department officials, last week, the NNPA has learned, was a super-secret order handed down to the law enforcement officers in Great Britain to the effect that British women in uniform are to be discouraged from appearing in public with American Negro soldiers.

When the soldiers first arrived in Britain, an order to the effect that there was to be no color line was put into effect. After protests from American whites, however, the British succumbed and issued an order prefaced with the words "in the interest of harmony, therefore, it is suggested--", etc.

The order is tempered with a suggestion that it is all right to entertain colored soldiers in British homes where "difficult situations can be met more easily."

Mr. White is reported also to have called the War Department's attention to the fact that in U. S. occupied towns particularly in Italy, anti-Negro pamphlets have been distributed. He is said to have asked that Army intelligence investigate the matter because of the belief in some quarters that the pamphlets are not the work of the Axis, but of some prejudiced American Army officers.

The report of Mr. White, on the whole had an optimistic note and is said to have been well received at the War Department.

47d-1944

WHITE OFFICERS ONLY FOR REPLACEMENTS IN FAMOUS DIVISION

Pittsburgh Courier — Pa.

ON THE ITALIAN FRONT—Belatedly but surely, the typical American pattern of discrimination and jim crow has invaded the Italian front lines, bringing to an all-time low the morale of the men and officers of the 92nd Division combat team fighting here. Although democratic conditions prevailed during the early days of the combat team's service at the front, radical changes following the arrival of Major Gen. Edward Almond, division commander from Fort Huachuca, and a long time resident of Virginia, have instituted a completely discriminatory method of officer replacement.

According to Milton Bracken, writing for the New York Times, clared there is race problem within his army, has the complete respect and admiration of the men. According to one correspondent, he is apparently not aware of the new situation that has developed. This correspondent terms the new replacement policy as one which "kills the chances of promotion for colored officers," and which introduces "incompetent white officers into the outfit, constituting sabotage behind the lines of the 92nd division."

Colored Officers Being Transferred.

Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

According to reliable information received by The Pittsburgh Courier, the following Negro officers of the 92nd Division combat team, fighting Nazis and Nazism in Italy, have been moved from the units with which they have trained and transferred to rifle companies to make way for white replacements whom, according to their commanding general, Edward Almond, they are not permitted to out-rank:

LIEUTENANT LEE, transferred from an anti-tank platoon to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

LIEUTENANT MADISON, transferred from S-2 duties to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

LIEUTENANT MITCHELL, transferred from an anti-tank platoon to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

LIEUTENANT GARNET, motor officer, transferred to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

LIEUTENANT BOWEN, battalion liaison officer, transferred to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

LIEUTENANT KIDD, transferred from a heavy weapon company to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement.

General Almond is quoted as saying that he could not foresee the time when his outfit will include colored junior officers outranking white junior officers. Accordingly, although the combat team includes many Negro company commanders, captains and lieutenants, none ranks white junior officers. Moreover all current officer replacements are white. In the policy of replacement of colored by white officers, the colored men are taken from the units with which they have trained and sent into front-line rifle companies.

DISCRIMINATION IN THE REAR

Bracken reports also that in the rear areas, certain considerations have arisen out of the race question. Negro GI's are not permitted to carry knives of any sort except the regular issue bayonet. Negro and white MP's go on patrol together on the basic principle that the white man handles white offenders and the Negro handles Negroes. Negro MP's are all more than six feet tall. They do not carry pistols like the whites, but use a short club.

There is no official segregation in forward or rear areas at messes, latrines or in sleeping accommodations, Brackens reports, but on the night when he messed at the divisional headquarters, Negro officers went to one table.

Bracken quotes Almond as saying: "I don't try to choose an officer's friends for him," and that he is administering his outfit on "military rather than racial lines." His overall principle of race relations, again according to Bracken, is that the development of the division is a military, not a sociological problem.

In the meanwhile, the commanding general reports that the development and progress of the division has been normal and satisfactory. The men, reportedly, resent special attention to their activities because of their color, yet are anxious to make a good record because of their race pride. Negro officers, according to General Almond, are stressing that race is secondary to patriotism.

Aware of the historical nature of their mission as the first Negro combat team to meet the Germans, the fighting vanguard of the 92nd have been in the front line for more than two months and have successfully kept pace with the advance of more experienced divisions in some of the more fiery sectors around Bologna. The unit has had its losses and its heroes as well. One of the men is up for a citation for having killed 13 Germans with a damaged carbine.

General Mark Clark, commander of the Fifth Army, who has de-

47d-1944

From Jim Crow to Jim Crow

It is very saddening to note that Negro soldiers, who have been serving at the various war fronts, fighting for democracy in segregated units, are to be given relief from battle strain by furloughs in the States, quartered in Jim Crow hotels.

To carry out this Jim-Crow policy, these black heroes are to be sent to live at the Parkway Hotel in Chicago and the Hotel Theresa in New York, both in strictly Negro districts.

White soldiers, on the other hand, are being sent to swank hotels at various resorts where the best facilities available will be theirs for the asking.

It is said that the army would have adopted an impartial policy if a Negro officer had not taken it upon himself to call attention of the military authorities that quartering these furloughed Negroes with white soldiers might cause "complications."

The military authorities promptly agreed with him, so now Jim Crowism is to be the rule in this instance as elsewhere throughout the war effort.

One wonders what a battle-worn Negro veteran of the great war for freedom and democracy will think when he finds himself sent to a second-rate hotel in the black ghetto while white soldiers who have taken no greater risks are put up at palatial hostelries.

This is a shameful commentary on American so-called democracy, and the enlightened citizens of Harlem who protested to the War Department against this discrimination last week are to be congratulated.

We hope other Negroes will send similar protests against this vicious policy, which smacks of that toward the Gold Star Mothers under the Hoover administration, when White Mothers were sent to see the graves of their sons on luxury liners while Negro mothers journeyed on freight-passenger boats.

Courier--Pittsburgh, Pa. 9-30-44

Little Dixie Is Nasty to Our Men in Uniform

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

4-15-44 By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no more important place of interest to colored Americans today than the few thousand miles of swamps called the "Louisiana Maneuver Area."

Here thousands of colored soldiers are taking their final phase of training, before entering actual combat. Events that occur daily put a bitter taste in the mouths of these men who are expected to go overseas to fight for "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness."

Other Camps Nearby

A whole infantry division, and a large number of trucking and service units are here. Each day, even before they can finish this special training, the men are sent to the "Port of Embarkation" to be shipped overseas.

In addition to the maneuver soldiers, there are several camps located near here that have large colored units.

Although the towns and many of the rural communities are highly taxed, little effort is made to make conditions pleasant or liveable for colored soldiers.

In Alexandria, Leesville and De-Ridder, white merchants close their doors when colored soldiers seek to buy. Perhaps the broader of the three is Alexandria, and it is practically white—so far as recreational and living facilities are concerned. 4-15-44

One USO

There is one USO when three would be too few. Drug store clerks pass by soldiers many times before they serve them. White cafes won't wait on them, even through the back door. These soldiers are even segregated in jail.

In Leesville, the whole colored section is off-limits to our soldiers. They dare not enter the white section. Camp Polk, which is located about six miles from here, has colored soldiers in a segregated area.

There they have a colored theater which shows pictures after they have run the white shows on the base.

An army hospital at this camp jim-crows colored patients—the prison does not. 4-15-44

Another strange paradox about Camp Polk is the prisoner of war camp, where German prisoners, under smiling armed guard, have the run of the base. Our boys are restricted to the colored section.

Soldiers told me that white persons in this vicinity never miss an opportunity to impress upon them the fact that this is a "white-man's" country.

The NAACP was founded in 1909.

BRITONS SEEK REPRIEVE FOR CONDEMNED MEN

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

5-20-44

Assert Racial Prejudice Swayed Verdict Against 2 Alleged Rapists

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON—(Special)—The case of two Negro soldiers sentenced to death by a U. S. court martial continues to occupy prominent discussion in the English press. The editor of the Gloucestershire Echo received a number of letters from prominent citizens living in the West country military area where the court martial occurred protesting against the death penalty. 5-20-44

Although army spokesmen repeatedly deny racial discrimination, a delegation of British writers headed by the well known English author and journalist, Reginald Reynolds, and the famous woman novelist, Ethel Mannin, will interview Eisenhower and Ambassador Winant seeking commutation of the sentence.

In each letter a point was made that the sentence suggests racial discrimination—that white Americans would not have been so severely punished.

This view, however, has been denied by U. S. army authorities. U. S. army spokesmen, asked to comment on Britishers' complaints, said the case was one of several in which American soldiers had been sentenced to death. Spokesman explained that a specific article of war provides this penalty for rape and that it is the army's duty to enforce military law regardless of individuals color or creed.

Both white and colored spokesmen added that there had been similar sentences to death in the United Kingdom and that the case would automatically be heard by a reviewing board and would be judged entirely on its merits.

5-20-44

War Workers Protest

A few sample letters printed in the Gloucestershire Echo showing the feelings among Britishers were printed under the headline, "Revolted by Unjustness." The first letter, signed by 30 Englishmen, read as follows, "Will you please allow the undersigned war workers at a local factory to make an appeal for the lives of two colored American soldiers sentenced to death for rape of a Bishops Cleeve girl. We agree that rape is a serious crime but we feel that if these men die it will be because they are colored.

"In England we have learned the meaning of equality and freedom and we are revolted by the unjustness of American laws concerning Negroes. In our opinion birching and prison with hard labor would be more fitting a sentence for all who commit this crime whether they are black or white." 5-20-44

Another letter signed by trade union shop stewards committee in behalf of factory workers said: "Our committee would appreciate space in your paper with regards to the death sentence for forcible rape of a girl working in this factory. Shop stewards in all departments in the factory have been approached by working people with requests to take some action to obtain commutation of the death sentence to imprisonment. In our factory and village there is a very strang feeling against such a severe sentence in the case of these men. It is almost a unanimous opinion that this severe sentence, when compared with sentences of imprisonment passed on white American soldiers for such offenses suggests a racial discrimination that will be deplored by all peoples fighting against this very thing in the war against fascism and racial persecution.

"In view of the subscription of all the United Nations to the principles of the Atlantic Charter and principles of complete freedom for all nationalities and color, we sincerely hope the sentence of these men will be commuted to a similar sentence to that given white men for a like offense." 5-20-44

Women Ask Clemency

A third appeal signed by 18 women says, "We know that this is a serious offense but surely there are other ways in which they can pay for their crime without paying with their lives. We feel had these men been white such a sentence would never have been passed. These men came to fight for us and if they can fight and risk their lives let us treat them as equals."

Says Army Ignores List Of Nurses

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 6-24-44

NEW YORK—(ANP)—While the ban on Negro nurse recruitment was lifted here in November, and even though nurses are greatly needed in the North Atlantic and Pacific areas as well as here on the home front, the supply at hand of Negro nurses has hardly been touched, comes a recent report. The more than 800 Negro registered nurses here are completely ignored by the War Department.

In a protest against such Army bias, Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, said she thought the Army would have far less trouble recruiting nurses if it opened its ranks more liberally to Negroes.

"In the entire Army Nurse Corps, there are only 219 Negro women," she explained. "All of them are tan and located in the south with the exceptions of one group

in Des Moines, and one unit in New Guinea." While the quota for Manhat- ed, the state failed to fill the quo- easily and quickly h- 6-24-44

ly have recruit-ing nurses of both races found nursing council that they work together satisfactorily. quota.

vey by the New rsing Council re- titutions employ

ROGERS SAYS:

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa 4-1-44

The U. S. Is the Only Place Where the Ability of the Negro Soldier Is Questioned

By J. A. ROGERS

SECRETARY STIMSON'S excuse to Hamilton Fish for keeping Negro soldiers largely labor battalions has been completely answered by others; still, I feel that a few more words might be added. First, the trouble began when the Army decided to have jim-crow regiments in order to appease the exploiters of Negro labor in the South, thereby preventing the natural, commonsense course of selecting the most capable men, regardless of color, for those posts calling for technical skill.

Mr. Rogers

I do not think that even the most rabid professional Southerner will deny that there are numbers of white men incapable of doing the work that Secretary Stimson alleges that Negroes, as a group, are poor at doing. In fact, the number of white men in the Army who would be fit only for labor battalions, certainly exceeds the total number of Negro draftees, competent and incompetent. Why have we not heard anything from Secretary Stimson on these mentally unequipped white men? The reason is that white men, able and unable, are lumped together. In the present set-up the incompetent white soldier belongs to the same caste as the ablest white general; while the ablest Negro belongs to that of the Negro farthest down. America is actually fighting her war along color lines, yet, should anyone dare to say that this is a "race" war, he'd immediately be branded as a traitor.

COMPARISON OF TWO WAR RECORDS

There is little doubt that the percentage of Negroes capable of filling high positions in the Army is lower than whites able to do the same because the whites have had better educational opportunities. The report of the Bureau of the Census, June 20, 1942, says on the educational level of men of military age, "Educational attainment, the study indicated, was highest among whites and lowest among Negroes . . . Very great gains in education in the last two decades, however, have taken place in the Negro group. Among Negro men aged 35 to 44 (most of whom had finished their education 20 years ago) only 13 per cent had received one year or more of high school education while among Negro men aged 21 to 24, 26.2 per cent had attended high school. Data on the educational level of Negro selectees in the present war when compared with similar data from the last war also show a great increase. Sixty-three per cent of the Northern Negro selectees and 33 per cent of the Southern Negro selectees have attended high school as compared with 14 per cent of the Northern Negro draftees and three per cent of the Southern draftees in the last war."

IN World War I the whites had only 16 per cent of selectees who had any high school training and 79 per cent of grade school and no schooling. That is, the whites then were four times lower in high school training than Northern Negroes are now and twice lower than the Southern Negro now. Yet although the Negroes have advanced greatly against odds that no one with a white epidermis is called on to face, the utterly unjustified talk about their alleged inferiority remains the same. In fact, it is worse because Secretary Newton Baker did at times speak warmly in favor of Negro citizens.

NO CHANCE FOR COMBAT RECORD

Had Secretary Stimson said that the percentage of whites capable of filling technical positions in the Army is higher than that of Negroes, I, for one, should have agreed with him. But had he said that, he would still have to explain why capable Negroes are kept in labor battalions.

THE only place in the world I know of where the ability of the Negro soldier is questioned is the United States, and that only when some new war is on. From the days of ancient Egypt until now the Negro soldier has won renown. I can name scores of great military leaders who were Negroes in Europe, Asia, Africa and South and Central America. In the United States not a single one. As soon as a Negro graduates from West Point, he is promptly shunted off to some Negro college to train students. What military experience can one get from that? In the Navy, he is, or has been only a messman. What chances of being a trained Naval commander from that?

RACE NONSENSE GOES ON FOREVER

The fight against the Negro soldier in the United States has a history all its own. George Washington, to placate the slave masters, issued an order that no Negroes be inducted into the Army. Later, he was glad to use them. Abraham Lincoln, hoping to anger the Southless, opposed the use of Negro troops for two years. Later, he too, used them and had to admit that without them the North would have lost. The last war I heard these same old arguments, only to hear again at its end the same high praise of the Negro soldiers. Now comes Secretary Stimson to turn the same old racial wheel in an evident attempt to placate Southern politicians like Eastland and the members of the South Carolina Legislature who declare that this war is being fought to maintain white supremacy and are working to make it that.

MEN may come and men may go, but this race nonsense, like Tennyson's brook, "goes on forever." It matters not a whit that after each war since 1776, the Negro soldier has won high praise. Each new war brings back the old talk of inferiority.

Ask War Dep't. Probe On Soldier Sentences

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y. 10-28-44

COLUMBIA, S. C. (ANP)—The adjutant general of the War Department has been asked to investigate the imprisoning of 11 Negro soldiers on the Aiken county chain-gang, it was disclosed Tuesday. Jams M. Minton, state president of the South Carolina Conference NAACP and secretary to the Negro Citizens's committee, said both organizations had made the request. The Rev. E. A. Adams signed a letter as president of the Citizens' committee. Copies of both letters were forwarded to the sheriff of Aiken county.

"The Negro Citizens' Committee of South Carolina and the State NAACP Conference are asking the War Department to make a complete investigation of the events leading to the arrest, trial and conviction of 11 Negro soldiers at Aiken," the letter read.

"If the facts substantiate the reports we have received, it appears that a grave injustice has been visited upon Negro soldiers in uniform.

"Our two organizations are astonished that such things can happen to Negroes in uniform in South Carolina, and nothing is done about it. 10-28-44

"We respectfully request a thorough investigation of the alleged mistreatment of our soldiers. We are sure that county officers overstepped authority in this case."

White Finds "No Colored" Signs in Naples Area

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 6-13-44

WASHINGTON (ANP) — "No Colored" signs in a Naples hotel, first reported by the AFRO, January 15, were discovered again by Walter White in his recent trip abroad.

Following AFRO publication, the War Department declared it could locate no such signs, hotels, or Col. James E. Manley, who signed them.

Mr. White said he discovered in Naples manifestly forged orders to hotel proprietors, forbidding them to admit colored guests.

He submitted to the War Department an exhibti of such an order which indicated hours when personnel might visit a certain hotel, rates charged and the remark, "No Colored" are allowed. The "order" was signed by an American Army colonel.

Hits Copy of Song

Mr. White also brought back from Naples a leaflet containing a Neapolitan street song entitled "Italian Women Arm in Arm with American Negroes." It was rumored, he said, that an American army colonel supplied the copy and paid for the printing of this leaflet. 5-13-44

He recommended that G-2 (Army Intelligence) be instructed to ascertain who is responsible for the writing, printing and distribution of this anti-colored publication.

Sign Condemns Women

The War Department was also told of large signs posted in public places in Naple condemning Neapolitan women for being friendly with colored American soldiers and inviting them to their homes.

"When will your honor, your pride in being white and Italian incite you justly to scorn colored men?" the placard says. "You cannot understand how you humilate us (Italian-Americans). All Americans speak thus: 'Look, the Italian people are fond of colored people.'" 5-13-44

These placards were allegedly distributed under the auspices of the Italian-American Committee for the Preservation of the Italian Race, and posted by American soldiers.

FLA. CAMP IGNORES ANTI-J. C. ORDER

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 5-13-44

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—The War Department order banning racial segregation in government-controlled buses, service clubs, post exchanges and theatres has not been put into effect here.

Although a service club has been improvised in the 3rd Area for colored soldiers, it is not at all like the one for whites, and its opening somehow is being delayed.

Colored officers still are excluded from the officers' mess and clubs. A small beer garden for colored troops was installed beside the PX and only the intervention of colored MP's prevented white soldiers from taking it over.

Sabotaging Democracy

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va. 5-20-44

From Los Angeles Sentinel

News reel concerns which had trips broad stand convicted of eliminating all shots of Negro troops who were greeted or reviewed by the President.

Those shots will be assembled and shown, we understand, in a special reel to be made for Negro theatres.

It is hard to conceive of a more deliberate sabotage of the spirit of democracy than that.

It isn't hard to fathom the reasons for this deliberate underplaying of the Negroes' part in the war: it springs from the widely held belief that Negroes and whites must be kept separate and apart. The same spirit is behind residential restrictive covenants, anti-miscegenation laws, and the whole kit and caboodle of segregation measures which are imposed by law or custom throughout the nation. 5-20-44

What is hard to understand is the implicit government sanction of this kind of monkey business. Americans, of all races and colors, need to drop their notions of racism both for the sake of unity in prosecution of the war and for the sake of America's prestige in the world at large.

47d-1944

Our Soldiers Resent Being Called "Boys in Kitchen"

OAKLAND, Calif.---"How can we feel justified in prosecuting a war against the fascists and Nazis and other countries when we permit many of the same kind of individuals to hold vital government positions throughout the U.S. and even in our armed services?"

Thus spoke a member of the 451th AAF Base Unit Aviation Squadron, Oakland Detachment, in discussing a letter written to one of the men commending them for their services, in which he referred to the colored soldiers as "boys in the kitchen."

The letter, reportedly written by Col. C. C. Bondley, Jr., air corps ferry command commander, was quoted as having said: "You are doing excellent work in our kitchen" and "We have not forgotten you boys in the kitchen."

The [illegible] resented bitterly by many of the men, the most, some of whom are college graduates, already irked by their assignments to jobs as menials in spite of their educational qualifications.

The men, who report that morale is at the lowest ebb, say they have been stationed here more than five months, have had military training, but point out that most of their superiors get in "a lot of mop and broom work," serving as janitors and on other dirty details."

Those who work in the canteen wash dishes, mop floors and [illegible] guns after civilian use, one man pointed out, adding: "Soldiers of the U.S. Army should not be forced to work under these demoralizing conditions."

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md. 6-24-44

RESTRICTED PAMPHLETS

The War Department has issued a restricted pamphlet on colored troops. Under regulations, information contained in it cannot be given to the press.

However, there is nothing in the pamphlet, so far as we have heard, which changes the War Department's policy of dividing colored and white troops into separate units.

The army chiefs apparently base this policy on what Thomas Carlyle once called "the show of hands." That is, it defends jim crow by declaring it is what the people want as disclosed through public opinion polls such as those made by the Office of War Information.

Now public opinion polls are all right in their place but there are such matters as fornication, obscenity, polygamy, justice, decency, honor, or in government, the question whether we shall draft nine or ten million men, that are not settled by public opinion.

Carlyle pointed out the futility of that kind of democracy. Imagine, he said, a captain who would attempt to steer a ship around Cape Horn by a show of the hands from the crew and the passengers.

6-24-44

It is just as ridiculous to poll a ship's company before setting the course as it is to poll the people of the United States before deciding whether to have jim crow in the army.

The War Department ought to know that the army which fights best is a united army, and it must assume the responsibility for its failure to follow the law of military science. It cannot fall back on public opinion polls to justify its failure to do its clear duty.

By the way, public opinion polls showed nine out of ten persons favored distribution of Federal ballots to men in the armed services through the Federal Government. But did we get Federal rather than State responsibility for getting ballots to service men? We did not.

The Majesty Of Justice

Courier, Pitts. 2-12-44

Anatole France, noted French satirist, once wrote about "the majesty of justice which forbids rich and poor alike from sleeping under bridges."

We see much of this majesty of justice in the United States where the courts have consistently upheld segregation and the theory of white supremacy, often on the ground that Negroes are themselves free to segregate whites; and contended that segregation is not discrimination, contrary to all human observation and experience.

For example, the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals has just handed down a two-to-one decision in the Winfred William Lynn case that the Selective Service Administration practice of setting separate quotas for the calling of Negro and white men did not constitute illegal discrimination, despite the plain wording of the Selective Service Act.

One of the judges blandly contended that the Army racial segregation was an old tradition dating back to 1866, and that limiting the number of Negroes called up according to places available for them was a practical custom.

He could well have gone back to 1776 and proved the contrary that since Negroes and whites served in the same units in the Revolutionary War for freedom and democracy, the same tradition should be followed today.

Everybody knows that the administration of the Selective Service Act has been discriminatory against Negroes and, for that matter, against whites; else we would not have had to insist that Negroes be admitted to all branches of the military service, nor would Southern Congressmen have had to complain against undue drafting of white men while the Army prepared a segregated place for Negroes.

WHITE BOYS ARE DYING

On the question of casualties, the Laurinburg, N.C., Weekly Exchange (white) complains because the lists are mainly white.

Afro-American, Balt. Md. 9-2-44

That may be true; we have no way of knowing. There is no "c" for colored on Army and Navy casualty lists.

But suppose the North Carolina paper is correct in its claim, who is responsible?

1. Who kept colored boys from volunteering for the first eighteen months of the war?

2. Who keeps colored boys from serving on fighting ships, on Navy combat planes and with combat units of the Marines?

3. Who is responsible that the fighting New York colored regiment, one of the nation's best, does guard duty in Hawaii instead of meeting the Japs head on?

4. Who broke up the second colored cavalry division and the 184th, and changed colored artillery and infantry units into engineer post battalions and quartermasters?

Whoever did this wanted to give colored troops the laboring jobs, the dirty work, the distasteful tasks, and save for white boys the more(?) dignified business of gun-toting, flying of planes and the sailing of ships.

The Roosevelt administration is responsible for placing 75 per cent of colored troops in labor units. But the La[illegible] burg, N.C., paper didn't protest then. Why does it do so now? The Army's un-American policy of confining colored troops to non-combat service has been done over our repeated protests.

We have always known it would be changed when the casualty list grew large enough.

---By Albert Deutsch

n.y.,n.y.

Army Needs Doctors, but Discharges Good Negro MDs

12-28-44

The crowning irony of the Army's Jim Crow policy can be found in the way this policy invariably bounces back at those who impose it. Here's a story that just about tops everything on the crow whirligig:

At Harlem Hospital in New York City, a group of some 15 Negro doctors are finishing up their internship which was to prepare them for active Army service. Most of them wound up their

medical schooling under the Army Student Training Program. They are all M. D.'s, graduates of Grade A medical schools. They were scheduled to be commissioned as medical officers in the U. S. Army on the first of January, along with a group of white interns who worked beside them at Harlem Hospital. They were proud and eager young men, and good doctors.

Suddenly, several weeks ago, each youngster in this group of Negro interns—all of them in Army uniform, awaiting their medical commissions—received official notice from the War Dept. The notice said, in effect, that the Army had all the Negro doctors it needed and that their discharge papers would be forthcoming in January, instead of their commissions.

So, next week the white interns finishing up at Harlem Hospital will get their commissions as scheduled. The Negro interns will be left high, dry and bitter. Their futures are most uncertain. They aren't eligible for certain state medical license exams, inasmuch as they are three months short of internship requirements. (The last three months of internship were supposed to be completed in Army hospitals, under the Army student training program.) None of the men had made plans for entering private practice. It will be difficult for them to continue their internships elsewhere, since these posts are usually arranged long in advance.

Negro doctors, according to present Army policy, are used only in all-Negro Army hospitals. They are not used even exclusively for wounded Negro soldiers in "mixed" hospitals having patients of both races. With the shipment of large numbers of Negro troops overseas, the patient load in all-Negro hospitals in the U. S. A. has been reduced. The Army now faces the dilemma of either reducing its Negro medical staff at a time when military doctors are badly needed, or finally integrating Negro doctors in its general medical program. Negro and white doctors have for years been successfully ministering to white and Negro patients, side by side, in certain Northern hospitals.

There are numerous Army doctors who have been serving overseas under continuous tension for two or more years, without getting a single furlough home. They can't get a home leave, they're told, because the Army is short of medical replacements. How can the rejection of qualified physicians because of their skin color—physicians who could be used as sorely needed replacements—square with this explanation?

Racial Study of Armed Forces Urged in Congress

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.
4-1-44

Dawson Plan Covers Industry

A resolution introduced in the House on March 16 by Rep. William L. Dawson (Dem., Ill.) differs from that of Rep. Clare Booth Luce primarily in the respect that it calls for study of the status of minorities in war industries as well as the armed forces. Mr. Dawson proposes a committee of the same size (seven members) and an equal appropriation ($25,000).

WASHINGTON

Texts of companion resolutions introduced in the House of Representatives last week by Rep. Clare Booth Luce (Rep., Conn.) and referred to the Committee on Rules follow:

4-1-44

H.R. 476

RESOLVED, That a select committee, to consist of seven Members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker, is authorized and directed to conduct a full and complete study and investigation with respect to the status of the Negro and other minority groups in the armed services and in attached or affiliated auxiliary military organizations for women, with a view to ascertaining:

(a) the extent of compliance by the armed services and the selective-service system with the requirement of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended, that the selection and training of men be accomplished without racial discrimination;

4-1-44

(b) the nature and extent of any practices in the organization and placement of personnel which accomplish the exclusion of persons because of race or color from the assignment to any type of unit or any type of service on land, at sea, or in the air;

Advancement Questioned

(c) the extent to which opportunities for training, appointment, or advancement in the commissioned grades are restricted on the basis of race or color;

(d) the extent to which considerations of race or color are impeding the full utilization and development of professional and technical skills; and

(e) the relation of the system of segregated units to the effective utilization and appropriate placement of persons on the basis of individual competency and merit.

4-1-44

The committee shall report to the House as soon as practicable the results of its investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems desirable.

Subpoena Power Asked

For the purposes of this resolution, the committee is authorized to hold such hearings, to sit and act at such times and places during the sessions, recesses, and adjourned periods of the Seventy-eighth Congress, to employ such clerical and other assistants, to require by subpena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such correspondence, books, papers, and documents, to administer such oaths, to take such testimony, and to make such expenditures as it deems advisable.

H.R. 477

RESOLVED, That the expense of the investigation by the select committee, created by H. Res. 476 not to exceed $25,000, including expenses for the employment of investigators and clerical and stenographic assistance, shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, on vouchers authorized by such committee, signed by the chairman thereof, and approved by the Committee on Accounts.

WAR OFFICIALS ISSUE ORDERS TO COMMANDERS

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
6-3-44

Gibson Gives Full Credit To 'White Press' For 'Exposing' Segregation

WASHINGTON. — Nazi-like, Jim Crow transportation for Negro troops, boldly exposed and fought by the Negro press, was ordered removed this week by the War Department which specifically directed army camps to provide decent and non-segregated bus service for Negro troops between camps and towns.

The army directive climaxed a determined fight waged since Pearl Harbor by Negro publications against vicious morale-breaking, Jim Crow and "white supremacy" conditions forced upon Negro troops in the South—but conditions which were apparently unknown or unbelieved by Truman K. Gibson, assistant to Secretary of War Stimson, who stated that "We knew by hearsay that discriminatory transportation hurt the morale of Negro troops . . . but the condition was not called to the department's attention" until a story concerning it was published in the white press.

Ignores Negro Protest

Observers here expressed amazement over Gibson's contention that after reams of articles had appeared in Negro papers pointing out the injustices to which Negro troops have been put by virtue of the Jim Crow transportation system, it took only one series of articles from a white publication to force a change in the army's traditional policy.

6-3-44

It was pointed out that William J. Hastie, Gibson's former superior, had resigned the position now held by Gibson in protest over the army's Jim Crow policies.

The directive was transmitted by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, commanding general of the Army Service Forces, at the request of John J. McCloy, the Assistant Secretary of War. Gibson, somewhat recovered from his surprise that Jim Crowism existed in the army, said that Gen. Sommervell's directive "is notice to all troop commanders that ignorant, prejudiced bus drivers can no longer insult Negro troops, and that busses, especially those supplied by the army, are for the comfort of all troops without regard to color."

Anti-Jim Crow Checkup

Hereafter all army establishments will be inspected at regular intervals to insure the enforcement of the department's new anti-Jim Crow travel law. While the policy applies to all army locations, it was directed particularly at Southern camps where Negro morale is lowest because of poor travel facilities, the department said.

6-3-44

Commandants whose neglect of their Negro troops were exposed and have been ordered to correct their policies include Brig. Gen. William H. Hobson, of Ft. Benning, Ga.; Brig. Gen. Haig S. Shekerjain, of Camp Sibert, Ala.; Col. Jasper McDuffy, Craig Field, Ala.; Elmer J. Bolling, Maxwell Field, Ala., and Col. Ira E. Ryden, Camp McCain, Miss. Camp Wallace, Texas, which provided bus service for Negro troops into Houston but none for the 10-mile return trip, has been transferred to the navy, the department stated.

In many sections where bus drivers carry clubs and pistols to intimidate Negro soldiers, it was revealed that white civilians resented Negro officers so much that many were unable to leave their post without direct insult or threats.

Living quarters for their visiting families and for the men themselves while on furlough are still inadequate, dirty and outrageously expensive as are most of the eating and drinking places they are allowed to patronize.

6-3-44

While acclaiming the army directive, Negroes here contended that this step toward true democracy must be lengthened to include the elimination of all Jim Crow policies of the army and the nation.

47d-1944

"Great Britain 'Backtracking' On Race Question," Walter White Says

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
5-13-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Great Britain is "backtracking" on the race question!

That discovery was made by Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, during his recent 15-week 20,000-mile air tour of war fronts overseas. Mr. White told U. S. War Department officials here last week that, in Great Britain, a secret order has been handed down to law enforcement officers to discourage the appearance in public of British women in uniform with American Negro soldiers.

AMERICAN WHITES, CAUSE

When United States troops first arrived in Great Britain, an order was issued that there was to be no color line. But later, after severe protests from American whites themselves, the British "crawfished" and prefaced a new order with the words: "In the interest of harmony, therefore, it is suggested that . . ."

The later order is tempered with "mercy," to the effect that it is all right to entertain colored soldiers in British homes "where difficult situations can be met more easily."

ANTI-NEGRO PROPAGANDA

Mr. White reported spreading anti-Negro propaganda in the North African and Middle Eastern theatres of operations as well as in the European theatres. He brought back a leaflet circulated in Naples, purported to be a Neapolitan street song to the tune of "The Cup of Coffee, which, according to the transiation, is titled, "Italian Women Arm in Arm with American Negroes." 5-13-44

The militant NAACP executive recommended that Army intelligence, or other pertinent Federal agencies, ascertain who is responsible for the writing, printing and distribution of that leaflet and a huge jim-crow sign also seen in Naples.

JIM-CROW SIGN DESCRIBED

Mr. White said the sign is a green placard, 24x36 inches, with black lettering, allegedly put up under the auspices of "The Italian American Committee for the Preservation of the Italian Race," but reportedly the work of American white soldiers. The following excerpt from the placard was quoted:

"We Italian-Americans, with deep pain, must see that a certain feminine nucleus of Naples, having been dragged in the mire, dares to walk on the street with the Negro, and dares also to invite one home . . . When will harsh reality enlighten you? When will your honor, your pride in being white and Italian incite you to justly scorn the Negro? . . . You cannot understand how you humiliate us: All Americans speak thus: Look, the Italian people are fond of Negroes." 5-13-44

FRAUD AGAINST NEGROES

A third practice in Naples, Mr. White reported, is the supplying of forged orders to hotel proprietors, forbidding them to admit Negroes. He actually presented a copy of such an order, one which indicated the hours when personnel might visit a particular hotel and listed the rates charged, but which specified, "No Negroes." The "order" was signed by an American Army colonel.

While Mr. White's consummate report was chiefly optimistic, he took a "hard-hitting attitude toward the widespread prevalence of anti-Negro propaganda he encountered and made strong recommendations to the War Department that it instruct responsible subordinates to act more promptly and vigorously against this vicious and demoralizing form of jim crowism and exploitation in the United States Army overseas.

The Nation — New York, N. Y.
12-16-44

A NEGRO SAILOR in the United States navy reports that on his last trip to England he and a friend went to an American Red Cross club in a port town and were turned away at the door with these words: "This isn't an English club; it's an American one."

WENDELL WILLKIE'S 'ONE WORLD' EXPOSED VICIOUS 'JIM CROW' RACKET

Guardian — Boston, Mass.

"SEPARATE-RACE" ARMY & NAVY STILL DISGRACES DEMOCRACY

10-14-44

Since 1919 little or no effort has been made to eliminate the "jim crow" policy within our armed forces even though Adolph Hitler was able to establish a complete military "new order" in the same period; in fact, less than 20 years. We still officially claim, we "didn't have time" and we shall be using that same official excuse 20 and forty years from now, unless we get busy and "take the time" to remedy this undemocratic situation.

NEVER ATTEMPTED

This war has made us "take time" to do a lot of things we thought we couldn't do with colored people in America. We've taken colored people from the cotton fields and farms and made them into skilled workers; they are working in radio and plastics, piloting ships and flying planes. And all this has happened in less than five years which thus poses the accusing question, what could America have achieved by granting these and other equal rights to colored people during the entire 25 year period since the last war?

It stands to reason that if we could establish colored divisions and appoint a colored brigadier-general in less than ten years we could have—and should have—created a "mixed" army with colored officers sharing their commands with white, in twenty five years—had we tried!

And, if we could establish colored airforce units in less than five years, we certainly could have created a "mixed" airforce in nearly a quarter of a century. The same goes for the Navy. So? 10-14-44

The terrible truth isthatwe didn't try and I humbly suspect that we are not fully trying to-day.

UNFAIR JUDGMENT

Mr. Willkie, (before he left us), wrote very boldly about the racial discrimination in our armed forces and his word has been substantiated by several of our more courageous colored army chaplains, including Chaplain Luther M. Fuller of the Bay State. These conditions require no long-winded Congressional "investigations" by men of proven racial bigotry. We would gain nothing by such a review inasmuch as the "Cracker Coalition" holdspunished in unequal military opportunity and a suppression of every key position on the "judgment-seat." Mr. Deweymen can be put in our armed forces. If colored lads can be must know these facts which are so vitally important todiscrimination. in uniform for alleged military violations, other all colored voters including thousands of colored citizenscial period in punished for practicing and preaching racial in the armed forces. The very morale of the nation'sof the Church, tion. Moreover since we have reached the cru- largest minority group is involved. This is no fancy fi-for rightiousn in our democracy when army chaplains—men nancial-ideology debate. The average colored "G.I." isadmit that th urch, are forced to resign because of their stand more interested in what Mr. Dewey intends to do aboutmenace then usness then it is time for Dewey and others to the racial bigots in Congress (and the states) and not soChristianity to t the "Cracker Coalition" is a bigger church even the so-called "reds". If we practice much about other items favoring special moneyed groups,morrow. ty to-day there can be no "reds" in America to-north or south.

WILLKIE WAS RIGHT

Our armed forces comprise a number of various racial groups, but I do not recall any special racial campaign issue which can not be ignored by either politi-units devoted exclusively to the Italian members, the cal party. There are too many colored men and women Irish members, the German-Americans or the Poles. "There involved to have either presidential candidate think thatis no separate army for Catholics, one for Protestants, nor they can ignore it as they please. Sooner or later there one for Jews. We hope these things will never come to

10-14-44

CHAPLAINS RESIGN

The colored military status is now openly a firmand religious

pass in America. 10-14-44

Why, then, a special colored army, navy and air-force? Why a special Japanese-American regiment? Will we next form an all-Chinese and all-Indian army? Arn't we getting like Mr. Churchill?

The late and beloved Wendell L. Willkie spoke of these dangerous trends toward imperialistic practices in America. They may be "all right" for Britain which boasts of a jim crow Jewish army, but do they belong in America? Are we to be one or shall we divided? That is the question.

"ONE WORLD" BEST

There is no more reason for a jim crow army in America than there is for jim crow schools and jim crow housing. The great Wendell L. Willkie, author of "One World", expressed these truths far better than this writer. The fact reveals that we have long exploited certain people, like the Chinese, the Indians and Africans and then sought to justify such action with a lot of pious phrases which were a disgrace to our alleged religious Western civilization. Of course when any one spoke against these evils they were immediately branded as "reds". Many a courageous colored "G.I." has been wrongfully placed in this category as well as colored chaplains. Even Mr. Willkie was called a radical. It is time for both Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Dewey to read up on some of Willkie's wisdom. They both have a lot more to learn about colored people and a "One World" which will mean happiness to everyone. As for Wendell L. Willkie, the whole world has lost a true friend.

Racial Insult

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Costs Officer His Command

3-6-44

CHICAGO (ANP)—When Lieut. J. G. Cordemellia, of Tampa, Fla., used the word "n——" during a lecture Wednesday evening to a group of Negro sailors at Great Lakes Naval Training station, he was immediately relieved of his command by Capt. R. R. Emmett.

Quick action against Lieutenant Cordemellia was taken after the colored sailors listened to the repeated usage of the provocative word in complete silence. When the lecture was concluded, they marched out and reported the officer to their chaplain, who in turn reported to Captain Emmett.

SOLDIERS PROTEST BRUTALITY

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-22-44

GREENVILLE, Miss.—Their patience exhausted after 2 years of brutal beatings and general mistreatment by the civilian police and military police of the Greenville Army Air Field, all non-commissioned officers of the 418th Quartermaster's Platoon, T AB, and the 51st Aviation Squadron Army Air Forces Pilot school here, have forwarded a petition to their commanding officers and the commanding general at Maxwell Field, Ala., seeking some method of correcting the situation. Although all the incidents have been previously reported to their respective commanding officers, to the knowledge of the men, no action has been taken.

INHUMAN TREATMENT

The two most recent atrocities occurred within the first two weeks of this month. On April 2, Pfc. Amos Davis was cursed and hit by an MP of the 1007th Guard Squadron in the presence of his girl-friend, because Private 1/C Davis would not address the MP as "sir." One week later, April 9, Cpl. William P. Watkins was beaten by S/Sgt. Robert O. Brandenburg (white) of the 1007th Guard Squadron, in the city jail of Greenville. The petition states that Corporal Watkins was repeatedly called an offensive racial name by Sergeant Brandenburg, who "bruised and disfigured the soldier's face."

WORST OF ALL 4-22-44

The petition cites 10 such instances of brutality between November 10, 1942, to the present time, but stresses that they are but few of the cases. Perhaps the most vicious of the occurrences took place in February, 1943, when civilian authorities of Greenville entered a private home without a warrant, arrested two soldiers and brutally beat the men with blackjacks and the butt-end of pistols.

Pvt. Robert L. Scott's head was swollen to twice its normal size; he suffered a brain concussion, and received lacerations over both his eyes. The second soldier, Cpl. Theodore R. Taylor, suffered concussion of the head and temporary blindness of both eyes.

Scientific Groups Fight USO Ban On 'Equality' Book

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 4-22-44

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Thirty-nine scientific and semi-scientific organizations were petitioned this week by the Writers' War board to join in the protest against the ban of "The Races of Mankind," a booklet written by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, Columbia university anthropologists, at USO centers.

Controversy over "The Races of Mankind," a pamphlet that scientifically proves the equality of races, arose about four months ago when Chester I. Barnard, who left the presidency of New Jersey Bell Telephone company to head the USO centers, read the booklet and ordered it banned because it was too "controversial." While continuous distribution of the booklet has been made in churches, schools and clubs throughout the nation, the army cancelled its order for 55,000 copies upon protest by Rep. May (D.-Ky.) who resented the revelation that northern Negroes are more intelligent than some southern whites.

4-22-44

While approximately 350,000 copies of the booklet have been distributed out of 400,000 printed, a fifth printing of at least 100,000 copies is being planned, according to an announcement by the educational Public Affairs committee.

Fla. Camp Keeps Jim-Crow Pattern

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

CAMP GORDON JOHNSON, Fla. — In complete disregard of the War Department's ban on segregation in the Army's recreation and travel facilities, this post maintains a pattern of jim-crow practices that is said to be distasteful to even the average white soldier here.

The few colored officers here are victims of the abuses as well as the enlisted men. Barred from the officers' clubs and mess used by whites, and lodged in separate barracks, they are obliged to live a life to themselves, as the nearest city (Tallahassee) is fifty-six miles away. 9-16-44

Assignments Discriminatory

The headquarters detachment is divided into colored and white sections, the whites being assigned to the skilled, technical and managing jobs, and the colored enlisted men in kitchen police for white units, orderlies for officers' barracks and mess halls or in the other manual capacities.

Requests from men with technical training for transfers have been ignored.

A group of "honey dippers"—members of a sanitary company whose principal job is emptying latrine buckets—refused to work last week and were promptly placed in confinement.

No Directive Issued To End Discrimination Against Negro Troops

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.

Problem Is Admittedly Acute, But Factually Reported Order Has Not Been Issued, Civilian Aide Says

6-3-44

By John T. Mitchell
Guide Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"There is no truth in the report in a Philadelphia daily newspaper that Army camp commanders, particularly in the South, have been ordered to provide decent, adequate, and non-Jim Crow bus transportation for Negro troops traveling from post stations to town," declared Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War on Tuesday.

Sunday's Philadelphia Record carried an article from Windsor Booth of its Washington bureau asserting that the War Department on Saturday had issued such an order.

CALLED RIDICULOUS

Decrying as "absolutely ridiculous" the claims that a series of three articles in the Record by Orrin Evans after a tour of southern military establishments had brought about such a "desirable change" in Army policy, Mr. Gibson pointed out that for three years individuals, organizations, and particularly Negro newspapers have been revealing the hardships endured by Negro troops under the segregated transportation systems.

OFFICIAL REPORTS 6-3-44

It is known that official reports have been furnished the War Department by Mr. Gibson and Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr., who made an inspection tour specifically to study the problems at the behest of the Inspector General's office, and Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Both have several times toured camps to gather data on the effect of the segregation pattern on the morale of Negro troops.

While granting full truth in the findings published in the articles by Evans, Mr. Gibson added that there was "nothing new about the problem" contained in the Record's articles.

DENIES QUOTATION

The Journal and Guide on Tuesday contacted Mr. Gibson, who was quoted in Sunday's Record as saying that all that "no such order (which was previous reports on happenings in southern camps had been "on-ly hearsay and now with Evans' articles we have something concrete to work on."

Secretary of War Stimson's aide, denied making that statement to the paper, and further declared that "no such order (which was the story as saying that all transmitted through channels to all camp commanders by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, commanding officer of the Army Service Forces at the special request of John J. Mc-Cloy, the Assistant Secretary of War) had been issued."

TOURED CAMPS 6-3-44

The series of articles in the Record was written by Evans after a 3,400-mile tour which took him to 14 Army camps in seven southern states, according to his paper.

Throughout the area he re-

IN POSITION TO KNOW 6-3-44

He said he did comment generally on the seriousness of the transportation problem and reviewed casually some of the efforts that had been made to improve it. The quotation attributed to him in Booth's article he flatly denied having made, and could not have made—since it was only in point had the order been issued.

portedly found the major cause of low morale among Negro soldiers to be the lack of sufficient transportation from camp posts to nearby towns.

Mr. Gibson said that Booth visited his office a few days ago and made inquiries about the purported order and was then informed by him that there was no such order.

47d-1944

OLD JIM CROW

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Will Re-Appear on American Beachheads After Initial Success

By HORACE R. CAYTON

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

THE English postal authorities apologized in the paper a day after the invasion because they couldn't make mail deliveries on the beachheads. There is one other thing that hasn't been brought over with the Allied Army either, and that's old jim crow. He'll come later, but then there comes a time in any war when jim crowism is too expensive even for the American Army.

I'll bet that on the beachheads of France if a white soldier is shot down it won't disrupt the whole command for a Negro to take his place. I don't think that even a poll tax general would object to a Negro sergeant taking over a platoon of white soldiers if their non-commissioned officers had been wiped out. It is my hunch that the carefully labelled containers of white and colored blood won't be watched if a white soldier is dying and needs an immediate transfusion. In the English Channel if a ship is attacked by the Germans, even our lily-white naval officers won't mind if a second Dorie Miller mans a machine gun to assist in the attack. During an invation lots of things will have to go by the board and, like the English mail deliveries, won't return to normalcy until the critical days of the first attack are over. Even Americans know when enough is enough.

Mr. Cayton

It is curious in a battle where their existence is at stake men drop off many senseless and useless prejudices and react to each other as human beings facing a common danger. It is tragic that this feeling of comraderie can't be carried over to more normal times. My hunch is that it would be. Men who've faced a common danger can never feel the same prejudice toward one another. Fighting and dying together binds them together, regardless of past experiences. It would be but . . . and that "but" is the real hatred which exists in the high command of the Army and Navy and is pounded into every enlisted man and officer from the time he dons his uniform.

IT'S my feeling that most Americans are pretty decent human beings. It is further my notion that most human beings, when they face a common danger together, change their attitudes. The Army knows this and the Navy knows it and they fear, above all else, that this may take place and destroy the racial barriers which they are so anxious and careful to nurture.

WE LEARN THE HARD WAY

A Negro is taught from the time he is inducted into the Army that he must take commands from white p, but never under any circumstances must he command a white man. White soldiers and sailors are taught that they must not fraternize with Negroes, cannot drill with them, cannot sleep with them, cannot attend the same theatres, purchase materials at the same PX's. That is as carefully taught to them as is respect for an officer and the necessity to respond to a command.

NOW, and for the next few weeks, until a firm beachhead is established, it'll be a group of American men fighting the German nation. There'll be no separate mess halls for Negroes. The boys will get their food where they can and lots of times won't be able to get any. But as soon as success is in sight, like the English mail delivery, old jim crow, American style, will come in to re-establish the color caste system in a part of the world where it has never existed before. We learn the hard way, we Americans, and will sacrifice everything or nearly everything for our sacred prejudices. We'll win this battle, though it'll be costly, but we'll have to have many a battle and many a beachhead established before the final victory over American racism is achieved.

Seabees Case Being Reviewed Dec. 11th

NEW YORK (C\—According to the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces, a hearing has been secured for December 11th before a Navy Board of Review for Issac McNatt, Harvey Steels, Robert Louis Mims and Clarence O. Clark, four Negro Seabees discharged without trial from the Navy as "unfit and inept." Arthur Garfield Hays, noted civil liberties lawyer, and Gerald Weatherly are handling their case before the Navy Board, set up for the purpose of hearing grievances of discharged men under the Servicemen's Adjustment Act of 1940, better known as the G.I. Bill of Rights.

Army Jim Crow Persists

SAN MARCUS, Tex.—Despite War Department directives, jim crow persists at the 2536th Air Base on buses, in theatres and in PX's, Col. M. Hutchinson is commanding officer.

Says Mistreatment Of Negro Troops In Italy Hurts Cause

Discrimination And Jim Crow Puzzling To Italian People

NEW YORK — (ANP) —"Racial segregation and discrimination which were imported into the liberated areas of Italy by American troops had much to do with the rejection of democracy by the masses of Italian people," said Ollie Harrington war correspondent of the Pittsburgh Courier, just back from the Europeon fighting fronts.

Harrington made these remarks in the course of his discussion on race relations on the Europeon fighting fronts which he was giving in the lecture series "A World View of the Negro Question," presented each Saturday afternoon at the Schomburg Collection of the New York Public library.

GIVES ACCOUNT

Harrington gave a vivid account of the experiences of Negro combat engineer and aviation units as he has seen them fighting in Italy and France. He described the enthusiasm and high morale of Negro servicemen when they first landed on Italian soil. The Italian people received them with open arms. However, white American servicemen circulated stories among the Italians that Negroes were sub-human and criminals. Italian girls were arrested for no reason than for being seen in the company of colored servicemen.

"Since the Italian people had to depend upon the allied military government for their food and clothing, there was little choice but for them to avoid the Negro soldiers," said Harrington. He emphasized the influence of this undemocratic attitude of the Americans on the Italian people. It made them doubt that democracy was better than fascism. This fact is part of the explanation of the difficulty in Italy today.

PRAISES FIGHTERS

Harrington described the splendid record of the Negro fighters and gave special praise to the Negro trucking units, without which the Cassino and Salerno victories would never have been won.

Supplementary remarks were made by Mrs. Ruth Danenhower Wilson, the author of Jim Crow Joins Up; Chapiain Luther M. Fuller, who for 2½ years was stationed in the Pacific theatre of war; and Sgt. Conrad Lynn, whose brother, Winfred Lynn's case against discrimination in the operation of the Selective Service act has been carried by the American Civil Liberties union and affiliated organizations up to the Supreme Court.

Charge Bias Still Rules At Benning

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(ANP)—The army's recent manifesto against racial segregation and discrimination on army posts is being defied here by army officials according to an ANP investigation last week. Racial segregation at this army post continues unabated, with Negro and white soldiers being compelled to ride on separate buses.

Vicious practices of racial discrimination and segregation against Negro soldiers by the Howard Bus Lines, Inc., the only officially authorized bus line, are said to be sanctioned by diehard anti-Negro white army officials.

While white soldiers and civilians wait in comfortable waiting rooms and pass through the new turnstiles at the local bus station here, Negro soldiers must await their buses in an unpainted segregated shed, labeled as a bus station. Negro buses have been re-routed to go up back streets and out across the post, to avoid passing the main station which only white soldiers, officers and civilians use.

Because of this change in route for the buses carrying Negro soldiers, they must walk longer distances to their companies. Negro soldiers may not enjoy any of the time saving methods devised by Howard Bus Lines, Inc., for white soldiers.

Officers Confined in Bus JC Case

Punished for Observing New Army Order in Fla.

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—Despite the Army's anti-right to sit anywhere in Army order at Esler Field, La., where they declared that colored enlisted men and officers are still ported this week, to all servicemen the discrimination order, three officers of this post who refused to move to the rear of a post bus were recently restricted to their quarters for a week. Contending that the Army order declares that colored enlisted men and officers are still stationed at the post PX's, theatres and buses, they declared that they would not move to the rear of the bus. Similar violations of the Army order have been reported in other parts of the country, where Negro soldiers have been forced to ride in the rear of buses. It has been rumored, moreover, that the units, which have trained

LA. CAMP STUBBORN

34 in Fla. Refuse to Clean Latrines, Jailed

here for over a year, will be broken into labor battalions and that only a small number will go overseas as an anti-aircraft unit.

Meanwhile, thirty-four members of a casualty company, recently transferred here from Fort Huachuca, Ariz., are now serving from four to six months in the post stockade for refusal to work.

The men, sentenced by court-martial three weeks ago, contended that they were assigned the work of cleaning up latrines and that that work is always assigned to the colored soldiers.

ISSUES ARISE OVERSEAS

Mission
St. Louis Argus

Jim Crow And Lack Of Combat Duties Told

11-17-44

From two sources this week came reports of discrimination being experienced by Negro GIs serving with the armed forces in France—one from a serviceman and one from a war correspondent.

Injection of the Jim Crow pattern of the South in France by white officers was disclosed in a letter to President Sherman Scruggs of Lincoln U., by one of his former students, Sgt. Earl A. Howe, Jr. Growing resentment of Negro GIs over apparent wholesale and almost total consignment to labor battalions, or non-combat units was told in a press dispatch by Roi Ottley, author and war correspondent of the P. M.

Ordered from Cafe

In Sgt. Earl Howe's letter, which passed the censor, he stated "I often wonder why we should have to fight and go through all of this for the thousands back in the states who have the same ideas and grudges about us. It is really not the French people. It is some southerners who are causing all this trouble."

He related how his comrades were ordered out of a cafe by an American officer who told them "this cafe is for white people only." When one of the men courageously defied him with the question "When did that order come out, Sir?" he disdainfully replied, "I've never heard of it, but there's the door."

The incident was reported to the white first lieutenant in command of the men's company, who when he sought an explanation received only boastful defies from the major and captain who had ordered the men from the cafe. Their names were forwarded to the regimental commander.

Another insult was given the Negro GIs when a sign was posted in a stationery store stating "This store does not serve Negro troops. Negro troops are served at 12 Rue Grand."

Men Want Combat

Ottley in his release stated "Despite neatly-handled ballyhoo, the Negro soldier in France still is doing little else than most Negroes do in civilian life—they are heavin' bales and totin' bags."

"Until an anti-tank unit arrived in France recently, not one Negro division had had actual physical contact with the enemy. Most observers here feel that this is no accident. The almost exclusive use of Negroes as service troops is an open scandal in this theater of operations."

He told how Stars and Stripes, GI newspaper, has received letters from white soldiers complaining that Negroes are being "overplayed" in the news. How more "rotting" letters arrived over Gen. Eisenhower's praise of the Red Ball Express, the supply line which contains more than 70 per cent Negro personnel.

He told of a conversation with Lt. Ben Johnson, former Columbia U. track star saying, "I want combat duty, I do not feel in a strong position to demand better treatment after the war, because I'm not up there trading punches with Jerry.

"I guess certain officers fear the Negro may become cocky after the war.

"The men who oppose Negroes doing combat duty, know that when a white man and a Negro are in the same foxhole day in and day out, it breaks down barriers. And they don't want that to happen."

Colored MP's for Southern Trains

AFRO-American Balt. Md.
12-23-44

WASHINGTON

Colored MP's will be assigned to jim-crow coaches in the South, it was learned this week from authoritative sources.

The purpose of the War Department order is to reduce the friction caused by the entrance of white MP's into colored coaches to preserve order or to remove colored soldiers from trains.

THE HORIZON

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By P. L. PRATTIS

Army Should Immediately Knock Jim Crow In Head In Redistribution Centers

ONCE again (it's too bad) the War Department (Army Service Force) has put its foot into its mouth at a time calculated to do the most harm, by denoting Jim Crow redistribution and orientation centers for returning Negro soldiers—on their way from fighting the Germans to fight the Japanese. It is the general understanding that more than 50 of these centers are to be set up. Of this large number, only four are to be in the North. Of the four in the North, two are prospectively earmarked for Negro soldiers, one in Harlem and one on Chicago's Southside. The other centers, the two in the North and the 50 in the South, are for whites only. It is understandable that the Negro public and Negro soldiers should have immediately protested against any such segregated arrangement. The arrangement is not only morally wrong, but egregiously stupid. Somebody in the War Department made a great big unnecessary mistake. This mistake should be corrected at once if it is not to have a pronounced influence in the present political campaign.

9-30-44

Mr. Prattis

LET NEGROES CHOOSE

ACTUALLY, really and truly, no special plan is needed for Negro soldiers. No plan is needed which from its outline looks like it was specially carved out for Negro soldiers. If the men behind this program had only been smart, they would have known that the Negro soldiers will, in a sense, segregate (?) themselves if given the chance. That is to say, if Negro soldiers were given the same liberty of choice given white soldiers, they would choose to go to centers in certain locations, principally Chicago and New York. They would not choose to go to Miami. The number which would choose centers so far off God's path would be too small to create any problem. White Southerners are just as repugnant to Negroes as these Negroes are supposed to be to them. Of course, prejudiced white Southerners are meant and they are setting the pace in the South so far.

> "The unity of nations fighting for a free world includes men of every color and race."—Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

MORE NORTHERN CENTERS

WHAT the Army should do is to set up more first-class centers in the North and give the soldiers, white and black, freedom of choice. I say first-class centers because I do not believe the currently spoken of Theresa hotel in New York or Pershing hotel in Chicago to fit the bill. The Army should try to obtain the Congress hotel in Chicago, or a similar hotel and should do the same kind of a job in New York. And it should make all hotels in either city available to white and black soldiers. Inasmuch as most of the centers have already been earmarked for the South where most of the Negro soldiers will not want to go, the Army might wisely reserve most of the space in these Northern centers for Negroes, but not all. There are plenty of Northern white boys who will not want to go to the inhospitable South either. And they would not mind sharing a downtown Chicago hotel with Negroes either. They will have just come back from sharing fox holes together.

PRESENT PLANS CRUEL

BY all means, the Army should proceed at once to revamp its plans along more practical and just lines. The present plans are not only undemocratic, they are cruel.

Them slobs back home had better forgit that stuff in a hurry. We're fighting a war over here, and if it takes a black man's blood to save a white man's life, he's gonna git that blood, and we don't care what they say back there. They better git on the ball or else they ain't gonna be allowed to have no blood."

9-30-44

9-30-44

Men At Front Rap Segregated Policy

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
6-17-44

By OLLIE HARRINGTON, Courier War Correspondent

NAPLES, Italy—With Rome, the Holy City, now occupied by Allied troops of all races; with the fighting fliers of the 99th Pursuit Squadron helping to pave the way that will lead to the ultimate destruction of the enemy; with Negro combat, engineer and service troops active not only in the Italian theatre of operations, but in the stupendous new invasion of Nazi-held Europe as well, one inescapable fact emerges from the full flow of "blood, sweat and tears." It is the utter inability of undemocratic and medieval theories to keep pace with the drive of hundreds of thousands of grimly determined fighting men generated by the electric force of revitalized democratic principles.

The torrent of blood which surged against Hitler's concrete and steel walls—sweeping over them relentlessly, destroying all in its path—flowed from the torn arteries of men of all races, religions and creeds. Life spilled from torn bodies of fair-haired Tommies and Yanks, shiny-black Africans and brown Asiatics, from Frenchmen, Poles, New Zealanders and Italians. Whistling steel honors no complexion differences. It may take the rest of the world a little time to make this discovery, but to the fighting men in Italy it has been a grim lesson.

6-17-44

SUBTLE CHANGES BECOME MANIFEST

A concrete example of the subtle changes becoming manifest in the combat areas is found in the situation of hundreds of blood bank stations behind the lines. In each one of these little, overworked tents and huts is being quietly solved a problem which for years has aroused bitter controversy back in the rather remote United States.

This struggle centered around a system endorsed by powerful agencies, that of separating blood plasma donated by Negro patriots from that of whites, although the need for such separation is completely unsubstantiated by the findings of medical science.

This theory received a fair test at the approaches to the Gustav and Hitler lines, and it is rather ironic that these lines, the very symbols of evil racial and social theories, should with their steel and fire have provided conditions which destroyed this evil in our midst. For the shock of battle was so great that our blood plasma reserve was found inadequate and, with mangled bodies of civilized men screaming for blood, it was gathered from their willing comrades in every area, regardless of race or complexion or creed.

Last week in the streets of Naples and on roads leading up to the front, I talked with many men, most of them fresh out of line. They were Northerners and Southerners, black men, white men and brown. I wondered what they thought about the fact that blood for their wounded buddies was not being kept "pure." I felt that their views were extremely important, for they were giving their lives and it would be they who would fashion the new world. I was startled by the ferocity with which they answered and I felt proud and gloriously hopeful for America and the world. One of the men with whom I talked was a huge, raw-boned Texan out

6-17-44

n he told me the story of an ld accident in which he had horribly burned. His body d for grafts. There was a black man who had worked e him for many months, a man who didn't talk much, hen the skin was needed, he uaid: "Take some of mine, lenty." The Texan rolled his sleeves needed for the huge black back down and said: "Now about of the oil fields. I met him in a bar on the Via Roma, the main street of Naples.

TEXAN TELLS HIS STORY

"Yes, I'll tell you what I think about it," he said, "but before I do, I'd like to tell you a little story." He peeled back his shirt sleeves revealing a brawny pair of arms. "Do you see them there arms? Well, most of that there skin come from off the hide of a black

47d-1944

Army Brutalities Laid at President Roosevelt's Door

Afro American – Baltimore, Md.
10-7-44

Ex-Army Chaplain Terms Spiceley Case Last Straw in Dixie-Inspired Humiliation

(Grant Reynolds, ex-chaplain, who left the army because of its segregation, and resigned his NAACP post in order to campagin against Roosevelt, tells also how colored delegation cooled heels in capital last week. In the delegation were Walter White, Dr. Channing Tobias and Mrs. Mary Bethune.)

By GRANT REYNOLDS

Any hope I might have entertained about remaining inactive during this political campaign was quickly dispelled by the recent verdict rendered in the Spiceley case. 10-7-44

Pvt. Booker T. Spiceley, a young colored soldier, was murdered in cold blood by a white bus driver in Durham, N.C., last July. When the all-white jury hastened to free his slayer on September 22, my indignation reached a state hitherto without parallel.

For two years and ten months while I served on active military duty as an officer in this war, I witnessed first-hand the humiliation and debasement of colored soldiers. 10-7-44

What is more, I was on more than one occasion the object of similar un-American treatment. In each instance I did not fail to press for justice. The result was that a set of circumstances developed which finally led to my being relieved from active duty.

Book Too Hot

Since April 2, when my military career ended, I have been seeking the best technique for making known my resentment over the beastly treatment accorded colored service men.

I have even written a book revealing the sordid story, but because of difficulties in finding a publisher with courage enough to handle the story, it still remains in manuscript form.

The miscarriage of justice in the Spiceley case, however, forced upon me the necessity of finding a course of action which would not only articulate this resentment but would set in motion necessary remedial procedure.

Blame Due Roosevelt

My decision was that, somehow, those responsible for the mistreatment of colored service men should not be allowed to escape the wrathful indignation which must smolder in the hearts of every colored citizen who has a loved one in uniform. 10-7-44

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Commander-in-Chief of our military forces, must shoulder responsibility for this evil. Any logical chain of honest thought leads unequivocally to this fact.

I further concluded that to perpetuate in office this man and the gang which surrounds him would not only condone the present abuses, but would demonstrate that colored citizens would be satisfied with such treatment for four more long years. For me this became unthinkable.

Hands Tied in NAACP

As a paid staff member of the NAACP, and knowing its nonpartisan political stand, I could not in good faith continue in my capacity as administrative assistant in its Washington bureau and at the same time play an active role in any effort to have Mr. Roosevelt defeated on November 7.

I therefore followed the dictates of conscience and resigned. I thus freed myself to retire my moral obligation to colored men in uniform by contributing to the repudiation of their unworthy Commander-in-Chief. 10-7-44

The lamentable murder of Private Spiceley should act as a call to arms for colored citizens throughout the nation. It should remind them that their loved ones cannot be protected against the barbaric treatment of lynch-minded Southerners who know that the Department of Justice is powerless to act in such cases.

The verdict in the Spiceley case is in fact tantamount to encouraging "open season" on colored service men.

FD Kept Too Still

Mr. Roosevelt could have discouraged this travesty on justice.

Some months ago the Senate passed and sent to the House a bill which would have made assaults upon men in uniform a Federal offense. House action on this bill is being thwarted by the chairman of the House Judiciary Committe, Representative Hatton Sumners (Dem., Tex.).

Surely in the interest of providing protection for his soldiers the Commander-in-Chief could have forced a member of his Administration to see that this bill was reported for House action.

It is unthinkable that he could order the death of American soldiers on far-flung battlefields and thus confess his inability to offer them protection as they prepare to make the supreme sacrifice.

Cause for Repudiation

If he is powerless to do this he thereby admits a good reason why he should be repudiated and thus lay the foundation for the complete reorganization of the Congress. 10-7-44

Certainly it is time to rescue the destiny of America from the hands of southern demagogues and race haters who brazenly insult thirteen million colored Americans.

A few days ago Mr. Roosevelt showed similar contempt for colored Americans in general.

A delegation of colored leaders had been invited to confer with him on Thursday, September 28. Ten minutes before the hour set for the conference Pa Watson announced that Mr. Roosevelt could not see them. One of the group prevailed upon the White House to see the delegation the following morning.

Could See Radio Stars

As they cooled their heels in Washington waiting to see the busy President they learned through Friday morning newspapers that the President, who could not interrupt his schedule to see them, could find time to have tea with Frank Sinatra, Rags Ragland and Toots Shore.

Mr. Roosevelt needed no colored leaders, however important, to advise with him on vital matters relating to the welfare of thirteen million colored citizens. That is what his southern advisors like Jonathan Daniels are being paid for. 10-7-44

Two Aims at Stake

In the light of this, coupled with the deplorable treatment of colored soldiers, it becomes impossible for me to understand how colored voters can fail to cast a strong protest vote on November 7.

This will accomplish two objectives. It will teach Mr. Roosevelt that he cannot expect to trifle with the lives of colored soldiers and get away with it. It will also serve notice on any succeeding Administration that colored citizens will no longer countenance such willful disregard for their loved ones in uniform.

South Whipping Negro Soldiers Report Says

Defender – Chicago, Ill.
4-29-44

NEW YORK — A detailed list of ten instances in which Negro soldiers have been beaten severely, either by military or civilian police, in Greenville and Leland, Miss., during the past 21 months has been submitted to Brig. Gen. Robert H. Dunlop, in the Adjutant General's office of the War Department by the NAACP.

In submitting the list which contained names, serial numbers and dates, the NAACP said these were only a "few instances" of the mistreatment of Negro soldiers in Mississippi. The letter, signed by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary, declared: 4-29-44

Affects Morale

"That these incidents and the related fear felt by other Negro soldiers is definitely affecting their morale and their effectiveness as soldiers is by now a foregone conclusion. The situation is critical and during the past two and one-half years has passed beyond the investigating stage.

"We submit that the War Department owes a duty to men in the armed forces to protect them from abuse and violence when it sends them into camps and strange surroundings. An attack on a soldier is an attack on the United States, whether perpetrated by a foreign or domestic enemy." 4-29-44

Names Given

The letter cited the following victims of military police: Pvt. William P. Watkins, Pvt. Morris L. Murchison, Pvt. James Brown, Pfc. Amos Davis and a second beating of William P. Watkins, now a corporal, on April 9, 1944.

The following victims of civilian police were cited to the Adjutant General's office: Pvt. Harry T. Hacket, Pvt. Stuart Marks, Pvt. Robert L. Scott, Cpl. Theodore R. Taylor, and Pvt. Joe N. Lewis.

distribution of the pamphlet in its various centers, and now Representative Andrew J. May, (Dem. Ky.) chairman, said that a threat by the House Military Committee to "expose the motive behind this book" has blocked distribution of the pamphlet by the Army.

Some 55,000 copies of the pamphlet had been purchased by the War Department for distribution in connection with Army orientation courses, but following refusal of the USO to allow it to be circulated in USO centers, the Army followed suit. Age-N.Y., N.Y

The War Department's explanation of its decision not to use the pamphlet because some of its material was regarded as inadequate, doesn't sound sincere. The real reason, more likely appears to be the fact that the authors of the pamphlet presented the biological and psychological findings that there is no difference between the races, except for color of skin, and that Northern Negroes were equal in intelligence to Southern white men. 3-18-44

Dr. Gene Weltfish, member of the anthropology department of Columbia University, co-author with Prof. Ruth F. Benedict, Columbia anthropologist, has denied that the pamphlet "contended that economic differences are largely responsible for racial differences", pointing out that no scientific explanation of racial differences such as skin pigmentation was given. What the pamphlet did contend was that economic and educational advantages made a difference in measurement of mentality by intelligence tests, and that such tests showed no difference between the races.

As to the threat made by The Kentucky Congressman to bring the matter out on the floor of the House of Representatives if the Army distributes the pamphlet, Dr. Weltfish commented:

"I hope Mr. May does bring the matter to the floor of the House. The pamphlet does nothing more than present the biological and psychological material in support of an ancient principle that 'all men are created equal,' set out in the Bible, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, and it is time that Southern advocates of racial inequality should be obliged to defend their stand."

A spokesman for the War Department is not intended for soldiers in the orientation quoting as explaining that the pamphlet was courses but for use of officer-instructors as

"THE RACES OF MANKIND"

Age-N.Y. 3-18-44

STRANGE how a little pamphlet, which tells the truth, should cause so much concern in these United States. And yet that is just what "The Races of Mankind", published by the Public Affairs Committee, Inc., of New York City, has done.

First, it showed the USO up in a very unfavorable light when that organization banned

background mateial to help counteact the Nazi theory of a super-race. What better material, then, could the Army use to help counteract the Nazi theory of a super-race than the use of this pamphlet? Unless, of course, the Army is interested in helping to counteract the Nazi theory of a super-race only among whites.

The Army's Jim Crow Policy

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy, in a recent statement for publication, has given for the first time a clear-cut explanation of the Army's basic policy with respect to Negro soldiers. By any rule it was a good statement in that it set forth exactly where the War Department stands. He began by saying: 4-22-44

"We have taken as our basic policy that there will be segregation of Negro regimental units. This has been the policy of the Army since the Civil War and even before. We are fighting a tough war and our troops have to go up against seasoned champions. Therefore we cannot trifle with morale. We have to go the tried way . . ."

Mr. McCloy is alarmed that Negroes should be displeased with these conditions for he says quite boastfully that Negro soldiers are much better off in this war than they were in World War 1, and that every effort has been made in this war to give the Negro the same service and equipment received by other men in service.

The secretary complained about the attitude of Negro leaders who have made the Army the focal point of their criticism. He considers our policy short-sighted in the light of improvements that the Army has made in its program dealing with Negro soldiers. 4-22-44

Perhaps Mr. McCloy is correct in his opinion of Negro leaders, but we think the War Department has been short-sighted in its failure to use the daily press, the radio, the movies and other means of communication to publicize the contribution of Negroes in the Army and in other phases of the war effort, both here and abroad.

If the great metropolitan press and official leadership could be prevailed upon to co-operate in the task of creating better race relations in civilian, as well as in Army life, the problems of the War Department would be less difficult. This would certainly have compelling effect on the attitude of Negro leaders and the Negro press, although even that would not stop them from crying out against the evils of segregation and discrimination.

Right now the very excellent film, "The Negro Soldier" is gathering dust on the shelves at Twentieth Century-Fox studio, because the War Department has not shown enough interest in morale to induce the nation's theatres to present the picture. 4-22-44

Thus it seems that there is something more than mere segregation in the Army that has contributed to the lowering of morale among Negro soldiers and civilians. It is, rather, the belief that nothing substantial is being done or even contemplated to undermine the vicious practices which make such segregation considered necessary.

It is regrettable to note that Mr. McCloy presented only one side of the issue.

No Jim Crow Says Army, in Banning This Article

The following are excerpts from an article written by a soldier assigned to 3rd Aviation Engineer Training Unit, MacDill Field, Tampa, Florida, for publication in the Carryall, a paper of the outfit.

It was okeyed by a white lieutenant, but after it had been set up and proofed, the commanding officer, Col. R. J. Burt, banned it.

The heason given by the officer for bannng the article was that there is no racial problem in the army.

6-24-44

No doubt the average colored soldier is of the opinion that he is the least thought of and the most unappreciated member of our nation's armed forces. This not only applies to the soldier, but also to those who are in the Marines and Navy.

As he goes about his daily tasks, his bewilderment increases and at times wonders why he has on a uniform in the first place when he is beset from all sides by bigotry and prejudice.

Despite his likes or dislikes, he must realize that his stake in this war is in a way much greater than that of his white brother-in-arms.

Not only is he fighting the Nazis and Japs, but he is also waging a war against nefarious discriminatory tactics that have plagued his progress as a people, since the days of the carpet baggers. 6-24-44

White Officers Resentful

Many of our colored troops find themselves under the authority of white officers. Many of these officers regard this as a very distasteful assignment, and in some cases have either asked for transfers or made their disgruntlement known to the troops.

On the other side of the fence, we find some colored soldiers who are resentful of the fact that they have to serve under white officers. The usual result of such an attitude on the part of either, or both of them is the lowering of morale on both sides.

To understand fully the colored soldier, white officers should realize that he is a human being. It is granted that the percentage of illiteracy among colored troops is higher in proportion to that of white troops.

This is the result of inferior educational opportunities. Nevertheless, the colored man is making great strides in the field of education. 6-24-44

This has resulted in a soldier who is definitely above par, mentally and physically, over the colored GI of World War I.

Realizing this the officer should strive to deal with his men in a manner that will not offend the intellegentsia of his command yet meet the approval of the soldiers who have a lesser degree, and in many cases, no education whatsoever.

Colored Soldiers' Duties

On the other side of the ledger, the colored soldier should strive to better himself. He should (along with the white GI) put aside all petty racial animosities and prove himself worthy of the democracy for which he cries.

In the post-war world, when everyone will be scrambling for the spoils, he can voice his opinion and rest assured that it will bear an unquestionable amount of weight. 6-24-44

Collectively speaking, if both white officers and colored enlisted men, plus those of the Marine and Naval components, put the unfortunate prejudices of the past and present behind them and work hard towards winning this terrible war, we will find that as a result of this war-time co-operation, post-war collaboration will be much smoother.

Paratrooper Put in Jail

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

Dixie MP's Didn't Know 555th Existed, So They Get Rather Belligerent

4-22-44

ATLANTA, (ANP)—When mem-rs of the 555th Airborne infantry. e paratroopers, invaded Atlanta er the weekend as guests of the rvicemen's center, white para-oopers and military police simply uldn't believe their own eyes. Ap-arently their Uncle Sam had not ld them he had a dark contingent the army's "glamor boys."

Accosted by two white paratroop-s on a downtown street, Pvt. B. F. ane Jr., of Chicago, wondered if he ouldn't have to resort to some of e rough tactics he had been taught use on the Nazis and Japs in an fort to convince his brothers-in-ms that he too was really and uly a bona fide member of the aratroopers.

Couldn't Believe It!

"There ain't no n——r paratroop-s in the army," the two belligerent nite jumpers insisted and Pvt. ane, adding insult to injury, sum-arily decided to change their minds id physical appearances, when sud-nly two military policemen ap-ared on the scene to settle the gument. 4-22-44

Being part of a group, Paratroop-Lane had no Fort Benning pass account for his presence in At-nta, or to prove his status as a aratrooper. It was only after Ne-o officers of the 555th appeared at e MP headquarters at the city jail at Lane's status was verified.

As Lane left custody accompanied two paratroop first lieutenants, e four wihte soldiers, two para-oopers and two MP's, stood nod-ng their heads as if to say, "What ll Roosevelt do next?"

Tries Suicide As Protest To Armed Forces Jim Crow

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON (ANP)—A suicide pact was entered into two years ago by three students at Howard University as a protest to what they considered the unfair treatment of Negroes in the armed forces, and the treatment generally accorded Negroes in the United States. The pact was to be perpetrated on the steps of the Capitol.

Three weeks ago one of them, Pvt. Norman W. Spaulding of Chicago, slashed his wrist four times with a razor blade in an attempt to live up to the agreement he and his classmates had solemnly entered into. Today he is confined to a "restraint ward" at Walter Reed Hospital.

Dramatic Sequel

That is the dramatic sequel to the story which was told exclusively to the Associated Negro Press on

the pact a forces. The vealed bu them is wi Mediterran

Navy Yard Will Abolish 'C' Badges

6-3-44

BROOKLYN. — Brooklyn Navy Yard badges carrying the letter "C" to designate colored employees will be abolished according to a statement by navy officials to the FEPC here this week. Workers had been compelled to wear badges for several years in spite of protests. A series of conferences with navy officials here and in Washington resulted in the change.

Several skilled workers in the navy yard secured promotions as a result of FEPC investigations this year.

WMC Hiring Boss Ousted As Fair, Too Fair, Baltimore

The other two men involved in

Fairness "Offensive"

Redistribution Center Plan Of Army Shuts Negroes Out Of Hotels

Informer — Houston, Texas
12-9-44

By Harry McAlpin

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—The Army Service Forces, under Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somervell—now famed as the author of the statement concerning returing Negro servicemen, "I'd like to dump the coons in the middle of the desert"—has set up a priority system for referring soldiers to the hotel-type redistribution centers as opposed to the camp-type centers. The priority system is one which works to the detriment of a disproportionately large number of Negro servicemen.

Highest priority will go to men who have been patients in hospitals overseas and nearing completion of their convalescence but not quite ready for duty. In this same group will be placed prisoners of war who have been repatriated or have escaped.

12-9-44

Second priority will go to men with combat awards and the greatest length of service overseas. This will probably be the largest group qualifying for hotel accommodations.

After these groups are accommodated in the luxury hotels maintained by the Army if the hotel accommodations are not exhausted, other men may be sent there, probably on the basis of length of service overseas and physical condition.

Because Negroes are used overseas primarily in capacities which give little or no opportunities for winning combat awards, it is apparent they will get few of the hotel accommodations.

Just two months ago, the Army was a very rosy hue from the red faces of the brass hats resulting from the furore raised when jim-crow redistribution centers were planned for the Theresa Hotel in New York and the Pershing Hotel in Chicago which were discarded only after President Roosevelt stepped in and ordered a change of plans. Memory of this fact has given rise to speculation as to whether the priority system—which on the face seems a natural procedure—isn't really a move to defeat the housing of any large number of Negroes in the luxury-type hotels maintained as redistribution centers in various resort locations.

12-9-44

So far, only one camp has been activated as a redistribution center. It is Sam Houston in Texas. The NNPA pointed out in a release at the time the Army announced its revised redistribution center program that persons familiar with the usual Army plan of operation had cautioned Negroes to watch closely to see that when the camp phase of the program was put into effect that Negroes are not herded into Southern camps where their opportunities for relaxation and recreation will be hampered by the traditions and customs of the communities in the surrounding area. That caution seems to hold good still.

War Dept. Gets 13 Points on Treatment of Soldiers

AFRO-American Balt., Md.
5-27-44

Recommendations Cover Lectures to White GI's, Fair Trials, End of Red Cross Bias

WASHINGTON

Thirteen recommendations, ranging from lectures to American white soldiers to a special board of review for court-martial cases, were made by Walter White in a report to the War Department, it was revealed here last week. They included:

OFF LIMITS—That General Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" of towns and pubs (taverns) be enforced in all areas. Colored soldiers were found to rescout bitterly the off limits orders, or orders setting "odd" and "even" nights for white and colored troops to visit towns and places of amusement.

Discriminatory Punishment

COURT MARTIAL—A special board of review of court-martial cases. "Great unhappiness" has resulted among colored soldiers "because of their belief that they are punished more quickly and more severely than white soldiers." The special board of review should include an eminent colored lawyer with appropriate rank.

COMBAT TROOPS—Send colored combat troops to England. Stories were being circulated that there are no colored combat troops in England because colored men are "afraid to fight." White termed "unfortunate" the fact that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only colored service troops had been sent to the European theatre.

Mixed Air Units Urged

Colored medium-bomber crews should be sent to England "to fly in non-segregated units," and service troops now stationed there should be given refresher courses in the use of combat weapons, as "many of these troops will closely follow the assault waves of invasion, will be under fire, and need to be made competent in the use of weapons."

5-27-44

Colored and white fighter squadrons should function in the same groups and the conversion of the 2nd Calvary division into service troops should be recommended.

In connection with the morale value of the presence of colored combat troops, more colored officers above the rank of captain should be sent to England.

Action On Rumors

ANTI-COLORED RUMORS—Some colored soldiers abroad have taken the spreading of vicious and fantastic rumors about members of their race as a joke, but some have resented these stories deeply; G-2 (Army Intelligence) should try to track down and scotch morale-sapping stories.

There is less anti-colored propaganda in the Mediterranean than in England, but Army Intelligence can run down the people who were issuing leaflets, placards and other material seeking to poison Italians against colored people.

MILITARY POLICE—White MP's are armed, but colored MP's are not. No MP's should be armed except when guarding payrolls.

PATERNALISM—Paternalistic attitudes on the part of white officers is resented. Both well-educated and less-educated colored people resent being treated as "boys." The idea that Southern white officers are best for colored troops because they "understand" colored people should be abandoned, although many white officers from the South are fair and decent in their treatment, while there is no guarantee that a man will be free from prejudice just because he happens to be from the North.

5-27-44

Whites Need Lectures

LECTURES—Lectures to American white troops aboard ships as they near England, on the difference between the British and American attitudes toward color, together with lectures to British troops by competent Americans, on America and the true place of the colored man as a citizen of his country, would be helpful.

A connection was noted between the venereal disease rate among colored troops and the attitude which has barred them from normal association with respectable families. A soldier was quoted as saying they were more and more restricted to women picked up in pubs. A colored physician should be attached to the office of the Chief Surgeon.

More colored actors and singers are needed for the entertainment of both white and colored troops.

Red Cross Flayed

RED CROSS—The "white" and "colored" Red Cross clubs located in many areas introduce segregation to the British, and deny white and colored American soldiers the opportunity to know each other better. The non-segregated pattern of one club was cited as a model for the Red Cross everywhere.

LAGGING BEHIND—Continuance of segregation and discrimination is in part responsible for a less determined spirit in the Army than is necessary to meet the very crucial days which lie ahead before this war is won.

A REAL DEMOCRATIC ARMY

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
9-9-44

Shortly after the start of Selective Service, the army issued a statement reaffirming its Jim Crow policy. The reason given was that the army's job is to fight a war and not solve the nation's social problems.

The army dominated by southern influence has thus far not only kept Negroes in separate units but assigned most of them to engineers, quartermaster and other service groups. Seventy per cent of all Negro soldiers are in service units.

From the very beginning progressive groups headed by the N.A.A.C.P. advocated the trial establishment of a volunteer mixed regiment. This group was to be composed of only those whites and Negroes who agreed to be placed in this mixed unit. To date the army has not touched it.

9-9-44

But despite this, the U. S. Army has helped train a unit composed of blacks and whites. They did it for the British. These troops will never wear the U. S. Army uniform. This unit, although taking their place as a full fledged fighting unit alongside other British in shrouded with secrecy, is made up of recruits from the British Caribbean possessions. Trinidad furnished about 22 per cent and the rest came from Jamaica, Barbadoes, British Guiana, Bermuda, the Windward Islands, Leeward Islands, British Honduras and the Bahamas.

Although no definite information is available, it is estimated that the Caribbean regiment is composed of about half Negroes and half whites. There are Negroes holding the rank of major. This is not a service group. Their weapons include Bren guns, mortars and anti-tank guns, and these men will

Fifty New Martyrs

Pittsburgh Courier

12-2-44

The Pittsburgh Courier is not disposed to ever condone crime or disobedience of military orders.

Men and women in the Armed Services promptly should obey the orders given them, no matter how distasteful or repugnant those orders may be, especially when the Nation is at war.

12-2-44

But we cannot dismiss the feeling that the fifty Negro sailors in California, who have just received sentences ranging from eight to 15 years on one specification of mutiny for refusing to load ammunition after scores of their comrades had been killed and injured in the disastrous Port Chicago explosion, are, in a sense, martyrs.

These boys went into the Navy expecting to receive ...ght-...cratic world in the post-war era.

If all of the energy and effort that is put into discrimination and segregation were applied to making democracy work, this country would be the guiding light of the whole demo-

...ints. ...in-...Old ...44 ...out-...the ...ving ...rank ...ob-...arib-...some ...ly it ...and ...we. ...e. It ...uses ...t in ...cre-...vic-

9-9-44

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These boys went into the Navy expecting to receive

the same treatment as other seamen and hoping to be able to strike a blow for democracy.

Instead they found themselves doing the arduous, unsung, undistinguished and dirty work of laborers and stevedores with no hope whatever of getting transfers to active, military service.

12-2-44

Their experience taught them that they were not in a democratic institution, but a jim-crow institution where colored men could do only the dirtiest and most dangerous work without any of the compensation derived by white boys of their same age and rank.

It is easy to understand their state of mind when they saw their buddies blown to bits and were asked to take the same chances they took.

Fed up with their status as second-class citizens fighting in a first-class war, they could see no reason why they should risk their lives for little or no reward.

True, they should have done as they were ordered, as all good sailors and soldiers should, but all of us can understand why they balked, and to that extent they are martyrs, paying the penalty for the sins of a Nation.

This sorry case should be a warning to the Navy to change its racial policy and to give colored youths the same opportunity to serve in all branches of the Service as white youths and to serve alongside them, rather than in jim-crow units.

Will They Try to Discredit Our GI's?

N.Y. Amsterdam News 12-2-44

At the conclusion of the first world war, army and other high officials made the most cruel, untrue and unjust attacks upon Negro troops ever perpetrated against any group of citizens. They were accused of being yellow, rapists, and many other bestial things. Unfortunately, such rumors were believed by many people to the discredit of the entire colored race.

N.Y., N.Y.

Unless the U. S. Government halts its traditional practices of discrimination and jim crow against some 900,000 Negro citizens in the armed services in this war, they will be attacked the same as their fathers and brothers were in the first world war. The responsibility rests entirely in the hands of the Government.

Although army officials from General Marshall down make the hypocritical excuse that they have a war to win and have no time to solve the race question, the army itself is the chief surveyor of race prejudice, discrimination and segregation. Wherever Negro and white troops are stationed in the north the army has established jim crow camps, recreational facilities, etc. As a result Negroes are now discriminated against in such places as Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Ore.

12-2-44

Indeed, the army and its Commander-in-Chief must be indicted for not only condoning jim crow and discrimination, but also for its spread at home and abroad. The sad status of the colored service men is a grave national issue. If something isn't done to improve it, it may cause a serious blow up after the war.

Un-Covering Washington

By HARRY S. McALPIN

White House Correspondent

(Released Through the Atlanta Daily World by NNPA)

N.Y. Amsterdam News 4-22-44

N.Y., N.Y.

WASHINGTON—When an Army officer with several years' ratings of "excellent" finds his morale so low as result of service in the South where he has been subjected to discriminations, insults, segregation and lack of opportunity to use his skills to the fullest, says he would feel better if his fellow-Americans would just treat him like they do the Nazi prisoners—it's time for the War Department to sit up and take notice.

This officer is a Negro. He is educated. He is not a "squawker". He has been a good soldier. He admits a lot of progress has been made—over a hard, bumpy road—toward improvement of the Negro's plight in the Army. He cites the advance in aviation brought about through the efforts of Judge Hastie, of the present Civilian Aide, Truman Gibson, and public pressure—particularly the Negro press. He is not unmindful of the increased number of Negro officers as compared to the last war, nor of the broadened base of training given Negro enlisted men.

it is from a man who is living it every day. He can't do much, if anything about it as a member of the armed forces. He has gone on being a good soldier and an "excellent" officer—as he should.

The correction of such conditions should be a "must-drive" on the part of civilian Negroes and liberals during the Victory-year of 1944 as an integral part of the spirit of democracy—not to mention the political campaign this fall.

Too Many Lack Respect

But he is bitter about the lack of respect the uniform of his country gets when it is draped upon the body of a Negro—officers and enlisted men alike.

And significantly, he says, the problem is not among the rank and file, in the Army, nor among the lower ranks of officers. Whites and Negroes can and do work together, play together, eat together, whenever they are not ordered not to do so. White officers have insisted he accompany them to hotels, restaurants, etc., in the deepest South. He has done so. White enlisted men go to the "colored" movie on the post, though Negroes are refused tickets to enter the "white" movie. He has seen white soldiers, in protest against discrimination, take the seats at the "reserved tables" for Negroes in mess halls, where Negroes have been ordered to sit, but the whites have not been ordered not to sit.

The "problem," he says, is usually the creation of the top ranking officers, who "decree" separate movies, separate mess halls or tables, separate officers' clubs, separate seating on buses, separate toilets, etc. "In the interest of harmony, good order and morale," or "in compliance with local laws and customs," they generally say. Yet they do these same things in Iowa, Michigan, New Jersey and most places outside of the deep South, even where laws and customs are in direct opposition to the Army policies of segregation—even when past experiensce proves the detrimental effect on morale.

Many Are Jealous

What is needed, says this officer, is orders from Washington on the matter of race. Every officer, and particularly those wearing "leaves" and "eagles" and "stars," are "order-minded." They are jealous of their rank and conscious of the shame they may bring upon themselves and their families by disobeying orders. They would even curb their prejudices "on orders."

A lot of us have arrived at similar conclusions by observation from the "outside." Here

Radio Specialists Given Job of Digging Ditches

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

9-2-44

MAXWELL FIELD, Ala.

Men trained at Scott Field as radio specialists are assigned here to ditch digging, K.P., and working garbage or trash trucks.

Smart-alec officers announced that no colored men would ever work in any specialist capacity here.

Live on Penal Farm

The colored boys are not actually on the field, but are quartered on a section of the Alabama Penal Farm. They can't see the field from their location.

Some radio operators have been digging ditches a month. After a certain length of time at it, they can be reclassified as ordinary unskilled laborers.

Dear AFRO: Before I entered the Army, I actually didn't believe all of the things I read in the colored papers about what happens to colored soldiers and civilians in the South.

9-2-44

Those articles sounded unbelievable and colored papers were criticized for printing such news.

Now I know that those stories are every bit the truth, because they happen here every day.

This Section is Hell

This part of Alabama (in the vicinity of Maxwell Field) is hell itself. No soldier can go to town for he has no protection whatever from the abuses of white civilians.

McQuay-Norris Says It Won't Hire Women

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

8-12-44

Makers of small arms for the Army Ordnance Department, has about 9,000 workers, 4,361 white men, 3,530 white women and 1,076 colored men; refuses employment to colored women and upgrading to colored male employees.

Company defense: Hiring of colored women would be contrary to the customs of the community, and could be done only an segregated basis, for which the company has no facilities. Colored men employees can not be upgraded in all job classifications because it would require integration with white workers, which would be contrary to community patterns.

MISS ETHEL BELL

Applied for job in answer to advertisement for workers.

MR. TRIMBLE—What happened when you applied?

MISS BELL—I stood in line with the others, but a guard came up and said it was no need to wait; that there was no hiring of colored women. I was given an application blank to fill out and told that I would be notified when hiring began. I have never been notified.

ERNEST A. GRIFFIN

Employed by company for two years as janitor and material handler; refused upgrading.

MR. TRIMBLE—What was the reason given for refusing to upgrade you?

8-12-44

MR. GRIFFIN—They said janitors and material handlers were the only jobs for colored.

Q—How long have you been applying for a better job?

A—Ever since I went there. Yesterday I asked again. Officials told me if I wasn't satisfied I could go back to using a broom. I left and secured a better job at Amertorp, but the company won't give me a release.

Q—Why did they say they they wouldn't release you?

A—I was too valuable a man to lose.

WALTER DIXON

Has medical discharge from Navy has been employed 2 months and applied for better job. Was told only eligible for janitor and material handler jobs.

MR. TRIMBLE—Are you still working there?

MR. DIXON—No, I became antagonized with the place and quit.

R. E. ADKINS

Now employed as janitor, applied for job as inspector, when company refused on grounds that whites would object, he made a personal survey of white workers.

MR. TRIMBLE—What is the situation as regards employment of colored women?

MR. MUMMERT—The same as colored women than to colored men. It is in upgrading colored men, but we can't see long-range program in mind?

A—No, we will increase use of colored men when we can, but we have no program for colored women and we don't see how we can safely go ahead with any program for hiring them.

Vice president of company.

MR. TRIMBLE—What is the situation as regards employment of colored women?

MR. MUMMERT—The same as colored women than to colored men. It is in upgrading colored men, but we can't see long-range program in mind?

A—No, we will increase use of

8-12-44

A. J. MUMMERT

will be more difficult to employ ahead to do either now.

47d-1944

INSIDE TUSKEGEE

"Fixing" Responsible for Keeping Negroes Out of Key Positions At Base; Want Colonel Davis to Return

Courier – Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JACK DAY, Special Correspondent

(Third In a Series) 9-30-44

WHEN the Tuskegee Army Air Field was planned, it was announced that it would be an ALL-Negro field. Three years later, the field is being run by a clique which perpetuates white officers in all of the key positions. Why? Who is responsible? Those who know Army planning, say that no other Army base in the entire armed forces has had such an uninterrupted tenure of its key personnel as has the Tuskegee Army Air Field. It is a known Army policy that key men on Army bases are constantly shifted elsewhere to prevent the forming of such vicious cliques as the one that exists here at Tuskegee. Why has such a clique been condoned at the only "All-Negro" field in existence? 9-30-44

One explanation is that the training of Negroes has remained as an experiment subject to the whims of some individual or operating agency that has set himself or itself up as an "authority on how to handle Negroes." The conclusion here is that the operation of TAAF is not subject to the overall policy of the Army Air Forces. It is pointed out that if TAAF were considered by headquarters, Army Air Forces, as the 2143rd Base Unit (its proper Army designation) instead of as "The Negro Field," this field would have experienced the same turnover of key personnel as any other such unit. Negroes here say that somewhere along the channel from headquarters, Army Air Forces, to Colonel Hazard, the responsible party or parties will be found.

WHAT ABOUT IT, MR. SECRETARY?

This writer feels that any charge that the perpetrator of such a policy may be found as high up as headquarters, Army Air Forces, must go even farther and say that Secretary of War Stimson either condones or is ignorant of the existence of such a policy. It is not expected that the Secretary of War will have so much time on his hands that he can supervise the running of any one air field, but if he has not insisted on being thoroughly informed as to the spirit under which THIS FIELD is run, then he has laid himself open to the burning criticism of the Negro population of the Nation who are anxiously awaiting the outcome of this so-called experiment. Who keeps the word of the War Department, anyway? Negroes ask. Is the Secretary of War too busy, even at a time like this, to protect the hopes of 13,000,000 citizens from the ravages of the petty conspiracy now on a rampage at Tuskegee Army Air Field? Negroes say that if Secretary of War Stimson condones such a policy then the promise to make this an ALL-NEGRO field was never a faithful one. What hope is there for anyone, they ask, if the War Department, the strength of a Nation, is operating on broken promises? 9-30-44

Headquarters Army Air Forces must be a very busy place at this time. One can imagine all sorts of charts and maps with vari-colored pins protruding in a jagged panorama, but Negroes here say that someone had better pull out the pin covering this field and give it some close examination. They say that headquarters AAF should remember that it is a policy-making body, subject and answerable to ALL of the people of this country. They point out that many Army officials from headquarters have visited Tuskegee and should know the score. Have they inspected thoroughly with knowledge of the far-reaching interests involved? Or have they winked and laughed at the intimidation of "The Negroes" at Tuskegee?

MAXWELL FIELD

To Maxwell Field, in Montgomery, headquarters of the Southeast Army Air Forces Training Command, has gone the honor of being the operating agency for "the experiment." Negroes here point out the predicament of the small contingent of Negro troops stationed there as a positive example of how officials at Maxwell Field stand on the question of equality and fairplay for Negro soldiers. As ditch diggers, garbage mongers and barracks flunkies, Negro troops there are forced to be "hewers of wood and drawers of water for their more favored brethren." How, Negroes ask, can they expect justice from such an atmosphere as an operating agency? 9-30-44

Is there even a greater clique at Maxwell Field supporting the clique here? If so, Negroes say that the whole SEAAFTC needs a thorough "going over and weeding out." If not, then the officer there who approves the policy at Tuskegee is responsible to the War Department, the Negro people and the Nation for condoning or perpetuating such a dastardly crime against the loyal Negro officers who have come to Tuskegee.

Negroes are amazed that the War Department would trust the handling of an "experiment" which means so much to so many, to some irresponsible subordinate at Maxwell Field. Whatever goes on outside TAAF Negroes can only surmise for the machine works smoothly and there is no proof. Nevertheless, like the fellow who consistently lost his shirt playing Twenty-One to the dealer who always hit nineteen with the deuce, they know that somewhere between Maxwell Field and Secretary of War Stimson, somebody has sold somebody a "bill of goods." They say that no fairminded American will appreciate the soiled condition of those goods when they are hung on the line to air out. 9-30-44

COLONEL PARISH

Foppish, polished, affable Colonel Noel F. Parish, Commanding Officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field, has shaken more hands and flashed more smiles than a Republican Presidential candidate in the early days of the New Deal. Negro audiences have been hypnotized by his stylish decorum in rendering speeches. He is a man gifted with the art of beautiful expression. His witty remarks have had Negro audiences rolling in the aisles; that is all except one—the audience of Negro officers here who know the story and can't hear his jokes. His jokes fall on deaf ears to Negro officers here for they remember all too well the many qualified Negro officers who have passed through here in one long line of bitterly disappointed and disillusioned men.

Colonel Parish is a politician and a diplomat. Negro officers here say that no other man alive can paint as beautiful a picture of the future to the Negro captain, over whom he is about to place a white second lieutenant, as can Colonel Parish.

PARISH VISITED SELFRIDGE FIELD 9-30-44

Most serious indictment is that Colonel Parish has set himself up as an authority on Negroes. It is said that he has read the complete works of Booker T. Washington and has exhausted the scientific files on anthropology. It is also said that it would have been far better if he had read, instead, the Constitution of the United States. Negroes here say that it is impolitic for any one to be so presumptuous as to give the impression that he is an "authority" on a race of people. They say that the only way to be an authority on Negroes is to BE ONE at Tuskegee Army Air Field.

One Negro here remembers that when there was some disturbance at Selfridge Field some time ago, Authority-on-Negroes Parish dispatched himself to the scene. It is not known what he actually said or did there, but shortly thereafter ALL Negro flight troops were transferred to the hell-hole at Waterboro, S. C. Again, when the fighter group stationed at Selfridge received orders to go overseas, Authority-on-Negroes Parish was once again on the scene.

CRACKED JOKES AT GRADUATION 9-30-44

Another Negro here recalled a certain graduation exercise most vividly. It is a custom in the AAF to have graduation exercises for each class completing its flight work. In the auditorium for this occasion were mothers and fathers of graduating cadets who had come many miles to witness this sacred tribute to their sons; some of whom they might never see again. Imagine the gall of Colonel Parish, the Commanding Officer of the field, who opened his remarks on that solemn occasion by telling a sly and profligate joke about the occasion on which he was mistaken for a Negro.

"Strangely enough," my informer recalled, "some stupid Negroes actually laughed at the damn joke."

Among the cadets who sat there at their graduation, there was not even the slightest twitch of a facial muscle—only a deafening cataleptic silence. They knew. They had been through the depressed atmosphere of Colonel Parish's administration. They felt that they were entitled to more at their graduation than sarcastic jokes about races. Two of the cadets graduating that morning have since died at the controls of their planes.

IS PARISH RESPONSIBLE? 9-30-44

Negroes here draw a comparison between Colonel Parish and Colonel Kimble (now Brig. Gen.) who preceded him as Commanding Officer of this field. They say that Colonel Kimble was a man who had no love for Negroes and did not try to hide that fact. Colonel Kimble spoke out and at least Negroes knew where he stood. Not so with his successor Colonel Parish who seeks with smiles and beautiful words, to camouflage his real beliefs and acts of discrimination. Negroes here point out that Colonel Parish is by far the more dangerous of the two and should be looked upon as such. They say that he is riding to the top as an Air Corps officer, purely on the strength of the supposition that he is THE Air Corps officer to "handle" Negroes. In view of this fact it is said that in this country "All Gaul" is not divided into three but TWO parts: viz, United States Army Air Forces and Parish Army Air Force.

This, then, is the picture of the Commanding Officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field as given by a cross-section of Negroes here in Tuskegee. Is HE responsible for the fact that No Negroes Are Serving In Key Positions At This Field? 9-30-44

The first answer that comes to the mind is the fact that ALL ASSIGNMENTS OF OFFICERS TO THEIR DUTIES ON ANY ARMY POST ORIGINATE WITH THE COMMANDING OFFICER. In fact, the assignment of officers to their duties is listed as one of the MOST IMPORTANT tasks of a Commanding Officer. If Colonel Parish is the FAIRMINDED angel that he would have Negroes of this country believe, Why Has Colonel Parish Persisted In Assigning Only White Officers To Key Positions At Tuskegee Army Air Field?

Also, is Colonel Parish not the one who calls the liquidated Negro officer in to placate him with a beautiful picture? Does this not constitute Complete Knowledge of What is Happening to this Officer and the Necessity for Letting him Down as Easily as Possible?

(By this time the reader is saying that this is 1944 and I am writing about a unit of the most democratic army on earth. Certainly, no such discrimination could exist without some justification being offered as to why it was necessary. There IS an implied explanation and it will sting and shock you as it did the writer).

The explanation for appointing only white officers to key positions at TAAF is that in all of the branches of the Armed Forces there are no Negroes qualified to fill these positions. Not only that, but here at this field there are no Negroes qualified or with enough intelligence or previous experience who can be trained to qualify. What a reflection this seems to be on the intelligence and preparedness of countless Negroes in this country who are successfully filling far more responsible jobs than even that of Commanding Officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field. 9-30-44

INSIDIOUS MANNER

The insidious manner in which the above conclusion is drawn provides a new low for Army Air Force policy. Negroes here are appointed to positions for which they are either ill-suited or not trained. When a Negro officer, so appointed, fails in his duties, there is a spirt of "I told you so" on the part of the administration. Having thus "convinced" Negro officers that they are incapable of successfully holding such positions, a white officer is then appointed. 9-30-44

One graphic instance of this technique is shown in the first half-hearted attempt to use Negroes as flight instructors. When the very first class of Negro cadets graduated, it was decided to try them out as flight instructors. Consequently, Lieutenants DeBow, Ross, Custis and Roberts were appointed as flight instructors. A short time later they were removed. Colonel Parish is alleged to have used this as an example that Negroes would not make good flight instructors. It is admitted here that these four men were not as proficient as the white instructors were at the time. That, however, was no proof that Negroes in general could not instruct. Nor was it even proof that these four men could not instruct. In the first place, these four men had just graduated. In controlling the cadets under them they were attempting to teach men with whom they had, only a few weeks before, been associated as fellow cadets. Second, unlike all of the white instructors who had gone to an Instructors' school and had completely failed as instructors, this would constitute no proof that Negroes as a race of people could not perform in positions for which they are ill-suited or not trained. When a Negro officer, so appointed, fails in his duties, there is a spirt of "I told you so" on the part of the administration. Having thus "convinced" Negro officers that they are incapable of successfully holding such positions, a white officer is then appointed. 9-30-44

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ill-APPOINTS FORMER BUSINESSMAN TO PX

Another instance of the technique of appointing Negroes to positions for which they are unprepared is that of Next came Negro Captain Martin to succeed Captain McCoy. Captain Martin had been a teacher of physical education as a civilian. Exchange here on the recalled that first, Ne- (now Major) McCoy, was appointed Post Ex- By no stretch of imagination could cer. Imagine the post- one expect a teacher of physical outstanding lawyer education to make a success of an the task of buying and intricate system of bookkeeping as commodities and balances demanded of a Post Exchange officer.

Finally, came Negro Captain Percy Jones, who as a member of the Army Reserve for many years had never served in a similar capacity. It is said that he also failed to do a good job in the Post Exchange. 9-30-44

Shortly after this fiasco of appointments the word was spread around—"Negroes simply could not operate the Post Exchange." The stage was now set. White Captain Bowen, a former businessman, was appointed to the position.

In all fairness, this writer could not prove the intent in the mind of Colonel Parish's administration concerning these above appointments. Nevertheless, his failure to bring to the field some Negro officer capable of doing the job, along with his unwillingness to send some Negro officer from this field to be trained at the Army's Post Exchange school, forces the conclusion that neither Colonel Parish nor his administration was committed to the policy of placing a capable Negro officer in charge of the Post Exchange.

WANT COL. DAVIS AS COMMANDER 9-30-44

By his talks and acts, Colonel Parish has proved that he does not look with fairness upon the Negro people as human beings no different from any other man. He believes that Negroes are inferior in many respects as shown. Somehow, he has come to the conclusion that he has been appointed the lord protector of Negroes in Army aviation and thus always knows what is best for his "children." He has masqueraded as the Negro's friend and at the same time used underhand methods to relegate him to the ranks of the peculiar and inferior. He has sought to twist the basic premise of anthropology to prove to Negro officers, wearing the uniform of their country, that they are inferior to others. He has written a new set of Army regulations for the operation of this field. He is building himself with the War Department as THE authority on Negroes. It is said that he is in the act of compiling his own record of Negroes in the Army Air Forces to be submitted to the War Department as a doctrine by which Negroes are to be judged in other wars. Knowing his warped ideas and theoretical patterns concerning Negroes as a race of people, they say here that he is the most dangerous influence in the future of Negroes in the Army Air Forces. 9-30-44

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., has served TWO assignments overseas; Colonel Parish has served NONE. Every Negro I talked with agreed on this one desire: They want Colonel Davis back here immediately as Commanding Officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Launch Million Dollar Radio Fund To Bring End To Army Jim Crow

N.Y. Amsterdam News 11-18-44

"Today it is more imperative than ever for Negroes to unite into one voice and protest the injustices heaped upon them," declared Edgar G. Brown before a special meeting of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York and vicinity held at Metropolitan Baptist Church Tuesday.

Mr. Brown, director National Negro Council, outlined a nation-wide drive by the council to raise $1,000,000 for a Radio Broadcast Fund to "keep up the fight for justice and equal rights with no jim crow for our million servicemen, women and returning war veterans." The Ministers Conference endorsed the program and pledged full support.

Invited by the conference to outline what program should be adopted to end jim crow and abuse in the armed services, Mr. Brown pointed out that nearly one million persons throughout the country signed petitions (issued by NNC) asking the President (Commander-in-Chief) to end army discrimination and establish equality, and reported that to date nothing has been done.

Even worse, Mr. Brown outlined recent abuses such as an army officer and his wife being ousted from the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, Ark., and "the cold-blooded murder of a GI who sought to protect two of his buddies in Petersburg, Va.—only two days after the reelection of Mr. Roosevelt."

New Plan of Attack

Emphasizing that Negroes cannot afford to take-it-easy after hearing nice-sounding campaign pledges, Mr. Brown urged his audience to take up the fight and force the realization of these disgraceful conditions which confront Negro servicemen and women is over the radio—a new venture in the art of propagandizing the cause of the Negro by Negroes themselves.

In brief, one dollar sent to the National Negro Council, 1717 Euclid Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., by one million individuals will create a Radio Broadcast Fund large enough to go on the air weekly and tell the nation in details of the plight of our people. Once the public is awakened to the real conditions, corrective measures will follow, according to the National Negro Council director.—S. W. G.

Obey Jim Crow or Else, U.S. Tells Service Men

3-20-44 Ohio-American Baltimore Md.

NEW YORK—Precise and "official" information as to what a colored man in uniform may expect by way of personal humiliation if assigned to a training camp in the South was revealed last week by the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces.

The committee, organized on a nation-wide scale, with offices at 360 W. 125th Street, to fight jim crow in uniform, began national distribution this week of a sheet of instructions titled "Laws Concerning Segregation of the Races."

The sheet, an exact reproduction by photo-offset of the original mimeographed paper, is, according to the committee, the key part of a "so-called indoctrination course" given every colored trainee upon arrival at the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Memphis, Tenn.

Called Typical Example

"The paper is all the more damning," the committee adds, "in that it is not an isolated instance of official backing up of jim crow by Federal authorities, but rather is typical of the kind of 'indoctrination' colored troops are subjected to throughout camps in the South."

While the committee points out that "it comes as no surprise that the army and navy carefully practice segregation," it adds, "it comes with something of a shock to see the details actually on paper and to read the cold, contemptuous language in which it is written."

The offending "order" picks up all of Dixie's jim-crow laws, rules and regulations providing for separation of the races in public transportation, hotels, restaurants and places of amusement, and places behind them the official sanction of the Federal Government.

The so-called "indoctrination" paper in full follows:

Laws Concerning Separation of Races

1. The laws of the State of Tennessee require the separation of races on all public transportation systems in this State.
2. Members of the colored race upon entering a street car or bus shall occupy those seats which are located at the rear portion of street car or bus and whenever seats in the bus or street car become vacant which are to the rear of any member of the colored race, such person shall vacate the seat which he then occupies and move back and occupy the rear seat which is then vacant.
3. The conductor or other person in charge of the street car or bus shall have the right to increase or decrease the space so set apart for either race, or he may require any passenger to change his seat when or so often as the change in passengers may make such change necessary.
4. All passengers on street cars or buses are required to take the seats assigned to them, and any person refusing to do so, shall leave the street car or bus, or if they remain in the street car or bus after having been asked and refuses to take the seat assigned to them shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than twenty-five dollars ($25).
5. The laws of the State of Tennessee also give to the owners and their employees of hotels, inns, theatres, public houses, moving picture shows, restaurants, places of amusement, or other business the right to determine for themselves the kind of patronage, customers, or guests they desire to have, and to exclude from their premises or business any person or persons for any reason they think necessary.

Army Jim Crow Slaps Negro Actors

Amsterdam News New York N.Y.

Negro Stars Of "Hi, Yank" Did Not Go To Lake Placid Because Of Racial Identity

9-23-44

Another case of Jim Crow in the Army was revealed to the Amsterdam News with the disclosure this week that three of the stars of the Army show, "Hi, Yank," did not go with the rest of the theatrical company when the outfit moved to Lake Placid, N. Y., because of their race.

The three, Sgt. Bobby Evans, long a popular figure in the theatre; Cpl Jimmy Boxwill, a featured artist with Cab Calloway before he was inducted, and WAC Pvt. Suzie Brown opened with the show at Ft. Dix, N. J., August 7. The Philadelphia daily papers who reviewed the show, hailed the entire cast with particular praise heaped on the Sepian stars.

The show travelled throughout the 2nd Service Command, consisting of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. No animosity toward the three Negro performers was found except in isolated instances. At all camps the company lived together as a unit.

A few weeks ago the unit was detailed to Lake Placid to work on other shows, similar to "Hi, Yang!" for performanace for GI's overseas. Three names were missing from the reassignment order. They were the names of Evans,, Boxwill and Miss Brown. 9-23-44

Un-Covering Washington

N.Y. Amsterdam News 9-2-44

By HARRY McALPIN
Atlanta Daily World and NNPA Washington Correspondent

FROM LOUISVILLE, Ky.—This trip to Godman Field, just outside of Louisville has opened my eyes to a thing which has been apparent to most of us, but which never before has been so vividly impressed upon me.

I have been amazed at the versatility of Army officials, from the chief of staff down to post commanders, and taking in all the intervening ranks.

While the stunning progress of the war is a tribute to one type of versatility on their part, that isn't the type I mean.

They are the most versatile group of men in the world when dealing with rules and regulations promulgated by the War Department and laws affecting the operation of that department. Particularly is this true when those laws, rules and regulations have a direct bearing on the Negro soldier.

When Congress passed Sen. Taft's amendment to the soldier voting law prohibiting distribution of political propaganda, the Army was so strict and technical in its interpretation that a modification had to be put through Congress in order to let the boys read a newspaper.

Ignored Jim Crow Ban

But when Congress, in 1940, passed an amendment to the Selective Service Act, prohibiting discrimination in selection or training on account of race, creed or color, the Army blandly ignored the mandate and set up separate quotas for white and Negro selectees, sent Negroes to separate training camps, built up a jim-crow army, put Negroes in their own outfits, regardless of their previous training and experience, in service units, and in general told Congress to go to hell.

All this was done at the very top of the War Department, in the face of the fact that the Army, over the signature of the adjutant general, sends out despite the discretion left to the post commander by the Army regulations, all non-commission officers or colored enlisted men in grade 4 months before eligible for promotion to sergeant, etc. It takes 33 months under this system to reach top sergeant. And because of the post theatre at Fort Knox, should tell two Negro soldiers "I don't give a damn about Ulio's sig- exceptions are made, nature or any other, I give the orders at this theatre and you either sit in the colored section or get out." Gen. Ulio's order against discrimination is "just one of those things, with no teeth in it." But when it comes to the prejudices of the officers and racial blind spots of the officers

47d-1944

Says Col. Davis' Air Unit Suffers From Jim Crowism

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
12-22-44

Can't Obtain Badly Needed Replacements

WITH THE 15TH U. S. AIR-FORCE IN ITALY.—(ANP)—Jim-crow policies, patterns and restrictions, imposed upon Col. B. O. Davis' all-Negro air unit by American racial tradition, are slowly killing the highly publicized jim-crow fighter group. The death knell was sounded when the outfit went into battle and was forced to rely upon the army's jim-crow pattern of filling the casualty gaps in its ranks from Negro air schools.

While the bottom for sufficient air replacements has admittedly been scraped, it is generally known that there has been a drastic reduction in the number of air cadets that are being trained in Negro air schools. The critical personnel situation exists, the men say, because Col. Davis' air unit must rely upon jimcrow air schools to fill all gaps in the ranks.

With 19 months of combat service to their credit, the all-Negro fighter group has seen action over Munich, Vie[illegible] Toulon, Ploesti, Sofia, Belgra[illegible] Friedrichshafen, Budapest and Salerno. They accounted for 17 enemy fighters and bombers in one day's work over the Anzio beachhead and has provided cover for heavy bombers, patrolled harbors, conveyed ships, hunted U-boats and made reconnaissance flights.

12-22-44

Composed of four all-Negro fighter squadrons, it comprises every department for keeping pilots flying, from mess and maintenance to armaments, engineering, morale and administration. All phases of the group's duty routines duplicate those of other U. S. fighter group and all are performed by Negroes.

Nearly 30 per cent of the combined air and ground personnel have attended college, records show, and at least three-quarters of the 200 commissioned officers were born and reared in the North The bulk of the enlisted men come from below the Mason-Dixon line.

12-22-44

Not only are the replacements they get handicapped by having been trained by white instructors without experience, the flyers stated, but they are unfamiliar with the type of aircraft pilots will fly in combat. The inexperience of Negro officers, pilots and mechanics, explained the men, and the mental strain of competition against the entire corps of white pilots and ground crews, constitutes a serious handicap.

Members of this all-Negro air unit are also conscious of differentials applied by the air corps command in the judgment of their performance and feel the effect of intellectual isolation, produced by having all Negroes in one organization away from every other fighter pilot group.

Since high military officials know that the jimcrow air unit can not survive without sufficient personnel replacements and since they have ordered a reduction in the number of trained Negro air cadets at Negro air schools, many of the men believe that anti-Negro army officials may be determined to just let the outfit die from a lack of replacements. It will be a matter of jimcrow killing jimcrow, they point out.

12-22-44

"Back home I've seen a white man kick a Negro till his nose bled," said one Negro pilot from Dixie. "Sometimes I don't know why I fly," he added, "but I guess I want to do my part to prove that Negroes can do their job as well as whites."

Personnel of this all-Negro air outfit represents a cross-section of Negro people. Some are the sons of tenant farmers, cotton pickers and share croppers. One southern born youth admitted that he earned less than $1 a week before entering the army. Another said he had never handled mechanical tools before, coming to this air unit. All of the men are admittedly getting their first real opportunity and are desirous to make good, but entertain no assurance Negroes will be given their proper places in post-war aviation in America.

White And Colored Soldiers To Be Housed Together

Journal + Guide—Norfolk, Va.
10-14-44

Negro Medical Officers To Be Included In Revamped Program Announced By War Department

By HARRY MCALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Official announcement of the abandonment of the Army plan to seize the Theresa and Pershing Hotels in New York and Chicago respectively, and to abolish its jim crow proposal for Negro soldiers was made by the War Department on Sunday.

The announcement did not mention the two hotels by name but said "in order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing northern Redistribution Centers."

10-14-44

For almost a month, after President Roosevelt received protests concerning the proposed seizure of the Pershing and Theresa Hotels for jim crow centers and ordered the Army to work out new plans which would eliminate segregation, the War Department has been trying to work out a "face-saving" statement for release.

PLAN FURTHER REVISED

The plan evolved, in consultation with White House representatives as exclusively revealed by the NNPA last week, was further revised when Secretary of War Stimson reviewed the new proposal and determined that inadequate provisions had been made for the large numbers of soldiers who would be returned to this country come V-Day.

10-14-44

The official announcement says: "The War Department announced today that its program for processing soldiers in Redistribution Centers on their return to the United States from combat areas overseas will be altered and expanded through the utilization of existing Army Camps.

10-14-44

"The expansion is necessitated by a growing volume of soldiers sent back home by the Army's Air, Ground and Service Forces. At present, hotel facilities are being utilized in the Redistribution Program, where the returning veterans are housed while resting and being processed, reoriented, reclassified and reassigned. These hotel facilities, however, are taxed to capacity, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find additional hotels which would he suitable quarters for the establishment of Redistribution Centers," the announcement states.

10-14-44

On the matter of the previous jim-crow plan, the announcement declares: "Pending the establishment of the camp type Redistribution Centers, and in order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing northern Redistribution Centers.

10-14-44

Thereafter, all returning soldiers, white and Negro, certified by a medical officer as being most in need of this type of accommodation, will be housed in hotels retained for convalescents in the same manner in which they are at present being cared for in the hospitals or convalescent centers."

NEGRO MEDICAL OFFICERS TO BE USED

Assurance has been given by Assistant Secretary of War McCloy that Negro medical officers will be included in the program for determining whether Negro soldiers should be "certified" as being "most in need of" the hotel type of accommodation. Without this assurance, this is viewed as a weak spot in the program, offering a loophole to keep Negroes out of the hotel centers after the camps are established.

10-14-44

The "same manner" referred to in connection with hospitals and convalescent centers is one of full integration of white and Negro soldiers. This program of non-segregation in these phases of the Army's program has been in effect all along.

As for the Army camp phase of the Redistribution Center program proposed for the future, the Army says: "Under the new Redistribution Program, certain of those Army camps which are better situated and more attractive will be selected for use as Redistribution Centers. Many such camps are becoming available through the movement of trops overseas."

Persons familiar with the usual Army plan of operation are cautioning Negroes to watch closely to see that when this phase of the Army program is put into effect that Negroes are not herded into Southern camps where their opportunities for relaxation and recreaiton will be hampered by the traditions and customs of that section.

10-14-44

The upshot of the Army's announcement for the present is that Negroes will be integrated in the centers at Lake Placid, N. Y., and Atlantic City, N. J.; that the Pershing and Theresa Hotels will not be seized as originally proposed; and that a tremendous step has been taken in combatting jim crow in the Army.

White GI's Tell How Afro American—Baltimore, Md. Unsegregated Army Works

By DWIGHT MacDONALD
(from Politics)

The unsegregated training programs in the army are really a laboratory of race relations on a huge scale. From [illegible] soldier writes: "I lived four [illegible] months in a mixed company without color restrictions (except the less desirable jobs) quite without incidents. There was a small amount of talk about how ern white boys, like myself, found ant. Behind their backs, we com-pared our evidence for contradict-

ing the southerners' charge that they 'smelled,' and agreed that they didn't, at least not differently than we did." 8-26-44

Another soldier in ASTP at Camp Lee, Va., writes: "The barracks here are mixed — colored men sleeping, messing, studying with us. First fine feeling the army has given me. Big changes take place when the segregation bar is down."

Men Will Fraternize

A corporal in a southern camp, also in an ASTP course, says: "Here there is no segregation. Even between the southerners and colored soldiers, friendships spring up. It is a great pity that this policy doesn't prevail throughout the country. The fact is that if you put two human beings in fatigues in the same kitchen, they will fraternize."

A lieutenant training for the signal corps at Fort Monmouth, N.J., recently said that he observed no overt friction among the 15,000 colored and white soldiers who went through the unsegregated course with him. Some southerners grumbled privately, but in public treated colored soldiers with cautious courtesy.

My only colored informant, a sergeant, told me an amazing story about his brother, an officer, and a southern lieutenant who was put in the bed next to him in a military hospital in Pennsylvania. 9-26-44

Fast Friends

The southerner objected loudly, but the doctor refused to make the change. After several weeks flat on their backs side by side, the two officers became fast friends, and after they got well, the southerner and his wife took the colored officer out to dinner at a local restaurant.

When the manager balked at serving the colored man, the southerner kicked up a fearful row and carried his point. Afterwards, they went to several night spots, where the southerner absolutely insisted that his new friend dance with his wife.

DISCHARGE OF 15 SEABEES LAID TO RACIAL TROUBLE

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11 (AP).— A naval officer testified today that 15 Negro Seabees were discharged for "unfitness" after racial issues arose in their battalion while they were in Trinidad.

Today's testimony was given by Lt. Comdr. Norman F. Godbe at a hearing granted for the Seabees by the navy's judge advocate general. The Seabees contend no grounds existed for their discharge.

Charges "Seditious Meetings."

Godbe said that tho the men were not charged with specific offenses and were not given dishonorable discharges, they had attended "seditious meetings," attempted "sit-down strikes," "refused to obey orders," and "threatened sabotage." Not all the counts applied to all 15 men, Godbe said.

Arthur Garfield Hayes, New York attorney representing the Seabees, said that because the men have other than an "honorable discharge," they are deprived of certain benefits under the "G. I. bill of rights" and that their discharges carry a "stigma."

Voiced Grievances.

Isaac Glenn McNatt, 27, of 534 W. 152d st., New York City, who edited the battalion's newspaper, testified that he and the ohers had been discharged after attending an off the record meeting called informally Sept. 26, 1943, by the commanding officer of the Trinidad post.

He and the other Negroes, he said, were invited to discuss any grievances, and some of them said that they felt they were being discriminated against in regard to rank because of their race. He said he mentioned no grievances.

The remaining 14 Seabees still are to be heard. Capt. Anton B. Anderson, presiding at the hearing, said a decision probably would not be reached for three or four weeks.

Jim Crow Raised Against Veterans

N.Y. American-Pm News 11-18-44 N.Y., N.Y.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. — That Uncle Sam's Army jim-crow has officially been raised against returning veterans was disclosed here last week when a colored couple was refused admittance to the redistribution center in the famous Arlington Hotel by Army commanders.

Fellow service men and townspeople were incensed when the pair, whose names were withheld were ousted by Army officials after W. E. Chester, veteran manager of the hotel and himself a Southerner, had assigned them to one of the best rooms in the establishment.

The manager, who for many years has employed several hundred colored workers, contended that since many nationalities, including Indians and other darker races were already guests at the resort, he saw no reason that the colored veteran and his wife should not remain.

Sent Back to New York

But an Army captain ordered the couple removed and they were shipped back to Lake Placid, N.Y. The redistribution centers are established for the reorientation of troops who have seen overseas duty before their reassignment to new posts in the United States or in new theatres of war.

The personnel is kept at these posts for periods ranging from two to three weeks, during which they are given thorough physical and mental check-ups. The military part of the program is planned to be carried on as briefly as possible and to take up only a few hours of the day in order to permit complete relaxation of the men.

Facilities are provided so that wives, relatives and sweethearts may visit with the veterans. Such centers are established throughout the country.

Here the simplicity of the problem ends. That complex question of color is permitted to enter, and with it come the difficulties. Negroes be sent to the same redistribution centers with the whites? They've been facing the same death--watching their buddies get wounded--and the same foxholes—sleeping in the same mud—and torturing their souls wondering what and how were doing—just like the white soldier!

But the army, before it thought about the color problem, already had selected 49 hotels in the resort centers at Miami Beach, Fla., Asheville, N. C., Hot Springs, Ark., Santa Barbara, Calif., and Lake Placid, N. Y.

Army "Jim Crow"

As an afterthought, the army selected the Pershing Hotel in Chicago, and now the Theresa Hotel in New York, for its colored soldiers. These they label "for colored." The other 49 are "for white."

The Negro press and Negro leaders and organizations are rightfully raising hell about this segregation. No Negro can afford to condone segregation! This is true despite the fact that the Negro soldier who comes back undoubtedly will be much more able to relax and have that "helluva good itme" in the Pershing and the Theresa. He could hardly get into the frame of mind to go back into battle under the treatment to which he would be subjected when he went out into the town from a hotel in Miami

Rebel at Being Led

Negroes, like all other people, rebel at being led by the hand and told "this is what you must do," on the assumption that it is what they would prefer to do.

The army would be so much wiser and make far a much better program and a wider acceptance of it, if it would give Negroes a choice. With very few exceptions, the Negroes would go to the Pershing and the Theresa. The few who would choose to go elsewhere should be permitted to do so.

But the army's southern hierarchy and its dumbness on race relations has put it in a very embarrassing position, subject to attack. It can still pull itself out and save some of democracy's "face."

Army Needs Men—But White Only; Clamp Lily-White Ban On Specialists

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 12-9-44

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The manpower shortage has hit the army—but not too hard.

There's a critical shortage of lily-white GI specialists, the army indicated this week.

Boldly barring Negro soldiers from a large number of specialist jobs, the United States army is conducting a diligent Jim Crow search to reduce its "critical" need for skilled men.

An order signed by the army's Chief of Staff, General G. C. Marshall, was recently issued by the War department instructing officers to recheck the qualification of their personnel for specialist assignments.

The purpose of the order was "to conserve skilled manpower, maintain morale, and prevent the misassignment and maldistribution of critically needed specialists."

'For White Only'

Qualifications for a number of the "critically needed" specialists appeared to be skilled hands and white skins. 12-9-44

The broad outline of the memorandum ordered officers to assign men "without regard to physical profile." But asterisk-marked as the one regard for physical profile to be watched for, the following positions were listed for GI's who could fit the "whites only" qualification:

Marine Engineer
Locomotive Engineer
Locomotive Mechanic
Diver
Master, Ship
Mate
Master Mechanic, Marine
Mechanic, Marine Engine
Blacksmith
Bridge Builder
Canvas Cover Repairman
Car Carpenter, Railway
Conductor, Railway
Locomotive Fireman

The replacement training centers restricting specialists to "whites only" were the Army Service Force training center at Fort Warren, Wyo., and the ASF training center at Camp Gordon, Johnson, Florida. 12-9-44

The memorandum, No. 615-44, entitled "Critically Needed Specialists" was issued by the War department on September 18, 1944.

The list was slated to be revised each month.

Un-Covering Washington

By HARRY McALPIN
Atlanta Daily World and NNPA White House Correspondent

Stubbornness in Race Relations

WASHINGTON—One of the most difficult problems of this war has arisen as result of the Army's desire to do something for its soldiers who have seen action overseas and become battle-weary. The solution the Army is trying is typical of its blindness and stubbornness in race relations.

The Redistribution Center plan, initiated by the Army Air Forces—in which there is no segregation—has struck a responsive chord and has been adopted by the army ground and service forces.

Into these centers men will be brought from overseas after being afforded a short furlough to visit their parents, friends and relatives at home.

The whole purpose of the centers, however, is to get the men in a frame of mind to go back into combat—usually in some other theatre of action. This task is a tremendous psychological problem. Men who have faced death, seen their buddies wounded and die, lived in foxholes, slept in mud, tortured

Negroes, in such men feel when they are brought back to the States that the war for them is over. They are inclined to believe that some of the other fellows, still in this country, should finish the job.

But the Army Knows

But the army knows these battle veterans are its greatest asset. They are needed in combat theatres because of their experience. To get them in the mood to return to war is the job of the redistribution center. The first step in this direction is to have the men relax completely, forget war for a short time, and have a helluva good time in the meanwhile.

their souls wondering what and how their folks back home from the racial standpoint—leaving out the strain it puts on the already inadequate civilian housing in the Negro neighborhoods involved. It is the labeling of them as "Negro" and the restriction of Negroes to these places only.

47d-1944

What's Behind 477th Shift to Dixie?

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
7-15-44

(The following is condensed from the current issue of Politics, and was written by a bombardier. The 477th Bombardment Group began with 50 officers and 350 enlisted men all colored, and was trained at Mather Field, Calif., with white bomber personnel. Maj. Gen. Ralph P. Cousins first ordered separation of the soldiers in the mess hall. Later the unit was shifted to Selfridge Field, Mich.)

In true Army fashion, officials at Selfridge Field refused to permit 477th officers to apply for membership in the base officers' club, knowing that the men would have to travel 30 miles to Detroit for recreation. Col. Robert L. Selway, Jr., commanding officer of the group, reprimanded the officers for submitting applications, and a letter was read from the base commander stating that it was not the policy of the War Department to mix colored and white personnel in the messes and clubs.

Col. Selway stated that if anyone wanted to use the group to solve any racial problem or to further the race, his services in the group would be considered unsatisfactory.

Maj. Gen. O. D. Hunter, after an unexpected visit, declared there was no racial problem at Selfridge and that he would tolerate none.

Discrimination, he said, had been going on for over 100 years and that it could not be solved overnight.

The country is not ready for the revolutionary change of mixing colored and white officers. The general promised to furnish a separate club. 7-15-44

Shifted to Kentucky

Construction of the separate club was started, only to be halted when the entire group was moved to Godman Field, Ky., under the pretext of field training conditions. The real reason was to shift the 477th to a Southern field where the local jim-crow laws would back the army's policies.

At Godman Field, the group was given the same facilities that accommodated the air corps in the last war, plus one new building.

In comparison, Selfridge Field is one of the best bases in the entire United States and Godman Field is one of the worst.

Because the facilities are inadequate for night flying, one phase of the training program must be carried on elsewhere. The movement was dictated by spite rather than in the interest of the service and the nation.

Conditions Deplorable

The enlisted men are housed in barracks of World War I vintage. The officers' living conditions are likewise deplorable. One high ranking investigating officer was tactfully shunted to inspect the one barracks which most nearly resembles conditions prescribed by the army. 7-15-44

Ironically the barracks housing the pilot personnel was circumnavigated during the inspection by the group commander.

Despite the fact that the flying personnel is confronted with increasing humiliations, and the enlisted men have no incentive to do their best, this group has established a safety record of 137 days without an aircraft accident.

Culminating several investigations was a visit by the second highest ranking officer of the army air forces, Lt. Gen. Barney Giles.

He and his group from the Inspector General's Office called a meeting of all flying officers with the group commander present. The men were asked if there was anything bothering them.

They asked if the group was to remain at its present station to complete its overseas training, and the answer was yes.

With the commanding officer present, no complaints were expressed. The accepted practice for an inspection of this sort is to hold private meetings at which all who have complaints can make them, without fear of future reprisals. 7-15-44

From this inspection, General Giles promised swimming pools, squash courts, an enlarged post exchange, bus service to Louisville and other unimportant items. He was not aware that what the men most desired was freedom from oppression that the South affords.

Bombardiers Sleep in Halls Because of J.C.

11-11-44 Afro
Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

COLUMBUS, Ind. (ANP) — So crowded are the barracks being occupied by that portion of the 447th Bombardment Group stationed here that navigators and bombardiers recently arrived are sleeping in the halls of the barracks to which colored officers are assigned.

There are only about 40 white officers and there are many more colored. The whites have a separate barracks which is not nearly full, but colored officers are not permitted to share it. Rumors are that before long the group will be moved back to Godman Field, Ky.

SOUTHERN SAY-SO

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Supported Financially and Morally, FEPC Would Bring Prosperity to the South

July 1, 1944

By M. S. STUART

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

"HONEY," said my host to his wife, "you came up last night and left the lights downstairs burning all night all over the place. We have a daughter to educate and we cannot afford to waste money like that."

"Well, no matter if I did," retorted wifey hotly, "you waste money, yourself. I remember one time you came out of the bathroom and left the water running. Another time you put too much sugar in your coffee and wasted more coffee to make it right, and when you get in a hurry you grind nearly half your pencil away sharpening it. You waste as much as I do."

Mr. Stuart

"But Honey," my host explained, "those were only petty errors, and, anyway, that is not the point. Blaming each other does no good. What I am trying to show you is that it is to our mutual interest to be economical."

But wifey refused to acknowledge the point. "Talk like nobody makes mistakes but me. Always picking on me," she almost yelled in an angry, screechy note as she stalked out of the room.

"Well," said my host apologetically as he handed me the big daily paper he had been downstairs to fetch, "when my wife sets her head a certain way it is useless to try to show her the point about anything. She construes everything you say as critical and she grasps the most trivial straws to support her contentions."

RIDICULOUS SIMILARITY

The leading editorial in the big daily was about FEPC. So similar to that of my host's wife was the position at the heart of that editorial, and so strikingly trivial the argument advanced in support of it, I was tempted to lay the paper aside and laugh outright. Here it is at last, I thought, an apt picture of the South, a fussy, sensitive housewife who interprets every suggestion for mutual benefit as personal criticism, and thereby fails to co-operate for general improvement.

FROM that editorial, which I consider so utterly unbecoming the high plane of logic and dignity appropriate for a big metropolitan daily, let me quote a brief excerpt or two:

"Supporting the FEPC are organizations in the cities of the North which seek to break down segregation. The obvious answer is to tell them to eliminate segregation in their own communities."

Now, here you have what I consider a compound fallacy. In the first place there is a misstatement of fact in the premise. The organizations supporting FEPC, and the committee, itself, have been more vigorous to eliminate discrimination in employment outside the South than in it. This is so well known that the big daily could not be ignorant of it.

The other brother in the twin fallacy quoted above is the amazing spectacle of a great daily marring its lead editorial by trying to justify unfairness in one section of the country by claiming that the same type of it exists in another area. That is a case of the garlic complaining about the bad breath of the onion, and the puerility of such reasoning is obvious.

BUT the most flimsy argument advanced against FEPC is the big daily's statement that "The Committee contradicts itself in its creation. Sixty-eight of the personnel is colored, 48 white. Only one-tenth of our population is colored."

It is utter childishness to contend that the objective of FEPC is to force employment in defense plants in proportion to population. The impracticability of such a program, if it had been proposed, would have defeated the committee before it got started. If the South were not too blind to see its own best interest, it would be strong for FEPC, for with its large population of Negro laborers, the better wages which fairness in employment would accomplish, would raise the general level of prosperity to the advantage of all, and particularly the white merchant class.

Joe Makes Protest

Joe is said to have protested vigorously, pointing out that he had religiously respected jim crow laws in southern cities and towns but did not have to stand for jim crow on army territory. Both fighters are reported to have been very angry. At this point the MP is said to have asked both to stand for him to the guardhouse. Captain Walter Buck, post provost marshal, is said to have visited them a short time later and explained that the jim crow signs in the post bus depot were ordered by the post commander. A New York Times reporter quotes the white colonel as saying that he does not foresee the time when his outfit will include colored junior officers. Although there are many company officers, captains and lieutenants in a regimental combat team of the 92nd Division in Italy, none ranks white junior officer.

A charge which was flatly denied by the post commander. Lieutenant Carroll's version of the incident is that when the MP's complied, he said, Walter Buck informed him crow rules were in effect only to conform with state camp takes the responsibility of "sorting" passengers at other than have them this colored outfit are white.

White Replacements 12-2-44

Whites Get All Afro American Top 92nd Posts

8/ Give, Md. Leaders

Army Denies Louis, Ray Jailed In Jimcrow Tilt

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
4-8-44

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — A denial to the report that S-Sgt. Joe Louis Barrow, world's heavyweight boxing champion, and Sgt. Ray (Sugar) Robinson, uncrowned welterweight champion, members of the army's morale boxing team, were placed in the guardhouse by a white MP at Camp Sibert, Ala., last week for protesting camp jim crow rules was issued Saturday by Lt. John F. Carroll, post press relations officer.

"I'll bet Louis couldn't even find the stockade there," Carroll said. Carroll admitted that Louis and Robinson were apparently mollified by the jim crow practices on army territory and said they were escorted back to the bus station by MP's.

Separate Busses

The story involving S-Sgt. Joe Louis and Ray (Sugar) Robinson broke when both tried to get bus transportation from the camp to Birmingham after filling an engagement there. According to reports, they discovered that in conformity to local race traditions colored soldiers are assigned to one of three busses; that the bus depot, located on army territory, is divided into "white" and "colored sections." When Ray and Joe grew weary of waiting for a bus, they decided to make their journey back to Birmingham in a taxicab. 4-8-44

While the army had sought to conform to local practices regard-ing the separation of the races, Joe and Ray found that the bus depot is reported to have asked them to leave, the tenant of MP's walked in and ordered them out. Both Joe and Ray asked why. "Do you know what color you are?" the MP officer replied. Joe and Ray then placed in the "white" section with Ray be taken to see the commanding officer. The MP's sat on army territory to have been very angry. At this point the MP is said both to have asked them to the guardhouse. Captain Walter Buck, post provost marshal, explained that the MP is said to have visited them a short time later and explained that the jim crow signs in the post bus depot were ordered by the post commander. A New York Times reporter quotes the white colonel as saying that he does not foresee the time when his outfit will include colored junior officers. Although there are many company officers, captains and lieutenants in a regimental combat team of the 92nd Division in Italy, none ranks white junior officer.

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Fifty Sailors Face Munity Charges For Refusal To Work

Journal + Guide – Norfolk, Va.
9-23-44

Special to Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Fifty Negro enlisted men went on trial Thursday, Sept. 14, in San Francisco, Calif., on charges of mutiny. (Mutiny carries possible death penalty). The men had refused to load a Navy ammunition ship as an aftermath of the Port Chicago, Calif. explosion which claimed 322 lives on July 17.

In response to an inquiry from the JOURNAL AND GUIDE the Navy Department at Washington gave the following statement: 9-23-44

"Immediately following the Port Chicago explosion, the Navy personnel which made up the ammunition loading crews were given short furloughs before beginning loading operations at a new location in the San Francisco area.

"After the men had been at work in the new location a few days, slightly more than 300 Negro enlisted men refused to continue on the job. When orders to work were repeated individually to the men, all but 258 returned to work. 9-23-44

"The Commandant of the 12th Naval District then visited the location to address the insubordinate group. He explained the importance of their work to Navy operations and the serious consequences of refusal to obey orders. The men were given opportunity to explain reasons for their actions. About 25 men did so and spoke freely and respectfully. After the visit all but 44 men stated they would comply with the orders and did so. Later six men stopped work again.

200 FINED

"The approximate 200 men who stayed away from work, but returned after the visit, were tried in Summary Courts and fined. No further action against these men were taken. The 50 who refused to go back to work after the Commandant's visit are those who are now on trial before a General Court for disobedience of orders."

Letters To The Editor

munications must carry writer's name and address, though names are permitted at the editor's discretion. Letters should be to not more than 200 words. They are subject to condensation.

Negro In The War

Many a boy will have been sacrificed in this war upon the altar of racial prejudices. The segregated system in our Army from which we refuse to budge is a cause. According to the GI's Stars and Stripes and reports from the front there is intense resentment because Negroes are in the main, still toting bales and doing the same kind of laboring work they have been relegated to in our peacetime economy. Until recently when an antitank unit went into front line duty in France, it is reported not a single Negro division had been in actual combat with the enemy. Post

Of course, not many Negroes are being killed. The point is, however, that Negroes want combat service. The situation is reported as lowering the morale of both white and Negro troops. General Eisenhower has lavishly praised the men who keep the supply lines, smooth the roads and do the menial services, but Negro boys write home that they want to get at the Heinies, whom they recognize as their natural racial enemies.

Has the Negro guts and courage? That 70 per cent of the amateur and professional fighting champions in the ring have been Negroes, lately, attests to the fact that they have fighting skill and abdominal fortitude. Who can say that in athletic contests of any kind, if given equal training and chance to compete, the Negro athlete is not tops? Even Hitler knows this since the 1936 Olympics. Endurance, neuromuscular skill, and courage are among the outstanding qualities of healthy Negroes in America. In combat in the air, on the seas or land, and in every one of our wars, the Negro has won a fair share of meritorious awards. Whole regiments in the last war were awarded the French Croix de Guerre.

Lieut. Ben Johnson, Columbia University's former track captain, is working in a trucking unit on the French invasion front and regrets that he can't get a crack at the Jerrys. The writer knows of dozens of college-trained boys, some holding graduate degrees with exceptional IQs, loading and unloading lumber or technical noncoms over units of laborers, jobs that any road gang boss with less than a fourth-grade education could do as well.

We keep our Army in a segregated pattern because we don't want to give up the very theory of race that brought on this war. Is it not time to radically alter our thinking? A few good fighting divisions of tough Negro soldiers of the kind of our former Ninth and Tenth Cavalry, and Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry Regiments would possibly speed up our advance in the Rhineland and toward Japan.

E. B. HENDERSON,
Falls Church, Va., Dec. 2.

Perhaps The Truth Hurts

Army Booklet Called Unfit For Soldiers

Courier – Pittsburgh, Pa.
5-6-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"The Races of Mankind" is unfit as reading material for soldiers because it is filled with Communist propaganda and conveys the message that Northern Negroes living under better conditions are intellctually superior to underprivileged Southern whites, a House Military Affairs sub-committee charged here last week.

Headed by Rep. Carl T. Durham (D., N.C.) the committee issued a formal report denouncing the pamphlet which was written by Dr. Ruth F. Benedict and Dr. Gene Weltfish, of the Columbia university department of anthropology and published by the Public Affairs Committee, Inc.

DENOUNCED BY MAY

The pamphlet previously was denounced orally by Rep. Andrew J. May (D., Ky.), the committee chairman, who said the War Department banned the booklet at his request.

The War Department, which purchased 55,000 copies for use in orientation courses, said it changed its plans because the material was "inadequate," and authorized distribution only for "off-duty discussion." 5-6-44

The inquiry into the pamphlet began after certain Southern Congressmen charged the authors indulge in "thinly disguised sophistries" and "drop anthropology for politics, sociology, labor unionization and similar subjects employed by propagandists of Communism."

"Adam and Eve," says the report, "are depicted with navels."

THE BATTLE THE ARMY LOST

Defender – Chicago, Ill.

The Army has rescinded the order making the Theresa Hotel in Harlem and the Pershing Hotel in Chicago rest centers for battle-weary Negro soldiers. This cancellation by the Army came after President Roosevelt issued an order prohibiting the Jim Crow treatment of these war veterans. 10-28-44

The Commander-in-Chief has made it possible for Negro troops to be admitted on an equal basis with white soldiers to the swank Lake Placid club in Lake Placid, N.Y., to the resort city of Santa Barbara, Calif., and to other rest centers to be obtained in northern states.

The President stated that he had no knowledge of the unfair treatment planned for Negro fighting men until it was brought to his attention in the telegram sent by Negro leaders. After meeting with a committee of three prominent Negroes the President immediately instructed the War department to abandon the segregated project. The resulting order was issued by the President without publicity or fanfare. It was just an order.

Contrast this action by President Roosevelt with Republican lip service to the Negro. Republicans emphatically state their opposition to the poll tax, yet will not vote for cloture in order to have the tax eliminated. Republicans advocate the establishment of a permanent F.E.P.C., yet offered no support when the hearings were recently held on this bill. 10-28-44

The new Army policy regarding rest centers can be viewed in three lights. First, it is a signal victory for non-segregation in the Army. Secondly, the comradeship that will be created between Negro and white soldiers during this rest period will, like the comradeship on the battlefield, be a great contribution toward making democracy work after the war. Lastly, it refutes emphatically the Republican charge that President Roosevelt has deserted the Negroes.

ALL KINDS OF ARMY JIM CROW

Afro American – Baltimore, Md.

"Life at Camp McCain" is the title of a 44-page picture magazine of this 17-month-old Mississippi camp, at which Major General Eugene M. Landrum recently took over command.

The magazine portrays in pictures the 87th Division, chiefly in training at work and on parade. Two pages in the back of the book, titled "Recreation," show colored soldiers of the 470th Quartermaster Battalion.

These colored pictures are not only jim-crowed on two pages at the end of the book, but they also show the colored soldiers chiefly at play. 6-3-44

From the pictures, colored soldiers at Camp McCain do no useful work worthy of picturization.

47d-1944

Race, Not Mutiny, is Issue in Seamen's Trial---Marshall

Tribune — Washington, D.C.
10-21-44

After listening to three days' testimony of the 50 Negro seamen charged with mutiny for refusal to load ammunition at the Mare Island depot August 9, special NAACP counsel, Thurgood Marshall declared, "These men are tried for mutiny solely because of their race or color."

Following an urgent telephone call from Joseph James, president of the local NAACP branch, asking that National Office assistance be given the defendants immediately, Mr. Marshall flew to San Francisco, where he has been reviewing testimony and interviewing the men.

In his report of proceedings thus fare he charged:

The fatal Port Chicago explosion was on July 17th and many of the accused were in Port Chicago at that time.

Many of them were hurt. On August 9th they were transferred to another island and told to fall in for work, meaning loading ammunition. They did not. Their officers including the Admiral talked to them.

Then their officer asked them the following: "All of you who are willing to obey all lawful orders stand fast. All who are not fall out and give your names to the officers." Some stood fast and others fell out. 10-21-44

Those who fell out were arrested. They were 257 altogethre but it ends up that only 50 are charged with mutiny.

Not An Order

"The men take the position that the above statement by the officer was not considered by them to be an order and what they meant by their actions was that they did not want to load ammunition. They did not mean to disobey an order.

"A typical example of their testimony is that of Seaman Bordenave who is just seventeen. He had enlisted when he was 16; was released when they discovered his age and re-enlisted as soon as he was 17. 10-21-44

He had only been handling ammunition a week and was a 'hatch tender' which meant that he was the one who directed the operator of the winch as to how to lower the ammunition into the hole. No wonder they were all afraid to load ammunition.

"Every man testified that since the Port Chicago affair they were 'afraid to load ammunition.' Three of the accused men handled winches, one had ten months' experience, two had two months' experience . . . all experience was with ammunition. 10-21-44

"Liuet. James F. Coakley, former assistant prosecutor of Alameda County, Calif., under the present Governor Warren is the Judge Advocate. He asks each of the accused who is from above the Mason and Dixon line 'Where are you from?' He never asks any of the good southern boys the question. Today he asked one of the accused where he was from and the man said, 'Chicago.' He asked him where he took boot training, the boy replied, 'Great Lakes,' whereupon Coakley said, 'Didn't they teach you to address officers as Sir? Why can't you say, Sir to me?'"

Insufficient Evidence

There is no sufficient evidence of mutiny or conspiracy.

There is no evidence of refusal to obey a direct order.

These men are being tried for mutiny solely because of their race or color.

The meaning of mutiny, under which these men are being tried is — "collective insubordination with intent to disobey a lawful command."

In order to find defendants guilty of mutiny it is necessary for prosecution to prove there was collective insubordination and concerted refusal or omission which consists of a persistent to obey orders, or to do duty. None of these men appears to have conspired collectively to disobey or perform duty with insubordinate intent.

A SECOND LOOK

Afro-American
10-14-44
Baltimore, Md.

By J. SAUNDERS REDDING

Hastie's Resignation

It is now more than fifteen months since William Hastie resigned as civilian aide to the Secretary of War. His job was to advise on matters and policies touching upon the colored soldier.

At the time of his resignation there was much in the record to recommend to him the course he followed. His action seemed not only plausible but laudable.

Mr. Hastie hoped that by his resignation the scales would be struck from the eyes of the policy-makers in the War Department. He hoped to make a live and living issue of specific army policy dealing with colored Americans.

He had met anti-colored bias at every turn. He got a nasty dose of it from the Air Corps men. He was instrumental in tearing down enough of the prejudice to get colored men in army aviation training; but he could not prevent, as he wanted to, the setting up of the segregated training center at Tuskegee.

What he could do, he did do; but he had to fight so long and bitterly to get done what was done that he lost hope in the fight. He resigned. It seemed the only possible step, and it seemed courageous and unselfish.

It meant making the kind of sacrifice few men are strong enough to make.

Failed of Purpose

But Mr. Hastie's resignation failed of its highest purpose. It did not change fundamental Army policy. It did not make things better for our soldiers. Since March, 1943, the colored man's position as a soldier has deteriorated amazingly, and it seems to grow worse from week to week.

How bad the situation is must be a matter of speculation for the private citizen, but all he hears is not merely malicious rumor. I talked with an Army chaplain the other day, and he told me that his greatest problem was to keep men from "going over the hill."

"It is not the Army routine that they mind. All Army men gripe about that. It's the infernal stuff they have to take because they're colored, segregation in PX's, segregation in movies. It seems to have gotten worse since the drive opened in France."

"But what about that no-segregation ord[illegible]" I said. "General Ulio or someb[illegible]y—didn't he issue an order?"

"Oh, that?" the chaplain said. "A post commander can ignore or follow that as he wishes." 10/7/44

Job Not Being Done

But aside from the personal observations of a few men who may, after all, be merely disgruntled, one can gather from the papers a sense of something wrong.

Two-thirds (one dispatch says nine-tenths) of the colored troops trained for combat restrained for Service of Supply . . . The morale troubles in Arizona . . . The mess at Godman Field . . . The TWO-MAN mutiny at Claiborne.

So now — though I applauded Mr. Hastie's resignation at the time—I wonder. I still think it was a courageous action. But I wonder. I wonder whether sticking it out would not have been more helpful. They need somebody to do a job that's not being done. They need somebody very badly.

Race Friction Abroad Hurts War Effort, Says White On Broadcast

The New York N.Y.
5-13-44

Racial friction between colored and white American soldiers overseas, although corrected to a marked degree by General Dwight Eisenhower, is still hurting the war effort and should be completely eliminated, said Walter White, NAACP secretary, in a nationwide radio talk over the Columbia Broadcasting System, Sunday, April 30.

"The division in our ranks and the fomenting of racial and other antagonisms are postponing the day of victory," he declared. "They are creating doubt among our Allies as to our sincerity when we assert that we are fighting a war for freedom for all peoples. Whoever causes the war to last one single day longer than necessary is, as much a traitor to our country as one who sinks a troop ship or reveals military secrets to the enemy. If for no other reason than to win the war as soon as it is humanly possible and to save the lives of American men—perhaps among them the life of your son—it is imperative that any person, whatever his race, who causes trouble, should be stopped. That will be done only if the people of America and their government stop evading or temporizing with this fundamental question whose solution is imperative if we are ever to have a world of peace."

White, who spent 15 weeks in Great Britain, Ireland, North Africa and Italy, said he had traveled more than 20,000 miles and had talked with many officers, soldiers, and civilians. 5-13-44

Win-The-War Spirit

"The majority of American soldiers abroad have been decent Americans interested in but one objective—winning the war as speedily as possible and returning home to their families and friends. Despite surprisingly large percentage of [illegible]em—both officers and enlisted personnel—are concerned over the [illegible]d name being given to the United [illegible]ates by the friction some of their [illegible]

[illegible]ated amazingly, and it seems to grow worse from week to week.

[illegible]ow bad the situation is must be a matter of speculation for the private citizen, but all he hears is not merely malicious rumor. I talked with an Army chaplain the other day, and he told me that his greatest problem was to keep men from "going over the hill."

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[illegible] of the most backward [illegible]lent in their hatred of other Ameri[illegible] the South to the countries can soldiers, especially when all of [illegible]ey have been sent as sol- them are fighting in a common [illegible]ight a war against Nazi cause. They have resented the ac- [illegible]ories. tion of visitors presuming to dictate [illegible] of them have sought to them whom they should or [illegible]e minds of British, Italian should not invite into their homes [illegible]rican and other peoples or associate with. Many of our [illegible]egro Americans. They Allies are puzzled, too, by the [illegible] such stories as these: that American pattern of segregation [illegible]e inferior illiterate, dis- Repeatedly I was asked why the [illegible] savage. Some of them United States, fighting a war for [illegible] used physical violence freedom, should send abroad two [illegible] the association of Negro armies—one white and one Negro."

[illegible]th British, Italian and Generals Eisenhower and John C [illegible]le. They have objected H. Lee of the European Theatre of [illegible] of places of public ac- Operations were praised by Mr. [illegible]n such as pubs and White for issuing "unequivocal di- [illegible] by Negro soldiers. rectives and taking other steps to [illegible]haviour has puzzled and eliminate the cause of trouble." [illegible] many of the people of White scored the events of the [illegible]es. They have found it past few months on the home front, [illegible] understand why some saying, "certain members of Con- [illegible]diers should be so vi- gress have poured forth hate-filled [illegible] difficult to trans- these countries. [illegible] American soldiers

tirades against the Commander-in-Chief of our nation and against racial and religious minorities, as vicious and intemperate in content and tone as any sent out by Goebbels from Berlin." He cited the politics in the soldiers' vote bill, the boasts of filibusters against the anti-poll tax bill, and the statements of defiance against the Supreme Court for its opinion in the Texas primary case. He also hit Congressman Andrew J. May of Kentucky for his threat against the War Department which caused it to cancel its plan to distribute the pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind."

White said, "as men approach actual combat and face the dangers of combat, they tend to discount many prejudices," and he praised the combat record of the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the work of Negro supply troops on the Anzio beachhead. 5-13-44

The radio talks inaugurated the nationwide membership campaign of the NAACP which opened May 1 and will close June 30.

Censors Hide Race Friction In Army Overseas

Defender Chicago, Ill. 12-2-44

WITH THE U.S. 9TH ARMY—Racial friction inside the army is hidden by a "total blackout," John M. Mecklin of the Chicago Sun Foreign Service charged Thursday.

In a dispatch discussing censorship curbs imposed by the army overseas, Mecklin disclosed that correspondents are forbidden to mention several other topics, which results in "denying to the British and American people an honest report of what this war is."

Mecklin complains of the "ban on taking any kind of a poll of opinion among the soldiers on controversial issues." "A third total blackout," he continues, "applies to the mention of racial friction inside the army."

End Lynching, Poll Tax Evil, Jim Crow In Armed Services

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. 6-17-44

By WENDELL L. WILLKIE

Distributed by the Associated Press and United Press

Under the leadership of Lincoln, in the fires of Civil War, the Republican party's struggle to save the Union was transposed into the great moral issue of human freedom. By the Emancipation Proclamation and by amendments to the Federal Constitution, under Republican leadership, the Negro was legally and constitutionally guaranteed exactly the same rights as every other citizen of the United States.

It is therefore strange that Republicans, year after year, yield to the old States' Rights argument and a narrow interpretation of Federal power, to prevent the passage of Federal statutes which constitute the only practical method by which the Negro's rights can be assured him.

RIGHT TO VOTE IS BASIC RIGHT

One of these basic rights is the right to vote. Another is the right to live free of the haunting fear and the too-frequent actuality of mob violence. The first can be guaranteed, under the circumstances existing today, only by a Federal statute eliminating State poll taxes and other arbitrary prohibitions against the free exercise of the voting franchise; the other only by a Federal statute making the crime of lynching tryable in Federal courts and punishable by Federal law.

The Republican party in its platform and in the declarations of its candidates should commit itself unequivocally and specifically to Federal anti-poll tax and anti-lynching statutes.

NEGROES WILL NOT BE SATISFIED

The Negro people of the United States understandably refuse to accept the technical arguments against cloture in the debates on anti-lynching bills, or even the sincere claims of constitutionalism which prevent such just measures from becoming law. And the very

Redistribution Center Plan Will Keep Negroes Out Of Hotels

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Priorities Will Go To Men Who Have Won Combat Awards

12-6-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The Army Service Forces, under Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somerville—now famed as the author of the statement concerning returning Negro servicemen, "I'd like to dump the coons in the middle of the desert"—has set up a priority system for referring soldiers to the hotel-type distribution centers as opposed to the camp-type centers. The priority system is one which works to the detriment of a disproportionately large number of Negro servicemen.

Highest priority will go to men who have been patients in hospitals overseas and nearing completion of their convalescence but not quite ready for duty. In this same group will be placed prisoners of war who have been repatriated or have escaped.

SEEN LITTLE COMBAT

Second priority will go to men with combat awards and the greatest length of service overseas. This will probably be the largest group qualifying for hotel accommodations.

12-6-44

After these groups are accommodated in the luxury hotels maintained by the Army, if the hotel accommodations are not exhausted, other men may be sent there, probably on the basis of length of service overseas and physical condition.

Because Negroes are used overseas primarily in capacities which give little or no opportunity for winning or no opportunity for winning combat awards, it is apparent they will get few of the hotel accommodations.

MOVE OF EVASION

Just two months ago, the Army was a very rosy hue from the red faces of the brass hats resulting from the furore raised when jim-crow redistribution centers were planned for the Theresa Hotel in New York and the Pershing Hotel in Chicago, which were discarded only after President Roosevelt stepped in and ordered a change of plans. Memory of this fact has given rise to speculation as to whether the priority system—which on the face seems a natural procedure—isn't really a move to defeat the housing of any large number of Negroes in the luxury-type hotels maintained as redistribution centers in various resort locations.

So far, only one camp has been activated as a redistribution center. It is Sam Houston in Texas. The NNPA pointed out in a release at the time the Army announced its revised redistribution center program that persons familiar with the usual Army plan of operation had cautioned Negroes to watch closely to see that when the camp phase of the program was put into effect that Negroes are not herded into Southern camps where their opportunities for relaxation and recreation will be hampered by the traditions and customs of the communities in the surrounding area. That caution seems to hold good.

Private Denies Afro American Bias at Ga. Camp

1-25-44

CAMP GORDON, Ga.—Recent stories reporting that all except one colored outfit had been moved from the camp here and that the remaining unit was working as a labor detachment under whites, were refuted by Pvt. Joseph Valdez of Tampa, Fla., in a statement to the AFRO recently.

Declaring that such unconfirmed reports are more dangerous than rumors, he said that the company is not under the control of the two white units left, and that its soldiers performed both skilled and unskilled tasks.

Guard White Prisoners

Their duties, he added, include work as guards for white prisoners, as military police in nearby towns, as night dispatchers and as mail orderlies. There is also a colored orientation officer, he continued.

Baltimore, Md.

Denying the report that use of the service clubs, post exchange, theatres and the swimming pool had been refused, he said that the colored soldiers are entitled to use the facilities and do so.

Whites Get All Top 92nd Posts

AFRO-AMERICAN BALTIMORE, MD.

Although there are many company officers, captains and lieutenants in a regimental combat team of the 92nd Division in Italy, none ranks white junior officer.

A New York Times reporter quotes the white colonel of this combat unit as saying that he does not foresee the time when his outfit will include colored junior officers outranking white junior officers.

12-2-44

White Replacements

The colonel, he says, is a native of Connecticut but has lived for some time in Virginia.

At present, the reporter points out, all officer replacements in this colored outfit are white.

Los Angeles Tribune

Military asked to stop use of racial epithet in Belgium

12-29-44

NEW YORK—On Dec. 12 the NAACP wrote to Assistant Secretary of War, John J. McCloy and Ted Poston, OWI News Bureau, protesting the offensive use and definition of the word "nigger" in a pocket-size English-French dictionary widely used in Belgium. The matter was brought to the attention of the Association through a letter from a Negro GI in that area who said, "I don't believe it is the intention of the Belgium people to insult us because they are exceptionally friendly and nice, but it is an unfortunate situation caused by the person or persons responsible for printing these books."

Suggesting steps to be taken by the War Department to eliminate this humiliation to Negro soldiers, the NAACP said:

"In the English-French section 'nigger' is defined as 'negre' meaning a black man. In the section of the dictionary giving simple short conversational phrases occurs the sentence, 'the niggers who are with you, where do they come from?'

"This dictionary is not issued by the United States military authorities as far as we can determine, but this Association feels certain that United States military officials in Belgium can make known to the Belgium people the way American Negro soldiers feel about the use of the word. We suggest an announcement over the radio and in the Belgian newspapers will help correct the situation."

It was pointed out that hearings were conducted by a select committee of Congress to investigate executive agencies, at which Mr. Pollatsek was put on the stand. His unwillingness to discriminate on account of race is said to have offended certain members of the committee.

the War Manpower Commission has been fired, allegedly because he complied with Executive Order 9346, forbidding discrimination on account of race.

Pollatsek said that the Civil Service Commission took the position that he could not have been so strict on the race question unless he was a Communist.

Fairness "Offensive"

AFRO-AMERICAN

WMC Hiring Boss Too Fair, Ousted

11-25-44 Md.

WASHINGTON

Frank Pollatsek, white, former chief of the manning section of

47d-1944

The Fruits Of A Day-to-Day Policy

Journal + Guide — Norfolk Va. 9-16-44

THAT the Army has no policy yet on the Negro, on his utilization and disposition, was again evidenced this week by disclosure that it has set up the first of segregated redistribution centers for returned veterans of its ground forces; and this on the heels of the commendable (if widely ignored) order of ADJUTANT GENERAL ULIO banning discrimination at facilities on Army posts.

Once again it becomes clear that, before the war, the Army had no policy and probably no plans to use any but a bare minimum of Negro troops. Instead, beginning with the amendment to the Selective Service Act prohibiting racial discrimination, it has met problems as they have arisen, compromising on some, moving backward on others, and occasionally getting on firm, democratic ground. But no fixed determination or guiding principle by which to deal in a specific way with each question was in existence, nor has come into existence, except in a piece-meal way. 9-16-44

The pressure of public opinion and a serious morale disaffection among our service men prompted it to such steps as admitting Negro men to the Air Forces and sending them overseas; to committing selected combat-type units to action, such as the 93rd Division, the 24th Infantry, and the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment; to a slight liberalization of its policy for commissioning and promoting Negro officers; and to giving command posts to officers of color.

Those things we commend and applaud. They are steps forward. But the confusing and discouraging factor is that for each such step ahead there is a comparable step backward.

Such units as the 369th Regiment (famed as New York Fighting 15th), trained for combat, are given routine guard duty.

Others are converted to service and stevedore units. One, trained for over two years, not counting its peace-time preparation as a National Guard unit, got overseas but was given non-combat duty even though GENERAL MARK CLARK requested it for a combat assignment with his Fifth Army. Similiar illustrations could be multiplied. 9-16-44

At the pace the war is going there may not be enough time to effect an over-all policy, a liberal and democratic policy, before the shooting is over, at least for all practical purposes.

But already the War Department, through its chief of staff, GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL, has laid down the basic plans to keep America militarily prepared when peace returns. To realize those plans the responsible officials have months of study and execution ahead of them.

THE JOURNAL AND GUIDE calls for full and fair consideration of loyal American Negroes in any of these plans and studies.

It will have more to say from time to time on this subject.

We must solidify our own opinion as a racial entity to get results. Our leaders must know what we want and what we expect, so that they can speak with authority in representations made on our behalf to the military and political leaders.

We must gain the support of influential people in other races and groups. We must do everything possible to get the masses behind our aim for a fair deal. We must let our representatives in Congress know where we stand. We must insist on their giving weight to our wishes. 9-16-44

Extremists at either end of the poles of opinion must give and take.

We will lose everything by division among ourselves because of stubornly held viewpoints. Let's have some good program, comprising the best, most sensible, and the most immediately obtainable goals. Once having such a program, let us all unite behind it.

Divided nations are defeated nations. Divided peoples are oppressed peoples. The one sure way of getting nowhere with any program for a fairer deal in the Army (and in the Navy, Coast Guard, Marines, and Air Forces) is to be divided among ourselves.

MORALE.
Time — Chicago, Ill.
10-16-44

No Rest Yet

After a July order banning discrimination between white and Negro troops on all its posts, the Army hoped that things would cool off. But by last week one phase of the problem of how to treat Negro soldiers was hot and growing hotter.

The newest flare-up began last month when the well-meaning Army decided to set up separate redistribution centers in Harlem and Chicago's down-at-the-heel South Side for Negro troops of the Army Ground Forces (TIME, Oct. 2). Although they are in overcrowded sections and only equipped to the lower-drummer-trade standard, the Hotels Pershing and Theresa, the Army wishfully reasoned, would still be more restful to battle-weary Negroes than any of the 49 fancy hotels taken over for whites in resort centers like Miami, Santa Barbara, Lake Placid.

At this announcement shouts of "Jim Crow" went up from the Negro press and public. The President promptly called off the plan, left the Army with a choice of 1) sending Negroes to centers for white Ground Forces soldiers; 2) setting up equally fancy centers, probably up North, for Negroes only. 10-16-44

Either choice would bring its troubles. The Army Air Forces, which has only a few Negro troops, operates 18 centers successfully without any segregation. But the much higher proportion of Negroes among ground troops makes the Ground Forces' problem another kind of exercise in race relations. So Ground Forces officers considered all-Negro rest hotels in first-class resorts, gloomily reflected that, if that solution were selected, they would hear loud squawks from the managements of any hotels they chose. And again the Negro press would cry "Jim Crow."

At week's end, the Army was still struggling with its dilemma. Until it comes up with an answer, Negroes will continue to be sent to Camp Butner, N.C., where all ground troops, white & Negro, went for redistribution before hotel centers were organized. 10-16-44

SEGREGATION IN THE ARMED FORCES

Northwest Herald
Seattle, Wash.

The National Citizens Committee for Wilfred Lynn has become the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces. Announcement of this change was made by unanimous decision of the committee. 5-10-44

In the committee's quarters, at 360 West 125th Street, this city, yesterday afternoon, Wilfred Kerr, co-chairman, explained that the recent decision was an attempt to meet the growing concern throughout the country on the matter of racial segregation that represented in a bi-racial American army, two armies in fact, one white and the other black, waging a war for freedom and democracy abroad while it perpetuates at home those things against which it professes to fight," said Mr. Kerr.

"The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces welcomes the support of all Americans who believe that segregation is un-American, un-democratic, uncivilized and un-just, and contrary to the best interests of our country," continued Mr. Kerr. 5-10-44

"Out of the welter of struggle and discontent on the part of both the Negro and white people with the racial program of the War and Navy departments, of the Red Cross and other auxiliary services there come almost weekly new cases which deserve attention. These we can now undertake," he concluded.

Originally the Lynn Committee was organized to push the case of Winfred Lynn, a Negro gardener of Jamaica, Long Island, who in 1942 brought suit in federal court against the "Negro quota" system by which he, as well as all other Negroes, was being drafted into the U. S. army.

Lynn, now a corporal serving in New Guinea, maintained that the very idea of a "racial quota" was in itself a plan of racial discrimination, and that, as such, it was illegal and unconstitutional. His is the only legal attack made to date against discrimination in selective service. 5-10-44

The legal basis of Lynn's case is in Section 4-a of the 1940 Selective Service and Training Act, which provides that "in the selection and training of men under this Act . . . there shall be no discrimination . . on account of race or color."

In February of this year the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals were handed down a two to one split decision against Lynn. The fact that one of the three justices dissented in his favor means that a firm legal basis has been laid for an appeal direct to the Supreme Court.

The Lynn Committee is at present engaged with attorneys of the American Civic Liberties Union in the preparation of the case for argument before the Supreme Court some time this summer. It has the cooperation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Workers Defeuse League and the March on Washington movement. Each of these groups is preparing a supporting amicus curiae brief. 5-10-44

With its reorganization the committee is prepared to assume new obligations toward certain cases of racial discrimination in the military services which have recently come to its offices and toward whatever other instances that may yet come.

—AN EDITORIAL—

AS STRANGE as it may seem, the fight for

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLIGHT OF THE NEGRO SOLDIER?

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa. 9-2-44

NEGRO SOLDIER NOT ONLY RESENTS ITS

THE WAR DEPARTMENT HAS SOLD THE

former Army Chaplain, writes:

In the current issue of "The Crisis", Grant Reynolds, a

Department, according to all reports, is unpardonable.

supporting Governor Thomas E. Dewey.

The treatment of colored fighting men by the War

of the colored leaders who are identified with the Demo-

and equality

cratic Party into the hands of the colored leaders who are

PUTRID ODOR, BUT EQUALLY RESENTS BEING MADE THE VICTIM OF WHAT MANY SOLDIERS CONSIDER A FOUL AND DEBASING TRICK. THE NEGRO SOLDIER THINKS THE WAR DEPARTMENT ITSELF IS PROLONGING THE WAR AND HE IS CONVINCED BY MULTITUDINOUS EVIDENCE THAT HE IS RIGHT."

9-2-44

Mr. Reynolds continues:

"IN THE FIRST INSTANCE HE OBSERVES HIS DAILY TREATMENT WHICH IS BOTH LAMENTABLE ON THE ONE HAND AND UNSUPPORTED BY DECENCY ON THE OTHER. HAVING A RECORD OF LOYALTY AND DEVOTION TO THE NATION THAT IS UNEQUALED AS WELL AS UNQUESTIONED, HE SEES THE WAR DEPARTMENT DESTROY HIS LOVE FOR HIS COUNTRY BY MAKING HIM A MILITARY 'UNTOUCHABLE'.

"THE CONSTITUTION AND ITS ACCOMPANYING BILL OF RIGHTS HAVE BEEN LITERALLY TORN UP AND THE BITS INSULTINGLY THROWN INTO THE NEGRO SOLDIER'S FACE. YET THESE SONS OF AMERICAN MOTHERS ARE EXPECTED TO DIE AND ARE DYING IN THE FACE OF SUCH INDIGNITY."

That is strong language, but the facts justify it.

It must be remembered, also, that soldiers cannot do anything about such conditions during a war. They must obey orders or suffer dire punishment. All fighting men, regardless of race, creed or color, must and should obey orders. No army can function without absolute authority to enforce its orders.

BUT THE PEOPLE ON THE HOME FRONT CAN CHANGE THE ADMINISTRATION WHICH MAKES THE ORDERS THAT STIFLE DECENCY AND MAKE A MOCKERY OF DEMOCRACY.

Across the desks of Negro newspapermen and women have come a continuous stream of complaints and heart-breaking letters, which tell of almost unbelievable persecution, beseeching them to do something to relieve these soldiers from the torment they endure. No man with a spark of love in his heart for his fellowman could sit idly by and watch this kind of wholesale slaughter of the human spirit.

9-2-44

Almost to a man, the Negro Press has attempted to change this condition. Reporters have been sent to investigate these complaints, letters have been sent to Army and Navy officials, blazing editorials have been written, and, perhaps most significant of all, the major portion of the Negro Press is supporting Governor Dewey for President.

These well-informed men and women know that the War Department and Commander-in-Chief are responsible for the mistreatment and discrimination suffered by colored soldiers.

Those who are supporting President Roosevelt also know the truth, but they excuse these unpardonable crimes by placing the blame on Southern Democrats. Strangely enough, however, they refuse to see that the backbone of President Roosevelt's support is the 126 electoral votes which come from the Southern Democrats; that Mr. Roosevelt's victory is their success; and that it is impossible to support the one without the other.

Ex-Chaplain's Group To Fight GI Jim Crow

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

Rev. Reynolds Tells Of War Dep't Plans For Bringing Back Soldiers

10-21-44

By GRANT REYNOLDS

(Formerly Chaplain, U. S. Army)

BALTIMORE—I decided to oppose the re-election of Mr. Roosevelt because I became convinced that he should be repudiated by colored voters for the unforgiveable treatment visited upon colored service men in this war.

I know what it means to have my lofty regard for my country transformed into bitterness because my Commander-in-Chief refused to protect me against the brutalizing designs of my homefront enemies.

The sons of colored American mothers stationed recently at Camp Gordon Johnson, Fla., who are relegated to the despicable "sugar detail," will certainly not criticize my efforts to help them escape their daily torment.

These men, many of whom are casuals (men declared unfit physically and mentally to perform military service) have been forced to work this detail.

Says That Whites Are Given Extra Pay

White soldiers at the same military post were offered $3 per day, in addition to their regular monthly salary, to do this filthy work but declined the offer, it is reported. Colored soldiers, however, offered no such monetary inducement, were ordered to work the "sugar detail" just the same.

It was not reported whether the prisoners of war who were quartered on the same post were given the same consideration as was extended the white soldiers or not.

10-21-44

It is safe to assume, however, that they were, since their general treatment has always been more dignified than that accorded American soldiers.

(Work on the "sugar detail" to the uninitiated, means the nauseating assignment of emptying ten-gallon cans of human body waste.)

Stand of Indignant, Independent Voter

My stand is that of an irate and indignant independent voter who has supported Mr. Roosevelt for three terms, but who now seeks his defeat for the beastly treatment which he, as Commander-in-Chief, has allowed to befall my comrades still in arms.

10-21-44

And, I hasten to repeat, this repudiation of Mr. Roosevelt will serve due warning to any fair-weather friends who now seek the colored vote.

Never before in American political history has the colored vote meant so much as it will mean in the November election. In this admittedly close election his ballot is quite likely to determine what shall be the lot of his loved ones for the next four years.

I can hardly think that voters will show the same wilful disregard for their loved ones in uniform that is characteristic of the present administration.

Says Negro Fears of the GOP Unfounded

For us to coninue to support Mr. Roosevelt, who must assume full responsibility for the mistreatment of colored service men simply because they fear the alleged "reactionary policies of the Republican party," is fallacious and blind admission that they are inflicted by emotional poverty.

It is like asking a man in a burning house to content himself with his lot and not yell for help because he does not trust the fire department.

The army has of recent date announced its plan for returning war-weary veterans home after V-Day. A careful study of these plans reveals that they are not designed in the best interests of the colored soldier. Priority will be given veterans having the longest record of combat service and to those having shown gallantry beyond the normal call of duty.

Colored soldiers, many of whom have been in training since March, 1941, have only within recent months been given combat assignments.

For the most part they have been relegated to the menial and service categories where they are forcd to do the dirty and heavy work, and where there is little opportunity to share in the glory of victory.

Says White Soldiers Are To Come Home First

They must stand aside and with aching hearts observe their white comrades win citations which mean early trips back home. The result then of the present demobilization plan for the colored promises that white troops will be brought back home first.

10-21-44

It is then reasonable to assume that colored soldiers will remain abroad to act as scavengers of the world as they clean up the mess left behind by the whites.

Maybe colored voters can be made to like this kind of treatment for their loved ones. Maybe they will continue in office the man who has permitted this kind of treatment. I promise that I shall not be among those so guilty.

I, therefore, announce the organization of the Non-Partisan Council for the Elimination of Discrimination in Military and Veterans' Affairs to act as a force dedicated to the abolition of the colored soldiers' abuse.

I invite the co-operation and support of those who join with me in this lofty enterprise. Address me, 628 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Md.

Segregation Called Race Bias By WMC

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

11-4-44

(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK. — Employees of the War Manpower Commission throughout New York State were instructed this week to regard any form of racial or religious segregation in war plants as discriminatory, and were ordered not to serve such plants by WMC Regional Director Anna M. Rosenberg. The new procedure resulted from a recent agreement between Mrs. Rosenberg and Edward Lawson, FEPC regional director. It represents a notable advance in Federal Government policy which hitherto has maintained that segregation is not of itself discrimination.

Closely following the FEPC's hearing against the AFL Seafarers' International Union, in which segregation of Negro seamen on ships of the merchant marine was shown to lead inevitably to job discrimination, the WMC instruction indicated that the two agencies have joined forces to stamp out the last vestiges of war job bias in New York State.

NORFOLK JIM CROWS SEAMEN

11-4-44

United Seamen's Service [illegible] a colored hotel for a jim-crow "residential club for colored seamen."

And these same seamen sleep, eat and work with white seamen on merchant ships carrying troops and supplies to the front.

On the sea it's every man a citizen and a seaman. As soon as he reaches Norfolk, it's jim crow as usual.

Army Institutes Segregation

Weekly — New Orleans, La.
10-7-44

THERE is no doubt that the officials who run the United States Army think very little of the Negroes who are in the service and fighting for what is termed Democracy. From things that go on every day and are done by those who control the Army, making the rules and regulations, they seem to place the Negroes in a class with dumb-driven animals. Is this their intention or are they the dumb ones?

Rules and regulations are made daily which embarrass, insult and humiliate every colored person. The latest injustice was hurled in the faces of Negroes a couple of weeks ago when the Army decided to take over the Pershing Hotel in Chicago and the Theresa Hotel in New York as special and exclusive re-distribution centers for Negro soldiers. They selected forty-nine hotels in resort centers as Miami Beach, Fla.; Ashville, N. C.; Hot Springs, Ark.; Santa Barbara, Cal., and Lake Placid, N. Y., as places where the men who had seen action could be given a psychological "lift" to prepare them to again go into battle. The idea is a good one. However, the question arose as it always does, what to do with the Negroes?

We cannot see why this question should ever have to come up. If the 49 hotels were selected for MEN WHO HAD SEEN ACTION and since Negroes are certainly men and many are seeing action and fighting for the same things that the other men are fighting for those resort centers should be for them as well as others. 10-7-44

To jim crow the Negro soldiers into the only two first class hotels that because of customs of this great Democracy, Negro citizens are able to use, and which are far from resort centers and not fit places to house men who need a psychological "lift", does more to hurt their morale and instill the very hate they are fighting against.

One month we read that orders are handed down forbidding discrimination in Army camps and right on top of that we read about discrimination being handed down as an order. By now every one, even our enemies, should know that in this great democracy, even our captured enemies are treated better and placed in prison camps that are far more comfortable than most of the barracks that our Negro soldiers are forced to live in. If the prisoner wishes to complain, he can readily do so even if it doesn't help his cause, because he has no fear of a "blue" (dishonorable) discharge. But if a Negro soldier complains he will be charged with being an agitator, trouble-maker or hard to handle when he is only trying to get what is justly due him. 10-7-44

At the same time plans were made by the United States high command to segregate battle-worn Negro veterans, General Eisenhower issued a decree that German anti-racial laws were to be abolished. Does it make sense that the United States Army enforces anti-racial laws in America while it is seeking to destroy them abroad? It proves conclusively that the Army has the power to abolish segregation within its own ranks. This fact more than proves that those in control do not want to do so; and that when they are considering the needs of men they are not including Negroes as men.

Negro Seabees 1st to ask for "Rights" under G. I. Bill

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
9-11-44

NEW YORK—In one of the first requests for a hearing as provided for under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, more commonly known as the G.I. Bill of Rights, two of the 19 Seabees who were discharged without hearing last October after they had complained of intolerable Jim Crow conditions at the Caribbean bases, have written to the Secretary of the Navy asking for a review of their cases. The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Service is handling the men's cases and will provide counsel for them at the hearing. All previous appeals, including letters to President Roosevelt, have proven of no avail, the committee claims.

According to statement by the committee, Harvey Steele, 28, and Isaac G. McNatt, 27, both living in New York at present, were discharged on the grounds of "unfitness," denied mustering out pay and other rights and privileges provided for veterans. It has also made it impossible for them to resume their normal place in civilian life, barring them from many schools and opportunities for employment. Steele, after passing all his examinations for a Civil Service job, was told he could not be hired because of his type of discharge. McNatt, who is studying law at night, cannot be admitted to the New York Bar because of it. 9-11-44

Further, the committee alleged that: The Negro Seabees, all volunteers, were discriminated against and Jim Crowed from the very first day of their boot training. They were offered inferior and Jim Crow mess halls, recreational facilities, ship's store service and liberty leave. Of the 1,000 men in their battalion, only 200 were white, but all officers and petty officers above second class were white, and the men were told openly that no Negro would be promoted above second class. 9-11-44

The 19 men were discharged, the committee said, after they had been invited into the CO's office and asked about conditions at the base. They were assured that this was a 'man to man,' off-the-record talk, and were asked specifically to discuss the racial situation. The men were therefore very frank in airing their grievances. The next day, the regimental commander had the men called back into the CO's office and upbraided them for 'griping' and petty complaints, and told them that he would tolerate no conferring and 'committee-ing'." A few days later the 19 men were discharged, 16 as undesirable on the grounds of unfitness, and three on grounds of inaptitude. These three later upon appeal were given honorable discharges. 9-11-44

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act directs the Army and the Navy to establish boards of review to hear cases of discharge from the armed services with the exception of those resulting from a general court martial.

The NAACP and the CIO, through the Veterans Division of its National CIO War Relief Committee, are also supporting the case, the Lynn committee stated.

Soldier's Morale Drops After Jim Crow Incident

4-8-44
Defender — Chicago, Ill.

I am an American Negro soldier who is to be shipped to another continental point for duty in just a matter of days. As a matter of fact, I was released from the base hospital here only recently where I was taken to recuperate from a nervous disorder sustained while going about my daily duties. But, my precise reason for establishing contact with this newspaper is that I boarded a Greyhound Bus at the air base a few minutes ago and seated myself three seats from the rear of the bus beside a white male civilian. He protested vigorously and rang the bell to howl to the driver, but did not after the vehicle taxied to a gentle stop. Later, a white American army officer who occupied the seat directly ahead of me, turned and said, 'Mister, did this boy get your permission to sit there beside you?' The civilian replied, "I told him not to sit down there, but he dropped down anyhow."

The army officer, speaking to me, said, "It looks as if you'll have to get up fellow." For a minute I sat, parching from anger. Then the officer, noting my hesitance to move, asked, "Well, are you going to get up?" I asked him, "Sir, is that an order?" He said, "Yes," whereupon I arose and dismounted the bus and walked to town. After having written letters to President Roosevelt and Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall, I'm still as hot as a glowing hell! 4-8-44

I volunteered for the service 15 months ago, and have been genuinely faithful and patriotic. I insisted that the doctor dismiss me from the hospital on December 24, so as not to miss the overseas trip with my comrades.

Right now, it is hard, very hard indeed for me to maintain the same standard of love and devotion for my country when I have been so deeply hurt by a person whose duty it is to boost my morale, not to trample it. It seems that some of those damn Nazis are sleeping with me! Gee, it's disheartening to know that soon my blood too may flood the trenches of some distant battlefield, that possibly this minute the only blanket over the bodies of my other three soldiering brothers is that of blistering lead and deadly shrapnel, and still be aware of the fact that some white American army officers can't learn to like me.—A Negro Soldier.

Resents Treatment To Colored Soldiers

As a former resident of Chicago, I am surprised at the mistreatment of colored soldiers in that city. On a recent trip through the city I was informed that uniformed men were unable to secure places in which to spend the night. I was also told about the conditions that brought about this move. 4-8-44

I realize that the idea behind such a move is to protect the soldiers but I also realize that under such circumstances, we soldiers might seek other quarters in order to spend the night. Sometimes we might even be obliged to accept quarters that might not even measure up to the standards of a third class hotel.

We can appreciate the public interest in our health and welfare but how about making it possible for us to find decent lodging even if it is government supervised. That would be better than having to wander through the streets looking for some place to stay.—Pfc. T. C. Hutchinson, Paine Field, Washington.

What Will Roosevelt Do Next?

White Soldiers Can't Believe There Are Negro Paratroopers

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-22-44

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—When members of the 555th Airborne infantry, the paratroopers, invaded Atlanta over the week end as guests of the servicemen's center, white paratroopers and military police simply couldnt' believe their own eyes. Apparently Uncle Sam had not told them he had a dark contingent of the Army's "glamor boys."

Accosted by two white paratroopers on a downtown street, Pvt. B. F. Lane, Jr., of Chicago, wondered if he wouldn't have to resort to some of the rough tactics he had been taught to use on the Nazis and Japanese in an effort to convince his brothers-in-arms that he too was really and truly a bona fide member of the paratroops.

"THERE AIN'T NONE"

"There airn't no n——r paratroopers in the Army," the two belligerent white jumpers insisted and Private Lane, adding insult to injury, summarily decided to change their minds and physical appearances, when suddenly two military policemen appeared on the scene to settle the argument.

Being part of a group, Paratrooper Lane had no Fort Benning pass to account for his presence in Atlanta, or to prove his status as a paratrooper. It was only after Negro officers of the 555th appeared at the MP headquarters at the city jail that Lane's status was verified.

4-22-44

As Lane left custody accompanied by two paratroop first lieutenants, the four white soldiers, two paratroopers and two MP's, stood nodding their heads as if to say, "What will Roosevelt do next?"

Fort Bragg Flies Afro-American Jim-Crow Flag

Baltimore, Md.

FORT BRAGG, N.C.—The jim-crow flag is still flying from "white" PX's, theatres and eating places on this post and "I can personally substantiate every charge made by Private Twysbain in a recent AFRO article," a soldier told the AFRO here last week.

Even the special training unit here is steeped in jim crow, he said, pointing out that while colored men could do the job as well, white enlisted men—"American Nazis who go so far as to belittle the men"—are assigned to instructing colored illiterate inductees.

11-18-44

Both Races Hate System

"I do not stand alone in making these charges," he added, "for there are numerous men on this post, members of both races, who would be willing to stand behind me in making known these things that have been covered up for so long.

"My plea that something be done to save the sagging morale of these men, and done now, is an honest and just one. I am dying a thousand deaths just allowing my mind to dwell on the fact that I soon will be fighting as other members of my race are fighting to keep white supremacy alive."

477th's Difficulties Blamed on Colonel

Assignment of Whites Under Air Force Order Is Main Problem

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Second in a series on Godman Field, Ky., where the 477th Bombardment Group is preparing for overseas duty.]

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON. — (NNPA) — Three things are uppermost in the minds of the enlisted men and officers of the 477th Bombardment Group, stationed at Godman Field, Ky., where morale is low, nerves are on the verge of cracking and tensions are at the breaking point.

The men want, first, to fly and maintain their planes without flaw or mishap. Secondly, they want to be "rescued" from the Southern atmosphere into which they feel they have been thrust "in order to teach them to stay in their places."

Thirdly, and of equal, if not transcendant importance, they want to get rid of their group commander, Col. Robert Selway, in whom they see the embodiment of all their problems and griefs.

Antagonism New

But these men, especially those who have been with the unit from the beginning, are quick to point out, however, that they have resented the colonel only since the "officers' club incident" at Selfridge and the subsequent move to Godman Field.

In the early days at Selfridge Field, Colonel Selway was liked and respected for his apparent interest in the welfare of his men. He left few stones unturned in placing colored men in command positions in the fighter group then under his command.

When the group went overseas, it had all colored officers from the group command down, with Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., the group commander.

Ambition Blamed

But the colonel, an ambitious West Pointer, is now believed to be leaning over backwards to adhere to the Air Forces' wishes that these men be "kept in their places."

Instead of placing qualified colored officers and non-coms in the positions their capabilities merit, he has assigned white officers to all command and staff positions, regardless of their lack of experience.

The First Air Force, in an order sent to the commanding officer of the 477th Bombardment Group on July 19, authorized white officer personnel for the group headquarters and for each squadron.

Supposedly Temporary

The order, however, added that such authorizations were temporary and were "to be filled by colored personnel before the unit is committed."

The order says further: "As vacancies authorized for white personnel are filled by trained colored personnel, this headquarters will be notified in order that white authorizations may be reduced accordingly."

Officers' Point of View

One officer at Godman summed the matter up this way:

"When several of us came to the 477th from transition training at Mather Field, we found white personnel in all command functions. Then we didn't have the experience on B-25's.

"It was perfectly all right to bring in those men at the beginning as supervisors. However, we have only one man with overseas experience, and that is Capt. McDowell, commanding officer of the 619th Squadron.

"Instead of have three or four men of his training and experience, they have men from instructors' schools in Columbia and Greenville, who are converted fighter pilots like we are. They have fewer hours than some of us have.

Can Learn Only by Doing

"Now we have had the time in B-25's. Therefore, since these white officers are not going overseas with us, I say get them out of here and let us learn by doing."

There are a number of specific examples to illustrate the situation.

One lieutenant has had nine months' training as an engineering officer and 700 hours of specialized training on B-25's. Recently, he left the field to attend school further. He was then engineering office of one of the squadrons.

Upon his return, he found he had been relieved of his duty and placed as assistant engineering officer to a white lieutenant who has had neither the additional training nor the engineering experience of the colored officer.

7,000 Hours Immaterial

Another lieutenant, with 7,000 flying hours to his credit, including his civilian flying, is now under a squadron commander who has fewer hours in B-25's than he and no overseas experience.

The commander, Captain Parker, recently called a meeting of the colored officers and told them he wanted them to help him quell racial disturbances by enlisted men.

After his speech, Captain Hodge, colored, is reported to have told the officers that segregation is the Army's policy and that they have no right to try to break it up.

Then Captain Parker, seconded by Captain Hodge, said: "If this thing doesn't stop, we are going to break up this squadron and you officers will be sent to engineering battalion and service units."

Three times during an interview with Colonel Selway, he refused to give the background of training and experience of the four squadron commanders, all white, and only generalized about the probability that some changes would be made one of these days.

[Next week's article will give the reaction of officers and enlisted men at Godman Field.]

Refusal to Teach Negro Fliers At Bowman to Be Investigated

C.A.P. Says Funds Lacking

Rayner Voices Protest.

Herbert Rayner, white commander of the local C.A.P. Negro unit, composed of Central High School youngsters of 15 to 18 years of age, declared refusal of the instructors to fly his charges "is a crying shame."

"They are as fine a bunch of children as I've ever seen or known anywhere," Rayner said. "I was tickled to death to get the command. And you can bet I was especially pleased when those kids, after only eleven weeks' training, won a cup in the annual ates to new demonstration for being the best-have been drilled unit. Remember, they weeks, he were up against units that had drilled for a couple of years—and they ran away with it!"

Pleasure Trips Banned.

W. C. Thompson, flight school operator, confirmed that two teen-age Negro girls were refused a 6-minute flight on November 12 because "instructors here won't teach the colored how to fly."

Shupp told The Courier-Journal, "Wouldn't it strike you that the C.A.P. has its own planes and they should ride in those?"

He explained that gasoline for Rinehart, Rayner and Jefferson operation is obtained through the Civil Aeronautics Authority and can only be used for instruction. Pleasure flights for instructors at Bowman Field cadets.

Therefore, he cannot sell tickets to Negroes for "demonstration" flights Thompson said. His statement was concurred in by W. D. Hampton and E. G. Eberline, instructors.

"We give no flight instruction in the Civil Air Patrol, only pre-Rinehart said. members who have to take private in-is set up for us to teach flying."

C.A.P. Planes Disabled.

The Louisville and Jefferson County Air Board at its December meeting will consider refusal of instructors at Bowman Field to teach Negroes to fly, Roger Shupp, Bowman Field manager, revealed yesterday.

He made his statement after the Louisville Defender, Negro newspaper, published a story charging that two Louisville Negro Civil Air Patrol cadets were refused rides and a young man was refused instruction.

47d-1944

Indiantown Gap Makes Democracy Work; Colored, White Co-operate

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

10-21-44

By Wm. B. CARTER, Jr.

INDIANTOWN GAP — In times like these when the disturbances at Claiborne, Plauche, Gordon, and the other veritable hell-holes in the South are coming to the fore, it is pleasant relief to see a Camp run efficiently from the operative point of view and from what is so important to us the racial side of things.

The Gap is probably the only Camp in the country where men of both races live, work, and eat together, not in pseudo-circumstances, but rather in a genuine feeling that they are doing the right thing. This condition is due in no little measure to the perfect cooperation that Lt. Frederick Morrow, former co-ordinator of branches of the N. A. A. C. P., is getting from Col. Forrest E. Ambrose, commanding of the Army Service Forces here.

10-21-44

NO DISCRIMINATION

This feeling is the whole story of the Camp. Col. Ambrose, an Illinois product, has insisted that as long as he holds command there will be no discrimination under his charge. This has been largely true despite the fact that natural rebukes must have resulted from the less liberal higher-ups. The other side of the question is that Lt. Morrow, a Bowdoin & Harvard man, has put himself in the position of no compromise.

I don't mean that his is an attitude of unreasonableness, but that he is not holding his position merely because he agrees with the decrees of the brass-hats. The Lieutenant is really a man of foresight and planning. He recognizes what can be done, what should be done and, what's so important, the best way to get it done.

10-21-44

The measures of improvement since his coming here seven months ago are unmistakable. He heads the Orientation department, where men are taught, advised and counselled. Actually, it is responsibility to protect the rights of the several thousand colored troops being trained here. He is not sort of a liaison man between the white officers, in getting things done for his men, and a patron-saint for his own command.

10-21-44

One can see the job is not easy. Some of the soldiers complain, as is the natural habit of anyone deprived of the normal living right, and others actually abuse, what is for them, an ideal condition. These are the factions then that must come under the Lieutenants jurisdiction.

NEGRO OFFICERS

Men of the press were invited here for a day's tour of the grounds and for the awarding of another decoration for the much honored Pfc. Alton W. Knappenberger, of Spring Mount, Pennsylvania. The result was that I was so impressed by the job being done that I lengthened my stay to two days. During this visit I got to meet a good many of the men, see our troops operate under heavy infiltration fire, visit the Harrisburg USO, eat GI food, ride in a jeep, and manage to get myself called Jodie so many times.

One of the highlights of the trip was the witnessing of men crawling under machine gun fire and near exploding land mines. This is called by the Army, "Mental Conditioning," for me it would have been mentally breaking. The tracer fire was just inches above the dire-smeared faces of the men, and provided the sort of battle conditions that the men may actually meet "over there." The inspiring part of this performance was that the particular group was officered by Negroes.

They were commanded by Lt. Wm. A. Williams, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Lt. Gordon P. Flagg, of Gary, Indiana; Lt. Jesse Johnson, of Washington, D. C.; Lt. Wm. McPherson and 2nd Lt. Calloway, of Gary Indiana. The men responded in a way that was nothing short of glorious. With a feeling of pride that permanently debunked the theory that our boys can only produce under white leadership, they showed the more than fifty assembled white newsmen they were definitely "on the ball."

10-21-44

PHILLY MEN IN BAND

The USO visit showed me quite clearly also how good our boys are in the music field. (as though I didn't know). The Gap has the 333rd A. S. Band that would place unashamed, with the Ellingtons, Basies and any others you might find. The fellows are actually good. The group is commanded by Mr. Wallace L. Wells, WO-JG, of Gary, Indiana, and has among its performers, Sgt. "Shep" Shepard, Philly lad who was formerly with Jimmy Gorham's orch., and who also arranged for Benny Carter and Stan Kenton.

Another local lad with them is Cpl. Billy Burke of Central High School and featured vocalist and guitarist. Both men were more than glad to be doing their chosen work, and believe me they were doing it well. The band is lead by Sgt. Eugene C. Adams, of Buffalo, N. Y.

10-21-44

SUNNY WOODS HERE

A feature of the Camp that stands out too with the other notable achievements is the fact that listed among the personnel are, Pfc. Sunny Woods, formerly with Louis Armstrong's band and star of Lew Leslie's Blackbirds, and the much-heralded Sgt. Robert Wyatt, expert of, and improvisor on, the Hammond organ. Thes, two men keep the calibre of entertainment high for the men.

Speaking of entertainment reminds me that all the good work isn't being done by colored alone, but also by the better thinking whites here. The officer in charge of the Special Service Section which provides entertainment for the men, is a Boston man, Lt. Charles Quinn. He has brought such bands as Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Earl Hines, and has slated to appear soon, Louis Jordan, Cab Calloway and the King Cole Trio. 'Tis safe then to say that the amusement side of the soldier's life is not forgotten.

PARADE MOVING

10-21-44

Indiantown Gap is idealy situated for the training it gives the men. It's just 22 miles from Harrisburg and covers nearly 30 square miles of ground. The completeness of the place is well nigh perfect. The center here is for the training of Port Battalion companies, and is equipped with everything from land boats, to artifical lakes where the men practice abandoning ship. I had never before realized how efficiently must we prepare for our wars. Nothing is left to chance.

Probably the most stirring part of the visit came when our men took part in the Retreat Parade Review. For a far as the eye could see black men marching down the Freedom Road, showed the assembled visitors just how good they really could be when they received the treatment of men, rather than the animal stuff slung at them in some of the camps that keep insisting to them that they are firstly, inferior colored troops, that must do nothing, but "tote that barge, and lift that bale." Some of them sang as they marched, others showed a determination that foreboded nothing but ill-will for anyone who got in their way, either German, Jap, or mis-called American.

FINE SERVICE CLUB

10-21-44

Another feature I musn't leave out is the Service Club No. 2, where the soldiers, and I don't mean just the colored GI's but the white soldiers too, have their entertainments and of course, their cokes, ice cream and good food. It comes under the management of the military, but is actually run by Mrs. Pauline Reynolds of Harrisburg. The men can go there and get a good meal whenever the GI bill-o-fare isn't exactly up to snuff. And to make this report an honest one, it isn't always, though more times than not it does offer the men a well-balanced meal.

But getting back to Lt. Morrow's department I musn't neglect the work of his staff, composed of six colored men and five whites. They work together harmoniously and efficiently. Second Lt. Elmo S. Davis, of Newport News, Va., heads the education section and commits himself well. The other men are: S-Sgt. Clarence A. Carlisle and S-Sgt. Thomas M. Johnson, of New York City; Cpl. Lewis W. Jones, former assistant to Dr. Charles Johnson at Fisk University; T-5 Robert E. Claybrooks, of Chicago, and T-5 Floyd E. Booker of Richmond, Va. All of the men are college grads and former teachers.

10-21-44

The whole Camp is attempting what for most of them is a new departure in race relations, and though the ever-present minority is at hand, they are doing a whale of a good job.

Soldiers Tell of Abuses in Texas

Afro American 3-18-44

Baltimore, Md.

RICHMOND — Some of the worst atrocities against colored soldiers yet revealed are being practiced at Pampa (Texas) Army Air Field, according to colored men stationed there.

In a letter to Dr. J. M. Tinsley, president of the Richmond NAACP, asking an investigation, the soldiers, members of an aviation squadron and a quartermaster company, listed eight forms of abuses which, they said, colored soldiers are forced to endure.

3-18-44

Want to Fight

"We can and would fight if trained to do so, but as yet we hardly know what a gun, tank, combat plane, hand grenade and machine gun look like, the letter continued.

Furthermore, the soldiers said that they have had only three weeks of basic training, the time required to learn the manual of arms.

Eight Abuses Listed

The eight forms of brutality which the letter said they soldiers suffered are:

1. Relegated to permanent KP's, allowed no advancement, being forced to "work life slaves without any ratings to speak of," except KP "pushers" who are made corporals and sergeants;

2. Discriminated against in post theatres, the hospital, recreation hall and forced to serve as waiters and "flunkies" for aviation cadets at social functions.

3. Denied opportunity to qualify for officer candidate school and as aviation cadet, although eligible;

4. Denied advancement, despite the fact that many men have gone to specialist schools;

5. Refused consideration from commanding officer (an Easterner) for transfers or support when injustice is meted out to the men.

Attacked by Civilians

6. Attacked by civilian police, who pull the soldiers out of Army cars and belabor them, with impunity;

3-18-44

7. Segregated on buses, with only four seats provided for colored troops on such vehicles, and,

8. Abused by white civilians, who go out of their way to molest them.

Taft Questions Army Jim Crow

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-22-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a statement made public Friday, Senator Robert A. Taft, Ohio Republican, called upon Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson to re-examine War Department policies to determine whether maximum use is being made of colored soldiers.

Officers on the General Staff having preconceived notions of race superiority and denying to colored soldiers an equal opportunity to engage in combat with the enemy, he declared, "should be ferreted out and removed from the service."

ARMY J. CROW MUST BE KNOCKED OUT

Guardian—Boston, Mass.

OLD COMPANY L'S WAR RECORD PROVED 'MIXED' UNITS BEST

10-21-44

The immediate creation of a special board for reviewing those questionable "cases" of colored military veterans believed to be victims of unfair verdicts, jim crow discharges, demotions, transfers and general "black-mark" brandings, should be considered at this time.

A FAIR REVIEW

Since the colored soldier is still unquestionably the most loyal segment of the American Armed Forces and since 90 percent of the "cases" against many of our villified veterans are based mainly on spirited protests—sometimes called "rebellions" — against discrimination and evil efforts to dishonor a colored man's U. S. uniform, then it seems only fair, in view of the facts, that more than one colored soldier boy (also lads in the Navy and Airforce) rates more than an impatient, and sometimes intolerant, judgment by officials who are of themselves not always qualified to judge other men. I would therefore suggest a mixed board of qualified civilians as well as military experts (including colored men like Judge Hastie and Colonel Gourdin) to sit in on judgement of men convicted of "rebelling" in such places as a Southern city, on on a jim crow bus or railroad train, or a military restricted recreational area, not to mention those who become "trouble-makers" by opposing discrimination overseas. I would also suggest witnesses (and their fellow sufferers) who should be available by the dozens, including the well respected word of certain army chaplains. There is often much more behind these "cases" than one may imagine. And many a civilian gangster, has had far more liberal court judgement than some mother's colored soldier boy. 10-21-44

PRISONERS GET BREAKS

If, after this war, some ex enemy killer of U. S. troop who suddenly became an Allie co-belligerant) should apply fo and share in Allied veteral status with all the jobs and "gravy" that goes with it, I am certain that the loyal colored soldier who has been "blacklisted" merely for fighting Hitler and Tojo tactics within his own ranks, will not be the recipient of genuine justice. In this claim I challenge even Drew Pearson who, by radio, has seemingly defended Axis prisoners who have openly been coddled and treated far better than some American colored troops. The idiotic favoritism toward some Axis prisoners is a national scandal. It is almost unbelievable that the enemy can receive so much respect and honor while colored troops are punished for comparable angelic offenses. If this is justice, than there is no justice. 10-21-44

EVADING THE ISSUE

By now we should have reached the reasoning that the colored soldier is not always wrong when his word is placed against that of men steeped in the ideologies of prejudice. Such ideologies are equally as dangerous as that of the fascists or the so called "reds" and it is a mystery to most of us why Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Dewey, and others are evading this fact. If colored servicemen can be beaten and lynched and broken in spirit while the men of even alien background are allowed to have the complete four freedoms of our military system, and former enemy forces are welcomed as fair-weather co-belligerant "friends," then it is reasonable to assume something is drastically wrong somewhere, and we don't mean in Denmark. And the fault is not in the stars but in the double-standard of democracy called "jim crow" which isolates one citizen from another at a time when we all should be united as one. The colored "G I" is not to blame for this system, and since he is not to blame the "charges" against the colored "G. I." deserves extra special treatment and a sympathetic judgement of all involved. 10-21-44

VETERANS SILENT?

In my cub reporter days I could never understand why the 372nd Massachusetts Battalion was not bracketed with Bay State white regimental and divisional units since they used the same armory and trained at the same camps and many of the men were buddies and could have been one big happy family. The New York 369th and Chicago Eighth could have easily been mixed with white Northern units in their respective areas too. Yet this was never done, and these units for a long time were considered "separate", and in the last war they carried foreign French divisional attachments while in this war they still appear to be separate or broken or changed completely. Is this system conducive toward unity? What are the colored veterans of this war and of the last doing about it? Is there any strong colored veteran organization forcing the issue during this political campaign? Are veterans joining the NAACP and other organizations or are they asleep or merely talking? 10-21-44

COMPANY L HEROES

If there are any Massachusetts colored people satisfied with the present jim-crow system they simply don't know any better. From Crispus Attucks through Peter Salem up to Old Company L of the white Massachusetts Sixth Regiment, this state has had very marked success with "mixed" units of fighting men. Old L Company stood for years as a trail blazer in mixed military achievement, the only colored company in a predominately white regiment. Morale and efficiency was high and L Company had a glorious record in this comparatively united group, adding battle streamers from action in Cuba, Peurto Rico and other foreign fields. Fighting with the 372nd in the last war (after Wilson maintained strict jim crow units) Company L provided the corner stone for the Boston Third Battalion which should have been later attached to "a mixed" Bay State or area mixed unit—but never was. In fact it was first called the "Second Separate" Battalion, as many may recall. Thus we have been evading the issue of military unity. How much longer are we going to do this? Sooner or later we must correct this sad undemocratic situation.

Segregation Completely Out At "Country Club Of The Navy"

Informer—Harlem, N.Y.

6-24-44

NEW YORK — Here's a

HERMAN T. SMITH

(Correspondent on Tour of U. S.

Naval Bases for NNPA

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION, Seattle, Wash.—"The Country Club of the Navy" is the name most often used by naval personnel in this section when referring to this active base. After visiting here I can easily understand why the name is applied.

The base is located in Sands Point, a suburban section of Seattle, and long before Pearl Harbor was a bustling naval-out post from which many of our important aircraft took off for peaceful missions throughout the world.

The atmosphere of the base though cloaked in War-time secrecy, resembles that of a college campus. Being a permanent base, most of the buildings are construct- ed of brick with a design of attractiveness as well as comfort. Recreational facilities here rival that of the most exclusive country clubs in America. 6-24-44

A combination canteen, service club and naval post-exchange is complete in every detail and offers for sale almost any article that can be had in civilian life. The only difference being that the cost of most things is at least one third chapter than on the outside.

There is absolutely no segrega- tion on the base and the approximately four hundred Negroes stationed here enjoy all of the base facilities without discrimination of any kind. The men all eat, sleep, play and work together according to their rank and rating, in perfect harmony and seeing this unity makes you feel that if such were the case throughout America, no power on earth could threaten our- kinds of shops, this base being a huge aviation repair base. So although there are several separate repair shops here, each shop works on some part of a plane and are all housed in one large building.

Negroes are employed in most of the shops and according to the type of work the men are doing at- is highly skillful and they are op- about the usage of their training and experience in civilian life after the war. 6-24-44

es the story in his ar- "The blood of one sick black man in West Africa has been a boon to the human race . . . Yet, its campaign Red Cross' set policy to save lives, puts ing blood banks. in bottles marked 'For Negroes Only.'"

Raymond Fosdick, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, sketches this annual report: one sick black man in West Africa has been a boon to the human race. Asibi, the unsung native, became a benefactor of mankind because he was immune to yellow fever and because the Rockefeller Foundation

STEMS FROM VIRUS

"The men in the Lagos laboratory took a blood specimen from Asibi and with this a rhesus monkey (the kind that carry about) was grinders used to carry inoculated. Asibi recovered, but the monkey died. All the yellow- fever vaccine made since 1937, made by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Government and other agencies, stems from the original strain of virus taken from Asibi.

"Carried down to the present day from one laboratory animal to another and enormously multiplied, the original culture has immunized millions against yellow fever. Every soldier, colored and white, in a yellow-fever area has received a shot of the Asibi strain."

Yes, the blood of one sick black man in West Africa has been a

Black Blood!

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-1-44

Scientist Reveals African's Blood Has Saved Millions, Both White and Black

47d-1944

Race, Not Mutiny, Is Issue In Trial Of 50 Negro Seamen

Informer — Houston, Texas
10-21-44

YERBA BUENNA ISLAND, Calif. —After listening to three days' testimony of the 50 Negro seamen charged with mutiny for refusal to load ammunition at the Mare Island depot, August 9, Special NAACP Counsel, Thurgood Marshall declared, "These men are being tried for mutiny, solely because of their race or color."

Marshall Reports

Following an urgent telephone call from Joseph James, president of the local NAACP Branch, asking that National Office assistance be given the defendants immediately, Mr. Marshall flew to San Francisco, where he has been reviewing testimony and interviewing the men. In his report of proceedings thus far he charged: 10-21-44

"The last of the defendants was on the stand today and the defense might close its case tomorrow. The Port Chicago explosion was on July 17th and many of the accused were in Port Chicago at that time. Many of them were hurt. On August 9th they were transferred to another Island and told to fall in for work, meaning loading ammunition. They did not. Their officers, including the Admiral, talked to them. Then their officer asked them the following: 'All of you who are willing to obey all lawful orders stand fast. All who are not fall out and give your names to the officers. Some stood fast and others fell out. Those who fell out were arrested. There were 257 altogether, but it ends up that only 50 are charged with mutiny.

"The men take the position that the above statement by the officer was not considered by them to be an order and what they meant by their actions was that they did not want to load ammunition. They did not mean to disobey an order.

Example 10-21-44

"A typical example of their testimony is that of Seaman Bordenave who is just seventeen. He had enlisted when he was 16; was released when they discovered his age and re-enlisted as soon as he was 17. He had only been handling ammunition a week and was a 'hatch tender' which meant that he was the one who directed the operator of the winch as to how to lower the ammunition into the hole. No wonder they were all afraid to load ammunition. Every man testified that since the Port Chicago affair they were 'afraid to load ammunition.' Three of the accused men handled winches, one had ten months' experience, two had two months' experience. . . . all experience was with ammunition.

"Lt. James F. Coakley, former assistant prosecutor of Alameda County, California, under the present Governor Warren is the Judge Advocate. He asks each of the accused who is from above the Mason and Dixon line 'Where are you from?' He never asks any of the good southern boys the question. Today he asked one of the accused where he was from and the man said, 'Chicago.' He asked him where he took boot training, the boy replied, 'Great Lakes' whereupon Coakley said, 'Didn't they teach you to address officers as Sir? Why can't you say, Sir to me?' " 10-21-44

There is no evidence of refusal to mutiny or conspiracy.

There is no evidence of refusal to obey a direct order.

These men are being tried for mutiny solely because of their race or color."

The meaning of **Mutiny,** under which these men are being tried is —"collective insubordination with intent to disobey a lawful command." In order to find defendants guilty of mutiny it is necessary for prosecution to prove there was collective insubordination which consists of a persistent and concerted refusal or omission to obey orders, or to do duty. None of these men appears to have conspired collectively to disobey or perform duty with insubordinate intent.

Alabama Governor Gets Reply To Protest From Acting Secretary Of War

Weekly — New Orleans, La.
9-16-44

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 13.—"All soldiers, regardless of race, must be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy the recreational facilities, which are provided at army posts, camps and stations," Acting Secretary of War Patterson, Wednesday wrote Governor Chauncey M. Sparks. The governor made public that reply he received to the protest lodged with the war department over the recent Memorandum 97, which abolished segregation at army camps. 9-16-44

Patterson added that the war department is "not an appropriate medium for effecting social readjustments."

The acting secretary's reply took issue with Sparks' protest holding that Memorandum 97 "violates a state-wide practice and belief and aggravates rather than helps" race relations.

Patterson declared Sparks' telegram sent to President Roosevelt had been referred to him for reply. 9-16-44

"The thought has been," he said in his letter, "that men who are fulfilling the same obligations, suffering the same dislocation of their private lives, and wearing the identical uniform should, within the confines of the military establishment have the same privileges for rest and relaxation."

Sparks said the letter did not constitute an answer to his telegram to the President.

"I agree," said the governor, "that Negroes should be given equal facilities, but not use the facilities as white soldiers. There should be segregation. I understand the war department order also applies to civilian personnel of army posts."

Is Our Army Nazi-like?

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.
10-21-44

There is no good reason why there is only one Negro general in the U. S. Army. There are more than 700,000 Negro troops in the army and they are commanded by approximately 50 generals. Yet, the President has not seen fit to promote a single Negro colonel to general, though the war is three years old. That some of the Negro colonels are qualified to become general officers goes without saying, but they are obviously doomed never to attain that rank.

According to War Department releases, the two Negro combat divisions — the 92nd, which is in Italy, and the 93rd, which is in the South Pacific — have made excellent records. Since this is so, some of the Negro officers in these two divisions should have been promoted to general by now. Certainly white officers in similar divisions would have received their rightful grades after years of service.

The one big reason why Negro officers are not wanted and not promoted in the army is because of the social side of army life. Army ritual among the officer class calls for social contact in one another's homes, in officers clubs and otherwise. If Negro officers received their rightful promotions, it would sprag the smooth social routine traditionally adhered to by white officers, particularly during peace time.

But this is just about the least defensible reason why qualified Negroes are not promoted to their rightful grades in the army, especially to the general officer grade. The fact that there is only one Negro general in the army is an indictment of the army and the entire Government. Insofar as the Negro is concerned, our army is about as Nazi-like as Hitler's.

To mix Negroes with whites in northern centers

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
10-16-44

WASHINGTON—Responding to Administration pressure, prompted by the fact that the Republicans were making political capital out of the jim crow aspect, the War Department this week dropped its plan for taking over hotels in Negro neighborhoods as redistribution centers for Negro soldiers returning to the United States from combat areas overseas.

Protested by Negro groups and leaders as discriminatory and as unequal to accommodations afforded white servicemen, the plan for "processing soldiers in redistribution centers will be altered and expanded through the utilization of existing camps", the War Department announced. 10-16-44

"Pending the establishment of the camp type redistribution centers and in order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing northern redistribution centers", the announcement went on. Wherefore, all returning soldiers, white and Negro, certified by a medical officer as being most in need of this type of accommodation, will

Meet the increased demands of the future.

...sing on Chicago's Southside ...and the Theresa in Harlem, Ma... jor General Henry S. Aurand, commanding general of the Sixth service command, (Chicago), last week granted 200 tenants of the Pershing hotel an indefinite stay of eviction. The use of the Pershing had been parti...

Theresa and all contemplated Negro community hotels immediately. 10-16-44

Aimed at saving the Army's face, the War Department announcement declared that "The hotel plan, adapted to the relatively small influx of returnees ...cularly disapproved by Negro groups because it is situated in a slum area and has none of the facilities in use in the white centers for diverting battle-weary servicemen.

On the heels of the Pershing stay came the general War Department order which is expected and the advance on Germany, has ...ith the Pershing and ...been determined as inadequate to

Indicating that the Army plan... ...ned to abandon its project which had gone the lengths of commandeering two hostelries, the Per...

Soldier Tries Suicide Over Unfair Treatment In Army

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-22-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—A suicide pact was entered into two years ago by three students at Howard university as a protest to what they considered the unfair treatment of Negroes in the armed forces, and the treatment generally accorded Negroes in the United States. The act was to be perpetrated on the steps of the Capitol.

Three weeks ago one of them, Pvt. Norman W. Spaulding of Chicago, slashed his wrist four times with a razor blade in an attempt to live up to the agreement he and his classmates had solemly entered into. Today he is confined to a "restraint ward" at Walter Reed hospital.

PALS IN SERVICE

That is the dramatic sequel to the story which was told exclusively to the Associated Negro Press on Tuesday by the Rev. Dr. Robert Moton Williams, chairman of the Committee of One Hundred of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, and pastor of Asbury M. E. church here. 4-22-44

The other two men involved in the pact are both in the armed services. Their identities were not revealed, but it is learned that one of them is with a fighter group in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, and the other is a member of the Coast Guard. Only recently one of the two corresponded with Spaulding and brought up the subject of their pact.

This is substantially the story as the ANP learned it from Dr. Williams:

TOOK AIR TRAINING

Young Spaulding had left Howard in June, 1943, and returned to Chicago where he entered the Coffey School of Aeronautics to receive training as a civilian pilot. His course started in July, and in the same month he became a member of the Army Air Corps reserve. This training continued until September, 1943, when the AAF took over the entire civilian pilot training profram.

On September 14, he was sent to Fort Custer, Mich., for induction and re-classification. Nine days later he was sent down to Keesler field near Biloxi, Miss. There he received physical and mental examinations to qualify him for further training. 4-22-44

Spaulding laid around awaiting an assignment to additional courses. This did not come until in December when he was sent to the airfield at Tuskegee, Ala. Early in January an order was issued by the War Department discontinuing the WTS program on the grounds that there was a sufficient supply of instructors available.

COMMITTED ACT WHILE ON FURLOUGH

Toward the end of January, Spaulding was shipped to Greensboro, N. C., for re-classification in the Army Air Force. After mental, physical and psychological examinations, he was finally qualified as an Army aviation cadet. In March he was given a 14-day furlough and he came to Washington to visit his wife. 4-22-44

It was on the evening of the last day of his furlough, March 28, that he committed the act.

From this point on his wife, whose full name and address are being withheld, told this story to the ANP:

"We sat here most of the evening and Norman was talking about committing suicide, but I didn't think he was serious. He always talked about the problems of the race and how badly Negroes are treated. He wanted to do something about it, but somehow felt helpless.

"I went out of the room for a moment and when I returned I could see blood spurting from his arm. I was dazed and for several moments I didn't know just what to do. Finally I got myself together and tried to apply a tourniquet. 4-22-44

"Then I called Walter Reed and they came and took us there immediately."

Soldier Shot By White Lt. At Claiborne

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
9-16-44

NEW ORLEANS, La.—(ANP)—Word was received here today that Pvt. Leonard P. Washington, 26, son of Mrs. Nannie Washington, well known New Orleans resident, was fatally shot last week at Camp Claiborne by a white officer after he was allegedly attacked by the private.

The prevost marshal's report states that Washington had been drinking and after he had been placed under arrest he broke away and attempted to leave the post in a government conveyance but was caught and it was then that he attacked Lt. Kermit Bates and was killed.

White Officer 'Sorry For Soldiers' Arrest

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

(See "Army Scottsboro Boys" on Front Page)

4-8-44

NEW YORK, April (ANP) In this city after his voluntary resignation as an army first lieutenant, Robert L. Engels, white, has declared that he is "sorry" for the trouble he caused two Negro privates when he reported them and caused them to be sentenced to life imprisonment for "assault" on a white woman while the three were stationed at New Caledonia, South Pacific.

4-8-44

The story is as it appeared in the press said that Lt. Engels, in company with Louise Mounien, also white, had emerged from bushes one night at a trysting place called "Lovers Hill," when they were accosted by the two Negro privates, Pvt. Frank Fisher Jr., 21, and Pvt. Edward R. Loury, 22. The two men asked Engels if he minded if they, too had sexual relations with the woman, evidently a prostitute. While according grudging assent, Engels did nothing to prevent the two men. The woman willingly went back into the bushes with each of the two privates, singly.

According to the private, they paid her, and considered the incident closed. Engels, however reported the matter to commanding officials, and the two privates were arrested, shipped back to the states and placed in life confinement in an army prison in the state of Washington, near Seattle. 4-8-44

Immediate protest followed by colored citizens, who claimed that the two men were railroaded solely because of their color and because the woman was white. An appeal in the case is still pending, after protest by the NAACP and other groups.

While in New York, Engels has permitted himself to be quoted as saying that, in his opinion, the life sentence was too stiff, that he did not intended anything like that when he reporte the men. He said that their conduct toward him was not that due an officer from subordinates, but should have drawn no more than a six months sentence. He said he was willing to go before army boards and ask for clemency for the wto privates.

The NAACP has claimed that the men were third degree-ed, that evidence offered against them was flimsy, that their race was used against them. Secretary War Stimson has the NAACP petition protesting the sentencing. 4-8-44

South Africa Has No Place For Bishop Gregg

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.
9-9-44

CAPETOWN, South Africa — (Delayed, ANP)—Although Bishop John A. Gregg served a number of years as resident bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal church in South Africa, a decade or more ago, he still could not find a single hotel which would give him lodging over night, when on a mission to visit Negro troops stationed in the middle East, he stopped in Durban, South Africa. The bishop finally stopped in the McCord hospital, which caters to blacks.

This race conscious city here witnessed a similar incident recently when acting Capt. Chow Jockie, a Chinese skipper, who has sailed all over the world brough his vessel, a British ship, into Capetown. He went to the Palmerston hotel, registered, went to his room only to be ousted because he was colored. Captain Jockie sued the owner a man named Meyer, for $800 damages and received a $200 verdict against the hotel proprietor.

Navy Band Gone From Lambert

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
6-30-44

Missouri Unit Transferred to Great Lakes

ST. LOUIS. — (ANP) — When 23 Negro members of the noted Lambert Field Navy band were transferred to Great Lakes Naval Training station recently, speculation became rife that they were the victims of anti-Negro forces within the Navy who are trying to teach them a lesson "about fighting Dixie race barriers" by breaking up the musical unit.

Time and time again, the bandsmen have encountered anti-Negro representatives in the form of officers born in Dixie. These Navy officers were by tradition in sympathy with jim crow in the navy, one source declared. Band members are reported to have grown tired of the senseless race restrictions. They were, according to reports from the naval center, barred from the swimming pool, denied service at the navy center's barber shop, and were segregated in the mess hall.

With a chaplain born in Georgia and Lt. Varner, who was born in Florida, their protests were in vain. Varner, though young, revealed that he is of the old southern school by informing them that "N . . ." would have to stay in their places. Varner was detached from the unit by the admiral of the Ninth Naval district when he personally investigated the situation. 6-30-44

Members of the musical unit have had a variety of bitter experiences by personal clashes with agents of race hatred, a spokesman of the unit said. He predicted that the whole musical aggregation may be broken up and sent on active ship duty as the result of the racial clashes and mass protests.

47d-1944

Debate Behavior Of American Soldiers

'Negro Troops Punished, Whites Do As They Please,' English Say

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
6-3-44

By RANDY DIXON

LONDON—In a debate last week centered around questions concerning the behavior of American troops in England, Independent and Labor members of Parliament brought forward allegations that Negro troops were being disciplined for offenses while white soldiers were permitted to do as they like. In refutation, Home Secretary Herbert Morrison branded the reports "irrelevant" and "mischievous." He stated that, on the whole, the conduct of American troops, black and white, was "exceedingly good."

Among those putting questions were the Labor party members, Rhys, Davies and Stokes, and an Independent member, Kendall. Davies said: "U.S. military authorities have sentenced to death certain Negroes for offenses which are not punishable by death here."

ISSUE TO BE RAISED 6-3-44

Home Secretary Morrison told him: "The color of the troops is, of course, irrelevant. The House of Commons deliberately, and with its eyes wide open, and, I think, wisely gave the United States forces complete criminal jurisdiction. That being so, U.S. laws must necessarily apply." Morrison had said earlier that he could not consider introducing amended legislation to stop foreign courts here from passing the death sentence for offenses that did not warrant the death penalty under British laws. Davies said he would raise the matter again.

Kendall asked Morrison if he were aware of and what steps he proposed to deal with the situation in Leicestershire and many other towns where "it is unfit for a woman to walk unescorted due to the ineffectiveness of the U.S. military authorities in enforcing proper behavior of the U.S. forces and its failure to give proper protection to women." 6-3-44

Kendall asked further: "Will it be brought to the attention of the U.S. authorities that while we are more than anxious to extend hospitality, will the U.S. troops extend to our womenfolk the same chivalry and courtesy that they extend their own womenfolk?"

Morrison told Kendall that he hadn't had time to make special inquiries into conditions described but that "the inuendo that U.S. authorities are failing to assist in checking misbehavior is unjustified." 6-3-44

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Stokes then asked Mr. Morrison whether he was aware that this state of things applies to many towns, or aware that the offenses complained of, if committed by colored troops, would call for the death penalty, while white troops are allowed to do as they wish?

Morrison said he considered such suggestions "mischievous." He continued: "I understand that the U.S. law is applied to both colored and white troops. It is true that in every army certain broad difficulties and black patches will occur here and there, but I am bound to say, broadly speaking, that the conduct of American troops, both black and white, is exceedingly good."

The debate concluded with Kendall saying he would raise the matter again.

ARMY POLICY

Has Introduced Racial Discrimination Into All Sections of the World

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-22-44

By HORACE R. CAYTON

RECENTLY I was talking to two men high in the War Department. They told me, perhaps jokingly, that the high command of the Army spends more time talking about the race problem than it does trying to win the war. If this is true, it must mean the time is spent talking about keeping the Negro segregated and trying not to hurt any Southerner's feelings—rather than working out plans for integrating the Negro into the armed forces.

Mr. Cayton

One of the reasons that makes me think this is the attitude which the Army took in the first World War. It wasn't until we had won that great struggle to save democracy that some of the facts concerning the pre-occupation of the military command with the question of "social equality" came to light.

FRENCH OFFICER EXPOSES POLICY 4-22-44

Thumbing through some old clippings recently, I came across this news item reported in the American press about a special meeting of the French Chamber of Deputies. It seemed that a Colonel Linar, who was chief of the French military mission attached to the American Army, had issued, at the request of his American colleagues, a confidential circular instructing French officers how to treat black soldiers. At this meeting of the Chamber, Monsieur Rene Boisneuf made the following observations:

"THE Americans observe certain relations which they consider necessary. No matter what we might think of these, it does not behoove us to mix in the matter. But I think it intolerable and abominable that a superior French officer should attempt to introduce into the French army prejudices which are derogatory to our manners and our civilization: reasons for discord, ethnological antagonism and hatred, exposing us to fratricidal quarrels which certain of our allies have raised to the dignity of a national dogma." 4-22-44

RACE PREJUDICE HAS GONE ABROAD

The deputy then proceeded to read the document, which had the following suggestions to make to French officers: First, French officers who exercise command over Negro troops were requested to ascertain how Negroes were treated in the United States and to communicate this information to the civil authorfities and to the French populace near the cantonments. Second, it was suggested that there be no intimacy between French officers and Negro officers, and that they could not be treated "on the same footing as the white American officers without profoundly wounding the latter." Specifically, they were not to dine at their tables or shake hands or even hold conversations with them outside the line of duty. Third, it was not proper to praise "in an exaggerated manner" black troops, and further, the public around the cantonments were warned "not to spoil the Negroes."

WE won't know until after World War II is over, the exact extent to which the high command has busied itself and employed its energy and ingenuity in influencing our allies to treat the Negro as an inferior and subordinate creature. Certainly there has been enough talk about England to assure us that America has sent more to that island than lend-lease material. For whatever can be said of the British Isles and its colonial policy, England does not suffer from the insanity of race prejudice to the extent that the United States does. 4-22-44

FOLLOWS PATTERN

The Army's pattern of segregation has been introduced in localities in this country in which it has never existed before. Keeping pace with the global nature of the war, it is my hunch that we have introduced racial discrimination against the Negro throughout the world, just as we did in France during the first World War.

OTHER PAPERS SAY—

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

THE CRIME OF SEGREGATION
(N. Y. Amsterdam News)

4-1-44

The statement of the Secretary of War concerning Negro soldiers, brings out nothing new. It would indeed be extraordinary if a group of young Negroes selected from the general mass and put into an army should not on the average be inferior in education, in general intelligence, in technical training and in health to a similar group of young white men. Considering the fact that these black men have had less time and less money spent on their education; have fewer contacts with civilized life and intelligent people; have been largely or deliberately excluded from the higher techniques of industry—it would be extraordinary if under such circumstances they measured up to the average of their white fellow citizen. What we mean by the Negro problem is that if you deny a group of citizens, for any reason, access to education, work, and social contacts, you must expect them to show the result in lower efficiency and intelligence. In such case what we try to do is to search for reasons in barring Negroes from opportunities and for depressing them below the national average. This reason in the past was the assumption of racial inferiority but that assumption has long since been disproved by science. 4-1-44

Consequently what Secretary Stimson should have noted was that while the average intelligence, efficiency and health of the Negro contingent is below that of the whites, nevertheless that in all cases there are some Negroes quite equal to the whites and some who excel the average of the whites. What the policy of the War Department and what Mr. Stimson is doing is to penalize the exceptional Negro simply because he is not inferior. In a group of white soldiers the personnel is carefully weeded out, officer material is educated, technical efficiency is put into the engineering services and laborers assigned to physical work. But with the same conditions, in a Negro group, endless reasons are found for not weeding out or transfering the personnel with ability and aptitudes: there are not enough well-trained Negroes to make separate technical battalions, there are not enough commands where Negro officers can be assigned; there are not enough places to be found where intelligence incased in a black skin can be used; there are no technical units where Negroes can be assigned without working beside or even in command of whites. 4-1-44

Therefore—and here comes the unforgivable crime,—the mass of Negroes regardless of their ability, intelligence or efficiency are shoveled into labor battalions. This is the crime of segregation, not only in the army but in industrial and civilized life; because Negroes, striving against almost insuperable odds, nevertheless beat their way forward in increasing number, they are slapped in the face and forced back because, forsooth, Negroes must not associate with whites even in defending their country and ideals. The number who have succeeded is not great enough to man a whole group organization. Such is the false logic and sheer injustice in any attempt to segregate a minority group from normal contact with its fellows.

Red Cross Compromising Itself Abroad, Says White

Afro American — Baltimore, Md
3-18-44

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy
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SOMEWHERE IN ITALY — (By Cable)—The Red Cross is doing a good job physically over here, but notwithstanding its prestige, influence, and money, is compromising itself to old Army policies, Walter White, NAACP executive secretary said this week.

Mr. White, who is on an extensive tour visiting colored troops in war zones, arrived in Italy Sunday after two months in England and North Africa.

Gained on GI Food

He is ten pounds heavier from a daily diet of GI food, and has thoroughly adjusted himself to war dangers, having survivied twenty-one bombings in England. He visited the 99th Fighter Squadron Monday and now is on a tour of other camps. 3-18-44

He said in an overall way that our soldiers have gained respect and are winning the confidence of the people everywhere, but that lack of a concrete policy by the high command is permitting the influence of the old American pattern to seep inin many places.

Most Officers Liberal

"I have found the majority of officers I have met to be liberal men," "but a minority want to transplant Mississippi into foreign countries."

Mr. White plans to return via West Africa, Brazil and the Caribbean Clipper route.

General Lee's Enforcement Of Order Pleases

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
9-27-44

Segregation Is Abolished Over In Great Britain

WITH ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE—(ANP)—Rigid enforcement by Lt. Gen. John Clifford Hodges Lee of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's order banning segregation of Negro troops has only been a major factor in building high morale and better relationships between American soldiers but has established Gen. Lee as a friend of colored fighting men.

Gen. Lee, Kansas born like Gen. Eisenhower, is deputy commander in this theater of war as well as commanding general of the communications zone of the serivces of supply here. On assuming his duties, he realized that tensions between white and Negro troops was one of his problems. Fights with guns and knives between them were frequent. Currently, although 10 times as many soldiers are present as when he took charge, such battles do not average one weekly.

9-27-44

THOUGHT DIFFICULT

When Gen. Eisenhower went to London as supreme commander, one of his first orders was to ban segregation of Negro soldiers. This was considered difficult inasmuch as combat divisions composed mainly of white southerners passed through or were stationed near bases where colored soldiers of the service of supply were on duty.

Certain local commanders ignored the anti-discrimination order on the ground that this policy prevented troubled. The reverse actually was true, for attempts at strict segregation resulted in increased racial feeling and incidents.

9-27-44

Gen. Lee personally demanded complete reports of each such incident. When he found an officer guilty of violating the nonsegregation order, that officer was broken. Gen. Lee also took steps to see that all soldiers had the same rights, and would not tolerate an officer who allowed the evidence of a white MP to outweigh that of a Negro MP. He let it be known that disobedience of the nonsegregation order would be punished as severely as the wilfull disobedience of any other.

CAUSE RESENTMENT

9-27-44

His stand caused resentment in some quarters. Officers said among themselves that this was going too far and complained that it was apparently assumed by Gen. Lee in advance that in a fight between a Negro and a white soldier, the Negro was right and the white was at fault. ..9-27-44 ..When word of this reaction get to Gen. Lee, he said: .... that kind of thinking has got to stop. This is a most important issue because it cuts right down into our innermost thinking and feeling. Are we fighting this war on a clean issue or are we kidding ourselves? We've got to decide, and make our decisions stick."

Racial Designations In B'klyn Navy Yard To Be Discontinued

Age — New York, N.Y.
5-27-44

Racial designations will be removed from the badges of workers in the New York Navy Yard, Brooklyn, Navy officials informed the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Monday.

For several years, workers at the Yard have been compelled to wear a badge containing, among other information, the letter "W" for white or "C" for colored. Numerous protests against these designations have been made to the FEPC, Negro workers in particular charging that they made for discriminatory employment practices within the Yard.

When FEPC representatives first took the matter up with local Yard officials they were advised that the designations had been ordered "for security reasons" by Washington. Admiral Monroe Kelly, Commandant of the Yard, admitted, however, that they seemed to serve no useful security purpose. And FEPC investigations in other cities showed that badges used by other Navy Yards carried no designation of race. 5-27-44

Following a series of conferences in Washington and New York, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph A. Bard advised FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross that steps will be taken immediately to change the badges of employees so desiring.

At the same time, Edward Lawson, director of the New York Regional FEPC office, announced that considerable progress was being made toward adjusting more than fifty complaints of discriminatory employment practices filed with that office within the post two months. 5-27-44

Of six complaints handled recently, Mr. Lawson said, four were found to be warranted and two were dismissed. As a result of these investigations two first-class drillers were promoted to mechanic-instructors, one second-class driller was promoted to first-class, and one second-class chipper and caulker was promoted to first-class. All were Negroes and had charged in their complaints that they had been denied promotions by their supervisors apparently because of their race.

FEPC Asks $585,000

Afro American
Baltimore, Md
3-18-44

WASHINGTON President Roosevelt on Friday sent to Congress the budget of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, calling for appropriations totaling $585,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

This is the first time that Congress has been asked to appropriate funds for the committee, previously financed from the President's emergency fund. 3-18-44

An amendment to the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill, offered by Senator Richard Russell (Dem. Ga.) would prohibit allocation of funds to the FEPC from this fund.

Failure Means Finish

The Russell amendment would require all agencies set up by executive order and subsisiting on funds allocated from the President's emergency fund to obtain appropriations from Congress by July 1 or cease functioning, if it has been in existence for more than one year. The FEPC was established in June 25, 1941.

The amendment is an extension of the prohibition ordered by Congress last year, denying money from any fund to any agency which had been refused appropriations by the Seventy-eighth Congress. But it was the FEPC which brought up the subject during hearings on the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill and it is aimed chiefly at the FEPC.

Ry.-Probe Group Threatened

Another agency listed by the Budget Bureau as receiving allocations from the President's emergency fund is the committee to investigate racial discrimination in certain fields of railroad employment. 3-18-44

It was created by a letter of the President dated January 1, after the FEPC reached an impasse with a number of railroads and railroad labor unions in its efforts to secure the removal of discriminatory practices against colored locomotive firemen, trainmen, switchmen, dining car and shop employees.

While this committee has not been in existence for a year, it is believed that the Russell amendment, if adopted, will also cut off its funds, under a provision that "any agency or instrumentality established by executive order shall be deemed to have been in existence during the existence of any other agency or instrumentality, established by a prior executive order, if the principal functions of both of such agencies or instrumentalities are substantially the same or similar."

Passage Anticipated

Congress was due to debate and vote on the Russell amendment during consideration of the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill this week. Indications are that it will be approved. But its approval does not mean that the FEPC will not get the appropriation it is seeking. 3-18-44

At present, there is considerable sentiment on Capitol hill in favor of giving the FEPC a status under law, with its powers and purposes clearly defined.

Few Additions Planned

The FEPC budget allows for minor staff additions in the Washington office, with considerably more in the field. Currently there are 113 employes on the payrolls of which 53 are here and 60 are in the field. Estimates call for a staff of 130 people of which 55 will be assigned here and 75 in the regional offices.

The increases propsed for the national office are mainly attorneys who would have their work coordinated by assistant chairman George M. Johnson. The need in the field is for examiners and hearing examiners. No new functions are contemplated in the budget.

The budget carries a salary of $10,000 a year for the division and pay of $25 a day each for six other members when actually engaged.

It also carries the following salaries: 3-18-44

Deputy chairman, $6,500; chief, administrative management, $5.600; chief, field operations, $5.600; three hearing examiners, $16,800; assistant to the chairman, $4,600; three senior fair practice examiners, $13,800; fair practice examiner, $3,800; research assistant, $3,800; information specialist, $3,800; assistant compliance analyst, $3,200; chief legal division, $5,040 for nine months; attorney, $4,600; attoriney, $7,200 for 1 9-10 man years.

Field: Three regional representatives, $16,800; six regional representatives, $28,400; five senior fair practice examiners, $23,000; twelve fair practice examiners, $46,000; sixteen associate fair practice examiners, $51,200.

47d-1944

Segregation Is All Right - Fish

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

10-1-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — "I do not favor abolishing segregation and allowing Negroes to force themselves on white people. I do not think the Republican party had any idea of abolishing segregation in the army when they wrote the clause in their platform. I for one certainly had not."

Rep. Hamilton Fish, pruminent New York Republican member of congress, made this statement to Miss Pauline Myers, administrative assistant to the Rev. W. H. Jernagin, director, Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, in an interview here last week. Miss Myers revealed the information in a lengthy statement released last Tuesday.

WOULD END JIM CROW

The interview took place when Miss Myers visited the congressman's office seeking his cooperation in having introduced in congress an amendment to the Wadsworth bill (H. R. 465). The Wadsworth bill would create a single department of the armed services. The amendment proposed by the Fraternal Council would abolish segregation based on race therein.

10-1-44

Rep. Fish, declaring that any attempt to abolish segregation would "start another war" refused to have anything to do with the Fraternal Council's proposed amendment.

"I don't believe in miscognation and intermarriage and all that stuff," he declared. "Negroes ought to be proud of their race and glad to stay in it. They ought not to be wanting any mixed regiments. To permit Negroes to fight with white men in a mixed regiment is the same as inviting Negroes in an 'exclusive white club.' Negroes ought to fight for civil rights and stop pushing themselves on white people. I repeat, white people don't want you."

TALK OF COMMUNISTS

Fish, regarded as one of the leading Republicans in the country despite a tiff between him and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, GOP presidential nominee, during which Dewey repudiated any support from Fish, declared that only "a few Communists" talk "that nonsense" and that no responsible Negro organization of individual, "not even a soldier—and I have talked to many—," would "even dare to say he wanted to abolish segregation."

Reference by Miss Myers to a few instances of mixed regiments proving successful elsewhere brought the declaration from Fish that he knew of no such cases, except where there were white officers and colored enlisted men.

" . . but that is different—and that works," he said.

10-1-44

When it was pointed out that such a doctrine is no different from the Nazi theory of superior and inferior races, Fish replied that the Nazi ideas of Nordic superiority have nothing to do with Negroes.

"A bill to abolish segregation in the army," Fish said, "wouldn't get three votes in congress. It would be political suicide for any one who would attempt such and I for one would not."

Protest Army's Seizure Of Two Largest Hotels

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Wire Appeal Directly To Pres. Roosevelt

10-1-44

CHICAGO — (ANP)—The army's seizure of both the Pershing hotel here and the Theresa hotel in New York for re-distribution centers for returning overseas veterans was vigorously protested by tenants of both hotels last week. "Where are we to go?" asked Pershing hotel tenants.

That question was raised by members of the Pershing hotel tenants league who must vacate the hotel premises by Oct. 1 when a protest meeting was held last week after officers of the Sixth Service command took possession. Headed by O. T. Shelton, the meeting was sponsored by the Tenants league of Chicago. Speakers assailed the loss of the hotel as "unreasonable and un-democratic."

While they demanded a new hotel, Warrant Officer John W. Roy, Sixth Service command, has been designated by the army to take over the hotel. He explained to the protesting tenants that the army intends to develop every recreational and entertainment facility at the Pershing hotel for the benefit of returning veterans.

10-1-44

Beside O. T. Shelton, those who addressed the tenants mass meeting, which declined in attendance from an anticipated 1,000 to 100, were Miss Bertha Tipton, executive secretary of the local council of the National Negro congress and Louis Maponyane, a representative of the Washington Park forum. Both referred to the acute housing shortage.

Meantime in New York, Harlem citizens were in arms against the army's order for tenants of the Theresa to find new homes. With Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the secretary of war, on one side and Walter White, executive of the NAACP, and Dr. Channing Tobia, YMCA head, on the other, the army has decided to defer seizure of the popular hotel, where a large number of prominent citizens are living. The question of jimcrow was voiced here and in New York against the army's seizure of both Negro hotels. Twenty-six leading citizens of Harlem wired an appeal directly to President Roosevelt against converting the Theresa hotel into an army re-distribution center.

CLAIMS 'RECORD' STORY WITHOUT ANY FOUNDATION

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

6-10-44

Writer For White Daily Says Gibson Tries 'To Squirm Out'

By RICHARD DURHAM
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

Denying that the War Department had directed camp commands throughout the South to provide adequate and non-Jim Crow bus transportation for Negro troops, Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, was flatly contradicted by Windsor Booth of the Philadelphia Record who adamantly reasserted that such an order had been issued.

To determine whether Jim Crow was dead or still alive in the Army's service system, the Chicago Defender traced through a maze of conflicting reports to discover the truth concerning the somewhat elusive "order."

6-10-44

Booth Cites Order

Booth's article published in the Philadelphia Record, May 27, stated:

"The War Department has directed Army camp commands throughout the country, and particularly in the South, to provide decent, adequate and non-Jim Crow bus transportation for Negro troops between camp and town.

"The directive was transmitted by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, commanding general of the Army Service Forces, at the specific request of John J. McCloy, the Assistant Secretary of War.

"McCloy, chairman of the departmental racial relations committee, gave full credit for this important reform to a series of articles written by Orrin Evans for the Philadelphia Record.

6-10-44

"Truman Gibson, assistant to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, said Evans' documented stories of mistreatment of Negroes were invaluable to the War Department in its drive to raise morale.

"We knew by hearsay that discriminatory transportation hurt the morale of Negro troops, Gibson said, but until the Record's exposure, the condition was not called to the department's attention in a way that we could grasp it and correct it.

6-10-44

"Gibson said Gen. Somervell's strongly worded directive is notice to all troop commanders that ignorant, prejudiced bus drivers can no longer insult Negro troops, and that busses, especially those supplied by the Army, are for the comfort of all troops without regard to color.

Applies to South

"While the new anti-Jim Crow policy applies to all Army establishments, it is being called to the particular attention of camp commanders in the South, where Negro morale is lowest because of poor travel facilities, the department said."

Gibson, however, later refuted the article in a strongly worded letter to Booth stating:

"I expressly told you . . . that no directive had been issued by the War Department on the matter of transportation as a result of the articles which appeared in the Philadelphia Record. The statement that General Somervell did issue such a directive is without foundation in fact."

6-10-44

When contacted by the Defender and asked concerning Gibson's denial, Booth angrily remarked, "That little b——— is trying to squirm out of it." Stating that the article had been shown to Gibson before publication, Booth reported that he had offered to publish any public retraction Gibson cared to make. To date, no such retraction has appeared in the Record.

Quotes McCloy Letter

Reaffirming the directive, Booth asked that a letter from McCloy be quoted as follows:

"Where special instances of discrimination have been brought to our attention . . . investigations have been made and wherever possible remedial action has been taken. As you know the exigencies of war have placed a heavy burden on transportation facilities everywhere. In view of the fact that transportation systems in the South were not organized to cope with the traffic because of the location in this region of many large army installations, in the case of the colored soldiers, local segregation laws and racial attitudes have constituted an additional problem. But the army has taken the following remedial action:

"1. Regulations now permit the use of army vehicles for transportation of troops between posts and civilian communities when other facilities are inadequate.

"2. The army has made available to local transportation camps busses under rental agreement.

"3. All Post Commanders have been instructed to see to it that facilities are available to all soldiers traveling between posts and civilian communities."

6-10-44

In recent months the mistreatment of Negro troops, especially in Southern camps, has been brought to the attention of Army officials by both Negro and white liberal publications. Gibson, in a letter to Dr. Lochard, editor-in-chief of the Chicago Defender, praised the "effort begun by the Negro press three years ago," and stated that "It would be exceedingly ridiculous for me to have said at any time that all the many reports that have been submitted to the War Department, including several of my own, have been of a hearsay nature . . ."

Observers contacted here, however, regarded the "'there-is-there-isn't" a directive argument between Gibson and Booth as a "two dogs over a directive" fight and expressed concern mainly over the fate of the directive.

The series of articles published in the Record were based on a 3,400 mile tour which took Evans to 14 army camps in seven Southern states. "At least 60 per cent — probably 80 per cent," Evans stated, "of the justifiable resentment of Negro soldiers in the South (which, of course, is transmitted to their relatives and friends in the North), is due directly to the heartless, vicious discrimination of the local bus lines." In many sections he learned that bus drivers carried clubs and pistols to intimidate Negro soldiers.

Meanwhile, on the eve of the "liberation" of Europe, Negro soldiers polled here agreed that such a directive would immediately heighten the morale and fighting spirit of colored troops.

BOMBARDIERS' MORALE DROPS TO LOW EBB WITH COLORED AT 'WORST,' ARMY AIRFIELD CONDITIONS

By The Associated Negro Press

New York, June 21.—The June issue of Politics, a new monthly review, contains a sensational expose of Jim Crow conditions in the 477th Bombardment group, now stationed at Godman Field,

Ky. The facts about the explosive situation that is developing at Godman Field among the officers and enlisted men of the first Negro bombing squadron are made public for the first time in this article.

Entitled, "The Story of the 477th," the article is signed "Bombardier" and was evidently written by some one who participated in the events described. "Bombardier" tells how the officers of the 477th were refused admittance to the "officers club" at Selfridge Field, Mich., where the group was being trained until recently. When they protested, the group was at once shifted to Godman Field, Ky. 6-24-44

"The real reason for the move," observes "Bombardier" "was to shift the 477th to a southern field where the local Jim Crow laws and sentiment would be used to back up the army's Jim Crow policies. The government will go to considerable expense in order to deny its men of arms an equal chance to fraternize on an equal basis.

"The 477th is now using, at Godman Field, the same facilities that accomodated the air corps of the last war. Selfridge Field is one of the best bases in the entire United States, and Godman Field is one of the worst. The morale of the officers and men of the 477th is now at the lowest possible ebb. If the 477th Bombardment group is to be a credit to the allied cause and its race, there must be a complete showing-up of the present situation. These men are fighting a battle far superior to that of survival, as many are doing on foreign shores. Their battle is for the four freedoms.

Radio Expert Is Stevedore

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Sometime ago the AFRO called to the attention of the War Department the case of a former professor of history in Morgan State College, with a doctor of philosophy degree, who was drafted into the army and assigned to tending fires in the quarters of white officers. 4-29-44

The department transferred the professor to the special services branch in Washington, where his talents can be used to better advantage.

This week we received an application of a Camp Peary, Va., seaman for the job of radio operator and technician for the S.S. Murphy, provided he could secure a release from the Navy. This seaman's record includes the following:

January, 1942 to October, 1943—Principal radio technician in the Philadelphia Signal Depot; salary, $2,400 a year; his duties: to supervise work in radio maintenance division;

October, 1941 to December, 1941—Inspector of completed radio equipment at Western Electric, Kearney, N.J.; salary, $45.80 per week;

September, 1940 to October, 1941—Foreman, $1,800 a year, supervising apprentice radio technicians engaged in repairing and constructing police, marine and lightship transmitters.

He can, he says, use an automatic telegraph key and copy code at the rate of 30 words a minute.

And what is this expert radio-telegraph man doing in the Navy?

He says he is in a stevedore unit, loading cargo vessels and serving as a general laborer. 4-29-44

The Army and Navy cannot immediately put all enlisted men into the branch of service for which they are best fitted, but since October 7, 1943, they have had this lad with seven and a half years' experience in radio serving as a stevedore.

Army Bans Segregation In Germany But Enforces It In United States

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

9-30-44

WHAT KIND of people do the officials who run the United States Army think Negroes are anyhow?

Do those who control the Army, those who make the rules and regulations, think that Negroes are a bunch of ignorant notwits, who possess none of those human attributes which place men above dumb-driven animals?

They must have such thoughts when they refuse to treat colored fighting men as they do all other soldiers. In fact, they make rules and regulations which embarrass, insult and humiliate every colored person and many white men who are fighting them to protect America.

The latest insult was hurled in the faces of Negroes last week when the Army decided to take over the Pershing Hotel in Chicago and the Theresa Hotel in New York as special and exclusive redistribution centers for Negro soldiers.

The Army had selected 49 hotels in the resort centers at Miami Beach, Fla., Asheville, N. C., Hot Springs, Ark., Santa Barbara, Cal., and Lake Placid, N. Y., as places where the men who had seen action could be given a psychological "lift" to prepare them to again go into battle. The idea seems to be a good one. However, the question arose, as it always does, what to do with Negroes?

It has never entered the head of the Commander-in-Chief nor any of his policy-making generals that the only just thing to do is to accord equal treatment to colored soldiers. This incident focuses attention on the whole damnable policy of segregation which is rampant in the Army.

9-30-44

Aside from what this jim crow policy does to the morale of every colored man in the Army, it removes from public service the two finest hotels which colored Americans can use freely.

Because of custom Negroes are barred from first class hotels all over America. The taking of the Pershing and Theresa hotels creates a housing shortage for colored Americans in Chicago and New York; and it is not necessary.

During the same week that the plans were made by the United States high command to segregate battle-worn Negro veterans, General Eisenhower issued a decree that the anti-racial laws of Germany were to be abolished.

In other words, the United States Army enforces anti-racial laws in America while seeking to destroy them abroad. This incident proves conclusively that the Army has the power to abolish segregation within its own ranks. The fact that it does not do so proves that those in control do not want to do so; that they consider Negroes as less than men.

NAACP Head Resigns To Expose Jim Crow

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

10-6-44

Sees Nov. 7th As Last Chance To Help Negro Soldier Thru Voting GOP Ticket

Grant Reynolds, Administrative Assistant of the Washington Office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has resigned his post in order to be free to protest against the mistreatment of Negroes in the Armed Forces.

Mr. Reynolds said it is his feeling that "On November 7th, America will have its last opportunity to correct the gross injustices to the Negro soldier, by voting to put in office a Republican Administration."

Mr. Reynolds, a Congregational minister, served two years as a captain of Army chaplains. As a result of his own Army service and through information and complaints received by him in the Washington office of NAACP, he has become an authority on the widespread abuses to which Negro troops are subjected.

He served as chaplain at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, the only camp in the United States at which exclusively Negro troops are stationed where, he states, "30,000 troops are maintained in a condition of degredation and cruelty. 10-5-44

"Fort Huachuca is generally referred to as being a combination of the horrors of a prison camp and a military camp in Africa where black colonials are trained. Long sentences meted out to Negro soldiers as a result of false charges, unprovoked assaults by white officers upon Negro enlisted men, segregation of Negro officers into squalid quarters, attempted suicide by Negro soldiers because of intolerable conditions, statements by the commanding general referring to his 14,000 'niggers,' jeerings by the colored troops of their division commander, and the maintenance of a white supremacy caste system over all the Negro personnel, both enlisted and commissioned, are some of the un-American practices which make Huachuca the most infamous camp in America. This condition is made more shocking because Huachuca is the bottleneck through which the only Negro combat divisions, namely: the 92nd and 93rd, have gone to the fighting fronts, namely: the 92nd to Italy, and 93rd to the South Pacific."

Mr. Reynolds is now associated with the Baltimore Afro-American for which he will write articles concerning the mistreatment of Negroes in the armed forces. 10-14-44

47d-1944

Stimson Congratulated On Army Order Lifting Ban On Soldiers

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Protests Begin From Southland

8-29-44

NEW YORK—(SNS)—Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the National Martime Union, Monday wired congratulations to Secretary of War Henry Stimson on "the historic Army Order lifting the ban against Negro soldiers in army post exchanges, army buses, and motion picture houses.

The telegram said that action such as this will encourage the best efforts of our Negro population. "Given the opportunity," Mr. Smith said, "our Negro people—soldiers, sailors, merchant seamen, men and women on the home front can do even greater things. This new order will help give them that opportunity.

The text of the telegram folows:

"The 85,000 memebrs of the National Maritime Union are enthused and inspired by the historic army order lifting the ban against Negro soldiers in army post exchanges, army busses and motion picture houses.

"We can assure you from our own experience on NMU merchant ships where Negroes and whites have worked together, eaten together, and slept together for years that the free mingling of men of all races results not in friction but in greater coopreation and understanding.

8-29-44

"We have long known of the bravery of Negroes in the face of ruthless attack from Nazis subs and planes. Now tales of Negro troops who have covered themselves with glory in the theatres of war have already reached us. Even under adverse conditions these men have shown that they have much to contribute to victory and the durable peace that will follow. Given the opportunity, our Negro people—soldiers, sailors, merchant seamen and women on the home front—can do ever greater things. Your new order will help give them that opportunity.

"Your death blow to Jim Crowism in the Army will raise the morale of Negroes all over the country."

ALABAMA PROTEST

NEW YORK (C. F.—The War Department order to eliminate discrimination in all Army post exchanges, buses and motion picture theaters has drawn its first vehement protests from the South.

The first protest came from Gov. Chauncey Sparks of Alabama, who wired President Roosevelt to intervene against the order. His action came immediately after the directive was made public at Maxwell Field, Alabama.

8-29-44

Sparks declared that the order "breaks down the essential principles of race relationship in the South."

"As Governor of Alabama, I protest such an order, which violate a statewide practice, and believe it aggravate rather than helps," he said.

An original War Department order of July 8 banning racial discrimination received public notice only in the Negro press. On August 17 the Air Forces sent out a memorandum based on the general order, and its posting at Maxwell Field led to general public disclosure.

APPLIES TO ALL POSTS, CAMPS

Continental Features, learned in Washington that the order applied to all post and camps throughout the country. The War Department said that it was merely restating a long standing department policy, but observers view it as the first real effort to put that policy into practice.

The War Department would not release the text of the directive, signed by Major General James A. Ulio, the adjutant general, explaining that it was a "restricted classification," but disclosed that Army rules provide:

8-29-44

"That no post exchange may be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race.

That buses ,trucks or other transportation owned and operated by the Government or by a Governmental instrumentality will be available to all military personnel regardless of local civilian custom."

The National Associaition for the Advancement of Colored People, while acknowledging that the order would help alleviate friction because of segregation, protested that "the basic problem of segregation still remains and is untouched by this order."

Edward Dudley, assistant counsel to the NAACP, did say that the order would move "the Negro one step nearer to the status of a full-fledged fighting man."

Soldiers Win and Lose in Strike

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

TUCSON, Ariz.—The 57 soldiers at Marana Army Air Field who ended a two-day strike September 13, were granted the pay increase which they said was due them but they now have to work 84 instead of 56 hours a week.

The soldiers, working as kitchen police, have been assigned to the cadet mess hall where they will draw $25 more a month but the hours will be longer than they worked when in the general mess hall.

9-30-44

Reasons for Strike

The strike, which occurred when civilians were assigned to the recently reopened cadet mess hall, was the climax of protests against the following conditions which have long caused resentment among the men:

Performing KP for periods up to 19 months, working 9 months for cadets without customary extra pay, obliged to execute their extra squadron duty in the mess halls or other squadron areas than their own; unable to find adequate recreational facilities in Tucson.

Thirty-three of the strikers were put in the guard house for the two days of their work stoppage, and all had been warned of the prison terms to which they were subject for mutiny.

9-30-44

Civic leaders in Tucson have expressed renewed interest in establishing a service men's center near amusement and transportation centers.

Mixed Units Studied By War Department

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

47d

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Although it has repeatedly given the tight-lipped response that the "Army is no place to try social experiments," when asked about the possibility of mixed Negro and white regiments of enlisted men, the fact is that, for more than a year, the U. S. War Department has given serious study to the problem of mixed units.

5-13-44

This fact came to light unexpectedly this week when it was learned that the War Department has widely distributed a pamphlet "Command of Negro Troops," addressed to white officers commanding Negro soldiers.

PUBLICATION PREVENTED

Despite every precaution to hide the fact of the publication and distribution of the pamphlet, its contents became known last week. However, the War Department has prevented publication of its contents in the press by invoking Army censorship regulations restricting the text of the pamphlet.

It is known, however, that the Army General Staff has been disturbed by mounting criticism of its Negro policy, especially the use of white officers to command Negro troops, while denying Negro officers the right to command white troops.

5-13-44

TIMELY WARNINGS

The pamphlet cautions white officers against use of anti-Negro epithets, warns them to treat Negroes as fellow-Americans, and urges them to make best possible use of Negro manpower placed under their command.

5-13-44

The pamphlet reports on polls of Negro and white soldiers taken by the Army to determine attitudes of each group to mixed units, mixed post facilities, about bus facilities to and from Army camps, and about treatment of Negro soldiers by white MPs.

NO RACIAL PROBLEM

More than 12 per cent of the white soldiers polled showed no opposition to mixed units, mixed post facilities and felt that Negro soldiers did not get a square deal from white MPs. The proportion of Negro soldiers on the same question was several times larger.

Dealt with in the pamphlet also are sections cautioning against the spreading or distortion of rumors about Negro soldiers apt to incite mobe violence, on relations of the community to the Army camp and a complete check list of instructions to the white commanding officer of Negro troops.

MOVE FLIERS TO SOUTHERN ARMY CAMPS

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

5-13-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The U.S. War Department officially announced Monday that the 477th Bombardment Group and the 553rd Fighter Squadron, with certain base units servicing these outfits, have been moved from Selfridge Field. All troops moved are colored and represent virtually the entire Negro personnel.

The medium bombardment group, its base units and the 766th Army Air Force band have been ordered to Godman field at Fort Knox, Kentucky, for training. The fighter squadron has been sent to the army air field at Walterboro, S.C.

REASON FOR TRANSFER

Army Air Force spokesmen stated that an army airways communication screening unit of about 1,500 officers and men would soon be moved into Selfridge Field. This unit is composed of white personnel.

5-13-44

Official reason given for the shift of the colored troops is that weather conditions prevent the flying cadets from getting in their quota of flying hours. Unofficial sources had charged that the shift was occasioned by constant clashes between colored fliers with anti-Negro elements at Selfridge Field.

Mobile Whites Protest Site For Seamen's Hotel

Defender — Chicago, 2-12-44

By JOHN LeFLORE

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala.—Blocked by a Negro auxiliary committee of the USS set-up here finds that its second choice selection is also about to be lost because of white opposition to the project.

A white committee headed by W. Otis McMahon, called on the City Commission last Tuesday and demanded that the city not permit the location for a United Seamen's Service-construction of a hotel for colored merchant seamen in the vicinity of St. An-

option taken by the city of Mobile on a site previously chosen as a to-be-used-by-colored-Seamen's

thony and Joachim streets. The property is located in a zone which is defined as commercial. McMahon stated that they wanted "protection" against the project. He added that the hotel would be "highly detrimental to the neighborhood."

City Commissioner Ernest M. Megginson advised the delegation that he was a member of the USS committee here, and that as a member of that group, he could assure them the committee "decidedly is not considering the purchase of the property." 4-22-44

"I feel reasonably assured," the commissioner continued, "that the Seamen's committee is not going to purchase property which would conflict with white residents."

One member of the anti-Negro delegation then asked what assurances would white people have if the Seamen's committee nevertheless decides to go through with the purchase.

City Atty. Harry Seale explained that under the existing statutes, the City Commission could give no assurance that it could block construction of a Negro seamen's hotel on the site. He pointed out that the United States Supreme court has ruled that you cannot pass laws discriminating between white and colored persons, and that under this ruling the city would have no authority to ban any Negroes from building at a specified place.

"However," the city attorney opined, "where there is a covenant in the deed of a piece of land prohibiting Negroes from residing there, that provision would be upheld." 4-22-44

City Commissioner Charles A. Baumhauer assured the anti-Negro delegation that "We are going to go as far as we can to protect you."

The colored auxiliary committee is insistent that its three members recently elected to the formerly all-white Port Area committee, take a firm stand against the apparent all-out appeasement policy of that body. Members of the auxiliary committee state that further delay may mean that no hotel at all will be provided for colored merchant seamen. A hotel for white seaman, the George Self, has been in operation for almost a year.

USS stated principles against racial discrimination seem to be taking a beating in practically all southern ports where the organization has facilities for seamen.

By Albert Deutsch:

Jim-Crow Policy in Army Improves, But Not Enough to Remove Scars

Despite Basic Injustice, Recent Progress Is Revolutionary Compared With Other Periods

(This is the second article of a series describing the gains and losses of the Negro under the New Deal.)

No factor in contemporary American life has caused such embitterment among Negroes as the Jim-Crow policy of the military services. The failure of the Roosevelt Administration to crack down hard on anti-Negro discrimination in the armed forces at the very outset of the war, before it had time to become more firmly entrenched, represents the most serious defect in an otherwise admirable record of promoting racial democracy.

The Negro people justifiably hoped that, in this people's war against the world's standard-bearers of race hatred, the traditional race discrimination in the American military services would be cast aside. Such a step, they rightly felt, would promote national unity, strengthen military morale and speed the day of ultimate victory. Their disillusionment left scars that remain deep and raw.

When Pearl Harbor brought an urgent appeal for recruits from Uncle Sam, eager young Negroes who wanted to fight for democracy were turned away from recruiting stations because the Negro quota (roughly about 10 per cent) was filled. Negroes who did get in as volunteers or draftees (they now total over 800,000 in Army and Navy service) were at first confused, then angered by the discriminatory treatment accorded them.

Southern Pattern

Northern Negroes who had enjoyed relative equality at home found themselves ghettoed in segregated quarters of Southern camps, barred from recreational centers enjoyed by white soldiers, discriminated against in the matter of promotion, Jim Crowed in bus and other transportation facilities, subjected to bitter humiliations on and off camp grounds despite the uniform they had donned so proudly.

The race-discrimination pattern of a section representing but one-fourth of the American population was allowed to permeate the entire Army—North, South and overseas. Frustration led to friction, and blood was spilled in several clashes involving Negro soldiers and whites. Letters from friends and relatives in camp, narrating humiliating experiences, help build up a resentful attitude among Negroes at home.

The wonder is that the resentment was not greater, that the average Negro's patriotism and faith in the democratic ideal has held so firm. History may yet record this example of a race's firm faith in the face of successive humiliations as one of the spiritual triumphs of World War II.

Progressive Steps

The resentment against military Jim-Crowism against young men asked to fight and perhaps die for a democratic cause wasn't reduced any by the asinine policy of blood segregation maintained by the American Red Cross despite unanimous scientific testimony that there's no difference in the blood of whites, Negroes or any other

While recognizing the basic injustice of the Jim-Crow military pattern, however, it can be said that the Negro's real progress in breaking down traditional barriers in the armed forces during World War II would have been considered revolutionary in any previous period.

President Roosevelt, as noted by Roy Wilkins, editor of *The Crisis*, kept his 1940 pledge that Negroes would be admitted to every branch of the armed forces, instead of being restricted almost entirely to the engineering corps, as formerly. Today, Negro soldiers are being taught skills on a par with white skills that will be useful when they return to civilian life.

Negroes by the scores have been trained as fliers and are acquitting themselves creditably on European war fronts. A Negro holds the rank of Brigadier-General. Negro army officers are many times more numerous than in World War I.

New Opportunities

Last year the War Dept. issued a directive ordering equal and indiscriminate treatment of Negro soldiers in Army recreational and transportation facilities, hitherto Jim-Crowed. Recently the Army abandoned its policy of segregating Negro soldiers in rehabilitation centers. The quota system for commissioning Negro nurses in the Army Nursing Corps has likewise been abandoned.

Two years ago, the Navy ended its policy of restricting Negroes to messmen, and opened up its other services to members of this race. It started to commission Negro officers for the first time in many years. More recently, it began accepting Negro doctors into its medical corps. The U. S. Marine Corps, formerly lily-white, lifted its barriers against Negroes. A Negro, Capt. Hugo Mulzac, now commands a mixed crew aboard the Booker T. Washington, one of the most famous ships in the U. S. Merchant Marine.

The nation-wide distribution of the OWI film, *The Negro in the War*, has done much to spread appreciation of the race's contributions.

In connection with the petition for a rehearing, which cannot come up until the court reconvenes in the fall, the NAACP, the Workers' Defense League and the March on Washington Movement will file supplementary briefs as friends of the court.

Rehearing Asked in American Case

Afro-American, Balto., Md. 6-10-44

NEW YORK — Attorneys for Winfred Lynn, whose Army-discrimination case the U.S. Supreme Court refused last week to review, will ask the court for a rehearing, the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces announced Monday.

Lynn, who contends that his induction under a "colored quota" violated the Selective Service Acts no-discrimination provision, is now on duty in the Pacific. The court's refusal of his petition for a writ of certiorari was based on the fact that he is no longer in the custody of the respondent, Col. John W. Downer, commanding officer of Camp Upton, N.Y., where Lynn began service.

Question Not Raised Before

His attorneys contend that this is not proper grounds for refusal, due to the fact that the question was not raised in the Circuit Court of Appeals, though Lynn was no longer in Col. Downer's custody even then.

"U.S. Prejudice 'Infects' British"--London Daily

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa. 5-13-44

By JOHN P. DAVIS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Charging that anti-Negro attitudes of white American soldiers had "infected" the British public to such a degree that Negro soldiers "now are barred from community life" in Britain, the London News Chronicle, a leading British daily, this week expressed regret that such a condition had developed.

QUESTION MAY BE RAISED IN PARLIAMENT

The article, written by a staff correspondent, contended that the attitude of some Britons has changed towards Negro soldiers and that these soldiers no longer have the good will and co-operation of the British public. The article, wholely unsympathetic to this new development, stated that "prejudice is a hardy plant and its seeds are easily scattered," and, in reference to the Negro soldiers, and the situation brought to the "no one can enjoy himself where public eye by the News Chronicle "no feel that he is not wanted."

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Even white troops, who refused to be quoted officially, declared that the British public has the appearance of such an article as coming from "left wing" sources. The responsibility for hospitality and its consequences will probably be followed by questions in Parliament to the Churchill government raising the question of the treatment of Negro troops.

The News-Chronicle is charged with a degree of anti-slavery activity. The paper has a daily circulation of a million and a quarter copies. Charles Dickens, famous English novelist of the 19th century, was the first editor of the paper.

QUESTION MAY BE RAISED IN PARLIAMENT

Brendan Bracken, British Minister of Information, is charged with responsibility for hospitality to the Churchill troops.

47d-1944

IN-COVERING WASHINGTON

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

By HARRY McALPIN

Now that the Army officially has announced its reversal of policy in the operation of its redistribution centers, eliminating the jim crow features, some of the inside story and the general significance of the move can now be told The NNPA scooped the world on the details of this new plan last week. 10-14-44

The very fact that the Army, steeped in segregation and run by a hierarchy of Southern gentlemen, was forced to change its stand shows that Negroes need not feel it a hopeless fight even when the obstacles seem insurmountable. This shows what can be done by sane, insistent and persistent effort when the cause is right.

And you can put it down that the obstacles which were faced in this matter were no mere pebbles in the road. They were mountains—mountains of prejudice, bigotry, lying, and subterfuge. 10-14-44

You can see what you're up against when you know that the President sent word directly to the Army that he wanted this redistribution-center mess cleared up, with the jimcrow features eliminated — and despite that, the brass hats and gold-braids used every conceivable method to retain segregation in the program disguised in every imaginable form.

They tried to get the President to support their jimcrow proposals by writing him a memorandum requesting that he stand behind the Army policy of segregation. But the truth is that the Army has no policy While it is steeped in a tradition of segregation, it trains its officers in mixed classes; it integrates its wounded in the same hospitals, placing whites and Negroes in beds side by side; it has begun to integrate its nurses in certain northern hospitals; it trains many of its air force specialists in mixed classes. It even has integrated redistribution centers, under the Air Force. 10-14-44

But those things happened under men who were willing to have the term "democracy" be an all-inclusive term. And there are some such men in the Army. There are others in the Army and the War Department who think only of a white face when they think of democracy.

What else can one believe when one hears that Lieut. General Brehon Somervell, chief of the Army Service Forces—who was the fly in the ointment to getting this change of policy through—said in a meeting on the subject, when asked what should be done with the returning Negro servicemen: "I'd like to throw the coons into the middle of the desert."

That's the kind of obstacle which is faced in the Negro's effort to enjoy a full citizenship status with all the rights, privileges and immunities attached thereto, even in the agency which demands that he give up his life without question. ,

But the Army was licked in this case. It can be licked in others. 10-14-44

And right now is not too soon to begin working on the elimination of segregation entirely in the Armed Forces of our country through the compulsory military training program which is likely to come after this war.

Sailors Face Death Penalty

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

In California

10-28-44

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — A Navy court-martial board, Tuesday, returned a verdict of guilty against the 50 sailors who refused to load ammunition aboard a ship just after the Port Chicago blast which cost some 300 lives last July.

Before final decision these verdicts will be reviewed by local authorities and finally by the Judge Advocate General in Washington, acting for the Secretary of the Navy.

Whether they must pay the penalty for 'mutiny' or some lesser offense was not immediately disclosed.

The penalty for mutiny is death, but the lesser charge of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline" carries a maximum sentence of 15 years. The board deliberated 45 minutes after the very lengthy trial. 10-29-44

According to Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel, there was no evidence of a refusal to obey a direct order.

However, in the eyes of Lt. James F. Coakley, former assistant prosecutor of Alameda County, California, who was the Judge Advocate, and his associates, the men were found guilty.

ARMY ASKED TO END NEGRO SEGREGATION

Times — New York, N.Y.

9-28-44

In an appeal to President Roosevelt twenty-six leading citizens of Harlem urged yesterday that he request the War Department to abandon its plan for segregating battle-weary Negro troops returning home for rest under the rotation furlough system.

Their telegram, which asked an appointment with the President to discuss the situation, said:

"We learn that white soldiers brought back from overseas for recreation and relief from battle strain are to be given approximately two weeks each at Government expense at luxurious hotels and resorts at Lake Placid, N. Y., Santa Barbara, Calif., Miami Beach, Fla., Hot Springs, Ark., Asheville, N. C., and perhaps other pleasure places. But Negro soldiers are to be required to go to Theresa Hotel in New York's Harlem and Pershing Hotel on Chicago's South Side."

Such a plan, the group declared, constituted a "reprehensible act which is an insult to Negroes buried in foreign soil, having died in the belief that they were fighting for democracy." 9-20-44

Signers of the telegram included: A. A. Austin, Parole Commissioner Samuel Battle, Justice Jane Bolin, of the Domestic Relations Court, Herbert Bruce, Harold Burton, Police Lieut. Lewis Chisholm, George Cohron, Henry Craft, Charles A. Collier Jr., Frank Crosswaith, Justice Hubert T. Delany, also of the Domestic Relations Court, Fred Dickens, Rev. S. T. Eldredge, Alphonse Heningburg, Edward S. Lewis, Louise McDonald, Frank Montero, the Rev. A. C. Powell Jr., Mrs. Ruth Logan Roberts, Mrs. Cecelia C. Saunders, George S. Schuyler, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Ludlow Werner, Walter White, Doxey Wilkerson, Dr. Louis T. Wright.

FORT KNOX IS INFLAMED BY JIM CROWING

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.

Cool Headed Captains Prevent Tragedy

8-25-44

LOUISVILLE, KY., Aug. 24.—(By Wire)—Flagrant violation and disregard of the recent orders of the War Department to cease discrimination and segregation of Negro troops in post facilities throughout the country almost resulted in a riot at Fort Knox, Ky., last night.

Feeling Runs High

Hundreds of enlisted men at Goodman Field, Ky., an adjunct to Fort Knox, gathered in an ugly mood when two of their number returned to the post after having been ordered out of the Fort Knox Theatre following their refusal to be shunted into a segregated section "Reserved for Negroes."

The men at Goodman, already to the breaking point because of grievances in their own camp, were prevented from marching on the theatre for a show-down by the quick and heady action of three of their Negro captains. One hundred and fifty white military police had been stationed around the theatre, fully armed, when word spread that the Negroes were incensed.

This morning Colonel N. Butler Briscoe, Commanding Officer of Fort Knox, told the NNPA that he sees no reason for changing the segregation policy at the theatre, despite the orders of Major General Ulio, Adjutant General of the United States Army. He claimed never to have seen the war department order. 8-25-44

Blame Agitators

In an interview, he put the entire blame on a few "blank blank agitators."

"This policy at Fort Knox is that a man in uniform is a soldier and all soldiers get treated the same," When they do, he stated, "They are upsetting the system."

The Colonel claimed to have known colored people all his life and that he grew up with them. He says he knows they do not want to sit scattered around the theatre. "I have noticed on the buses, the parties want to sit together. We assigned these seats in the theatre so the parties can sit together. When they come in, the ushers lead them to that section, just as if you had children—when children come into a theatre you lead them to the section for them."

Negro Leaders Protest Jimcrow Furlough System

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

9-20-44

Twenty-six leading Negro New Yorkers yesterday wired President Roosevelt a protest against the War Department's plan to set up separate facilities for Negro soldiers returning for relief from battle strain.

The President was asked, as Commander-in-Chief, to request the War Department to reverse its decision. He was asked also for an appointment to discuss the matter personally.

The wire said that white soldiers brought back from overseas for recreation and relief from battle strain are given two weeks rest in outstanding resort centers, while Negro soldiers are to be required to go to the Theresa Hotel in Harlem, and Pershing Hotel in Chicago's South Side. 9-20-44

The segregation of "Negro soldiers who also have faced death on foreign battlefronts" and the introduction of "segregation in northern communities where it is both illegal and contrary to public opinion, is a reprehensible act which Negro soldiers and civilians alike resent," the authors of the wire said.

They called the plan an "insult to Negroes buried in foreign soil."

Signers of the telegram included: Doxey Wilkerson, Dr. Louis T. Wright, Commissioner Samuel Battle, Judge Jane Bolin, Police Lieut. Lewis Chisholm, Henry Craft, Charles A. Collier, Judge Hubert T. Delany, Rev. S. T. Eldredge, Edward S. Lewis, Louise McDonald, Frank Montero, Rev. A. C. Powell, Jr., Mrs. Ruth Logan Roberts, Mrs. Cecelia C. Saunders, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Ludlow Werner, Walter White,

Fort Bragg Violates No-Jim Crow Order

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

10-27-44

Army Officers Refuse To Treat All Men Alike

Transfer Soldier Who Insisted On Equality

FORT BRAGG, N. C. — (ANP) — White army officials here are reported to be violating the provisions of the recent war department anti-bias directive against racial discrimination and segregation on army posts, post exchanges and theaters.

According to reliable information last week, one colored soldier has already been transferred from here because he dared to protest discrimination at a post exchange.

Every form of intimidation is said to be used against colored soldiers by the anti-Negro clique who are opposed to the war department's effort to abolish racial discrimination and segregation at this army post. One of the recent victims is reported to be Pvt. W. C. Twysbain, a Negro soldier who attempted to purchase items at a reception center post exchange here.

10-27-44

"This PX is for whites only," stammered a white civilian clerk. Twysbain replied that the incident might be reported. "We don't care who you report us to," the clerk replied haughtily.

Pvt. Twysbain is said to have made the mistake of reporting the incident to his commanding officer. He was immediately transferred, but for some other reason it is claimed.

'Lousiest in Nation'

Termed by Negro soldiers as "the capital of army discrimination," the consensus of opinion among colored troops is that this army post has "the most lousy setup in the nation." They are amused by notices of mere racial discrimination on buses at other army posts.

10-27-44

Aided by anti-Negro white civilians, Negro hating white MPs and special-privileged Negro stooges, white army officials here are successfully nullifying the edict and concept of the recent War department order issued against racial discrimination and segregation on army posts.

The service club here is a dump, poorly equipped, and has not enough personnel to operate, soldiers charge. The PX's for Negroes are the shabbiest on the post. Positions usually held by colored non-commissioned officers, such as theater managers and athletic directors, are held by whites. Negroes are relegated to laborers.

The all-white supervisory staff of the STU-reception unit here is one of the outstanding blots at this giant post. The only colored soldiers used are cooks and they are supervised by white mess sergeants. White privates often require Negro STU students to salute them and address them as commissioned officers. Negro orderlies must clean jimcrow latrines.

10-27-44

"There can be no square deal for colored soldiers here until the NAACP or other liberal agencies do something about it," said one enlisted man. "We don't trust the inspector general's office. They work hand in hand with the commanding officers of the camps. They are our enemy."

Segregation Is Rank At Ft. Benning

Tribune — Savannah, Ga.

REPORTS NEGRO SOLDIER TO PRESS SERVICE

9-14-44

by Harry McAlpin

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) — Flagrant violations and disregard of the War Department's order banning segregation and exclusion of Negroes from army post facilities is reported to the NNPA by a soldier stationed at Fort Benning, Ga.

According to this report, the War Department's order was issued to all units, and was read and explained by all unit commanders to their troops.

Following ths, some of the soldiers attempted to exercise their rights. One soldier attempted to ride the "white" bus, but was refused transportation. Others went to the main theatre and to the various post exchanges formerly earmarked for white only. Some attempted to be served in the Patie Grill.

9-14-44

Everywhere except in the theatre, the reaction was the same. They were told, politely, that Negroes were not acceptable in these places.

Col. John P. Edgerly, commanding officer of the reception center at Fort Benning, then called a meeting of all instructors in the Special Training Unit. He paid tribute to the efforts the instructors had made to bring to their less fortunate brethren the benefits of the three D's. He then said Negroes were unaccustomed to sleeping behind screened doors and windows; that they were unaccustomed to toilet facilities with running water; that generally speaking, their lot while in the army was better than that of which they had in civilian life.

9-14-44

Then he told them that while the War Department had issued and announced a policy of equal opportunity and equal use of all facilities, the Negro soldiers at Benning were to remember they were still in Georgia, the policy of the War Department to the contrary, notwithstanding.

The colonel then said the Negro soldiers were to continue as formerly, going to their own post exchanges, theatres and riding in the same buses set aside for the exclusive use of Negroes. He let it be known that the Negro soldiers were to accept these restrictions as the "natural order of things."

The next day, after the meeting, the colonel called in all the war department memoranda which had been distributed concerning the segregation ban. And Jim-crow rides merrily on at Fort Benning.

9-14-44

Embree Calls America's Racial Equality Order To Whipped Germans 'Ironic'

Weekly — New Orleans, La.

9-16-44

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Chicago, Sept. 13.—In a letter Thursday to the Chicago Sun, a local daily, Dr. Edwin R. Embree, noted race relations authority and Rosenwald Fund president, termed the army's prepared instructions to break down Nazi race theories in Germany "ironic." Embree's letter was the result of a recent news story published by that paper regarding instructions to America's occupation forces in Germany.

"I read with much satisfaction our report of the instructions already prepared for use by the American forces of occupation in Germany," Dr. Embree wrote, "provisions for breaking up the Nazi organization and rules that there shall be 'no discrimination on account of race, creed, or color.' Splendid. But how ironic that we are instituting in enemy countries customs we are not willing to follow at home.

9-16-44

"These democratic rules will have to be enforced by an army that has segregation and discrimination in its own ranks, many of whose officers have insisted that Americans be discriminated against on account of race and color in England and other friendly countries where our troops are stationed. These democratic rules will be forced on Germany by a country which still has segregation by law in 17 of its states, and discrimination by practice in every state.

9-16-44

"It is fine that we are insisting on equality and decency in human relations in Germany," he pointed out. "But does America regard democracy as only an export commodity? Is it too precious to use at home?"

THE ARMY'S NO JIM-CROW ORDER

Chicago Defender — Nationwide — 9-16-44

On July 8, 1944 the Army issued an order for post, camp and station commanders, many of whom did not see fit to post bidding any discrimination or segregation based on color or race, in Post Exchanges, transportation facilities and Army theatres or places of amusement located in Army camps. Ideally, the order should have been issued by the War Department, or to otherwise apprise the personnel of a camp, post or station of the existence of the order, places the blame directly upon the shoulders of the commanding officer of a camp.

Commend the Change in Policy

Even when one considers all of the ifs, ands or buts about the order, it represents a significant change in policy. It at least acknowledges a fact

47d-1944

Jim Crow at Norfolk Naval Station

Tribune – Washington, D.C.

Approved by Secretary Knox

1-1-44

In a letter to the N.A.A.C.P., Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox in effect approves of jim crow within the limits of naval stations.

On November 19 the N.A.A.C.P. wrote Knox reporting complaints from the Norfolk, Va. Naval Air Station that buses running within the station for the convenience of Navy personnel compelled Negroes to sit in the rear and whites in the front. With respect to this complaint Knox has replied under date of December 17

"With regard to the matter of alleged segregation on buses at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, the Navy Department is making every effort to handle matters pertaining to enlisted personnel so that there will be a minimum of embarrassment to both white and Negro. In all cases, however, the procedure which will best further the interests of the Navy is of primary importance, and the administration of personnel will always be handled with this primary objective in mind."

1-1-44

Secretary Knox also admitted that he had received several complaints on the insignia for chief cooks and stewards, who are either Negro or Filipino. This insignia, which heretofore has been the same as other chief petty officers in the Navy, has been changed so that men in these ratings are wearing a small "c" on their sleeves with three short straight bars underneath. The regular chief petty officers of the Navy have three chevrons and an eagle. Secretary Knox declares: "Obviously the purpose has not been to differentiate between white and Negro Chief Petty Officers as there are many Negro Chief Petty Officers in various ratings other than Chief Cooks and Chief Stewards, all of whom wear the Chief Petty Officer uniform." 1-1-44

Secretary Knox, in addition, makes the following astonishing statement: "In addition, Negroes are eligible for advancement in any of the many ratings in the Navy and all those who reach the status of Chief Petty Officer will wear the uniform of their ratings."

It is well known that Negroes have been barred from commissions in the Navy.

Handful of Whites Spread

Afro American – Baltimore, Md.

Jim Crow at Ft. Huachuca

7-29-44

(Special to the AFRO)

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona — A handful of white officers is spreading the disease of segregation and jim crowism throughout this all-colored camp.

It is becoming an epidemic that is weakening the forces of freedom which would prevail in nearby communities.

Jim crow has been imported into "these here parts" by the army and to use the words of an old Westerner, "these folks are catching on mighty fast."

The State of Arizona has no jim crow law. It is the baby State of the nation, is still in the moulding stage — and army officials at this army post are moulding it to fit the pattern of segregation "which has dammed the Southern part of these United States."

Army Regulations Ignored

Army officials have hidden behind the mountains and ignored army regulations until this place has become the breeding place of the segregation of un-democracy.

Here are several instances of how the jim crow law is enforced on the post: 7-29-44

7 Counts of Racism

1. There is an officer-mess swimming pool which colored officers are not permitted to use.

2. White officers have their own exclusive mess on the old post — no colored allowed.

3. Officers' Lakeside Club is lily-white and colored officers have been insulted for attempting to use it. Colored use Mountainview Club.

4. There is an all-white guest house where whites and their wives and families may go — but not colored.

5. White officers, civilians and their families attend religious services at Whiteside School — colored at Post Theatre No. 1.

6. In the division there are tables set aside for white only in the unsegregated mess halls. White officers live in one barrack and colored in another. 7-29-44

7. There is an all-white girls' dorm, which is off-limits to all men and has an electrified fence around it for added protection.

Army Officers Challenged

The men here challenge ANY ranking army official to prove that these and many more jim-crow tactics are not being practiced at this post. 7-29-44

A slumbering volcano is beginning to send volleys of unrest into the already much-disturbed air.

Colored officers and men simply do not want to go into combat with white officers who feel that "we are too good to eat with, swim in the same pool with or attend the same religious services with colored persons."

That the un-American practices of this post have been spread to surrounding towns is a proved fact. In Tucson, old-timers confess that the place is getting rotten since Southerners have been coming in there from the camp.

Town Catches the "Fever"

If one couple objects to colored persons frequenting a place, the management will ban all colored patronage. The cafes will serve only those who refuse to go to a colored (and Mexican) cafe that is pointed out to them.

Bisbee and Nogales are off limits to soldiers.

While colored officers and soldiers do not consider it an honor to eat with whites, to swim in the "white" pool or to go to the "white" offiecrs' club, they believe that men who may lead them into battle should have the right spirit. 7-29-44

What the Men Are Thinking

They feel that the men who are going to select them to die should know that they are sending real men to die for democracy and not a few darker animals who have never tasted the fruits of freedom.

Colored soldiers have been stung by the bees of liberty and democracy that have been flying from our Commander-in-Chief's mouth, political platforms and from our own army regulations.

They feel that if the colored soldier is good enough to bunk with the white in the foxholes of Italy, eat out of the same mess kit and drink out of the same canteen on the shores of Normandy; if white and colored can die together, why in hell can't they live together?

Lewis, B. E. Davis, owner and manager of the hostelry, will continue in that post and will also retain his present staff.

Plans are to place a snack bar in the section that housed a night club and secure volunteer workers to provide entertainment.

7-29-44

Advisory Committee Named

Serving on an advisory committee named in connection with the project and headed by Horace Christopher, executive secretary of the Hunton Branch YMCA and port area committee member, are: J. Eugene Diggs, John H. Ward, David H. Longley, P. B. Young, Sr., W. T. Mason, W. L. Hamilton, David Austin, and F. W.

Declaring that the port area committee has for some time realized the pressing need for suitable accommodations for colored seamen, Crandall said rooms will be offered to the seamen at nominal rates comparable to those chargesd at USS Fairfax Hotel on City Hall Avenue (for whites).

10-28-44

The hotel, taken over on July 18, is the first to be requisitioned by the USS for colored seamen, the port director said, and was found to be in such condition that no delay will be necessary for remodeling. The building will accommodate fifty men.

According to Harold C. Crandall, port area director.

Report Fort Bragg

Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.

Continues Its Bias

10-28-44

FORT BRAGG, N. C.—(ANP)—White army officials here are reported to be violating the provisions of the recent war department anti-bias directive against racial discrimination and segregation on army posts, post exchanges and theaters. According to reliable information last week, one colored soldier has already been transferred from here because he dared to protest discrimination at a post exchange.

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Pvt. Twysbain is said to have made the mistake of reporting the incident to his commanding officer. He was immediately transferred, but for some other reason, it is claimed.

'LOUSIEST' IN NATION

Termed by Negro soldiers as "the capital of army discrimination," the consensus of opinion among colored troops is that this army post has "the most lousy setup in the nation." They are amused by notices of mere racial discrimination on buses at other army camps.

Aided by anti-Negro white civilians, Negro hating white MPs and special - privilege Negro stooges, white army officials here are successfully nullifying the edit and concept of the recent War department order issued against racial discrimination and segregation on army posts. 10-28-44

POOR SERVICE CLUB

The service club here is a dump, poorly equipped, and has not enough personnel to operate soldiers charge. The PXs for Negroes are the shabbiest on the post. Positions usually held by colored non-commissioned officers, such as theatre managers and athletic directors, are held by whites. Negroes are relegated to laborers. 10-28-44

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"There can be no square deal for colored soldiers here until the NAACP or other liberal agencies do something about it," said one enlisted man. "We don't trust the inspector general's office. They work hand in hand with the commanding officers of the camps. They are our enemy."

Separate Club for Colored Seamen Planned in Norfolk

Afro American – Baltimore, Md.

7-29-44

NORFOLK, Va.—The Princeice and will be known hereafter as the USS Prince George Hotel, Eighteenth and Church Streets, has been taken over by the United States Navy Department since Tuesday and will be known hereafter as the USS Prince George Hotel.

Military Jim-Crow Exposed In Story, 'I Was a Seabee'

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
6-30-44

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — The "navy" way for Negroes is told in a feature article in the current issue of "politics," a new monthly review. The article titled "I Was a Seabee," and written by Isaac McNatt, exposes military jim-crow and one may get a fair idea of what the author is driving at by his concluding sentence, "I tried to help my country to the utmost of my ability but was penalized for being a Negro during the year when I was a Seabee."

The writer, who volunteered for naval service in October, 1942, was discharged a year later, as "undesirable," with the reason given as "unfitness."

Whites Given Higher Ratings

Speaking of his boot camp (Camp Allen, near Norfolk, Va.) days, McNatt said, "We never came into contact with white recruits, expect on rare occasions. We were quartered in separate barracks, fed in separate chow halls and drilled in separate companies."

On one particular occasion a near race riot broke out when whites demanded to be allowed to march to the head of the movie line. Negro service men rebelled and when the show was over and when everyone was in bed whites came in the middle of the night and ordered the Negroes out of their bunks and forced them to drill until they nearly dropped of exhaustion.

The only promotions that Negro naval men were given were a rating of second-class petty officer "when practically all the whites had ratings higher than ours," McNatt criticized. 6-30-44

The "Seabee," a graduate of a southern Negro college, with highest honors in electricity and radio and who had enjoyed a wide civilian experience as superintendent of electrical construction at an army air base, was cited by his commanding officer as an outstanding example of a seabee specialist.

Dismissed As 'Unfit'

He was confidentially advised that he could expect a promotion but that the new rating would come into effect only after he was transferred to another battalion where he would have a better chance.

"What actually happened," he said, was that "some months after being sent overseas, I was dismissed from the navy as 'unfit.'

On ship, headed for an overseas base since there was but one chow hall, all the whites lined up and ate first, while "we ate last." The first two meals said McNatt, "several of our fellows didn't get any food at all, as it ran out before all were served." 6-30-44

"Only first-class men and chiefs forward of this line," was a pasteboard sign. This meant of course that all Negroes were restricted to the rear of the ship, even up on the main dock.

Arriving at their overseas base, when Negro navy men had done the real work of building the living quarters, they were ordered to "stand aside and let the whites eat first." Within the living quarters they were segregated the same as they had been back in the States.

Qualified Men Dismissed

In a conference with the commanding officer, when Negro service men were asked to air their complaints the navy head was asked, "How do the officers feel about racial segregation? An officer replied, "That depends on where one is from," and explained, "me, I'm from Texas, and wouldn't care to sleep with them, eat with them, have any recreation with, or anything other than getting our job done."

At the meeting, the C. O. advised that the Negro men would know within 30 or 60 days whether or not any of them would be rated first class petty officers in the Negro battalion. 6-30-44

A few days later, 19 of the most qualified men were dismissed from the service with discharges which read "undesirable" by reason of "unfitness" and "ordinary" by reason of "Inaptitude." Said McNatt, "no charges, no trial, no court-martial. Just dismissed."

As casualties of war, those who held high civil service ratings cannot go back to work for the government. Those who were school teachers cannot earn a living that way anymore, and other worthwhile positions are no longer open to them.

"We are Negroes," the writer explained, "we joined the navy and we are paying and will pay for being Negroes. I tried to help my country to the utmost of my ability but was penalized for being a Negro during the year when I was a Seabee."

The Negro Soldier

The Nation—New York, N. Y.

BY CHARLES H. HOUSTON

Member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices

10-21-44

I WANT to speak particularly on the subject of the armed forces. Here, after nearly three years of war, Negroes are still insulted by the Navy's barring all Negro women, except those now passing for white, from the Waves, the Marines, and the Spars. We have officers in the Army and the Navy; but there is still not a single Negro lieutenant in the United States Marines. The Army puts Negroes in uniform, transports them South and then leaves them to be kicked, cuffed and even murdered with impunity by white civilians. In places, Negro service men do not have as many civil rights as prisoners of war. In at least one Army camp down South for a time there was one drinking fountain for white guards and German prisoners, and a segregated fountain for Negro soldiers. And Negroes know that just as soon as the shooting stops many Americans will give the same Germans, Austrians, Italians, Rumanians and others who were trying to kill them preference over Negroes who were defending them, simply because these Germans and others are white.

Many white service men are talking about what they are going to do to put the Negro in his place as soon as they get back home. Many Negroes are getting to the point of disgust and desperation where they had just as soon die fighting one place as another. Meanwhile enemy propaganda is carrying the stories of racial dissension in the United States to all corners of the earth, and the colored peoples of Asia, Africa and India are getting an eyeful of how white Americans act abroad.

10-21-44

I advocate immediate enlistment of Negro women as Waves, Spars and Marines; assignment and promotion of Negroes in all the armed forces strictly according to service, experience and merit; and the organization of non-segregated combat units on a volunteer basis. The administration of the G. I. Bill of Rights and all other veteran rehabilitation program must be administered impartially with absolutely no discrimination.

The American color bar unless speedily removed will be the rock on which our international Good Neighbor policy and our pious claim to moral leadership will founder. The moment the peoples of Asia, Africa and India become convinced that our true war aims are to perpetuate the old colonial system with the white man's heel on the colored man's neck, and that we are fighting Japan merely to substitute European imperialism in place of Japanese imperialism—that moment we might as well begin preparing for World War III, and World War III will not necessarily be to America's advantage. The Negro problem gives the United States the opportunity to practice what it preaches, and it is time the country awakens to the fact it is guaranteeing its own salvation by making a substantial down payment on the Four Freedoms at home. 10-21-44

[The text of Mr. Houston's speech will be printed in full in a future issue of The Nation.]

White Writer Says the Afro-American "10 Per Centers" Are Wrong

Baltimore, Md. 7-8-44

By EMMET PHILLIPS FOR ANP

THE "10 PER CENTERS" ARE MISTAKEN

The argument advanced by the leaders was that colored people, constituting 10 per cent of America's population, should be admitted to America's armed services in the same proportion, in other words 10 per cent of our armed services should be composed of colored people.

America needed millions of soldiers and with scores of white boys trying to escape the draft through deferments there was no good reason why as many colored people as wanted to join or could be drafted, should not have been accepted.

In fact, if the white people had been smart, they'd have petitioned

Washington Afro-American
7-8-44

ored men as ... to hell with ...

10 Per Cent Craze

But white ... prone to ... did nothing ... ored citizens ... the 10 per ... And the 10 ...

First the ... plants and ... wood. If ... dustry would ... the extent ... everything ... nonsense!

Don't ... per cent ... where ... color should ... know that ... crimination?

If these "10 per centers" are not careful they will soon be advocating a representation in Heaven to

47d-1944

Timely And Logical

Daily Worker — Atlanta, Ga.

The recent order by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, lifting the ban of segregation against Negro soldiers in army post exchanges army buses and motion pictures, is a logical, common sense proposal which is long overdue.

Although the War Department found it convenient or deemed it untimely to release the text of the directive, it was pointed out that the army rules provide: "That no post exchange may be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race; that buses, trucks or other transportation owned and operated by the Government or by a Governmental instrumentality will be available to all military personnel regardless of local civilian custom",

8-30-44

The order, drawn on July 8, applies to all posts and camps throughout the country, without regards to previous or prevailing local civilian costoms. In the words of one spokesman for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the order would move the Negro "one step nearer the status of a full fledged fighting man." From our own viewpoint, we can see in it not only a boost to the already frayed morale of our Negro fighting men, but a definite tonic in the morale among Negro civilians, whose hearts are heavy at the constant insults and even physical indignities to which their sons and other relatives and loved-ones are subjected.

It is gratifying to observe also that the general reaction to the order has, for the most part been wholesome and without shock. And with the possible exception of a protest from the Governor of Alabama to President Roosevelt declaring the order will serve to breakdown the principles of race relationship in the South, scarcely any other audible protests have been noted to date.

8-30-44

Of course, in the very nature of change, time will be required to make the necessary adjustments. Occasional friction here and there is to be expected where a soldier undertakes to regulate and rectify social custom to suit his particular taste or notion. But these should be few and scattered, since in the final analysis, the government is first of all conducting a war, the results of which it is hoped, will renounce once and forever, the doctrine of superority of one race or class above that of another.

ANTI-SEGREGATION PLAN BRINGS SPARKS WARNING

Age-Herald — Birmingham, Ala.

8-29-44

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 28—(AP)—Gov. Chauncey Sparks said Monday that if there were "political implications" in the War Department's anti-segregation policy at Army posts "then we of the South will find it difficult to hold the South within its traditional Democratic allegiance in the years to come."

Referring to a telegram he dispatched Aug. 24 to President Roosevelt and members of the state's congressional delegation protesting the policy, Sparks said he had not received a reply from the president, and that he had made no reference to political implication.

The governor made public this telegram which he said he sent Monday to members of the congressional delegation:

"So far, I have had no answer from the President of the United States to my telegram of Aug. 24 last, in which I protested an order of the War Department terminating segregation of races at a military post here.

8-29-44

"This I regret. The question raised is of such vital importance to the state of Alabama, it deserves immediate attention.

"I made no reference in my telegram to any political implication, because I deemed such wholly unworthy of our Democratic party. It is certainly to be hoped no political implications were intended by such an order.

"If there are such implications, then we of the South will find it difficult to hold the South within its traditional Democratic allegiance in the years to come."

Earlier Monday, Rep. John Newsome (D., Ala.) had told the House in Washington that "the inference is clear that the issuance of this order at this time is political in its intent and purpose."

8-29-44

Sen. John H. Bankhead (D., Ala.) previously had written Secretary of War Stimson that the order forbidding certain forms of racial discrimination on Army posts was "based upon political consideration" and "not in the best interests of the colored race in the South." Other members of the Alabama delegation also joined in the protest.

RESOLUTION ON RED CROSS BLOOD BANKS

Star of Zion — Charlotte, N.C.

3-23-44

I. Albert Moore Sponsor and Leader

Whereas all biochemical and physiological researches have proved the fundamental identity of human blood irrespective of color, and ignorance of this simple fact is furnihhing a fertile field for those who uphold and spread the unscientific Nazi doctrines of a superior race with superior blood.

And whereas by segregating the blood of Negroes and whites, the American Red Cross is giving currency to the falsehoods of those who play upon ignorance and prejudice at a time when for its life's sake our democracy cannot allow fascist doctrines to confuse our people and destroy our unity;

Therefore Be It Resolved that we request the American Red Cross to take immediate steps to end the Jim Crow Blood Banks and to inform those who may still nourish prejudices, misinformation or pseudo-science of the facts regarding human blood;

3-23-44

And Be It Further Resolved that we urge the American Red Cross immediately to plan and carry out a nation-wide educational campaign to bring to all the people the facts about human blood, and to bring to an end ignorance and prejudice on this phase of the race question.

Sponsored by the Inter-Racial Blood Bank Committee consisting of members of: W. C. T. U., Y. M. C. A., Federation for Reconciliation, Ministerial Association, Urban League, A. F. of L., Y. W. C. A., N. A. A. C. P., Church Federation, Council of Church Women, Salvation Army, C. I. O.

I. Albert Moore, general chairman.

A GOOD CAUSE

Age — New York, N.Y.

THE Lynn Committee To Abolish Segregation In The Armed Forces, formerly known as the National Citizens' Committee for Winfred Lynn, has just made an appeal to all right-thinking citizens for funds with which to fight the discriminatory discharges of 19 Negro Seabees in October, 1943.

9-26-44

There is hardly a reader of a Negro newspaper who is not familiar with the story of Isaac McNatt, a young Negro law student of North Carolina, who in October, 1942, volunteered for service in the Navy. A year later, however, along with eighteen other Negro Seabees, McNatt was dismissed as undesirable on the grounds of unfitness.

According to Wilfred A. Kerr and Broaddus Mitchell, "... it was racial discrimination of the most flagrant kind, and not unfitness, which cause his dismissal. These 19 young men have not only been denied their inalienable right to bear arms for their country in time of war, but their discriminatory discharges have made it impossible for them to assume ther rightful place in civilian service."

As Isaac McNatt puts it: "We are casualties of war. The country which we worked and fought to save has stigmatized us. Those of us who held high civil service ratings cannot go back to work for the government. Those of us who were school teachers cannot earn a living that way anymore. The doors of professional schools have been slammed shut in our faces, making it more difficult to further our education. We are Negroes; we joined the Navy and we are paying and will pay for being Negroes."

8-26-44

The Lynn Committee has undertaken to fight these discriminatory discharges so that these men can remain first class citizens in society. Funds are needed immediatly for legal expenses and to arouse american public opinion in support of the case. The Committe wants to make repetition of Issac McNatt's story impossible in a democratic America. It needs support. It should have support.

Contributions should be sent to the Lynn Committee at 360 West 125th street, New York, 27, N. Y.

THE ARMY SEIZES THE PERSHING HOTEL

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

9-16-44

Next to General Eisenhower's spectacular advance through France, the most amazing thing about the U. S. Army continues to be its cockeyed, inconsistent racial policy.

Newest of its one-step-forward, two-

Overseas veterans of tan complexion will come back from their "war for democracy" to find "for white only" signs on resort hotels for servicemen in California and Florida. They will get a taste of Dixie segregation by Acting Secretary of War Robert Pat-

Order by Jim Crow setup in post theatres, post exchanges and War Department buses. This has aroused the wrath of the South. This week in reply to the protests from Alabama's Governor Chauncey M. Sparks, the War Department on these recreational facilities follows the recent forthright ridiculous, flip-flop stand of the back to civilian life. order by Washington against Jim Crow

terson wrote:

"All soldiers, regardless of race, must be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy the recreational facilities which are provided at army posts, camps and stations." 9-16-44

The Secretary then adds that the Army is "not an appropriate medium for affecting social readjustments."

How the War Department reconciles its fair-minded stand on theatres and post exchanges with its discriminatory attitude on resort hotels for returning veterans is beyond comprehension.

This inconsistency is of a piece with the contradictory actions of the War Department early in the war. On one hand the Army enforced rigid segregation in the ranks with its claims that it was following the pattern of civilian life and was not interested in "social change." On the other hand Jim Crow was completely and thoroughly disclaimed in its training of officers with men of all races living, eating and working together in many barracks.

Evidently the War Department now is determined to appease Dixie once more and show it will uphold the doctrine of "white supremacy" to the bitter end of the war. But its ostensible "separate but equal" doctrine is violated in this newest resort hotel edict.

In selecting the Pershing hotel in Chicago for housing returning veterans, the War Department has made a grievous error on two counts. 9-16-44

Located in the heart of Chicago's Black Belt with its slums, poverty, and degradation, the Pershing is certainly no place to provide "pleasant atmosphere" where the veteran can readjust himself. The Negro soldier coming home from the muck and slime of battle will go to Cottage Grove avenue where kitchenette hovels abound on all sides. But the white soldier, according to Army announcements, will come home to hotels in Miami, Lake Placid, Santa Barbara, Calif., and Hot Springs, Ark., which is quite a contrast.

In seizing the Pershing Hotel, largest hotel for Negroes in Chicago, the War Department has come into an overcrowded, jammed community which faces a critical housing shortage and deprive Negro civilians of one of the few decent hotels in the neighborhood. With hundreds of Negro families hunting frantically for a place to live, huddling together in converted stores, fearing the firetrap menace, the action of the War Department in using the Pershing hotel is not only unwise but unjust. The order means more congestion on the Southside and is a step backward in meeting housing needs in this community.

Prison Terms of Five Negro Soldiers Drastically Reduced

PM, N.Y., N.Y. Sept. 7, 1944

Prison terms of five Negro soldiers, sentenced to 15 and 13 years on mutiny charges have been drastically reduced by the Army, the prisoners' lawyer, David Levinson, Philadelphia, has been notified.

Levinson, one of the American lawyers for the defense at the Reichstag trial, has been active in the case since the men were sentenced at Dale Mabry Field, Tallahassee, Fla., last March. He has contended that the Negroes were innocent of all charges and merely creatures of persecution and circumstance.

The soldiers involved are: James E. Crawley, Brooklyn; Arthur Boyd, Summit, N. J.; William J. Flemons, Washington; Leo M. Jones, Philadelphia, and Joseph R. Kent, Evanston, Ill.

The men had been put in the guardhouse at Dale Mabry Field on minor charges after each had encountered trouble at various Army camps in the South because they protested treatment handed them and other Negro soldiers.

On March 23 the five prisoners refused to leave the guardhouse for fatigue detail, demanding to see the commanding officer. They told a guardhouse corporal that they wanted to report that they had been discriminated against in the matter of food and cigarets. They said their meals, from soup to desert, was dumped together on one plate, while white prisoners had their food served on two. They also claimed that they had been deprived of cigarets for several weeks, but that white inmates had received smokes.

For an answer, Levinson said, a non-commissioned officer threw several tear gas bombs into the jail.

At a court martial the Negroes were accused of inciting to mutiny, mutiny and not attempting to curb mutiny.

Levinson presented a petition to Maj. Gen. Larson, commanding officer of the Third Air Force. Subsequently Boyd's and Crawley's terms were reduced from 13 years to eight, and Kent's from 13 years to nine. Sept. 7, 1944

The Philadelphia attorney then petitioned Secretary of War Henry Stimson and was permitted to present the men's case to Judge Advocate Gen. Myron C. Cramer.

In a telegram today from Gen. Larson, Levinson was told Klemon's and Jones' sentences had been cut to five years, Kent's to three and Boyd's and Crawley's to two.

Levinson said the action "indicates determination of highest military authorities that discrimination must cease, and reflects the progressive attitude of our President and Commander-in-Chief."

The Negroes' counsel said his next step would be an appeal to President Roosevelt for Presidential pardons.

Lt. Henry Discharged; Protested Jim Crow

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

8-26-44

By WM. B. CARTER, JR.

I met this week an American who was as disillusioned as a man could be and still endure. He had looked forward to covering himself and his nation with undying glory on one of the blazing battlefronts. Instead, 2nd. Lt. Miton Henry, of 2119 Reed street, was the picture of an unbelieving man, who is willing and quite able to give his all for his native land, but rather must sit on the sidelines and watch others carry the ball for all the gain. 8-26-44

Lt. Henry had been court-martialed at Selfridge Field, Mich., and transferred to Tuskegee to await dismissal, which came quite suddenly last Saturday, while he was here on furlough. The discharge went into effect midnight that day.

The officer, since his transfer to Tuskegee, has had three different assignments that had been either line duty, ground officer, or recreation leader. While there his duties did include any government flying activity, because of a physical impendiment, and not as a result of his impending discharge.

Henry's trouble began at Selfridge Field when he, with the other colored pilots there, objected to the Jim-Crow PX and poor living quarters to which they were confined. The men, after complaining to their commanding officer and getting no satisfaction, decided on harsher action. 8-26-44

Henry went to Mitchell Field, Hempstead, L. I., and lodged a complaint directly with the Commanding General of the First Air Force.

This resulted in no action; so the trek was continued to Washington. The Secretary of War listened to the complaints of the pilot and promised that something would be done. Nothing was done, but the background for Henry's court-martial had been laid.

Officially he was charged with insubordination and being AWOL, but it was later shown by testifying physicians that he had been advised to rest. Dr. Henry will return here this week.

RELEASED!

8-26-44

2nd LT. MILTON P. HENRY

IC Subdued at Va. Military Camp

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

By GEORGE C. MOORE

A. P. HILL MILITARY RESERVATION, Va. (ANP) — The statement of First Sgt. Andrew Voytbee of Newark, N.J., who said, "We don't make any differences down here. To hell with the laws of Virginia or anywhere else," typifies the democratic attitudes of men on maneuvers here. 7-15-44

Undergoing the strenuous training are men of all nationalities and races, men from all sections of the country, who live, work, train and play together in harmony.

Texan Censures New Yorker

One of the rare objections to the proximity of colored and white soldiers, which was made by a New Yorker, was condemned by a Texan, First Lt. Robert F. McCauley, white, a veteran of North Africa and Sicily, who is a company commanding officer.

He told the soldier that although no one was forcing him to sleep with the colored soldiers, "it's no disgrace; they're human, I believe," and threatened to have him digging a six by six if any further complaints were heard. 7-15-44

A significant factor in the maintenance of democracy here has been the insistence of the officers who have been as adamant in their stand against discrimination as they have been where military training has been involved.

47d-1944

Race Troops Forced To Stand While Whites Eat In Mess Hall

Courier. Pittsburgh, Pa.
2-19-44

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—Negro soldiers at Camp Gordon Johnston, located near Tallahassee, Fla., are forced to stand while eating their meals, while white men have seats in the mess halls, it was disclosed to the Associated Negro Press Wednesday by two men from that post, who had been undergoing treatment at the army's Lawson General hospital here.

The soldiers, whose names for obvious reasons have been withheld, asserted that except for a few Negro non-coms, no seats are provided for them, and no matter how tired and weary they may be after a day in the field, they must stand up and eat their chow.

LACK OF FACILITIES

One of the soldiers is from Washington, D. C., and the other is from Paducah, Ky. In addition to the dining room beef, the soldiers asserted that much resentment exists because of the lack of recreational facilities for Negro men. In contrast, they said, there are all sorts of inducements for whites, plus an abundance of equipment and facilities.

2-19-44

Further resentment, the men said, is engendered by the lack of accommodations for visits from their mothers and sweethearts, the absence of Negro commissioned officers on the post, and a complicated transportation system, which provides that all Negro soldiers must wait until white soldiers and civilians have secured seats before being allowed to board the buses.

Soldier's Ability Means Nothing?

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

"A lieutenant, talking about all the ratings available in our outfit and the qualifications required to obtain them, emphasized, in his long southern drawl, that educational ability don't mean a thing," a Fort Benning, Ga., soldier told the AFRO last week.

He added:

7-16-44

"The means by which a colored soldier — his ability ignored — must obtain a rating are so low that no thinking and self-respecting individual would think of stooping to them. I know there is no give-in for me as far as these crazy notions go.

Officials Cover Up

"On the day that General Benjamin O. Davis was to make an inspection of the colored troops here, the officials told us that we were to go on a 'special' convoy. Very clever. They try to cover up as much as possible.

"At one formation, on the day the general was to arrive, one lieutenant told us that anyone wishing to go to headquarters to see him should "turn in your name at the orderly room and you'll be free to go and have a talk with him.'

7-16-44

"I read in the AFRO, I think, an article in which the writer asked why some of the officials didn't inspect our camps for colored troops. From this you can see very clearly when such an inspection is made just what goes on. They simply dodge the issue."

Says Negro Units Unable to Master Modern War Techniques Efficiently

Tribune-Washington, D.C.
2-26-44

Representative Hamilton Fish (Rep., N.Y.) company commander of the Fifteenth New York Volunteers, later the 369th Infantry Regiment, during the first World War, criticized the War Department, Wednesday, for its policy of using Negro soldiers as service troops in the present conflict.

Representatives expressed astonishment that practically no Negro troops have been engaged in combat after twenty-six months.

He inserted in the Congressional Record a letter to him from Secretary of War Stimson, which denied that discrimination was being practiced against Negro soldiers, but asserted that their efficiency ratings were so low that many of the Negro units have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons.

Will Resent Indictment

"I believe," said the New Yorker, "that many American Negroes will resent this broad indictment of their people, and the discrimination against their use in combat units in defense of their country.

"It seems passing strange," he continued, "that French Senegalese or whole British divisions from India have been fighting so superbly with our Allies, and that Russians with low education have been the heroes of this war."

In his letter to Mr. Fish, Secretary Stimson admitted that Negro combat units have been converted to service units, adding:

2-26-44

"Large numbers of Negro troops are overseas or en route and will be given every opportunity to win battle honors and demonstrate their worth in actual combat."

Mr. Fish recalled that Negroes made gallant fighting records in 1917-1918.

America we are now allowing to be perpetrated.

Negro Soldiers and White
New Republic-New York N.Y. 3-22-44

SIR: May I send my congratulations to your contributor, Lucille B. Milner, for her article "Jim Crow in the Army" [The New Republic, March 13]. For the most part, the article was excellent, and it is a stirring challenge to those who would see equal justice granted to all. But there is one question I would like to ask: Why is it necessary, in championing the cause of any group, to ascribe to that group virtues which they simply do not possess? I phrase the question this way because I believe The New Republic is guilty of continually romanticizing, and thereby falsifying, many ugly situations for which it pretends to provide a decent and moral solution.

For example: Mrs. Milner contends that the "Negro soldier is deeply patriotic, vividly conscious of our aims in this war, eager to get into the fighting areas." Such bland and unrealistic statements make easy prey for the waylaring cynic—especially for the GI who knows that the generalization does not hold true for white troops, much less for Negro. If patriotism is a virtue, I'm quite certain that only a small minority are very "deeply" virtuous. If American troops are at all conscious of our confused and mostly ridiculous war aims, you will have to admit they are not really "vividly" conscious of those aims. And lastly, if Negro troops, on the whole, are eager to get into the fighting areas, I say God bless them, for they stand in sharp contra-distinction to a good majority of white soldiers.

Don't misunderstand me, I am quite in sympathy with Mrs. Milner's strictures against Jim Crowism, and I am sure that anyone with any sense of decency at all must feel moral indignation over the white man's unscrupulous attitude toward the Negro—both inside the army and out. But let me say that people are not going to be convinced of the injustice of the situation—and they can rightly be skeptical of the admonitions of the idealist—if the situation cannot be appraised more realistically than the particular appraisal which I quoted above.

3-22-44

PFC. T. W.

Cambridge, Mass.

Well-Trained Regiment
Sacrificed on Altar
Of Army Jim-Crowism

THE OLD 8TH
Courier
By HORACE R. CAYTON
2-19-44

THIS IS the story of the shame of a nation. This is the story of "Fascist-like" minds in high places. This is the story of the betrayal of a regiment and the knifing in the back of the hopes and aspirations of thirteen million black people. This is the story of the "sneak attack" on our institution of democracy. This is the story of the Old Eighth Illinois Regiment. This isn't a new story. You've read about it before. You know the facts. It's worth retelling.

Mr. Cayton

The Old Eighth Regiment had a proud history as a fighting outfit. In the first world war it was known as the 370th. In spite of the opposition of many prejudiced white officers who refused to fight by the side of it, it won the battle honors three times and the regimental colors were decorated with the Croix de Guerre. It fought with the French and fought well and was proud and jealous of its reputation.

CERTIFIED FOR COMBAT DUTY

After the war the tradition of the Old Eighth was kept up and for 25 years a group of young fellows, and some who were rapidly becoming not so young, continued to drill and to practice and to perfect themselves in the time when they might against have to protect their country. They had a tradition behind them; they had a reputation to live up to. This was no plantation army with soldiers dragging their sun in the dust. This was a proud force. Now they were reduced to

REDUCED MEN TO MENIAL TASKS

Now let's stop for a moment and sum up. Here is a group of well trained fellows with good backgrounds — no illiteracy here, no psychological aptitude bracket—good a history as a fighting organization. At this point they had been well trained—over-trained. In fact they had been in training so long that something had to be done. So what did our War department do? They had a reputation to two years as field artillery men, and the men had been in training for nearly two years as field artillery men of good will, and all the others of them had been in training for nearly high command, and the reaction-ary high command, which is being done in building up to officers, marking time until the high command may think up some other way to demoralize and humiliate it.

DEMORALIZE AND HUMILIATE

I COULD go on about the waste of time and equipment and human resources. When we can't get building materials for people who haven't decent homes because the army is using them and then throw away a whole regiment of soldiers with all the training, it doesn't make sense. But as long as the present reckless, almost criminal expenditure of men and materials to maintain the pattern, it's nothing to

2-19-44

IN August of 1943 between 400 and 500 men from both the 930th and the 931st battalions were transferred to service units—that means laboring. Negroes. They were reduced to menial tasks. They were reduced to menial tasks. They were reduced to menial tasks

Support the Lynn Case! **Fight Jim Crow in Uniform!**

The Nation - New York, N.Y. 7-1-44

The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces

Needs Your Help Today to:—

—***make a national issue*** of the Supreme Court's attempt to dodge the Lynn case by a legalistic trick. The Lynn case is the only court test yet made of the anti-discrimination clause in the 1940 Draft Act. It is a concrete first step toward democratizing the Army's racial policies. The Supreme Court will rule on it finally next fall. *We need funds for a nation-wide educational campaign this summer.*

—***get tens of thousands of signatures*** to a statement opposing racial segregation in the armed forces. This is in the form of "4 Questions to Candidates" asking them to take a clear and specific stand on the issue. It will be presented in August to all presidential and Congressional candidates, and their answers will be publicized. *We need funds to give these "4 Questions" wide circulation.*

—***publish a mimeographed news-letter*** presenting in digest form the facts about race relations in the armed forces from week to week. This will be circulated among editors, radio commentators, columnists, educators, journalists and other key persons. The job is not being done now. *We need funds to collect and issue this material.*

—***fight such cases of individual injustice*** as that of the 19 colored Seabees who were discharged last fall *without a hearing* after they had complained to their commanding officer about intolerable jimcrow treatment. These men, many of them volunteers, were discharged as "unfit" and "undesirable." *We need funds to make their story known, to explore possible legal angles.*

- ***The Lynn Committee is the only organization set up specifically to fight for racial democracy in our armed forces.***
- ***Among the sponsors of the Lynn Committee are Luigi Antonini, Roger Baldwin, Algernon Black, George S. Counts, John F. Finerty, Alain Locke, Carey McWilliams, A. Philip Randolph, Willard S. Townsend, and Oswald Garrison Villard.***

7-1-44

The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces, 360 West 125th St., New York 27, N. Y.

I WANT TO HELP. ENCLOSED IS $..... FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST JIM CROW IN UNIFORM. (Make checks payable to Nancy G. Macdonald, Treasurer)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY..... UNIT..... STATE.....

Afro American - Baltimore, Md.

Fish and Secretary Stimson

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson deserved to come off second best in his defense of the War Department policy of converting colored field artillery and tank destroyer units into labor battalions and refusing to send a single colored infantry division into combat zones. 3-4-44

Secretary Stimson's argument that large percentages of colored inductees have fallen within the lower educational classifications is a deceptive half-truth.

Granted that a large percentage of colored troops are illiterate. All of them are not. What has Mr. Stimson done with those who could pass any army qualification test? AFRO reports have showed a colored Ph.D. caring for fires in the quarters of white officers. Four colored regiments made high marks in the last war, why were they broken up?

And, as Rep. Hamilton Fish reminds the Secretary, it is passing strange that French Senegalese, whole divisions of Indians, Russians and Japanese of lower educational qualifications than colored Americans have been heroes in this war.

And he might have added that Southern whites with lower I.Q.'s than Northern colored boys arrange to make out quite all right in Secretary Stimson's combat troops.

Mr. Fish is absolutely right. We have been in this war two years and, save for a squad of flyers, Mr. Stimson and the War Department have treated us like half-wit step-children unworthy of democracy or the freedom to fight for it.

Here's Army Third Degree

The first night that I was under arrest, Lt. Teeples said to me, "If you won't play ball with us, we will have to play ball on your head." I asked him what he meant, and he showed me a blackjack.

He later said: "If I have to shoot you and hang you to a tree to be sure we have the man who did this, I'll do that."

It was about 2:30 a.m when I was taken down to my cell and I wasn't questioned any more that night. I got a bad chill that night, and the next morning the doctor looked me over and ordered me to the hospital. However, I was not taken to the hospital that day. About 11:30 p.m., I was taken back upstairs and they questioned me again. Afro American - Baltimore, Md.

Would Use Slug on Him

Lt. Teeples said that he saw by my report that I was supposed to go to the hospital. He then said that they didn't have to send me to the hospital, but that they would put me back in the cell, and it would save them using a slug on me

I asked him what he meant. He said that at sunrise they would have to shoot me. I told them that they might as well start shooting. Lt. Teeples then said that I didn't act like I was afraid Sgt. Donahue jumped up and asked if I wanted to fight him. I said that it didn't matter, that if he wanted me to, I would.

They stopped questioning me for a while and I went to sleep. After I had slept in the chair for a while, I was wakened by Sgt. Danahue and Lt. Teeples shaking me on each side. They said they were ready to go and for me to come on.

Threaten to Shoot Again 3-4-44

They grabbed my arms and said they were going to shoot me that night. Lt. Teeples said: "Your people won't know anything about you. They will think a Jap got hold of you."

They took me back to my cell about 3:00 a.m It was cold there and I had no blankets. About 3:30, they called me back upstairs and asked me to sign a statement. When I refused, they said that since I wasn't going to the hospital they would let me have two blankets. At my trial my defense counsel would not let me testify, but I insisted on my right to do so. . . . I got to testify for myself by simply going and sitting down in the witness chair after a recess and against the advice of my counsel. . . . I don't think my counsel asked me any questions or helped me out in any way.

[illegible]s Hats" Insist [illegible]gerous Race Polic[illegible]

[illegible] WAR STIMSON'S admission that [illegible] no combat colored troops on the fighting [illegible] fronts give cause for sober reflection.

Philadelphia Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa. 3-11-44

Colored combat units are being broken up and these soldiers turned into stevedores and given service duties at docks and supply dumps.

Mr. Stimson says that such transfers were made because of the low educational qualifications of a large percentage of colored inductees, the limitations of manpower, and immediate need of service units.

The TRIBUNE agrees with Congressman Hamilton Fish of New York, that the policy appears to be a "deliberate plan to keep Negro soldiers out of actual combat."

In all the wars in which this nation has participated colored soldiers have acquitted themselves well as combat troops. Is it not then singular that colored troops in the present global struggle lack the qualifications necessary to engage in combat duties?

Perhaps the answer to the War Department's attitude may be found in the fact that the "color problem" looms across the world as never before in our history. It is barely possible that there is a studied plan to prevent colored soldiers from fighting as combat troops in order to keep the colored people in their place—the hewers of wood and the drawers of water.

Certainly there is a large percentage of illiteracy among colored troops. How could it be otherwise when the United States Government permits millions of its citizens to live in perpetual darkness because the South wishes to exploit colored people by keeping them in ignorance?

Surely, Mr. Stimson does not believe that all colored Americans should suffer punishment because some of them, through no fault of their own, are illiterate.

Service troops are needed. Manpower is needed at docks and supply dumps. But why must all colored troops, regardless of their respective abilities, be forced to act as "maids-in-waiting" for those who in many instances have less ability? 3-11-44

The United States of America is at war. Unless America wins, all Americans of every color, of every creed and of every race will suffer. Were it not for that fact, it might be permissible to allow the "brass hats" to continue their stupid policy and break their own necks.

These smear campaigns are often a deliberate plan to lower the morale of colored citizens on both the fighting and home fronts, so as to prevent colored people from securing equality of opportunity.

This despicable policy of the War Department will not cause those who are determined to achieve victory, both at home and on the battlefield, to retreat a single inch.

47d-1944

Color Prejudice Ruled Out At Army Center By Colonel

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-8-44

INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa.—(ANP)—"Race prejudice has not been, is not, and will not be tolerated at this camp," recently declared Col. Forrest E. Ambroso, commanding officer of the transportation corps unit training center, at Indiantown Gap. The declaration was made to all of the troops in the center in a series of talks with each of the eight battalions in training. "You are American soldiers, wearing the uniform of your country, and you have a right to expect to be treated as such," emphatically declared the colonel. "Prejudice, discrimination, and segregation on the basis of color at this camp will not be tolerated, and if there are any such cases, I personally want to know about them at once."

MERIT ALONE

The colonel told the men that they would rise or fall on their individual merits alone. He pointed out to them that despite the restrictions on the number of officer candidates, they would have equal chances with anyone else, within the reduced quotas, to become officers.

The men were frankly told, however, that they themselves must assume certain responsibilities "in helping to improve your character and efficiency as soldiers and men and to maintain the excellent records already set by other colored troops who have preceded you."

MORE EFFICIENT 4-8-44

"Our mission is to train and develop ourselves into good soldiers so that we may do our full share as American citizens. This job we have to do would be materially hindered by excessive absence without leave, by sickness and by other things which cause us to lose training time," the colored asserted. "To demonstrate your quality, we must seek constantly to reduce the amount of training time lost, not alone to keep our records as good as those of other units, but to make them better and thereby to become more efficient soldiers and more useful and happier citizens."

The lectures were a part of the orientation program of the training center, which is receiving increasing attention in Army circles for its work among the colored troops of Indiantown Gap.

PAC, Negro Leaders Hail Army Anti-Bias Order

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

PAC and Negro leaders this week lauded the War Department action ending segregation in Army post exchanges, buses and motion picture theatres. All agreed that the order moves the Negro soldier one step nearer the work of a full-edged fighting man and is another move in President Roosevelt's drive to smash Jimcrow. 9-14-44

SIDNEY HILLMAN, PAC chairman, stated:

"Now that the War Department is taking steps to ban segregation in its post exchanges, transportation facilities and theatres, the day when we shall hear the death knell of all forms of Jimcrow in our armed forces cannot be far distant. The Army order clearly indicates that so long as President Roosevelt remains in office, the Negro people's steady forward progress will continue unabated. The President's actions speak louder than the pious promises of Republican candidates."

LESTER GRANGER, executive secretary of the National Urban League, termed the anti-Jimcrow order "a welcome recognition of the Federal Government's responsibility toward the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States Army."

WILLARD S. TOWNSEND, president of the United Transport Service Employees (CIO), predicted that the order would help morale.

"Strict enforcement of the order will mean that we are on our way to the goal of a truly democratic army, with equal rights and equal opportunities for all. The improvement in morale should be immediately apparent." ROBERT C. WEAVER, director of the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations, Chicago, and member of the National Citizens PAC Executive Board, stated: 7-14-44

"It is action in the right direction. It gives the supporters of the present administration additional hope and confidence in President Roosevelt. It has been appreciated and endorsed by Negroes everywhere. It has established a firm basis upon which an all out attack upon a segregated army may be carried forth."

GEORGE L-P WEAVER, director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, said:

"The directive is the first step toward eliminating the abominable conditions the Negro soldier is subjected to in the United States Army. In the light of President Roosevelt's record on questions affecting minorities, we feel sure that there will be no modification of the directive." 9-14-44

EDWARD DUDLEY, speaking for the Advancement of Colored People:

"The recent War Department order banning segregation in army camps with respect to post exchanges, theatres and on-the-post bus transportation is one additional step towards alleviating a great deal of friction presently existing on military reservations. This order moves the Negro soldier one step nearer that of a full-fledged fighting man."

Sparks Protest to Army Anti-JC Order Overruled

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

9-16-44

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (ANP) — "All soldiers, regardless of race, must be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy the recreational facilities, which are provided at Army posts, camps and stations," Acting Secretary of War Robert Patterson wrote Gov. Chauncey M. Sparks recently.

The governor made public the reply he received to the protest lodged with the President over the recent Memorandum 97, which abolished segregation at Army camps and said that the letter shall not constitute an answer to his telegram to the President.

Patterson, to whom the President referred the telegram, took issue with Sparks's contentions that the order "violates a State-wide practice and belief and aggravates rather than helps" race relations.

Equality in Everything

"Men who are fulfilling the same obligations, suffering the same dislocation of their private lives, and wearing the identical uniform should, within the confines of the military establishment, have the same privileges for rest and relaxation," he wrote.

Commenting, the governor said, "I agree that colored men should be given equal facilities, but there should be segregation. I understand the War Department order also applies to civilian personnel of Army posts."

Bomber Pilots Victims Of Continued Prejudice

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-29-44

By HERMAN HILL, Pacific Coast Bureau

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Despite widespread national publicity given "official" Army Air Forces jim-crow practices among Negro bomber pilots training at nearby Mather Field, the dour situation remains unchanged. This was learned by the writer from factual information personally garnered Thursday in this city, which is a scant 10 miles from the bomber base.

As has been the case since the original segregation order reputedly given by General Ralph P. Cousins, following an inspection several months ago, Negro and white pilots are still forbidden to eat in the same dining room, and Negro officers are not allowed to make use of the facilities of the base officers club.

Heretofore, the pilots have been assigned to separate quarters, but this order has recently been partially rescinded and the men mixed.

STILL FURTHER SEGREGATION 4-29-44

As revealed in the March 11, issue of The Courier, Negro officers are still attempted to explain away their discrimination against Negroes by blaming it on the "community pattern" of St. Louis.

Charges of discrimination against eight St. Louis plants were aired before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices at hearings which took two full days in the U. S. district courtroom No. 3 of the Federal Customs and Courthouse, 12th and Market Sts.

9-11-44 Present

Six Members

Six of the seven members of the President's committee were present, only Charles L. Horn of St. Paul being absent. The six were Chairman Malcolm Ross, Mrs. Sara Southall of Chicago, Boris Shishkin, A. F. of L. representative; John Brophy, CIO representative; Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Charles H. Houston, Washington lawyer well known in Missouri for his activity in the equal education cases against the Uni-

St. Louis War Firms Blame Jim Crow on Social Pattern

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

At FEPC Hearing

8-11-44

Eight Industries Make Excuses

By LUCILLE H. BLUFORD

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—That some Mis- sourians still think and act in terms of 50 years ago was apparent at the FEPC hearings held here Tuesday and Wednesday, August 1 and 2, when representa-

versity of Missouri. 8-11-44

All six took part in the questioning of witnesses of both sides, those presented by the committee's counsel and those of the defending companies. 8-11-44

All eight of the companies cited for violation of the non-discriminatory clauses in their government contracts, appeared before the committee to answer the charges. Some were represented by attorneys, some by company executives and some by both.

More than 50 witnesses, most of them women and most of them with relatives in the service, related their experiences in either being denied employment because they were Negroes or being denied upgrading because of their color. The hearings, the first ever held in Missouri, were conducted much in the fashion of a court trial with the committee members seated in front and below the judge's bench. Chairman Ross presided with the other committee members in interposing questions and making comments at will.

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The high point of Tuesday's hearing came when George B. Logan, counsel for the Bussman Manufacturing company, makers of electrical fuses for the operation of communications, naval vessels, radio, radar and all types of essential activities, read a 7-page statement on the reasons why it does not hire Negro women while at the same time employing white women.

The refusal, Logan said, was not due to any policy-making on the part of the Bussman company but the reason "goes far back in the history of this State and area.....This reason is the deep -seated and pratically universal unwillingness of the people of St. Louis and Missouri to integrate the two races..... Integrating and intermingling of the races in St. Louis is simply contrary to the established social pattern. This is particularly true of women." 8-11-44

Logan pointed out that it is the "considered judgment" of the company that it cannot successfully employ white and colored women side by side and that it has no facilities for segregation in places of work or in dressing and rest rooms.

The company also emphasized the fact that it did not need to hire Negro women because there are plenty of white women available for employment.

Logan indicated that nothing the FEPC or the army did could make it change its position. "We have made up our minds that we can't do what the committee wants," he said. The implication was that if the FEPC insisted upon its hiring of Negro women, the company would hand over the plant to the army or navy. 8-11-44

Matter of Degree

Milton Webster asked the companies how Americans could go around the world to fight intolerance when they refuse to practice democracy at home.

"Must this pattern be continued indefinitely?" he asked. "The problem of war is bigger than any of us. White and Negro men are dying in it. Can't we practice here at home the democracy they are carrying into far lands and fighting for?"

The company spokesman answered, "It's a matter of degree, timing and the community pattern."

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The St. Louis Ordnance plant was charged with terminating Negro employes without regard to seniority. The company maintains a dual seniority system, one for whites and the other for Negroes. Negro workers are limited to one of the company's eight buildings. The company said it felt the best way to assure Negroes their proportionate amount of employment was to set them up in a separate unit.

Negroes, being the last hired, were the hardest hit when "cutbacks" were made. The company defended its policy of a jim-crow plant by saying that the plan had been approved by Negro organizations in St. Louis. This was vigorously denied by Negro leaders. 8-11-44

Main Objection

William Sentner, vice president of the United Electric and Radio Workers (CIO) blasted the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce for a statement of policy it issued to war plants in 1942 urging the utilization of Negroes in industry in separate units and urging the setting up of separate facilities, special times for arrival and departure, and other means of keeping the races apart.

Sentner said that the union warned the St. Louis Ordnance company that the jim crow policy would not work. He said that the main objection to hiring Negroes does not spring from the laborers themselves but from the policy-making industrialists.

C. N. Pearson, superintendent of the USES, took the stand several times during the two-day hearings to testify that orders received from the defending companies specified that "white workers only" were wanted. The companies denied this, saying that such orders were mistakes or that the USES itself had prompted the racial specification. 8-11-44

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The hearings were fully covered by three daily newspapers, the Post-Dispatch, the Globe-Democrat and the Star-Times and by three out-of-town Negro papers, the Courier, the Afro-American and THE CALL as well as by the St. Louis Argus and St. Louis American.

Jim Crow Died . . . In A Mess Hall

White Soldier Tells How True Democracy Works On Pacific Isle

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-22-44

FORT BENNING, Ga.—When white soldiers from Texas, Alabama, New Jersey shout down a tough mess sergeant who attempts to set up jim-crow quarters for Negro troops, that in itself is evidence that this war is doing some good i breaking down discrimination and segregation. The story is told by a white soldier, Pv Gerald L. Landau, now in training here as a paratrooper, after spending 16 months overseas on an island in the Pacific. His letter in part reads:

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"I served on an island in the New Hebrides group. Our original task force included the now famous 24th Infantry . . It soon developed when we hit the island that the entire force was one huge labor gang. Negroes as well as soldiers from engineer, field artillery and medical units and Negro men from the 24th Infantry and the 828th Engineers. We played tennis together, went to the movies together, ate meals together and did everything except bunk together . . . The staff sergeant in charge of the mess hall was from North Carolina. He got the idea of setting up jim-crow tables. It was pitiful. The guys from New York and Jersey, and, Hell, yes, even the guys from Texas and Alabama, shouted this moron down. Jim crow died a sudden death in that mess hall. 4-22-44 JIM CROW COULDN'T EXIST

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Lynn Committee Circulates Petition Asking Candidates Their Stand On Segregation In Armed Forces

7-8-44

The Lynn Committee To Abolish Segregation In The Armed Forces, 360 West 125th street on Tuesday circulated a petition for signatures to a letter containing four questions for their answers, which will be to be asked all Presidential and Congressional candidates for office this year on their views concerning racial segregation in the American Armed Forces?

The Four questions to be asked of the candidates are:

1. Do you believe there should be racial segregation in the American Armed Forces?
2. Just what do you believe the "no discrimination" clause, Section 4 (a) of the 1940 Draft Act means?
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The petitions are being sent to known opponents of segregation for signing in their Congressional Districts and are to be returned to the Committee by August 1st. The petitions will then be forwarded by the Committee to the candidates for their answers, which will be publicized.

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Age-Herald, Birmingham, Ala. 7-8-44

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47d-1944

MISTREATMENT

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JOSEPH D. BIBB

3-4-44

Lack of Combat Units And Jim-Crow Patterns Are Proofs of Army Bias

COLORED American soldiers are being mistreated and denied the right and duty to serve their country with the same dignity as other Americans. Secretary of War Stimson is in grievous error when he asserts that colored soldiers are being fairly treated. If the War Department would be courteous and considerate enough to receive and review a fair and honest "bill of particulars" exposing the general treatment accorded these soldiers, it is inconceivable how the issues could be whitewashed and evaded.

Mr. Bibb

Those who deem themselves free men, engaged in the so-called protection of the rights of weak people, must consider themselves as being mistreated when they are segregated in separate units of the Army as "fighting lepers." Those same men must deem themselves mistreated when they are shunted off into labor battalions and denied the privilege of first-class fighting. Those who are commanded by Southern whites, who tyrannize, tantalize, insult and abuse them, must consider themselves mistreated. Those whose fellow soldiers suffer and tolerate to be murdered, humiliated and maltreated by civilians, must hold themselves mistreated. Those who cannot find channels through which they can receive a sympathetic and intelligent hearing of their just complaints, must feel that they are not only mistreated, but also are deprived of democratic procedure.

NO DOUBT ABOUT MISTREATMENT

3-4-44

It is just as plain and obvious that the War Department, the Southern brass-hats who sit in the high places in the Army, and most of the subordinates, are mistreating the colored soldiers as is the presence of the sun in its eternal sweep through the skies. When United States Senator Eastland declares that the South is now fighting to uphold "white supremacy" and while other senators, including Senator Smith, express the same sentiments, is there any doubt but that the Southerners, who now officer colored units, are imbued with the same sentiments? Is there any doubt that these indefensible philosophies are not now being put into practice? It is an insult to the intelligent to contend to the contrary.

3-4-44

WOULD the Secretary of War still insist that colored soldiers are not being mistreated, if he knew that many of the colored officers of the 92nd Division became so indignant and resentful that they volunteered to enter the paratroop units in order to escape insult and indignity? Does the erudite and able Stimson know how many members of the 92nd have been court-martialed because their complaints were adjudged "subversive" and smacked of "insubordination"? Does the Senate Military Affairs Committee know that the court-martialing in the 92nd reaches an all-time high record in the Army annals? If these statements are true, then is the colored soldier being given a square deal in the Army?

THE ARMY HAS BEEN GROSSLY UNFAIR

If the history of the colored fighter, in America, is authentic, how can Mr. Stimson accept the ratings showing our inefficiency in the technique of modern weapons of warfare? How can this be true if the glorified exploits of the 99th Bomber Squadron are accepted? From the record, as it is revealed from time to time, we are forced to feel that Mr. Justice Harlan Stone felt as he stated, "It is clear and obvious that the Supreme Court of the United States has been grossly unfair to the colored man." The Army, from the lips of soldiers and officers, has been grossly unfair to our soldiers. Many soldiers have stated that they "preferred death on the front lines, rather than suffer the inhumanities perpetrated against them in Southern camps." Officers avow that the Army has revealed that no promotions in "field grades" are forthcoming for them. "No officers above captains" they say, is the order of the day. These conditions are revolting and suffocating, but very little is being done about them. Most of the complaints are "white-washed."

3-4-44

MEN of the colored race are going around in the Army with the white-wash brushes. General Benjamin O. Davis, a member of the colored race, is being roundly accused as being an ace white-washer. Hamilton Fish, New York Congressman and formerly colonel of the 15th Regiment of New York, has expressed his resentment, but most of the colored leaders are heard mumbling and grumbling, telling their tales of woe, but cautioning their listeners in the same breath, "Don't quote me."

SECRETARY OF WAR ATTACKS RECORD OF RACE COMBAT UNITS

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-4-44

His Letter to Hamilton Fish Says Negro Units Unable to Master Techniques of Modern Weapons

BULLETIN: CHICAGO—Calling upon President Roosevelt to oust Henry L. Stimson as Secretary of War, a mass meeting here Sunday sponsored by the National Negro Council and the Chicago Committee of 1,000, adopted a resolution calling the statement of Stimson as "unfounded and utterly false" and as appearing "close to the line of national disservice." Speakers claimed the ouster of Stimson would speed victory over the Axis nations.

By JOHN P. DAVIS, Courier Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—"Secretary Stimson should resign immediately."

3-4-44

Speaking was Representative William L. Dawson, lone Negro member of Congress. And he was fighting mad.

He added quickly: "He is either woefully ignorant on the matter of Negro troops or is purposely carrying out the pattern of fascist elements within the military establishment whose purpose is to discredit the Negro fighting men of this nation."

Hamilton Fish

This stinging rebuke by the Illinois Democratic Representative who himself officered Negro troops under fire in World War I, was directed at Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson because of assertions made by Stimson in a letter to Representative Hamilton Fish (Rep.-N.Y.), giving the Army General Staff's reasons why Negro troops have not been committed to combat.

3-4-44

The denunciation of Stimson by the Illinois Democrat came after Representative Fish, another congressman who commanded Negro combat troops in World War I, had read the Stimson letter on the floor of the House last Wednesday and had sharply castigated the War Secretary for his announced policy of breaking up many Negro combat units and converting them into service detachments. The Newark York Republican had written Stimson on February 1 asking for an explanation for the failure to use Negro ground troops in combat after 26 months of United States participation in World War II.

SWEEPING CHARGES AGAINST MANY UNITS

3-4-44

The Stimson reply, in all probability prepared by officers of the Operations Division of the Army General Staff and merely signed by the War Secretary, made sweeping charges of incompetency for combat against many Negro troops, and especially against field artillery and tank destroyer units which were originally parts of the Eighth Illinois infantry regiment.

Stimson admitted that large numbers of the Negro soldiers in the 930th and 931st Field Artillery Battalions had been placed in service units and that the skeletons of these outfits which remained are scheduled to be converted into combat engineer units. He ascribed the "unsatisfactory records" of the units as the reason why they were not to be converted into heavy artillery ballations.

"In converting combat units to service units," Stimson wrote Fish, "the War Department's selection of units to be converted has been based solely on the relative abilities, capabilities and status of training of personnel in the units available for conversion. It so happens that a relatively large percentage of Negroes inducted into the Army have fallen within lower educational classifications, and many of the Negro units accordingly have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons. To have committed such units to combat at the dates of conversion would have endangered operational successes as well as submitted the personnel to unnecessarily high casualty rates."

TOO DUMB TO FIGHT

Despite disclaimers contained in the Stimson letter that the War Department has a policy of discrimination against Negro combat units, the obvious implication that many Negro troops are too dumb to fight has stirred up a hornet's nest here. There is no question that the issue of competency of Negro fighting men provoked by Stimson's letter will become of major importance in the 1944 campaign.

3-4-44

Quick to reply to Stimson, Republican Congressman Fish declared on the floor of the House: "It seems passing strange that French Senegalese or whole British divisions from India have been fighting so superbly with our allies, and that Russians with low educational qualifications have been heroes of this war, and that even the Japanese with lesser educational qualifications than American Negroes, have been found to be brave and efficient soldiers."

"Mr. Stimson's assertion is pure bunk," declared Perry W. Howard, Republican National Committeeman from Mississippi in a letter to the New York Congressman urging him to keep up his fight for the right of Negro soldiers to fight in defense of their country.

DENY CHARGES ARE CORRECT

Meanwhile Negro Democratic leaders, assembled here last week, adopted a resolution condemning "without reservation the mistreatment, discrimination and segregation of Negro men and women in the armed forces of the United States." And Congressman Dawson, continuing his statement to The Pittsburgh Courier, declared, "The diabolical activities of some brass hats in strategical positions within the military establishment of the nation is sabotaging the real American program of the President, is robbing the nation of the services of thousands of first class fighting men and causing the death of hundreds of white boys who must fill the front line places of Negro boys who are ready and eager to do their bit if given the chance."

The issue provoked by the Stimson letter has been smoldering for many months in the War Department. It was one of the reasons for the resignation of Judge William H. Hastie as civilian aide to the Secretary of War. Back of the resistance to the use of Negro combat troops lies the attitude of brass hat generals, many from the South. Chief of the Operations Division of the Army General Staff is Major General Thomas T. Handy of Spring City, Tenn., educated in Virginia. It is this division which allocates troop units and determines policies of unit conversion. It seems likely that it is this division which determined the policies expressed in Stimson's letter.

UNITS COMMENDED

3-4-44

In point of fact informed sources here, now have had personal knowledge of the record of Negro troops, vigorously deny the charge of incompetency. These sources point out that the 930th and 931st Field Artillery battalions were formerly parts of the 184th Field Artillery Regiment. All officers of the 184th passed the artillery officers' school at Fort Sill, Okla., satisfactorily, they stated. The 184th was the first regiment to pass the Second Army firing tests and was commended highly by Lt. General Ben Lear for their competency.

Here is the way one anonymous officer of the 184th put it: "We would be given a firing test and pass it. Then 50 per cent of our men would be pulled out of the outfit and we would be given another exam and pass it again. They have us tests when we hardly had

out that the court in which he had filed suit lacked jurisdiction, but this was all the defendants had been served.

Young Hansberry, the son of a real estate broker, made his charges through his attorney, G. Hansberry, of the armed service. The youth originally had indu into the army. Hans- duction and based his allegations ging government offi- upon facts in his brother's case, the President through Carl Jr., who has been assigned and Illinois state di- to an all-Negro regiment. eek by Perry H. Hans- charges through his attorney, G. ear old draftee upon C. Adams, on the eve of his in- selective service, the The youth originally had indu- of the Navy and War cated that he would petition as one of the de- that he would petition

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F.D.R. sued for Army Jim Crow

Los Angeles, Calif.

7-10-44

CHICAGO—A second Winfred vice act by allow

Fearing Truth, House Military Group Bans "Races of Mankind"

Tribune-Washington, D.C.

3-11-44

Fifty-five thousand copies of a pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," designed to break down the racial superiority theory of Hitlerism, according to the authors, are collecting mold in Government warehouses because Rep. Andrew J. May, (Dem., Ky.), chairman of the House Military Committee, has coerced the War Department to keep it out of the hands of American soldiers because, primarily, it says that Northern Negroes living under better conditions and are intellectually superior to underprivileged Southern whites.

The booklet is the same which the United Service Organizations recently banned from its centers. Subsequently, its distribution was promoted by the CIO War Relief Committee.

Chairman May said the War Department abandoned plans to distribute the book in connection with its orientation courses after the committee threatened to "expose the motives behind this book." The purpose of the pamphlet, he declared, was to teach racial equality, especially the equality of white men and Negroes.

What irked Representative May and other committee members was what the Kentuckian said was a claim in the book that surveys indicated the average Negro in New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts was the intellectual equal of the average white resident of Kentucky, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

Attacks Modern Prejudice

The pamphlet's purpose is to attack the comparatively modern disease of race prejudice by an exposition, in layman's terms, of the history of mankind. Its basic contention is that intelligence tests show no difference between the races when economic and educational advantages are equal.

So far as the committee is concerned, May said, "It won't be distributed by the Army. If it is, we will have plenty to say and it will be said right on the floor of the House. It has no place in the Army program."

While no further committee action is contemplated, May added, "we intend to keep an eye open to see that this book does not go out to our soldiers through War Department channels. If it does, somebody is going to do plenty of explaining."

3-11-44

3-11-44

Stimson Says Negro Combat Troops to Get Own Officers

Tribune-Washington, D.C.

3-11-44

In line with Secretary of War Stimson's admission that the Army has a policy of converting Negro combat troops and technicians into service troops and belief his comment will be a major issue for Negro voters in November, is the revelation that a group of Negro radio operators and technicians was recently changed over into a labor battalion.

In the face of the criticisms, Mr. Stimson stated that Negro field officers up to lieutenant colonel will be placed in command of colored combat troops now under the command of white troops.

Promotions of four officers in the Medical Corps at Ft. Huachuca were also announced this week.

Qualified officers of the 930th and 931st Field Artillery regiment formed of the old 8th Illinois, National Guard, will be assigned to the field artillery units it was said.

3-11-44

Coincidental with the announcement, Mr. Stimson was asked about the disposition of the field artillery officers in view of the intimation in the letter to Mr. Fish that some Negro units were "unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons."

He denied that the War Department policy was one which held that American Negro troops cannot be made into satisfactory combat units.

The two high officers slated to be transferred to the 92nd Division in keeping with the new policy are Lt. Cols. Marcus Day and Wendell Derricks, both of Chicago. Many officers are expected to receive transfers also.

Sergeant Charges Negro Radio Experts Made Into Labor Unit

Tribune-Washington, D.C.

3-11-44

Wide-spread resentment exhibited by press, organizations, and individuals over Secretary of War Stimson's recent letter to Rep. Hamilton Fish (Rep., N.Y.), criticizing the efficiency of Negroes as combat troops, has brought about a change in the War Department policy, it was revealed last week.

The information was received by the New York office of the NAACP in a letter from a Negro sergeant. The irony of the situation was heightened by the fact that German war prisoners stationed near these Negro troops are said by the sergeant to be receiving better treatment than American Negro soldiers.

The letter says in part:

"When the division was shipped to....., we were left in Fort .....; later we learned that we were coming to this camp to form a battalion. Since our troop was composed mostly of radio operators and radio technicians, we were reasonably certain that it would be an operations battalion because a construction battalion hasn't any place for communications men.

"Upon our arrival we found that we were going to be formed into a construction battalion after being merged with the.....F.A.

All the training that the men in this battlion get is to learn something about climbing poles and digging holes. In other words, we are in a labor battalion with a glorified title. We aren't kicking because we have to climb poles and do some hard work, but we figure if we are qualified for a certain type of job we should get it if possible and I know the Army needs radiomen.

3-11-44

Can't Get Transfers

"A lot of us have asked for transfers, but all we run into is red tape and that is when an enlisted man loses his case.

"There is a trend in the Army, at present, to transfer all Negro soldiers from the Army Ground Forces and put them into the Army Service Forces no matter if they are qualified for other types of work.

"In this camp we are also forced to live in an area that should be condemned. All our sanitary facilities are outside and across the street in a poorly heated building. The barracks we live in are heated by two stoves, one at each end of the barrack.

3-11-44

"The reason the boys are so hot under the collar is due to the fact that there are German prisoners (here) and living better and getting better treatment than we are."

Negro Soldiers Treated Worse Than Nazis

People's Voice—New York, N.Y.

3-11-44

"The reason the boys are so hot under the collar is due to the fact that there are German prisoners here who live better and are getting better treatment than we are at present." This revelation was made last week by the NAACP from information received in a letter written by a Negro army sergeant. Itoperators and technicians was followed close on the heels of Secretary of War Henry Stimson's battalion. answer to Representative Hamilton Fish of New York, which to ——; we were left in Fort —— charged "inefficiency" of some Negro units was the reason for their coming to this camp to form a being converted from combat to battalion. Since our troop was service battalions. composed mostly of radio operators and radio technicians, we were The soldier's letter to the NAACP told of how a group of radio reasonably certain that it would be an operations battalion because a construction battalion hasn't any place for communications men. Upon our arrival we found that we were going to be formed into a construction battalion after being merged with the F.A. All the training that the men in this battalion must learn something about climbing poles and digging holes. In other words, we are in a labor battalion with a glorified title. We aren't kicking because we have to climb poles and do some hard work, but we figure if the Army Service Forces no matter if they are qualified for other types of work.

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3-11-44

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Negro soldiers from the Army Ground Forces and put them into

47d-1944

JIM CROW IS NOT DEAD IN THE NAVY

Northwest Enterprise – Seattle, wash.

3-29-44

The old spirit still rules in the U. S. Navy as well as the U. S. Army. This is true despite all the propaganda recently emanating from the Public Relations Division of the Navy and certain elements in the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association. After two days of being wined and dined and flattered at Great Lakes Training Station, some of our Negro editors, notably Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., of the People's Voice, have catapulted into the camp of appeasers and apologists for ole man Jimcro, and have brazenly sought to whitewash the rigid segregation policy of the Navy.

In the Great Lakes Naval Training Station rigid separation of Negro and white enlisted men is the policy. No intermingling of the races is permitted either in training or in recreation. There are times when Negro sailors are taken to witness a basketball, or hockey, or football game. They are permitted only to see their fellow white sailors on the opposite benches. They never participate in games together. 3-29-44

The whole policy of the Navy is to build a black Navy which will be the labor force of the regular Navy. These men are to be used to patrol and and in shore craft work and shore activities, which means building and guarding Naval bases, ammunition dumps, warehouses and doing guard patrol work over bases and islands captured from the Japanese in the Pacific. Negroes are discouraged from applying for special service. For whites special service means a petty officer's rating as machinists or boatswain or coxwain or athletic instructor, and numerous other specialist work, for Negroes it means only messmen and seabees, and there are enough messmen. The once much-publicized seabees program is being curtailed, for the black Navy is slated to do this work. The Negro enlisted man is being told on arrival at the Station that only one out of ten sailors ride on ships. This is to prepare him for his laboring job. The 22 commissioned Negroes, which seems to have struck such emotional people as Powell as the "emancipation" will be nothing more than oversees in in the black Navy. Jimcro in gold braid is still jimcro.

Negro Waves will soon be accepted. This is in line with the basic policy. They will be as segregated as the Wacs are. Also the quota for Negro dentists and chaplains and Negro nurses will be increased. The reason Powell gives for this is illuminating because "until the change is made it will mean that white nurses will be forced to work under Negro doctors and dentists." This cannot be permitted. In a war allegedly fought for democracy, in a camp which Powell tells us represents the "best atmosphere of democracy to be found in any of our service camps" it is unthinkable for a white nurse to serve a Negro doctor. 3-29-44

Jimcro in Uniform is the war's greatest scandal. No Army or Navy camp which practices it and glorifies it can approach the spirit of democracy. Men are segregated only because they are thought to be different and inferior. The sweet talk of the Navy's Public Relations Division is calculated to fool the people. Any Negro given a big job in this division will be just another office boy paid off to dislead the people. Jimcro in Uniform must be fought. Jimcro in Uniform must go.

EDITORIAL

Northwest Enterprise – Seattle, wash.

Sunday afternoon one of the nation's foremost advocates of racial unity, now and forever, Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdik, appealed to the heart of white America to heed the warning of this present universal hell and fury . . . to come clean and expell all the bias and prejudice used against the Colored races of the world.

Well—it is indeed gratifying to hear the learned clergy of white America cry out in high places to accept the Christian principle and "do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Contrasting the clairvoyant echo of Dr. Fosdik—it all came back to us again and again! We thought of one of the most damnable conditions in this area. Here, where thousands of Negro troops and sailors are on duty, the USO presents a monstrous hazard, in that, although it has provided a very small, inconvenient place of entertainment, the larger USO centers within the city show a laxity for allowing Negro servicemen the full and deserved rights of men in the service of their nation. 3-15-44

If our boys are forced, and they are, to walk the streets of Seattle for lack of convenient diversion, to lounge around in cheap, dirty theatres and to solicit friends by means of vandals and rogues . . . then Seattle is definitely a liability to the necessity of coping with the problems of ever-increasing delinquency in low places about the city.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS CONDITION? THIS BREEDING OF BRAZEN UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITY?

For a certainty all Seattle is guilty and responsible as long as it exists. What is going to be done about it?

Leaders of both races are lost in the whirl of indifference, or they are indeed STUPID. 3-15-44

These Servicemen, here in our midst, will long remember their experiences here and in many cases some of them will be definitely affected by the stagnant water of civic lethargy, bearing down upon them.

This is inconsistent. Common sense demands, within the bounds of a city the size of Seattle, it should be met with an adequate answer—the fruits of this condition are bitter. We feel this is a common sense demand and question the civic spirit: the spirit of making and preserving a better city, under such hypocritic harping of being "'good, loyal American citizens."

If other cities throughout the United States display hospitality as does Seattle to the men who may, needs be, die to protect them . . . then we say "God Bless America." And for certain only such, Providence can keep alive the loud cry of senseless, patriotic citizens and cities.

Do you think at all, or anything about this situation?

All right Seattle . . . WHERE DO YOU STAND?

WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER TO THIS PROBLEM

Our Servicemen should go in large numbers to these larger USO centers . . . maybe then . . . the inclination of Jim Crow, but at the same time expressed their determination to become the "best damn pilots in the air force," in spite of it all.

NEGRO PILOTS, B-25 BOMBERS AT MATHER FIELD, ESTABLISH TRADITION

By HARRY McALPIN, Correspondent The Atlanta Daily World and NNPA. 3-15-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Negro service men all over the American Air Forces—about pilots, in training at Mather Field, Calif., who have thrown down the gauntlet to Ol' Jim Crow, but at the same time expressed their determination to become the "best damn pilots in the air force," in spite of it all.

Every man in that first class Negro bomber pilot training unit already overtaxed?

of pilots (now in advanced training at Selfridge Field, Mich.) and in the succeeding classes which have followed, should be awarded a hero's medal of some kind—only the army does decorate its men for this type of heroism. 3-16-44

Here's the story.

When training of the Negro pilots for operation of B-25 bombers began, there was no segregation at Mather Field. Classrooms mess hall, etc, were operated as one would expect in a democracy. There was never the slightst racial friction.

Then came Maj. Gen. Ralph P. Cousins to the field on an inspection trip. Among his first orders to the camp commander was one for separation of the Negro from the whites in the mess hall.

The commander was flabbergasted. But in the Army, orders from men of higher rank become law. He called in the Negro pilots and told them the situation. 3-15-44

One of the spokesmen for the group asked if the men were under orders to eat in the mess hall. He was told they were not.

From that day to this not a single Negro pilot has eaten in the Jim Crow mess hall. They dig into their own pockets and buy their food from the post exchange, in addition to paying their regular mess assessment.

The PX is staffed exclusively by whites, mostly women. But the entire force was instrict sympathy with the Negro pilots. They came to work earlier in order to serve breakfast to the "jim-crowed" pilots and get them on the field in time.

Then came Christmas. The girls were due to have the day off. But they voted to give up their holiday in order to serve the Negro pilots if they did not want to go to town for their Christmas meal. 3-15-44

"No," said the pilots, "we have decided that today would be a good day to do without anything to eat."

Not a single pilot put a morsel in his mouth that Christmas day.

A tradition was thus established. But not a Negro p has eaten in the mess hall since the infamous order of Maj. Gen. Cousins.

The jim-crow order is still in effect.

ROOSEVELT ASKED TO END ARMY, NAVY SEGREGATION

Dispatch — Kansas Rep.

3-17-44

New York, N. Y.—President Roosevelt, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, was called upon this week to order the abolition of segregation by race and color in America's fighting forces to the end that victory may be achieved more speedily by our unified army, and the peace made more secure by the oneness of our civilian population.

The letter to the President, signed by Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the NAACP, renewed the protest against the slurs on Negro combat troops by Secretary Henry L. Stimson in his letter to Congressman Hamilton Fish and reviewed the discouraging experiences of Negro combat troops in the first World War and in the present conflict.

"The consensus of opinion," said the letter, "is that Mr. Stimson has reflected upon Negro civilians and those in the armed forces, has offered gratuitious insult to the Negro men of a famous Chicago regiment, and has reflected upon the ability and patriotism of Negro citizens generally. 3-17-44

"The colored people feel this insule from a high government official all the more keenly because they are aware that over a period of years extending beyond a quarter of a century, there have been deliberate policies in effect in the War Department designed to attempt to justify the statements contained in Mr. Stimson's letter to Mr. Fish.

"As you have been advised on numerous occasions, Negro Americans are most bitter about the treatment of their men in the armed forces. This is the number one complaint wherever one goes. In a resolution adopted by Negro Democrats in a meeting in Washington February 25-26, it was declared: 'We condemn without reservation the treatment, discrimination and segregation of Negro men and women in the armed forces of the United States.'

"At a similar meeting of Negro Republican workers in Chicago, the number one recommendation adopted was 'end discrimination and segregation in the armed forces.' 3-17-44

"Numerous non-political organizations of Negroes have adopted identical resolutions within the past four years. Thus it cannot be said that Negro citizens are not unified in their resentment against the treatment accorded their men in the armed forces.

"Mr. Stimson avoided a direct answer to Mr. Fish's question as to why, after 21 months overseas, the famous 24th Infantry is engaged in stevedore work in the South Pacific. This is a veteran regular army regiment of professional soldiers with a distinguished history as a combat unit. Mr. Stimson chose not to explain why these men should be engaged in unloading ships.

"Mr. Stimson's letter left unexplained the fact that the day before his letter to Mr. Fish, the War Department had announced the abandonment of college training programs on the ground that all possible combat units were needed in the field. 3-17-44

"In his statement that many of the Negro units have been unable to master efficiently the technique of modern weapons,' Mr. Stimson apparently ignored the fact that the only Negro combat units overseas at the time of his letter consisted of a combat aviation squadron and certain anti-aircraft units. The American public, including Negroes, has been under the impression that these particular branches of the service require the ability to master completely intricate calculations and the most modern of weapons.

"Mr. Roosevelt, the shock and rage of American Negro citizens at the Stimson statements cannot be properly gauged without a review of the experiences of Negro troops in World War I. The unit to which he referred, the old 8th Illinois, made a glorious record in World War I as the 370th Infantry. Even so, they had to make this record as a part of the French Army because, according to undenied reports, their own American commanders did not want them as a part of the American Expeditionary Forces. 3-17-44

"We believe the record of the War Department to date demonstrates clearly that it did have a policy of sharply restricting the use of Negro ground troops as combat units. We believe it is clearly discernible that the War Department intended to channel most of the Negro soldiers into service battalions. We believe that the War Department has had a policy on the training and promotion of Negro officers and that this policy has been to restrict their promotions as much as possible, particularly as line officers. Our belives, we are certain, are shared by millions of Negro Americans who have not needed any organizations or newspapers to tell them the story, but who have learned from the experiences of their relatives and neighbors what a bitterly contradictory dose of 'Americanism' confronts the Negro who wishes to serve his country in the war against Hitlerism.

"We have the conviction, which is shared also by millions of Negro and white Americans, that most of the difficulty stems from the basic policy that men in our armed forces must be segregated according to color. 3-17-44

"We call, therefore, upon you as Commander-in-Chief of our armed forces on land, sea and in the air, to order the abolition of segregation by race and color in America's fighting forces to the end that victory may be achieved more speedily by our unified army, and the peace made more secure by the oneness of our civilian population."

Bankhead Joins Protest Against AAF Race Rule

Advertiser — Montgomery, Ala.

Writes Stimson It Was Based On Politics, Not Negro's Welfare

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—(AP)—A recent War Department order forbidding certain forms of racial segregation on Army posts is "based upon political considerations" and "not in the best interests of the colored race in the South," Senator Bankhead (D), Alabama, today wrote Secretary of War Stimson. 8-26-44

The War Department said yesterday that the Air Forces sent to all its commands recently a memorandum calling attention to the department's policy forbidding discrimination between white and negro personnel at Army posts.

Bankhead's letter followed a telegram of protest against the order, sent by Alabama's Gov. Chauncey Sparks, to President Roosevelt and members of the Alabama delegation today.

House members met with Bankhead to plan individual letters to Stimson, demanding that the order be rescinded.

"I desire to enter a vigorous protest against it," the senator wrote. "It will raise strife and animosity between the races, which does not now exist. It will render no good service. I feel that you do not understand the possible consequences of such an order. They can only be unhappy for both the white and colored races in the South." 8-26-44

Representatives Boykin (D), Alabama; Manasco (D), Alabama; Newsome (D), Alabama, and Andrews (D), Alabama, expressed agreement with Senator Bankhead's statement that the order had political implications.

"An anti-segregation order under military rule in the Deep South is absolutely political," declared Boykin. "This is a terrible and untimely move."

Newsome said the order reversed the Army's policy of respecting local traditions and customs in all countries.

"This law," he said, "gives the South worse treatment than the Army accords citizens of enemy-held territory. We have made the policy of respecting traditions effective in all countries—Allied, neutral or enemy."

Declaring "preservation of peace on our home front is more important than political considerations," Manasco said he would request in letters to President Roosevelt and Secretary Stimson that the order be rescinded.

Representative Andrews commented "it is strange the order should be issued just before the elections. It is a very dangerous policy for the War Department to adopt." 8-26-44

Representatives Hobbs (D), Alabama, praised Gov. Sparks's telegram to the President as "an admirable presentation of the situation and its dangers."

Senator Hill (D), Alabama, who is acting as Senate majority leader in the absence of Senator Barkley (D), Kentucky, was unable to attend the meeting but told a reporter he has already registered strong protests at the War Department against continuance of the order.

Gov. Sparks Protests War Department's No-Segregation Rule

Journal — Birmingham, Ala.

8-25-44

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has been asked to intervene against a War Department order to eliminate racial discrimination in post exchanges and other facilities on Army posts.

Gov. Sparks, in a telegram to the president, asking that he give his "personal attention" to the matter, declared the order posted at Maxwell Field "breaks down the essential principle of race relationship in the South."

"As governor of Alabama," Sparks said, "I protest such an order, which violates a statewide practice, and believe it aggravates, rather than helps."

The governor declared the order such orders."

The governor's protest followed action here that segregation of races in the Maxwell Field exchange had been terminated by War Department orders.

Public relations officers declined to comment.

The president was asked by the governor to "give consideration to the matter" posted at Maxwell Field tempts to bring about a better relationship between the two races and the races in "improvement of both on an equal post exchange basis."

Sparks whose efforts will be neutralized by

47d-1944

War Department Says It Has No Agreement With Newsreels

CALL Kansas City, Missouri 2-4-44

NEW YORK, N. Y. — The War Department has no agreement with newsreel companies by which all scenes showing Negro troops are turned over to All American Newsreel, a company catering exclusively to jim crow theaters, according to Major General A. D. Surles, director of the Bureau of Public Relations.

The charge was made early in January that five major newsreel companies deliberately omitted scenes showing President Roosevelt reviewing Negro troops overseas. These scenes then appeared in All American Newsreel exclusively in Negro theaters.

All five companies were queried by the N.A.A.C.P. Pathe, Paramount, Movietone News and Universal Newsreel all replied saying they had no general policy calling for the deleting of Negro scenes. Paramount and Pathe stated positively that the particular review by President Roosevelt did appear in their releases.

Because they all denied having such a policy, the N.A.A.C.P. inquired of General Surles whether there was any sort of understanding or agreement between the War Department and All American Newsreel that Negro shots would go to All American. General Surles replied:

"I have your letter of Jan. 20, discussing the use of Army motion-picture footage showing Negro troops in newsreels and inquiring whether the War Department Bureau of Public Relations has an agreement with All American Newsreel that films showing Negro troops in action will go exclusively to that company.

"No such agreement exists. The War Department makes available to all newsreel companies, including All American, all official film intended for public distribution as soon as it has been processed and cleared for military security. From the total footage, each company selects such scenes as it desires for its own releases.

"Beyond including, wherever available, footage which shows Negro troops in action, the War Department can exercise no supervision over the editorial choices of the newsreel companies."

"The whole point of this matter," said Roy Wilkins, N.A.A.C.P. assistant secretary, "is that 120,000,000 white Americans are not learning through the newsreels in their movie theaters what Negro troops are doing to win victory for the United Nations.

"Of course, it is beneficial for Negroes who go to all-colored houses to see pictures of their men, but it is just as necessary that white Americans also see pictures of our fighting men. The N. A. A. C. P. urges colored moviegoers to keep close watch on newsreels distributed generally and to speak to theater managers about including scenes of Negro troops.

"Movie theater managers are influenced greatly by demands and inquiries from customers."

Anti-Segregation Policy Protested

Contest on Atlanta Ga.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—(AP)—The War Department's anti-segregation policy at Army posts treats people of the south "with less respect and regard than we show citizens of enemy countries," the house was told today by Representative Newsome, Democrat, Alabama. 8-29-44

Army tradition, Newsome said, requires American troops to comply as far as possible with local customs in Allied, neutral and enemy countries.

Nazi Prisoners Better Treated Than Negro Soldiers In South, Army Told

Defender--Chicago, Illinois 2-12-'44

German war prisoners are treated better than American Negro soldiers in the Deep South! Defender, Chicago, Ill

That sensational charge was made last week before Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy by the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches. Based on a tour of 10 army camps in Dixie by the Rev. J. L. Horace, president of the Illinois Baptist Convention, the contrast in treatment of Nazi prisoners and Negro troops is contained in a sweeping report presented to the War Department by the council.

A picture of low morale, mistreatment at the hands of military personnel and civilians, of intolerable transportation conditions and inequalities in the ordinary facilities and privileges of army life was given. 2-12-44

Rev. Horace made the trip upon his own initiative and expenses were met out of his own pocket with the aid of the Baptist convention. His report was first made before a meeting of the Fraternal Council of Churches in St. Louis on January 18.

McCloy Impressed

Accompanying him when he made his shocking report to the war department were Dr. William H. Jernagin, director of the fraternal council, and Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the secretary of war.

So impressed was McCloy with the findings that he is said to have commented to Rev. Horace that his was "the most comprehensive report on these camps that has come to my desk."

The camps covered in the tour were Camp Robinson, Little Rock, Ark.; Camps Livingston and Claiborne, Alexandria, La.; Camps Flora and Jackson Air Base, Jackson, Miss.; Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Camp Sibert, Gadsden, Ala.; Fort McClelland, Anniston, Ala.; and Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Rev. Horace himself is a veteran of World War I in which he served as a lieutenant of infantry and later as intelligence officer for his battalion. 2-12-44

Communities Pull

His findings were laid out on a chart as large as a standard-sized newspaper opened wide, and carefully classified.

"The local community seems to be the policy making body for the camps," was one of his conclusions. The people of the communities "insist that these camps conform to their wishes as it relates to the treatment of Negroes."

He talks of hospitals. "They seem fair and reasonable if a soldier can get into one; but the clinics take the position that they are not sick, and mark them for duty without examination."

"The officers treat them fair to badly. They all prefer northern white officers, claiming that southern white officers spend more time impressing them that they are inferior than they do to make them soldiers. Policemen are cruel and revengeful, and seem to express the pent up hatred of the community. They take jurisdiction and arrest soldiers for the slightest disorder and the government does not seem to interfere.

Undesirables

"The civilians treat the colored soldiers as undesirables. They live under the fear that at any moment they may have an outbreak with the civil law. Many refuse to take leaves for fear of trouble in town."

Rev. Horace declared that even Negro residents of the nearby communities assumed the same resentment for the colored troops because to do otherwise, they believe, would expose them to reactions. "This complete atmosphere of hostility makes the Negro soldier a bitter and ruthless fellow," the report says.

Rev. Horace said he found that at Grenada, Miss., German war prisoners received more courtesy than American Negro soldiers. "Our men have to use certain latrines and drinking fountains while German prisoners use them anywhere." In Camp Flora, he said, Negroes are not allowed to send their clothes to the post cleaners; they must send them to town and often they get lost there.

Raps Bus Drivers

Worship is done in a theatre after the performance and most of the equipment is provided by the Catholic church. He said that even the bus drivers seem to strive to crush the spirit of Negro soldiers.

He pointed to a battalion at Camp Livingston which for two years he said had been trained as artillerymen and then broken up into a labor outfit. "Yet the government is asking us to save the grease we skim off the pot while they throw away millions on 'jim-crow' units."

"I contend that the policy that the government is using makes it almost impossible for Negroes to have very much morale. The South is still fighting the Civil War and trying to win this one so they can dictate the racial policy and peace terms."

Recommend Actions

He makes recommendations. "The two main influences we must set at work now are—prepare the soldiers to not expect too much and, prepare society to receive them with sympathy and appreciation. Now is our chance to push our interests fully and prove our power for good.

"We must refute and expose the propaganda that is leveled against us—concealing our part in the war; keeping us out of important parts of the war and vital industry; magnifying our death rate and venereal diseases, much of which comes from biased white health officers; our low income; bad housing and slum dwelling are the fault of the social pattern, and should be the basis of condemning the social order instead of piling up biased figures to fix for Negroes a lower status."

Minister Makes Tour; Says South Still Fighting Civil War; Negro Soldiers 'Bitter'

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

Defender--Chicago, Illinois 2-12-44

Washington (ANP)—A picture of low morale, mistreatment at the hands of military personnel and civilians, of intolerable transportation conditions and inequalities in the ordinary facilities and privileges of army life, was presented to Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCoy on Saturday Jan. 29, by the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches. the Associated Negro Press has been informed. 2-16-44

The results of the investigation were based upon observations made into conditions and conversations with officers and enlisted men at 10 army camps in the South by the Rev. J. L. Horace of Chicago in the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas of last year.

Accompanying Rev. Horace on his shocking report to the war department were Dr. William H. Jernagin, director of the fraternal council of Negro Churches, and Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the secretary of war.

So impressed was McCoy with the findings that he is said to have commented to Rev. Horace that his was "the most comprehensive report on these camps that has come to my desk." 2-10-44

The camps covered in the tour were Camp Robinson, Little Rock, Ark.; Camps Livingston and Claiborne, Alexandria, La.; Camps Flora and Jackson Air base, Jackson, Miss.; Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Camp Sibert, Gadsden, Ala.; Fort McClelland, Anniston, Ala.; and Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Rev. Horace himself is a veteran of World War I in which he served as a lieutenant of infantry and later as intelligence officer for his battalion.

Makes Tour of Camps

Rev. Horace made the trip upon his own initiative and expenses were met aide to the secretary of war. out of his own pocket and with the aid of the Baptist General State convention of Illinois. His report was first made before a meeting of the Fraternal Council of Churches in St. Louis on January 18.

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The survey made by him sought to ascertain the practices as relate to food, recreational facilities, worship facilities, transportation, leaves and furloughs, types of segregation and practices, treatment by officers and civilians in nearby towns, and hospital treatment.

Soldiers Mistreated

He was concerned about those elements which determined camp policy, and listened to the complaints of soldiers and accepted the suggestions of soldiers and officers as to what the church could do to help. His findings were laid out on a chart as large as a standard-sized newspaper opened wide, and carefully classified.

The local community seems to be the policy-making body for the camps," was one of his conclusions. The people of the community "insist that these camps conform to their wishes as it relates to the treatment of Negroes." 2-10-44

He talks of hospitals. "They seem fair and reasonable if (a soldier) can get into one; but the clinics take the position that they are not sick, and mark them for duty without examination."

"The officers treat them fair to badly. They all prefer northern white officers, claiming that southern white officers spend more time impressing them that they are inferior than they do to make them soldiers. Policemen are cruel and revengeful, and seem to express the pent up hatred of the community. They take jurisdiction and arrest soldiers for the slightest disorder and the government does not seem to interfere.

"The civilians treat the colored soldiers as undesirables. They live under the fear that at any moment they may have an outbreak with the civil law. Many refuse to take leaves for fear of trouble in town."

Little Morale 2-10-44

Rev. Horace declared that even Negro residents of the nearby communities assumed the same resentment for the colored troops because to do otherwise they believe, would expose them to reactions. "This complete atmosphere of hostility makes the Negro soldier a bitter and ruthless fellow," the report says.

Rev. Horace said he found that at Grenada, Miss., German war prisoners received more courtesy than American Negro soldiers. "Our men have to use certain latrines and drinking fountains while German prisoners use them anywhere." In Camp Flora, he said, Negroes are not allowed to send their clothes to the post cleaners; they must send them to town and often they get lost there. 2-10-44

Worship is done in a theater after the performance and most of the equipment is provided by the Catholic church. He said that even the bus drivers seem to strive to crush the spirit of Negro soldiers.

He pointed to a battalion at Camp Livingston which for two years he said had been trained as artillerymen and then broken up into a labor outfit. "Yet the government is asking us to save the grease we skim on the pot while they throw away millions of 'jim-crow' units. 2-10-44

"I contend that the policy that the government is using makes it almost impossible for Negroes to have very much morale. The south is still fighting the Civil war and trying to win this one so they can dictate the racial policy and peace terms."

Congressman Fish Asks Probe Of Charge Negro Soldiers Are Doing Only Labor Work In Combat Areas

Age-N.Y. N.Y. 2-19-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Congressman Hamilton Fish (Rep. N. Y.) has requested Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson for a full report on "the facts respecting the breaking up of Negro combat organizations and the transfer of their personnel to service units".

In a letter date February 1 and acknowledged February 5th, Congressman Fish, who served in World War I with the 369th Regiment, wrote: Age, N.Y.N.Y., 2-19-44

"I am informed that several Negro tank destroyer units, which underwent training for several months at Camp Hood, Tex., have been broken up and the enlisted personnel transferred to quartermaster truck companies. May I be advised whether this information is correct?

"If this were the first report of this kind which had come to my attention I would not burden you with this inquiry. But there have been others. I have also been informed that a large number of enlisted men, who were members of the Nine Hundred and Thirty-first Field Artillery at Camp Forrest, Tenn., were transferred to quartermaster service organizations under orders dated August 26, 1943, and signed by the commanding general, Army Ground Forces. Originally this organization was the Eighth Illinois National Guard Regiment. It fought in France in World War No. 1 as the Three Hundred and Seventieth Infantry. After it was brought back into the Federal service it was redesignated the One Hundered and Eighty-fourth Field Artillery and later reorganized as the Nine Hundred and Thirty-first Field Artillery.

"More recently the Negro press carried an article sent from an advance Pacific base by Fletcher P. Martin, an accredited war correspondent for the Negro Publishers' Association, in which he stated as follows:

"The crack Twenty-fourth Infantry Regiment, fully equipped and prepared for any eventuality, is performing service duties at docks and supply dumps while awaiting possible assignment to combat. *** Twenty-one months have passed since this outfit embarked from California for the South Pacific * * * ."

"To say the least, the training of Negro personnel as combat units for months and the breaking up of those units and the transferring of that personnel to service units is demoralizing to Negro soldiers and to Negro people generally and a waste of taxpayers' money.

Sees Deliberate Attempt

"I am aware of the fact that military necessity must control the assignment of personnel in the Army, but if the planning of the General Staff were adequate such actions would not be necessary. In the circumstances, however, I am still wondering whether there is not a deliberate plan to keep Negro soldiers out of actual combat. As far as I am informed, the only Negro units which have actually engaged in combat in this war are the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron and a few antiaircraft units. The record of Negro troops in all of the wars in which this country has engaged (and in which they have participated as fighting soldiers) does not justify their being relegated now to the ranks of labor battalions only.

"Finally, may I invite your attention to the amendment to the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, which I offered and which the Congress approved. That amendment provides:

"That in the selection and training of men under this act, and in the interpretation and execution of this act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color.'

"That amendment contemplated that Negro inductees would receive the same training and perform the same services as all other inductees. If Negro soldiers are being trained as combat troops but denied service as such, such discrimination appears to be in violation of my amendment."

John W. Martyn, administrative assistant to Secretary of War Stimson, acknowledged the letter on February 5th and said: "The Secretary of War has asked me to advise you that he has directed a careful study of the matter and has requested that a comprehensive report on the subject be made to him. At that time, Mr. Stimson plans to communicate with you further."

Congressman Fish declared that when he has all the data he will submit it to the Congress with his own comments and observations.

Fish Blasts Army Policy Defender-Ch, cago, Ill. Of Junking Combat Units

2-19-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP) —Henry L. Stimson on February 1 and invited him also to explain whether the non-discrimination clause introduced by him has been faithfully adhered to in the matter of training and utilization of Negro inductees. 2-19-44

Citing several reported instances "the training personnel to serve as combat to bear out his inquiry, Fish sought personnel to serve as combat to bear out his inquiry. Fish sought waste of taxpayers' the truth about reports that "several Negro tank destroyer units, which underwent training for several months at Camp Hood, Texas, have been broken up and the enlisted personnel transferred to quartermaster truck companies." He wondered in the same way about the disposition of 931st Field Artillery at Camp Forrest, Tenn., reportedly reorganized into quartermasters.

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Declaring that "there is a deliberate plan to keep Negro soldiers out of actual combat." Fish declared that when he has all the data he will submit it to the Congress with his own comments and observations.

The "mutiny" charge resulted from that episode.

David Levinson, of Philadelphia, is the attorney.

Leading up to the "action of minor insubordination," the petition says, was a long series of grievances, including the men's complaint that they had been called unprintable names by white non-commissioned officers and that their food, when served them in units for months" and then dumped broken up those indiscriminately into a dish, meat, transferring the personnel vegetables, bread and dessert to-ice units" is demoralizing gether. June 1, 1944 soldiers and "a waste of money," Rep. Hamilton Fish, New York Republican, called upon the war department to state clearly the months at Camp Hood, Texas, have been broken up and the enlisted personnel transferred to quartermaster truck companies." He wondered in the same way about the disposition of 931st Field Artillery at Camp Forrest, Tenn., reportedly reorganized into quartermasters.

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Rap Jailing of Negro Soldiers for 'Mutiny'

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. June 1, 1944

Five Negro soldiers sentenced by a Florida courtmartial to from five to 15 years for "mutiny," were, in fact, guilty of nothing more serious than "an action of minor insubordination," according to a petition for clemency sent to the War De-

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

The men are Pvts. James E. Crawley, Joseph R. Kent, Arthur Boyd, Leo M. Jones and William M. Emmons, Jr., all, according to counsel, from the North.

Owing to some infraction of regulations, the men were being detained in arrest, when, their attorney declares, they failed to "fallow Negro soldiers" are already doing

47d-1944

A BLOW TO NEGRO MORALE

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Representative Hamilton Fish (R., N.Y.) for smoking out the War department on the utilization of Negro troops in various theatres of operation, and for bringing to the glare of daylight an issue that had been hushed and kept far too long in the dark recesses of the mammoth Pentagon building in Washington. 3-11-44

The cry has been raised many times before against a deliberate conversion of trained Negro combat troops into service units. Such a plea, though based on corroborative evidence, fell on deaf ears at the War department. The agitation by an enlightened section of the Negro Press for the reactivation of those units has been countered with the threat of sedition.

The recent statement by the Secretary of War that "many of the Negro units have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons," is a smoke-screen intended to hide an obvious discriminatory attitude of the policy-making brass-hats in the War department. Moreover it has inflicted wounds which will not soon heal; and it will not be easy to repair the damage done by this terrific blow to the morale of the Negro people.

Even if the evidence upon which this assertion is founded were unimpeachable, it would be a damaging testimony of the ineptitude of the High Command and an admission of criminal negligence in the training of black men for front line combat duties. If Chinese and Russian peasants can be taught the effective use of modern weapons, there is then little to support the contention that Negro soldiers, regardless of their educational limitations, are "unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern fire arms." 3-11-44

The cold truth is that the War department never intended to press Negro troops into combat action. This can be gleaned from the fact that many Northern boys with requisite academic preparation have been sent to service units. There is the case of Robert R. Ming, honor graduate from the University of Chicago and professor of law at Howard university, who is at the present time basking in a southern camp as a buck private in a quartermaster unit.

And other instances abound in which competent and bright Negro boys have been sent overseas to build roads and unload supplies rather than to fight in combat units armed with lethal weapons to destroy the enemy of democracy.

If Secretary Stimson's unqualified indictment of the incompetence of Negro troops be justifiable, a logical alternative would be to return the incompetent boys to civilian life where their services might be more effectively utilized. But, Mr. Stimson, who has outlived his usefulness long ago, is too senile to contemplate so rational a step.

Shipbuilding Jim Crow Corrected By FEPC

Daily world—Atlanta, Ga.
7-23-44

NEW YORK—(A N P)—Discriminatory employment practices of more than 50 shipping companies have been corrected through intervention of the New York Regional office of the FEPC according to Edward Lawson, regional director.

Mr. Lawson stated that as a result of 10 months of special attention to complaints of discrimination involving the maritime industry and unions, the majority of operators and labor organizations are now hiring qualified seamen without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin. A public hearing against major holdouts to the government's non-discrimination policy is contemplated for the early fall. 7-23-44

During the past year the FEPC regional office has received more than 100 complaints involving the maritime industry. Of 43 cases where discrimination was clearly established by investigation, 38 have been adjusted, with the operating companies agreeing to hire seamen whom they had previously rejected. Ninety-seven per cent of the cases handled alleged discrimination against Negroes, while the remainder involved Chinese, Japanese-American, Honduran and Jamaican workers.

Mr. Lawson gave major credit for the FEPC's successful effort to Samuel Risk, regional staff examiner, who has handled the majority of maritime cases for the agency. 7-23-44

Of the major complaints remaining unsettled, nearly all involve maritime labor unions, several of which have traditionally insisted upon excluding American Negroes. However, some of the most important recent gains of Negroes in the industry have been through the efforts of other unions in the field, several of which have made refusal by their members to ship with other seamen because of their race, creed, or color the basis for disciplinary action.

Believe Pilots Sent South For Spirit-Breaking

World—Memphis, Tenn.

ANP Reporter In First Of Series On Biased Base

7-25-44

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Because of persistent reports that the 553d pursuit squadron had been "railroaded" from Selfridge field, Mich., to Walterboro airbase, S. C., for protesting segregation at the northern training field, the Associated Negro Press sent a reporter to Walterboro to obtain the facts in the case for the readers of this newspaper. What this correspondent, Ernest Johnson, chief of the ANP Washington bureau, found is contaned in three artcles, the first of which follows.)

By ERNEST JOHNSON

WALTERBORO AIRBASE, S. C.—(ANP)—Because morale of men at this airbase was reported low— 7-25-44

Because a hero of the 99th Pursuit squadron, back from overseas had been dismissed from the service through court-martial, and at least two other men have been court martialed—

And because rumors of general unrest and discrimination had been reported, the Associated Negro Press undertook an on-the-spot investigation of the situation.

The outfit involved is what formerly was the 553rd Pursuit squadron, which has been stationed at Selfridge field, Mich., until May 7 when it was suddenly transferred to this South Carolina post, in the middle of Dixie and all it means.

NOT HAPPY PICTURE

The picture is not a happy one. There is indeed much room for improvement on the part of the army air forces if training and the establishment—yes, the establishment—of high morale are to be achieved among a group of men who in a relatively short time will be flying high over Germany for the cause of America.

By the same token, these men and related ground personnel have the responsibility of constantly exhibiting their diligence in accordance with army regulations, knowing as they do that despite the demonstrated capability of the 99th Pursuit squadron, there is still a segment of the army which even now would prefer not to see Negroes develop in the air branch of this country's armed services. 7-25-44

The 553rd; flying P-47 Thunderbolts, hadn't cracked up yet, as Major Joseph B. Price, assistant director of flying operations and training noted. In fact, there hadn't been a fatality among the men since a short time before leaving Selfridge field, a favorable record.

SPROUTS AT SELFRIDGE

The seed of discord took root at Selfridge. Six officers from the 99th had returned from overseas to work with the nucleus of the 553rd, which was activated last November at Selfridge Field and Oscoda, Mich. They were 1st Lts. Walter Lawson, Graham Smith, Louis R. Purnell, Spann Watson, Charles W. Dryden, and Lee Rayford. The outfit was ultimately to be officered with all Negro personnel. 7-25-44

In due course the men were united at Selfridge and for a time had a succession of commanding officers. The last of them, Lt. Col. Sam P. Triffy, came south with them. Under one of these commanders, Lt. Col. Charles Cayle, the men observed a tendency to place Negro officers as assistants to white supervisory personnel in the table of organization. Lts. Rayford and Purnell decided they preferred fighting and so went overseas with the 332nd Fighter group. Trainees of the 553rd stuck tongues in cheeks.

While at Selfridge the issue of the officer's club arose and a plan to rovide separate facilities for the races was thwarted after the Negro fliers had voted unanimously to refuse the separate club. The undercurrent of resentment developed among the colored officers and evidenced itself in sundry ways. 7-25-44

On May 5 the 553rd entrained for Walterboro airbase. They were not told then or since then why they had been moved south. The accepted opinion among them, however, is that the move was made for the explicit purpose of subjecting them truly to the rigors of segregation as only the south can practice it, and thereby kill their spirit.

LOW SPIRIT TODAY

That spirit today is low, and the transfer is a contributing factor. None of the ranking officers with whom I talked, from Col. Iver Massey, deputy commanding officer of the first air force, down know or was prepared to say why the transfer was made. An obvious explanation might well have been the conjecture made by William H. Hastie, formerly civilian aide to the secretary of war, a short time ago, namely that the main stream of flight training is in the south, and that it is proper that Negro trainees should receive their training where all other to-be flying officers are schooled. But not even this reason was advanced by the commanding officers. "I don't know," was generally their reply to the question.

Incidentally, when the transfer was made, none of the colored boys was permitted to fly his craft down although the whites did. Reason given was that eating facilities might not have been available to them at intermediate stops enroute. "That was a slap in the face," was the comment of one of the fellows with whom I talked, "especially to the boys who had been overseas." 7-25-44

TORN UP ORGANIZATION

The fact remains that the 553rd, officers and enlisted men, arrived at Walterboro on Monday, May 7, found themselves no longer a complete organization but rather than the fliers were now a replacement training unit, and the ground crew a part of the base personnel, and real segregation on an army post was staring them straight in the face.

Public relations officers at Walterboro explained that the post had previously been a sub-base of a base near Charleston but more recently had been given full base status. Further, it was explained

Altogether, separate facilities for the almost everything but hospital aviation care were provided. At first no attempt was made by public relations officers to make distinction between the character of the Negro

Prior to the arrival of the 553rd a colored personnel at former ap-squadron (separate) had come in. 7-25-44

Walterboro was estimated at approximately 1,600 men of which the number was not large. That Walterboro had, since the arrival of the 553rd, become a location for advanced training of pilots (instructors). Total personnel who would shortly thereafter leave replacements for men of the 99th and 332nd. The only pilots at about one-third are Negroes.

personnel, preferring to refer to all of them at RTU (replacement training unit), and the reason offered as justification for seperate facilities was that "the RTU has a schedule to make."

PERSONNEL KEPT OUT

It finally developed, however, that as a means of getting around racial designations for the use of certain facilities, two classes of individuals were recognized and defined: RTU for the colored; base personnel for the white. Hence, when the sign was put up, upon orders of Col. Prince, over the entrance to a service center where sodas are dispensed, it said for "base personnel.. It means "Negroes keep out." They have been refused service and so have kept out.

These definitions ignored the fact that both the aviation squadron (separate) and the gound crew which accompanied the 553rd, all Negroes, had become part of the base personnel. Col. Prince admitted later in my talk with him that these deductions were accurate. When he was asked about their actual inclusion, he said simply that "they should have been taken into the housekeeping," but reminded that "South Carolina has always been a state which believes in the separation of the races." 7-23-44

He was merely conforming.

They Don't Grant Medals For This Kind Of Loyalty

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.

3-11-44

By HARRY McALPIN

(Correspondent The Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON—The story has gone all over the American Air Forces—about the Negro bomber pilots, in training at Mather Field, Cal., who have thrown down the gauntlet to Ol' man Jim Crow, but at the same time expressed their determination to become the "best damn pilots in the air force", in spite of it all.

Every man in that first class of pilots (now in advanced training at Selfridge Field, Mich.) and in the succeeding classes which have followed, should be awarded a hero's medal of some kind—only the Army does not decorate its men for this type of heroism.

Here's The Story

When training of the Negro pilots for operation of B-25 bombers gegan, there was no segregation at Mather Field. Classrooms, mess hall, etc., were operated as one would expect in a democracy. There was never the slightest racial friction.

Then came Maj. Gen. Ralph P. Cousins to the field on an inspection trip. Among his first orders to the camp commander was one for the separation of the Negroes from the whites in the mess hall. 3-11-44

The commander was flabbergasted. But in the Army, orders from men of higher rank become law. He called in the Negro pilots and told them the situation.

One of the spokesmen for the group asked if the men were under orders to eat in the mess hall. He was told they were not.

From that day to this, not a single Negro pilot has eaten in the Jim Crow mess hall. They dig into their own pockets and buy their food from the post exchange, in addition to paying their regular mess assessment.

Help Lick Jim Crow

The PX is staffed exclusively by whites, mostly women. But the entire force was in strict sympathy with the Negro pilots. They came to work earlier in order to serve breakfast to the "jim-crowed" pilots and get them on the field in time.

Then came Christmas. The girls were due to have the day off. But they voted to give up their holiday in order to serve the Negro pilots if they did not want to go in to town for their Christmas meal. 3-11-44

"No", said the pilots. "We have decided that today would be a good day to go without anything to eat."

Not a single pilot put a morsel in his mouth that Christmas day.

A tradition was thus established. The first class has finished its preliminary training at Mather Field. Two other classes have followed. But not a Negro pilot has eaten in the mess hall since the infamous order of Maj. Gen. Cousins.

The jim-crow order is still in effect.

Overseas Vet Starved for 6 Days to Escape Jim Crow

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

Pvt. Ernest Hankerson Tells How He Went Without Food, Spent 8 Days in Nut House

By CLAY CLAIBORNE

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—This is the story of Pvt. Ernest Hankerson, 28, of New York City, veteran of overseas action, and his fight against jim crow in the army's McClosky General Hospital at Temple, Texas. 7-22-44

Pvt. Hankerson told the AFRO that the General Patton incident had nothing on the treatment accorded him when he and Pvt. Earl Harris, now released from the army and also of NYC, starved themselves for six days, rather than submit to a jim crow mess hall in the McCloskey Hospital.

Pvt. Ernest Hankerson, veteran of ten months in the South Pacific theatre, asserted that he was returned to the United States after a truck accident in which he injured his arm and back. He was a member of the National Guards from 1939 until his outfit was inducted into active service and was later attached to the 369th Coast Artillery.

When he first went to McCloskey in January, he was confined with a group of soldier-patients the colored and whites were mixed

"N-----s Over There"

But upon arrival in the hospital's mess hall, a receptionist ordered them to separate in this manner, "whites over here and n---rs over there."

Another soldier, Pvt. Earl Harris, and Hankerson dropped their ration trays and returned to their ward, which incidentally was exclusively for colored. 7-22-44

"Later, Harris and myself were ordered to report to Major Kemble," Hankerson related and "he interviewed us separately and inquired of our reason for not eating. I told him that I had served overseas fighting for the same thing that the others had fought for, and expected no division with regards to race, creed or color within the army."

The Major, asserted: that in Temple, Texas it was not traditional for colored and whites to use the same things, and he added that there was not anything that he could do about it, but refused my request to speak to the Colonel about the incident.

"After his refusal, Pvt. Earl Harris, and I spent 6 days in the ward without going to the mess hall; on the seventh day Major Kemble, came to the ward during the first mess period and asked us to go down to the mess hall, for he feared that our action might incite a riot.

Feared Disorder

"He declared that this was not an order but a request for cooperation, inasmuch as he wanted to prevent any outbreak of disorder. I replied that as long as it was not an order, I would not go down ot the mess hall.

"However, during the lunch period, the Major returned and ordered us to the mess hall, and we were to report our presence to the nurse on duty. I reported to the nurse, and told her that I was carrying out orders, but still refused to eat." 7-22-44

Hankerson related how Major Kemble again summoned him and condemned the way he spoke to the nurse.

"He insisted that I was crazy and requested two psychiatrists to examine me. After a rigid 3½ hour examination, they declared me sane."

Despite the examination, Hankerson recalls that Major Kemble, ordered him confined to the Isolation Ward, a ward referred to by soldier-patients, as the "Nut Ward," where he remained for 8 days, during which time the nurse to whom he spoke in the mess hall came to visit him and asked for forgiveness. 7-22-44

A second nurse came to the ward with a Chaplain, who secured his release from the Isolation Ward, and after his release here, he was placed with the white soldier-patients, because "I was understood to be bad influence for the colored patients."

There he remained until May of 1943, when he was assigned to the 1848 QM Det. at Camp Hood. It was discovered there that he had not completely recuperated at the McCloskey General Hospital and he was sent here to Atlantic City, to the England General Hospital.

"When I first got there, I didn't know any words in the Russian language at all. If I had, I could have saved myself a couple of days' suffering from dysentery.

"I noticed a barrel of water and started dipping into it for a drink. A Russian girl passed by and yelled at me not to drink it unless it was filtered—in Russian.

"Naturally, I didn't understand what she was saying, and went ahead and had my drink. That was how I got dysentery."

"Well, I'm glad I took a c... vice. I shipped out a convoy b... weeks later on a convoy ... Russia, where I saw plen... tion and also got a first-h... of how the Russians are l...

"On the way over, we ... fight our way through a ... five-day battle with Germa... ers and subs. When we ... port, the Nazis continued ... blitz for three more day... didn't sink one of our s...

Durban Hotel Has No Room for Sailors

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

Russian Hospitality Makes Up for Jim Crow Which Sailors Suffered in South Africa

7-22-44 By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—(Passed by Censor)—When William Reeves, merchant seaman, returned from South Africa last year, he vowed that he was through sailing ships for the duration. He had been handed the typical jim-crow treatment by a hotel in Durban, and he was disgusted enough to call it quits.

(Durban is a seaport in Natal, a British province in South Africa.—Ed.)

In an exclusive AFRO interview, he revealed that he and three other colored seamen went to the Grand Hotel, where the manager politely told them that they couldn't register for rooms for the night.

"When we protested, he explained that there were segregation laws in Durban and that he had to abide by them. Right then, I swore I'd never risk my neck again in this war. I felt that I didn't deserve such treatment for the work I'd done.

"When I got back to New York, I talked it over with my friends and they convinced me that I was wrong, that the struggle for freedom and equality for which all of us are fighting, can't be won in a day.

"They said that I'd have to enture more hard knocks, but that must not give up the fight.

"Other men were running down and talked for hours at a time. They tried their best to make me feel at home. 7-22-44

"They have very little clothing and not too much food, just enough. But they're full of life and their courage is excellent.

"The ammunition saved our ship. The planes were right over-head and bombed us with every-thing they had.

Enemy Loses 5 Planes

Convoy to Russia

47d-1944

Civilians Toss Charges of Army Jim Crowism at Col.

PM- New York, N.Y.
2-11-44

Springfield Leaders Allege Mistreatment of Negroes at Westover Field

By BEN YABLONKY
Staff Correspondent

PM Exclusive

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 11.—A group of Springfield citizens—Negro and white—have joined forces in a fight to end Jim Crowism at nearby Westover Field.

Charges of mistreatment of Negro soldiers at the Army base came from the soldiers themselves who took their troubles to local townspeople and found the civic leaders ready to act.

Many of the complaints centered around the practice of segregating Negroes in barracks, in the mess halls, in chapel, and in the post's movie house. Negro soldiers, it was charged, were assigned largely to menial tasks, kept working long hours and those who protested were stripped of their stripes.

Still in Guard House

Racial tension at the field reached its highest pitch last Tuesday, I was told, when 15 Negroes confined to a hospital barracks were ordered to go on patrol duty. Three of them complied. But when the others protested that they were sick and could not do the work, they were sent to the guard house and four of them were locked up immediately. The other eight were put into prison garb, marched out onto the field by soldiers armed with sub-machine guns, pistols and clubs, and ordered to pick up paper and waste matter on the grounds. All 12 are still in the guard house. 2-11-44

This story came from the sick men themselves. They told local townspeople that they are part of a group of 44 men who have been sent to Westover for medical treatment or discharge, some of them suffering from hernia, rheumatism, and lumbago. And they say the rest of the sick men also are being ordered from their barracks for heavy patrol duty.

When the local citizens heard of the latest incident, they immediately went into action. Yesterday a delegation of seven Springfield Negro and white leaders, including Mayor J. Albin Anderson, called on Col. U. G. Jones, commanding officer at the field. I went along with the group.

Want Segregation Ended

In the delegation besides Mayor Anderson were two Negro ministers, Rev. H. L. Moore, of Bethel Methodist Church and Rev. Herbert Wilkins of St. John's Congregational Church; Russell Hatton, post commander of the Harrison Wright Chapter of the American Legion, Springfield's Negro chapter; C. Herbert Salter, organizer, United Electric Radio and Machine workers of America, CIO; John Haraty, chairman of the Western Massachusetts CIO Council Committee against discrimination; and Mrs. Katharyne Jones, chairman of the Springfield Committee for the Abolition of the Poll Tax and spokesman for the group.

Demanding an immediate end to any type of racial segregation and a policy "of treating sick men as sick men whether their skin is white or black," the group recited other complaints made by Negro soldiers. They told Col. Jones: 2-11-44

¶ That Negro soldiers were denied medical attention, receiving instead all sorts of excuses that doctors were not available, that there was not sufficient hospital beds.

¶ That one soldier, who had been grounded at the Tuskegee air base as an aviation student and sent to Westover, was now in a mental ward at the field hospital as a result of mistreatment.

¶ That recently one group of Negro soldiers was order to fire the post's boilers for 12 hours instead of the customary eight, on the threat of being denied any passes.

¶ That Negroes, instead of being used for guard duty as was the practice up to Jan. 1, were now being reduced to scavenger work, making beds, serving as orderlies and doing many other menial jobs.

The delegation charged that Maj. E. H. Worth who, since the first of the year, has been in charge of Negro personnel, was primarily to blame for some of the latest rules against the Negroes. 2-11-44

The conference with Col. Jones lasted for more than two hours, during which he called in each of the delegates to state their complaints while a stenographer took notes. He also asked each delegate to reveal the names of the soldiers who had given them the stories. They refused.

Denies Discrimination

At the close of the meeting Col. Jones called the entire group together and announced in a formal statement that he had "found no grounds for the complaints," adding, however, that "I will make a further investigation and take appropriate action." Earlier, when I was called into the Colonel's private office for the individual conference and had identified myself as a reporter, he said "the charges are news to me."

Col. Jones also denied any discrimination policies. On the charge that sick men had been ordered to work, he brought in Col. L. W. Ballantyne, the post's chief medical officer, who said that the men in the guardhouse had been examined and were not sick.

The delegates later called Jones' statements an effort to whitewash the camp's gross Jim Crow policies. They said they would carry the complaints to Maj. Gen. Ulio, the Army's Adjutant General in Washington, demanding a full investigation. 2-11-44

Springfield citizens are not attacking Army intolerance and hate at the camp while condoning it in their city. Springfield was the first city in the country to iniitiate a broad program of education for tolerance in its public schools known as the Springfield plan, a program which now has become widely accepted by educators throughout the country.

Discrimination Is Denied In Letter To Fish

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
3-1-44

Low Education Is Blamed By War Secretary

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON— (ANP) —Lower educational standards among Negro inductees; and their inability to "master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons," is attributed by War Sec., Stimson as reasons why the war department has brokken up Negro combat units into labor battalions after months of training combatants.

Stimson also answered the question of sending Negro troops overseas by stating it as the "general policy" to maintain the same ratio between Negro and white troops overseas as exist in the army as a whole." He made no differentiation between the types of overseas troops now abroad, but pointed to the impracticability of a uniform ratio in all branches of service.

ANSWER TO FISH

The secretary's detailed statement was contained in his reply to Rep Hamilton Fish, Republican of New York, who on October 1, had inquired of him the department's policies regarding those matters of unit changes and overseas duty. The Stimson reply was placed in the record last Wednesday when the congressman addressed the house.

Not only did Stimson assure Rep. Fish of his correctness in saying that the 930th and 931st Field Artillery battalions, formerly part of Chicago's 184th infantry, had been broken up into labor units, but he added that 'the unsatisfactory record' of these men was responsible for the changes. Stimson said, however, that the need for more service units than had been originally contemplated has compelled the conversion of many white outfits as well.

ABILITY CONSIDERED 3-1-44

"In converting combat units to service units, the war department's selection of units to be converted has been solely on the relative abilities, capabilities, and status of training of the personnel in the units available for conversion," he wrote Fish. "It so happens that a relatively large percentage of the Negroes inducted in the army have fallen within the lower educational classifications and many of the Negro uits accordingly have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons."

These conversions, he said, have been made among men overseas as well as at home, Negro and white, and that "this will be necessary in the future as circumstances dictate." He denied that any policy to race," or that the department is "deliberately attempting to avoid sending overseas or to keep out of combat, troops of the Negro or any other race."

Fish immediately challenged certain of the Stimson statements, reminding that during World War 1 Negro combat soldiers were in the front lines within the first year after the declaration of hostilities and served continuously as fighters. 3-1-44

He charged the Secretary with evading a specific question as to whether or not the fully-equipped 24th infantry regiment has been performing service and dock duties while awaiting possible assignment to combat, although the unit has been in the South Pacific for 21 months.

Soldier Mistreatment Laid Before U. S. Department Of War

Rev. J. L. Horace
2-9-44

In 10 Camps

Atlanta, Ga.

U. S. Department Makes Survey Of Mistreatment Charges

Chicago Pastor Makes Report To For Church Body

Daily World

Assistant Sec'y Is Blamed By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON (ANP)—A picture of low morale, mistreatment at the hands of military personnel and civilians of inplorable transportation conditions and inequalities in the ordinary facilities and privileges of army life, was presented to Asst. Sec. of

War John J. McCloy on Saturday, Jan. 29, by the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, the Associated Negro Press has been informed.

The results of the investgation were based upon observations made into conditions and conversations with officers and enlisted men at 10 army camps in the south by the Rev. J. L. Horace of Chicago in the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas of last year. Rev. Horace made the trip upon his own initiative and expenses were met out of his own pocket and with the aid of the Baptist General State convention of Illinois. His report was first made before a meeting of the Fraternal Council of Churches in St. Louis on Jan. 18. 2-9-44

Accompanying him when he made his shocking report to the war department were Dr. William H. Jernagin, director of the fraternal council, and Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the secretary of war.

"COMPREHENSIVE REPORT"

So impressed was McCloy with the findings that he is said to have commented to Rev. Horace that his was "the most comprehensive report on these camps that has come to my desk."

The camps covered in the tour were Camp Robinson, Little Rock, Ark.; Camps Livingston and Claibourne, Alexandria, La.; Camps Flora and Jackson Air base, Jackson, Miss.; Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Camp Sibert, Gadsden, Ala.; Fort McClelland, Anniston, Ala.; and Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Rev. Horace himself is a veteran of World War 1 in which he served as a lieutenant of infantry and later as intelligence officer for his battalion.

The survey made by him sought to ascertain the practices as related to food, recreational facilities, worship facilities, transportation, leaves and furloughs, types of segregation and practices, treatment by officers and civilians in nearby towns, and hospital treatment. He was concerned about those elements which determined camp policy, and listened to the complaints of soldiers and officers as to what the church could do to help. His findings were laid out on a chart as large as a standard-sized newspaper opened wide, and carefully classified. 2-9-44

LOCAL COMMUNITY IS POWER

"The local community seems to be the policy-making body for the camps," was one of his conclusions. The people of the communities "insist that these camps conform to their wishes as it relates to the treatment of Negroes."

He talks of hospitals. "They seem fair and reasonable if (a soldier) can get into one; but the clinics take the position that they are not sick, and mark them for duty without examination."

"The officers treat them far too badly. They all prefer northern white officers, claiming that southern white officers spend more time impressing them that they are inferior than they do to make them soldiers. Policemen are cruel and revengeful, and seem to express the pent up hatred of the community. They take jurisdiction and arrest soldiers for the slightest disorder and the government does not seem to interfere.

"The civilians treat the colored soldiers as undesirables. They live under the fear that at any moment they may have an outbreak with the civil law. Many refuse to take leaves for fear of trouble in town."

"BITTER, RUTHLESS FELLOW"

Rev. Horace declared that even Negro residents of the nearby communities assumed the same resentment for the colored troops because to do otherwise, they believe, would expose them to reactions. "This complete atmosphere of hostility makes the Negro soldier a bitter and ruthless fellow," the report says. 2-9-44

Rev. Horace said he found that at Grenada, Miss., German war prisoners received more courtesy than American Negro soldiers. "Our men have to use certain latrines and drinking fountains while German prisoners use them anywhere." In Camp Flora, he said, Negroes are not allowed to send their clothes to the post cleaners; they must send them to town and often they get lost there.

Worship is done in a theater after the performance and most of the equipment is provided by the Catholic Church. He said that even the bus drivers seem to strive to crush the spirit of Negro soldiers.

He pointed to a battalion at Camp Livingston which for two years he said had been trained as artillerymen and then broken up into a labor outfit. "Yet the government is asking us to save the grease we skim off the pot while they throw away millions on 'jim-crow' units."

HITS GOVERNMENT POLICY

"I contend that the policy that the government is using makes it almost impossible for Negroes to have very much morale. The south is still fighting the Civil war and trying to win this one so they can dictate the racial policy and peace terms." 2-9-44

He makes recommendations. "The two main influences we must set at work now are—prepare the soldiers to not expect too much and, prepare society to receive them with sympathy and appreciation. Now is our chance to push our interests fully and prove our power for good.

"We must refute and expose the propaganda that is leveled against us—concealing our part in the war; keeping us out of important parts of the war and vital industry; magnifying our death rate and venereal diseases, much of which comes from biased white health officers; our low income; bad housing and slum dwelling are the fault of the social pattern, and should be the basis of condemning the social order instead of piling up biased figures to fix for Negroes a lower status."

Race Phobia Goes While Men Train

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-13-44

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUNDS, Md.— (ANP) — While basic training is designed to primarily condition the soldier for battle, it also serves as a very effective remedy for the mental ailment of race phobia when soldiers of both races are being trained together, and under similar circumstances, a former newspaperman said.

"White boys and black boys crawled together under barb wire entanglements, while only 36 inches above their heads a curtain of machine gun bullets whistled a wierd song of impending death to those who dared to get in their path," he remarked, as he described a part of the basic training course at the world famed ordnance center.

FORGET PREJUDICE 1-13-44

"White boys from Texas, Georgia and other southern states eagerly assist black boys and they run to the assistance of their publicized white arch enemies who find themsleves in distress," he asserted." They forget about color and race."

An exmaple of how the question of race and color automatically becomes secondary was furnished by the action of a white boy from Mississippi who frantically warned a group of colored boys to keep their heads down when a stream of machinegun bullets began to fly.

"Say fellers, your 'mugs' are too high," he screamed. "Get down."

Jim Crow Is Claimed At

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

2-4-44

Negro Soldier Mystifies Army With Name Juggling

Post - Birmingham, Ala. 1-26-44

By United Press.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 26.—The Army today held Charlie Holliday, John Franklin, Benjamin A. Oliver, Benjamin Oliver and Johnny Lett, all in the same uniform.

The multi-named Negro soldier was arrested by Atlanta police after two draft boards and as many Army posts had complained that he was changing uniforms, names and dog tags with too much frequency, and that his conscience had forced him into too many draft registrations.

Police records showed that he was drafted as Charlie Holliday, swapped dog tags with John Franklin at Camp Stewart, Ga., so that he could attend a baker's school at Fort Benning, Ga., and later decided to leave the Army without permission and returned to Atlanta. To keep on the right side of the law, he registered at his old board as Benjamin A. Williams and, to make sure, re-registered at another board as Benjamin A. Oliver and, to make sure, re-registered at another board as Benjamin Oliver.

Then, the records showed, he found a civilian job and took it—and a Social Security card—under the name of Johnny Lett. At that point the police caught up with him and turned him over to the Army to face desertion charges. 1-26-44

WAC Center

FT. DES MOINES, Feb. —(ANP) Negro WACs are being discriminated against here, according to current reports.

An officers' pool has been formed on the post here. Those officers both white and Negro were formerly stationed at Daytona Beach and various other spots. All are now living in a building known as "Oc row," awaiting assignment.

The white officers are permitted to live in any section of the building while the Negro officers are confined to a small squad room which is segregated from the rest of the building, with 13 colored in a single room that was designed for a capacity of nine, according to the charges. 2-4-44

A Negro non-commissioned officer, a member of the teaching staff of the Opportunity school, was recently refused a reference book from Service Club No. 1. The assistant librarian of the club did not permit the girl to withdraw the book despite the fact that she needed it to prepare her teaching program for the following day, it is reported.

Should Inform The People

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-23-44

Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis considers as "exaggerated" and "greatly magnified" most of the reported instances of mistreatment to colored soldiers. Probably he is correct; he should know the facts.

If the mass of colored people are under mis-apprehension about what is happening to their sons under arms why doesn't the War Department or the Inspector General's office (with which General Davis is connected) make some effort to inform them correctly? Little or no effort is made by any of the many news-letting offices in Washington to report the colored soldiers and their doings as they actually are. To do so would probably invoke a Congressional investigation. Nobody wants to get kicked out for being fair and decent to the colored Americans.

47d-1944

Stimson Admits Colonials Handle Weapons Of Combat

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
3-25-44

Still Contends Our Boys Are Too Dumb To Use Instruments

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Testimony of War Sec'y Stimson before the house foreign affairs committee on extension of the lend-lease act recently further leaves open to question the matter of whether or not Negro soldiers are qualifeid to handle American equipment in face of statements of his that American materials are being used successfully by Indian and colonial troops of other nations.

The secretary three weeks ago attributed "low educational" standards of Negroes as the reason why they are not performing in combat. 3-25-44

"Indian troops as well as units of empire forces," he testified, "are being supplied with U. S. equipment that cannot be supplied from empire sources. By this means more forces are being made available for combat as an alternative to the use of American troops."

Of necessity, he said, a very large share of the burden of opposing Japan has fallen upon China. "Through the medium of lend-lease we have been able to assist China in her courageous and tenacious opposition to the invader. The supplies consist of military stores of all types and of vital materials necessary to keep China's own munition arsenals in operation. As increasing pressure is brought to bear against Japan, these Chinese troops will be available for use where otherwise American forces might have to be employed."

Colonial troops in all these areas and countries whose opportunities for education have certainly not exceeded that for Negroes in America, and in most instances have been less, are utilizing the instruments of modern warfare effectively.

Men Are Chafing Over The Lack Of Opportunity

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Racial Bars Irritating, Avers Cpl. Anderson

3-25-44

By COPL. TREZZVANT W. ANDERSON
Associated Negro Press Foreign Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND — (ANP) — This reporter came to the army direct from the managerial desk of one of the largest Negro newspaper in America, fresh from active service as a newspaperman for more than 15 years, and if my insight is still of any value to my sense of perception, I fear that I have a "negative report" to make in this story. Most of our boys are not interested in this war.

A month ago the Associated Negro Press requested me to give him my views as to the reactions of the boys as regards the army, the war, social relationships, etc. I waited a while, for I had just entered a new outfit which had been intact for more than a year and a half, and I thought that I had better see what attitude was taken by a group of soldiers who know each other and their own habits. I have seen.

SEES LOOSENESS

I came to my present organization, and I was enthusiastic at first, but I seem to see a sort of looseness here, which doesn't indicate the greatest pride in what the men are doing. And so, after observing, all sorts of Negroes, in all sorts of outfits in this army, I have reached the conclusion that the majority of Negro soldiers show a general lack of interest in the war.

I make that statement without any apology, for it is true, no matter how it may be interpreted. It would require a psychological thesis to completely analyse the various reasons "why", but, on the whole, it is as I have said. Mind you, I did not say 'all Negro soldiers, "only said "the majority."

To me it seems that the men regard the whole thing as a lark, and are more concerned with what they can get out of doing, than what they can actually contribute to make the fight a success, with the utmost dispatch. In other words, it isn't a serious matter.

WISH IT OVER

There are Negro outfits which really do take this whole thing to heart, and in which every man is filled with a maximum of pride in his organization, his leaderers and his fellow-soldiers, and their productivity, but, generally, when you hear the boys in their huts after work hours, they give the whole thing hell, and have only one wish: that it was over. You never hear too much about what we'll do to help get it over. They seem to feel that they aren't going to get but so much out of it anyhow, so why burst any blood vessels over the darned thing? They will do what they are ordered to do, and that's about all. 3-25-44

But they all have an admiration for outfits like the 99th Pursuiters, the 450th AA's, and those coast artillery outfits of black boys, and they brag about those outfits, enviously. That brings a conclusion that they are chafing because they themselves are not getting an opportunity to do what those outfits are doing, and that's their gripe.

Perhaps if these colored boys were turned loose, and given a chance to exercise their own intiative, ingenuity, and capacity for production, without hindrance, and away from any racial atmospheres, where "a man's a man for a' that," it would be a different story. Plenty of Negro soldiers are very much concerned, but the majority, you figure it out for yourself.

Seek Abolition Of Segregation In Armed Forces

World - Birmingham, Ala
5-2-44

Lynn Committee Meets Growing Concern In Nation

NEW YORK—(SNS)— The National Citizens Committee for Winfred Lynn has become the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces. Announcement of this change was made by unanimous decision of the committee.

In the committee's quarters at 360 W. 125th Street, this city, Wilfred Kerr, co-chairman, explained that the recent decision was an attempt to meet the growing concern throughout the country on the matter of racial segregation and discrimination in training the nation's military forces. "There is no greater contradiction in our American life today than that represented in a bi-racial American Army, two armies in fact, one white the other black, waging a war for freedom and democracy abroad while it perpetuates at home those things against which it professes to fight," said Mr. Kerr.

WELCOMES SUPPORT

"The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces welcomes the support of all Americans who believe that segregation is un-American, un-democratic, un-civilized and un-just, and contrary to the best interests of our country," continued Mr. Kerr.

"Out of the welter of struggle and discontent on the part of both the Negro and white people with the racial program of the War and Navy departments, of the Red Cross and other auxiliary services there come almost weekly new cases which deserve attention. These we can now undertake," he concluded. 5-2-44

Originally the Lynn Commtitee was organized to push the case of Winfred Lynn, Negro gardener of Jamaica, Long Island, who in 1942 brought suit in federal court against the "Negro quota" system by which he, as well as all other Negroes, was being drafted into the U. S. army.

LYNN NOW IN GUINEA

Lynn, now a corporal serving in New Guinea, maintained that the very idea of a "racial quota" was in itself a plan of racial discrimination, and that, as such, it was illegal and unconstitutional. His is the only legal attack made to date against discrimination in selective service.

The legal basis of Lynn's case is in Section 4-a of the 1940 Selective Service and Training Act, which provides that "In the selection and training of men under this Act.....there shall be no discrimination....on account of race or color."

In February of this year the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals here handed down a two to one split decision against Lynn. The fact that one of the three justices dissented in his favor means that a firm legal basis has been laid for an appeal direct to the Supreme Court. 5-2-44

The Lynn Committee is at present engaged with attorneys of the American Civil Liberties Union in the preparation of the case for argument before the Supreme Court sometime this Summer. It has the cooperation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Workers Defense League and the March on Washington movement. Each of these groups is preparing a supporting amicus curiae brief.

Negro Soldiers

Yank - New York, N.Y.

Dear YANK: While reading an April issue of YANK I came across the article [in *Strictly GI*] that said Secretary of War Stimson denied the charge he was attempting to avoid sending Negro combat troops overseas. . . . The reason he gave for his policy of not sending Negro combat troops overseas is based on relative abilities, training and education. It is no secret that the Negro's educational classification is not parallel with the white's; however, with all the modern warfare, I am sure that the Negro can hold his own.

I often wonder about the educational classification of the Negro French soldiers and Indian soldiers who are fighting so bravely in combat units in Europe and other theaters of war. I also wonder just what the Japs' educational classification is; my guess is, not so high. Despite this fact, and even while fighting a losing battle, they are no push-over. I am sure that the Negro combat troops, who are waiting for overseas duty, shall, when their time comes for action, carry right on to victory.

India 6-3-44 —Pvt. ARTIE FOWLER

Dear YANK:

. . . I fail to agree with the Secretary of War. In today's wars, as in past wars, the success of men as soldiers depends to a large extent upon the convictions, incentives and enthusiasms with which they are impelled in military tasks; or, as we broadly sum up today, success depends largely upon their state of morale as troops. It must be stated that the average Negro soldier's morale is at a consistently lower level than is the average white soldier's. The reasons are obvious. Simply stated, a man finds little desire to help put out a fire threatening to consume a building when he knows that after the fire is checked, he will be excluded from that very same structure he helped save. 6-2-44

. . . View Russia's success in stopping and hurling back the Hitlerite war machine, acknowledged as the world's best in technical efficiency. The average literate intelligence of Russian peasantry has been comparatively as low as, and in many cases lower than, a great number of Negroes'. Russia for years was Europe's most backward country. Yet the Soviet government has used the same peasantry to build a military force equal to, and better than, anything the Germans can throw against it. . . .

On Maneuvers —Pvt. JAMES L. LUCAS

Democracy?

Yank - New York, N.Y.
6-9-44

Dear YANK: I am writing to you in regard to the incident told in a letter to you by Cpl. Trimmingham (Negro) describing the way he was forced to eat in the kitchen of a station restaurant while a group of German prisoners were fed with the rest of the white civilians in the restaurant. [YANK headed the letter "Democracy?"—*Ed.*] Gentlemen, I am a Southern rebel, but this incident makes me none the more proud of my Southern heritage! Frankly, I think that this incident is a disgrace to a democratic nation such as ours is supposed to be. Are we fighting for such a thing as this? Certainly not. If this incident is democracy, I don't want any part of it! 6-9-44 I wonder what the "Aryan supermen" think when they get a first-hand glimpse of our racial discrimination. Are we not waging a war, in part, for this fundamental of democracy? In closing, let me say that a lot of us, especially in the South, should cast the beam out of our own eyes before we try to do so in others, across the seas.

Fairfield-Suisun AAF, Calif. —Cpl. HENRY S. WOOTTON JR.*

*Also signed by S/Sgt. A. S. Tepper and Pfc. Jose Rosenzweig.

Dear YANK: 6-9-44

You are to be complimented on having the courage to print Cpl. Trimmingham's letter in an April issue of YANK. It simply proves that your policy is maturing editorially. He [Cpl. Trimmingham] probes an old wound when he exposes the problem of our colored soldiers throughout the South. It seems incredible that German prisoners of war should be afforded the amenities while our own men—in uniform and changing stations—are denied similar attention because of color and the vicious attitude of certain portions of our country. What sort of a deal is this? It is, I think, high time that this festering sore was cut out

Port of Embarkation

Dear YANK: . . . I'm not a Negro, but I've been around and know what the score is. I want to thank the YANK . . . and those Boche congratulate Cpl. Rupert Trimmingham. Has it occurred to anyone that those at us? by intelligent social surgeons once and for all. I can uniform. well understand and sympathize with the corporal's prisoners of war must be still laughing at us? implied but unwritten question: why, then, are we in Bermuda

—S/Sgt. ARTHUR J. KAPLAN
—Pvt. GUSTAVE SANTIAGO

Another Lincoln Is Born

WHITE OFFICER EXPRESSES WISH TO FIGHT INJUSTICES

Courier-Pittsburg, Pa.

1-15-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN, For Combined Negro Press

AT SEA, SOMEWHERE, IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC—(Via Air Mail)—This is the second of several articles written while at sea en route to an advance base. I wrote them in a steaming ward room formerly occupied by war casualties. It is so hot that the eight of us here constantly take cold showers to help combat the heat. Five minutes later the sweat washes our bodies again. For days this has kept up, and the lone electric fan serves only to stir the hot air.

When we boarded the ship, after climbing a swaying rope ladder, a naval officer handed each officer-passenger a list of "dos and don'ts" while aboard ship.

There were 19 such laws covering many phases of Naval discipline at sea, all for the welfare of a "big family" whose lives are intrusted to those whose duty it is to get us safely there. But there were no instructions advising us in wardroom "H" how to withstand the insufferable heat. 1-15-44

OFFICERS ABROAD

Three of the officers in this inferno are en route to join a Negro infantry outfit up North. And at their own request. Since this correspondent is headed for the same, we have discovered a medium which binds us in a spirit of togetherness.

"Wonder what kind of work they are doing?" one said. "I don't know," I said. But I had an idea because Admiral Halsey had said in an interview that few, if any, Negro combat units had seen action in the South Pacific. I further knew that the same thing was true in the Southwest Pacific where our troops were used mainly to develop and secure bases.

"You know," the officer said, "I like working with Negro troops."

"You do?" I said. I hoped he wasn't saying that simply because I happen to be the listener.

LAUDS ROBESON

"Yes," he said. "I was brought up in Jersey. Went to Rutgers university.

"Paul Robeson's school, you know."

"Yes," I said, "Robeson's a great American." 1-15-44

"One of the greatest who ever lived," he replied. "I soldiered with Negro troops in Texas. Guess that's why I'm out here now."

He talked of some of the things he had seen.

"You know," he continued, "I hate that, and if I can ever strike it, like Abraham Lincoln said, 'I'm going to strike it hard.' I think a lot of things are going to change after this war."

"I hope so," I said. "I hope a lot of things change after the war."

"Not changing the subject," he said, "but in two days I'm going to be a father. And this is a hell of a place to be sweating it out. I hope my wife makes it all right."

"Pipe down," the officer on the top half of the double bunk said. "You aren't the only guy who's going to have a baby. I am sweating one out, too."

"Quit griping, guy," said the medical officer in the bunk next to mine. "My wife just had a baby."

WORRIED FATHER

"She did Doc," Jersey said. "What was it, Doc?"

"How in hell do I know," Doc said. "She just had it three days ago."

"Then you don't know whether she had it or not," Jersey said. "You're bad off as we are."

"Pipe down," a neutral officer put in. "There goes the call for mess."

We had chicken and iced tea. One marine sitting next to me asked the Filipino waiter for another piece of chicken and some more dressing.

"Sorry sir, no seconds," the Filipino waiter said. The marine said something under his breath. I felt the same way. When he first came around, I took one leg. He didn't come around anymore.

After supper we listened to a New Zealand military band. It sounded good, especially with the omp-pah pah. They played "In the Mood," with the bass horn taking the lead in one place. Glen Miller would have died. The announcement came to clear the decks. The watch was being secured.

VISITS HOT BOX 1-15-44

Warrant Officer F. H. Ward, an elongated Negro youth from Kansas City, came over from his own to visit our hot box.

"How you doing?" he said.

"Sit down on the bed," I said. "You'll soon be getting off."

"Two days from now," he said. "And I'll be glad to get back. Six weeks in a rest camp. I don't feel the fever anymore."

"Had it pretty bad?" I said.

"Yeah," he said. "Expect to be going to Munda soon, then Bougainville."

"How long have you been over?" I asked.

"Twenty months," he said. "I've been in the Army 10 years, and expect to be in it 20 more. After this war it's going to be tough, and I'm not going to bang my head against a wall trying to find a job. The Army's my career."

HANDS LIKE HAMS

Ward is strong and tall, raw boned, with hands like hams. Handsome fellow.

"You married?" I said.

"No," he said. "Never got around to it."

"See fellows," I said to the expectant fathers. "No worry."

"Go to hell," Jersey said.

"Why aren't you married? Everybody has time to marry," I said.

"I joined the Army when I was 18," he said. "The Army was enough for me. One war at a time."

He laughed. We laughed.

"Say Martin," the officer over top said. "Not changing the subject, I've been thinking. You have seen lots more out here than many of us, when do you think this thing is going to end?"

"LONG TIME YET"

"I don't know," I said. "I have seen a few things, and what I have seen causes me to believe it will be a long time yet."

"You know," he said, "when I read of people back home, and strikes, I get mad as hell. Take the coal strikes and labor unions. Take John L. Lewis. I live in Pennsylvania, near the coal fields, and I don't think there has been but one union that really did the job. The old Knights of Labor."

"There you go talking about your wife again," Jersey said.

We laughed as the signal sounded for lights out.

Actor Raps War Department's Ban on Colored Entertainers

Afro-American-Baltimore, Md.

1-15-44

Willie Bryant Calls Practice of Commissioning Whites Only in Special Services Undemocratic

NEW YORK—Willie Bryant, who headed the first colored USO-Camp Show unit to entertain overseas service men, sincerely sees the need of a colored personality commissioned in the Special Services unit.

Airing his views, Mr. Bryant told the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers that his pet dislike is the fact that the War Department has commissioned so many of the white personalities of the theatre, without granting similar consideration to colored.

He declared that he had made application for such a commission about two years ago, went to Washington, took and passed a physical examination and was then informed that no vacancies existed.

Service Men Demand More

On his recent tour of the Caribbean area, under auspices of the USO Camp Shows, he discovered that there was no end to the demand by service men—colored and white—for colored entertainers.

The unit, although designed to perform for only colored troops, appeared more before white units and the enthusiasm was tremendous.

"I, of course, was delighted to go overseas and entertain the men," he said, "but my real motive for taking the trip was to prove to the officials that such a need existed and, what was more, bolster my belief that greater enjoyment is received from colored performers.

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Age, N.Y., N.Y., 2-19-44

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Another Lincoln Is Born

WHITE OFFICER EXPRESSES WISH TO FIGHT INJUSTICES

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa.

1-15-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN, For Combined Negro Press

AT SEA, SOMEWHERE, IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC—(Via Air Mail)—This is the second of several articles written while at sea en route to an advance base. I wrote them in a steaming ward room formerly occupied by war casualties. It is so hot that the eight of us here constantly take cold showers to help combat the heat. Five minutes later the sweat washes out bodies again. For days this has kept up, and the lone electric fan serves only to stir the hot air.

When we boarded the ship, after climbing a swaying rope ladder, a naval officer handed each officer-passenger a list of "dos and don'ts" while aboard ship.

There were 19 such laws covering many phases of Naval discipline at sea, all for the welfare of a "big family" whose lives are intrusted to those whose duty it is to get us safely there. But there were no instructions advising us in wardroom "H" how to withstand the insufferable heat. 1-15-44

OFFICERS ABROAD

Three of the officers in this inferno are en route to join a Negro infantry outfit up North. And at their own request. Since this correspondent is headed for the same, we have discovered a medium which binds us in a spirit of togetherness.

"Wonder what kind of work they are doing?' one said, "I don't know," I said. But I had an idea because Admiral Halsey had said in an interview that few, if any, Negro combat units had seen action in the South Pacific. I further knew that the same thing was true in the Southwest Pacific where our troops were used mainly to develop and secure bases.

"You know," the officer said, "I like working with Negro troops."

"You do?" I said. I hoped he wasn't saying that simply because I happen to be the listener.

LAUDS ROBESON

'Yes," he said. "I was brought up in Jersey. Went to Rutgers university.

"Paul Robeson's school, you know."

"Yes," I said, "Robeson's a great American." 1-15-44

"One of the greatest who ever lived," he replied. "I soldiered with Negro troops in Texas. Guess that's why I'm out here now."

He talked of some of the things he had seen.

"You know," he continued, "I hate that, and if I can ever strike it, like Abraham Lincoln said, 'I'm going to strike it hard.' I think a lot of things are going to change after this war."

"I hope so," I said. "I hope a lot of things change after the war."

"Not changing the subject," he said, "but in two days I'm going to be a father. And this is a hell of a place to be sweating it out. I hope my wife makes it all right."

"Pipe down," the officer on the top half of the double bunk said. "You aren't the only guy who's going to have a baby. I am sweating one out, too."

"Quit griping, guy," said the medical officer in the bunk next to mine. "My wife just had a baby."

"LONG TIME YET"

"I don't know," I said. "I have seen a few things, and what I have seen causes me to believe it will be a long time yet."

"You know," he said, "when I read of people back home, and strikes, I get mad as hell. Take the coal strikes and labor unions. Take John L. Lewis. I live in Pennsylvania, near the coal fields, and I don't think there has been but one union that really did the job. The old Knights of Labor."

"There you go talking about your wife again," Jersey said.

We laughed as the signal sounded for lights out.

WORRIED FATHER

"She did Doc," Jersey said. "What was it, Doc?"

"How in hell do I know," Doc said. "She just had it three days ago."

"Then you don't know whether she had it or not," Jersey said. "You're bad off as we are."

"Pipe down," a neutral officer put in. "There goes the call for mess."

We had chicken and iced tea. One marine sitting next to me asked the Filipino waiter for another piece of chicken and some more dressing.

"Sorry sir, no seconds," the Filipino waiter said. The marine said something under his breath. I felt the same way. When he first came around, I took one leg. He didn't come around anymore.

After supper we listened to a New Zealand military band. It sounded good, especially with the omp-pah pah. They played "In the Mood," with the bass horn taking the lead in one place. Glen Miller would have died. The announcement came to clear the decks. The watch was being secured.

VISITS HOT BOX 1-15-44

Warrant Officer F. H. Ward, an elongated Negro youth from Kansas City, came over from his oven to visit our hot box.

"How you doing?" he said.

"Sit down on the bed," I said. "You'll soon be getting off."

"Two days from now," he said. "And I'll be glad to get back. Six weeks in a rest camp. I don't feel the fever anymore."

"Had it pretty bad?" I said.

"Yeah," he said. "Expect to be going to Munda soon, then Bougainville."

"How long have you been over?" I asked.

"Twenty months," he said. "I've been in the Army 10 years, and expect to be in it 20 more. After this war it's going to be tough, and I'm not going to bang my head against a wall trying to find a job. The Army's my career."

HANDS LIKE HAMS

Ward is strong and tall, raw boned, with hands like hams. Handsome fellow.

"You married?" I said.

"No," he said. "Never got around to it."

"See fellows," I said to the expectant fathers. "No worry."

"Go to hell," Jersey said.

"Why aren't you married? Everybody has time to marry," I said.

"I joined the Army when I was 18," he said. "The Army was enough for me. One war at a time."

He laughed. We laughed.

"Say Martin," the officer over top said. "Not changing the subject, I've been thinking. You have seen lots more out here than many of us, when do you think this thing is going to end?"

Actor Raps War Department's Ban on Colored Entertainers

Afro-American-Baltimore, Md.

1-15-44

Willie Bryant Calls Practice of Commissioning Whites Only in Special Services Undemocratic

NEW YORK—Willie Bryant, who headed the first colored USO-Camp Show unit to entertain overseas service men, sincerely sees the need of a colored personality commissioned in the Special Services unit.

Airing his views, Mr. Bryant told the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers that his pet dislike is the fact that the War Department has commissioned so many of the white personalities of the theatre, without granting similar consideration to colored.

He declared that he had made application for such a commission about two years ago, went to Washington, took and passed a physical examination and was then informed that no vacancies existed.

Service Men Demand More

On his recent tour of the Caribbean area, under auspices of the USO Camp Shows, he discovered that there was no end to the demand by service men—colored and white—for colored entertainers.

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"I, of course, was delighted to go overseas and entertain the men," he said, "but my real motive for taking the trip was to prove to the officials that such a need existed and, what was more, bolster my belief that greater enjoyment is received from colored performers.

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tasks. Several of the soldiers stationed at the field declared that they had no opportunity to learn any more about soldiering other than six weeks basic training they had received when they first entered the Army.

While 1st Air Force regulations declare that no soldier should be "mal-assigned," among the Negro soldiers forced to do laboring work such as firing boilers, are men who have been trained as KP armorers, radiomen, airplane mechanics, parachute riggers, etc.

When The New York Age went

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47d-1944

A Negro in the Army

New Republic - New York N.Y. 6-26-44

[The following letter was written by a Negro soldier in the United States Army who was brought up in the North and is now stationed in the Deep South. His identity is concealed to prevent reprisals against him, but the editors of The New Republic can vouch for his intelligence and honesty.]

DEAR FRIENDS: I arrived safely, and had intended to drop you a few lines before now. I am well at present and hope you are the same and enjoying life. There is not much enjoyment in a place like this. I don't seem to understand the situation here. We were drafted to try and win the war, yet the people here are seemingly still fighting some previous war. And the bad part about it is they are wasting a lot of their good time watching and fighting the Negro here. It is a one-sided fight, because to my estimation the Negro seems to be their best friend. It seems as if these people would rather accept the German prisoners before they would a Negro.

Here is one instance. In our company we have eight weeks of basic training in the field and the rest of the seventeen weeks we go to school in a white battalion. Last week one of the instructors called a soldier "a nigger," and the boys from my company resented it. To be good soldiers and try to go about the thing in a diplomatic way, they went to one of the officers. He came down and asked the instructor, who was a white corporal, and he said right there, "Yes, I said it." Then he picked them out one at a time and said, "You are one, and you and you," and so on. New Republic - New York N.Y.

Just this morning I was talking to a soldier who had been in the (punishment) stockade and he had talked to some of the Japanese American soldiers that they had in there, sent here from other camps. They had been in the army for some time and some of them had ratings. They would go to town and the white men would start fights with them. If they defended themselves they would lose their ratings. So they refused to be soldiers. They said that they couldn't see the use of fighting when they are kicked around like dogs.

If we are kicked around now, during the war, what will happen after the war? We are all ready and willing to do our part to win the war, but at least we should get some kind of consideration. 6-26-44

Even on the bus they have only one seat for us, the one in the extreme rear. Even if all the others are empty, or if there is just one white man sitting in the back, we can't sit there. I would like to know just what it is that is wrong. Why are we hated so much? I sit around and try to figure it out. I have the time because there is no place to go and nothing to do. All the fellows feel the same way I do.

They even refuse to sell me anything in the main post exchange, the one in the lunchroom.

While I was in school, my class was touring the different buildings. We had a twenty-five-minute break in front of the PX, so we all lined up to buy some doughnuts. When I got to the window the girl said:

"I can't sell you anything."

So I said, "Why?"

She said, "You can give that white soldier your money."

I said, "No, why should I?"

I asked the lieutenant who was in charge, why. I said, "I am a soldier, that man is a soldier, and we are both supposed to be fighting for the same cause. Why should I give him my money to walk two steps to buy something for me?"

He said, "Well, I know it is wrong, and you know it, and they know it is wrong. But no one will do anything about it."

You know, unless my guess is wrong, something drastic is going to happen. I believe there is a Supreme Being and I believe He is just. I don't believe that He intends for any of His people to be kicked around by any of the others. So you see, I will be a glad soldier to get back home to my family and back among civilized people. 6-26-44

I try so hard to be a good soldier. But how can I, with my blood boiling all the time?

I hope you haven't been too bored with this note. I could rite a book about the South.

U. S. A Trains PM - New York N.Y. Mixed Unit For British

6-21-44

No Color Line For Volunteers From the Caribbean

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 21.—The first British infantry unit to train on U. S. soil since before the Revolutionary War is a volunteer regiment of whites and Negroes recruited in the British Caribbean possessions. The training location was not disclosed, but it is somewhere in Virginia.

Existence of this new combat unit, called the First Caribbean Regiment, became known when Lt. Gen. G. N. Macready, commander of the British Army staff in Washington, conducted its first ceremonial review. The regiment will go overseas within a few weeks.

Representatives of nearly every British territory in the Caribbean is represented in the new volunteer unit. Trinidad with about 22 per cent of the volunteers has the largest representation. Next in order are Jamaica, Barbadoes, British Guiana, Bermuda, the Windward Islands, Leeward Islands, British Honduras and the Bahamas. The British Information Service in Washington did not disclose the percentage of white and Negro soldiers in the Caribbean regiment but it is believed close to 50-50. Some of the officers ranking as high as major are Negroes.

For Full Service

The regiment, which has its own supporting weapons, including Bren guns, mortars and anti-tank guns, is expected to take its place as a full-fledged line unit alongside other regular British infantry. It will be the first combatant unit from the British West Indies to serve in this war.

A regimental "flash" in blue, yellow and green was designed for all ranks and the Bermuda contingent was granted permission to wear the name of that island as a distinguishing mark. The regiment was actually established Apr. 1.

Bermudans First

The Bermuda group, under Major W. W. Fuller, was the first to arrive in the U. S. A. and immediately began preparation for the remainder of the regiment, which, having collected in Trinidad and Jamaica, arrived soon afterward. The training areas were provided by the U. S. Army, which has worked closely with the British during the training period. The experiment of training white and Negro volunteers has been closely observed by U. S. Army officers who, so far, have held out against any similar "mixed" regiment experiment in our own army.

This is not the first time that Britain has recruited so-called mixed regiments from the Caribbean. The famous West India regiment, whose battle honors extend over 150 years, has fought in every war Britain has engaged in during the past century and a half.

What Can The Negro Expect?

News-Chronicle

The Army weekly, *Yank*, has reprinted a letter from a Negro soldier who, with eight other colored service men, was en route from one Southern camp to another. At one spot in their itinerary they had to spend several hours in a railway junction point. When they entered the station restaurant it was necessary for them to eat their meal in the lunchroom's kitchen. While they were so engaged, a group of about two dozen German prisoners of war, accompanied by their guards, was served a meal at the tables in the cafe. The prisoners ate, talked, smoked and laughed. The Negro soldier wearing the uniform of Uncle Sam asks, "Why are they treated better than we are?" 6-12-44

The question is a poser.

The need for understanding has never been greater. The delicate relationships between the races is disturbing the best minds among both white and colored citizens. Thousands of Negro soldiers are serving in this war that only recently has been defined by the president as a war for liberation. Negro families have suffered as great agony of temporary or permanent separation as have white families. Negro soldiers have worked as hard, have often sacrificed as much as other soldiers of the country. Negro families have bought war bonds and subscribed to war charities. As such contributors, Negro citizens have undoubtedly asked themselves how the final victory will affect them.

Let us see. What should the returned Negro soldier expect?

Among other things he has a right to be liberated from the kind of economic tyranny that has often limited him almost exclusively to the menial work of the world at low wages. He may expect to be liberated from a type of education that he knows to be inferior to that of his white neighbors. He should be liberated from the humiliation of being shouted at and openly scorned by some operators of public conveyances and some officials of the law. He ought to find liberation from the kind of vituperative abuse heaped upon him by certain sheets in the recent Alabama primary campaign. And he also should be liberated from the wiles of selfish agitators of his own race who are making the inevitable adjustment a doubly difficult one.

Much of the world lives these days by revolutionary standards. But the method of evolution is better. Out of the democratic ethic for which, God knows, we are fighting hard, should and must evolve a greater devotion to the rights and dignity of human life. The Four Freedoms were intended to apply to all our citizens. The lives of both colored and white citizens should be better after the war is ended; they can be better without destruction of proper rights and standards of conduct and without violence to sound customs and traditions.

6-12-44

Everything Jim-Crow at Tex. Navigation School

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

2-26-44

Cadets in First Colored Class at Hondo Field Ready for Wings After N.Y. Flight

By FRANCIS YANCEY

NEW YORK — Target for today, Berlin — or it may be Tokyo — which ever the case, when the all-colored 477th Medium Bombardment group now being activated at Selfridge Field, Mich., takes off to pound one of these they will be sure to hit the target right on the nose.

This was proved here at La-Guardia Field when twenty-one navigation cadets, composing the first colored navigation class in the U.S. Army Air Forces, navigated six C-60 Lockheed Lodestar Army Transport planes 2,000 miles to New York City from Hondo Field, Texas.

Other Groups Training

These cadets are but one unit of many that are training in air force training schools all over the country, all pointing to Selfridge Field as their goal.

The cream of our youth is being trained as pilots, gunners, mechanics and crewmen to man the B-25 Mitchell Bombers that will be their aerial steeds on future jaunts over Axis positions.

Former Cadet Pilots

Being airborne is nothing new to these cadets. All of them have logged from 50 to 200 hours air time as cadet pilots at Tuskegee

Strict Jim-Crow Set-Up

When the first cadre arrived at Hondo Field it was assigned to Navigation school Squadron 10. This is the first such official, almost time since the Hondo Base has been operating that there has been this second "washed out" for various failures. All were given the chance at winning their wings when sent to navigation school. According to a high official, almost all of them will win their wings as navigators and go on to bombar- a Squadron 10.

2-26-44

All other squadrons share and switch classes and instructors, but Squadron 10, although of even number, has been the odd squadron in all school activities.

Theirs has been a jim-crow set-up from the start — eating, sleeping, drilling and attending classes to themselves. All officers attached to Squadron 10 were assigned by the school commander, but it was scuttlebutt that it was a volunteer set-up.

Praise Instructors

The cadets were unanimous in declaring that they have been treated as well as could be expected in any two-way set-up.

"The instructors were tops and spent long hours of their own free time to prep us for our exams," the cadets said. "We never at any time saw any friction between white and colored cadets. We think if it were left up to them, the classes would be mixed."

A white pilot, one of the crew that brought the flight in, when asked how he felt about flying a plane navigated by a colored man, made this statement, but asked that his name not be used:

"Color Doesn't Count"

"Certainly I'd trust myself and my plane in the hands of a colored navigator. It isn't the color of a man's skin or the texture of his hair that gets us over the target and back to our home field. It's how much he knows about navigation and how he applies it that does the trick."

All the cadets have successfully passed through all of the phases of combat navigation: pilotage (familiar landmarks), dead reckoning (instrument flying), radio (beam flying), and celestial (plotting a course by reference to the celestial bodies). 2-26-44

Make Good on Mission

Before embarking on the flight each cadet was briefed the same as on an actual combat mission, given a course and a certain position to hit, and when his turn came it was up to each to bring the plane through.

Bad weather, fog, rain and heavy clouds gave them every condition in the book to fight, but everyone came through 100 per cent.

Final Test

Flight navigation instructors in charge of the problems were said to have been very pleased with the way the cadets handled the problems. The return trip, a 2,000-mile non-stop flight, will be the final test.

To hit a spot a few miles square at that distance will try the mettle of all the cadets and prove their right to wear the wings of a navigator in the U.S. Army Air Force.

This was their first combat training mission. The next flight of this length may be their first over Axis-held territory, and if they arrive over the target on the ball as at LaGuardia Field, we'll have another group that will have earned their right to sit on the right hand of our famous fighting

NEGRO TELLS HOW NAVY LIEUTENANT KICKED HIM

New York N.Y. Amsterdam—News 2-26-44

Navy Yard Worker Says He Was Suspended After the "Kicking"

Following is the latest case against the Brooklyn Navy Yard reported to the Citizen's Anti-Discrimination Committee on the Brooklyn Navy Yord electric welder, claims he mistreatment and subsequent suspension that Leo Mercer, Negro Navy Yard electric welder, claims he was subjected to. Mercer is a Negro, 34 years old, married with four children and a citizen. He is further puzzled regarding his treatment considering that he has never been late, out sick or absent in his whole period of work with the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which will be a year in April.

Mercer's story which was told to Lorenzo Davis, chairman of the Citizen's Committee and Industrial Secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League, Saturday night goes like this:—

Sitting On Ship

On October 23, 1943, Mercer was sitting on the hull of ship on which he was assigned to work, shading his eyes which had become irritated and inflamed from working several hours without the usual "blower" on his welding torch. He had complained about his eyes to fellow workers.

A Lieutenant Commander Rawlins, walks upon the scene, and unseen by Mercer, kicks his leg causing Mercer to jump to his feet, and hear the Lieutenant Commander spout "Hey, Nigger, what in the hell are you doing here?" Mercer, althought naturally resenting this treatment, kept his head and attempted to explain. The Commander kept his hand on his revolver continuously. According to Mercer, four witnesses saw and heard these occurences. Rawlins obviously didn't believe the explanation, and left saying he would talk to Mercer's supervisor concerning his record, and if it was satisfactory he (Rawlins) "might not" press any charge.

"Sleeping" Charge

A few days later Mercer's supervisor told him that charges of "sleeping on the job" were being made against him, but that he (supervisor) would speak up for Mercer. 2-26-44

On October 30, Mercer received a letter from the Personnel Officer formally charging him with "sleeping during assigned hours of duty," and advising him to answer satisfactorily in 24 hours or take the consequences. Mercer answered immediately by letter explaining his case, citing his work record, denying the "sleeping" charge, and stating the availability of witnesses.

About two weeks later, Mercer received a notice of suspension of five days without pay and a reduction of six points on his efficiency rating "for sleeping during assigned hours of duty." The letter was undersigned by Commandant Kelly, Mercer stated.

The notice of suspension ignored mention of witnesses suggested by Mercer or his excellent work history. Mercer in frustration, protested to the Personnel Officer against unfair treatment accorded him and received the answer that "no further action is justified for lack of substantiating proof of your innocence."

Mercer, still not licked, attempted to get a personal hearing with Command Kelly and/or the Personnel Officer, but both were "too busy." Another formal letter sent to Mercer by Commandant Kelly stated no further action was justified in his case. In ebbing patience, Mercer wrote to Senator Wagner and Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, both of whom answered routinely referring the complainant to the book of rules for Navy Yard workers with grievances.

On December 26th, Mercer again wrote the Commandant asking a fair hearing in his care; after three weeks the letter was still unanswered. As a last resort, Mercer claims, he filed his complete case with the Regional Office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee on about Jan. 15, 1944.

Finally on January 28th, the Commandant replied to Mercer stating "If you failed to produce in your reply definite and substantiated proof that charges were unjustified, your answer was considered unsatisfactory and disciplinary action was taken accordingly. Since you have furnished no substantiated prof of your innocence, no further action in your case is justified."

Mercer has finally gotten three sworn affidavits attesting his innocence into Office of the Commandant. To date after five months, his case is still unadjusted.

To Mercer's knowledge, or that of the Anti - Discrimination Committee, no disciplinary action has yet been taken against Lieut. Comm. Rawlins for his uncalled for, prejudicial treatment of Mercer.

Bennet Promises To Fight Jim Crow In Armed Forces

New York N.Y. Amsterdam-News 2-26-44

Former Congressman William S. Bennet, Republican candidate for Congress from the 21st District last week took time out from his campaigning to secure an appointment with Assistant Secretary John J. McCloy of the War Department to discuss the matter of discrimination in the Army against Negro soldiers.

Mr. Bennet, who is seeking the seat in Congress made vacant by the resignation of Rep. Joseph A. Gavagan, said he had known there was some injustices in the Army forces, but that he was both amazed and horrified when he learned of the extent of the discrimination against enlisted men and officers in civilian communities and in camps.

On his way to Washington, Mr. Bennet learned of certain specific charges having to do with disabled Negro soldiers at Camp Westover, Mass., being forced to do work which they were physically unable to do.

After his interview with Secretary McCloy, Mr. Bennet said he had found the official both frank and helpful. He said Mr. McCloy told him the War Department is fully aware that there is discrimination against Negroes in uniform, both in the rank and among commissioned officers, and that no other matter in connection with the Army services distressed them more.

Mr. Bennet further quoted Mr. McCloy with saying: "The matter has been taken up with high military men and with Secretary of War Stimson and that the entire department was pledged to take every step necessary to stop this harmful discrimination."

Having served seven years in Congress, Mr. Bennet knows his way around in Washington. He promises to use all his influence, not only to help correct conditions in the Army, but to help put through Congress all other legislation, designed to improve condition of Negroes and other minority or oppressed groups.

The election in which Mr. Bennet seeks to return to Congress takes place Tuesday, Feb. 29. James H. Torrena is his Democratic opponent.

Wendell L. Willkie, Republican nominee for President in 1940, and a candidate for the 1944 nomination sent the following telegram to Mr. Bennet Monday:

"The voters of the 21st Congressional District in Manhattan are being called upon in a few days to elect an interim Congressman. William S. Bennet, the Republican candidate, is familiar with the halls of Congress having served there before, and he has the experience and understanding which comes from long public service. He is fully aware of the problems of the men and women who live in his district and those of us who know him and his record know that he will represent those interests with fidelity. I am delighted to have this opportunity to endorse Mr. Bennet's candidacy and to urge the voters of the 21st Congressional District to support him wholeheartedly on Election Day." 2-26-44

The Republican Congressional Campaign Committee of the 21st Congressional District is as follows: Herbert Malkin, chairman; Mrs. Dorothy Buckman, vice-chairman; Mrs. Lucinda F. Carey, vice-chairman; Francis X. Hanley, vice-chairman; Rev. J. Wesley Megaw, D. D., vice-chairman; William H. Milholland, vice-chairman; Hon. John A. Bolles, chairman, finance committee; Eardlie John, secretary, and Robert O. Held, treasurer.

The executive committee includes, Herbert Malkin, chairman; Harold C. Burton, David B. Costuma, Sidney E. Davis, Mrs. Emma Edwards, John J. Fitzsimmons, Harold Forstenzer, Mrs. Elizabeth Guy, Harold S. Lazar, Mrs. Anita D. Leon, Samuel E. Lepler, Chester A. Nethercott, Miss Helen M. Noonan, Miss Lillie I. Poey, Mrs. Henrietta G. Sciacca, Miss Lucille Womack and Mrs. Colotta M. Woolley.

Candidate

FORMER CONGRESSMAN William S. Bennet, Republican candidate for the seat made vacant by the resignation of Rep. Joseph A. Gavagan, in the 21st Congressional District. The election will be held next Tuesday, February 29.

Negroes Have Little To Fight For, Says Bilbo

Defender-Chicago, Ill. 2-12-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — In so many words, Sen. Theodore "The-be-an" Bilbo of Mississippi told a delegation which called upon him on Wednesday that he doesn't think that Negroes have a lot to fight for since "Negroes are always going to say they do"—that it can handle this matter." He said nothing that would indicate he believed in improving the status of Negroes.

47d-1944

Camp Maxy One Up on Texas In Jim Crowing Negro GI's

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
4-6-44

By Eugene Gordon

"When it comes to bus transportation," said the Negro GI on furlough in New York, "Camp Maxy, in Texas, does the State of Texas one better. Texas laws allow Negroes and whites to ride in the same buses, as long as Negroes sit in the rear. But Camp Maxy won't let Negro soldiers even get on a bus marked for whites.

"Buses line up in front of the Negro service club, but even if only two or three white soldiers are on them no Negro can get on. He must wait until an empty one comes. Sometimes he waits hours for a bus to go on pass."

The nearest town, Paris, is nine miles.

He lived all his 20-odd years in the North, until he went into the Army. He had been accustomed to association with white boys. Thought nothing of it. He knew, when he went South, that the white soldiers were not responsible for jim-crow signs in post theaters and outside post exchanges and service clubs. He knew that all camp commanders made their own policies on Negro-white relations. He knew that that policy was based on the customs of the community.

WHITE TROOPS

"White boys from the North sometimes resent being treated as if they were better than we are. They show it in all sorts of friendly ways. But some white soldiers also get the idea they are really our superiors. They act it. And that means trouble all around."

Thus a white soldier refused to salute a Negro officer. He was reprimanded by the officer but forgiven by the white officer of the day.

The white GI laughed in the Negro officer's face.

Colonel West Hamilton, Negro inspector in the Eighth Service Command, had to sleep in enlisted men's barracks when he arrived at Camp Maxy late one night. No officers' quarters for Negroes. They must eat with their men—which is, in general, contrary to Army policy.

Negro and white troops, allowed, unmolested, to come into contact at Camp Maxy, strike up healthy relations. A white outfit, going overseas, gave Negro soldiers hundreds of presents—radios, books and the like—because, having lived next to the Negroes' area, they had grown fond of one another.

"I am now in a Northern camp. Everything is as good here as it was bad in the other place. Except for the basic policy of segregated Negro and white outfits," he added, "we are treated just like the white soldiers."

He said, further: 4-6-44

"I believe the present people's war will result in democratic advances for the American Negro. In spite of all the obstacles and maltreatment, the Negro soldier will give full support to defeat the Axis, and he will learn that nothing is achieved without struggle. Furthermore, the white soldier who fights alongside of the Negro, and the white worker on the home front, are themselves helping to destroy prejudice."

Prejudice Out, Colonel Tells Camp Personnel

Daily World
3-31-44

All Men Wearing Uniform Equal, Commander Rules

Atlanta Ga.

INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa.—(ANP)—"Race prejudice has not been is not, and will not be tolerated at this camp," recently declared Col. Forrest E. Ambrose, commanding officer of the transportation corps unit training center at Indiantown Gap, Pa. The declaration was made to all of the troops in the center in a series of talks with each of the eight battalions in training.

"You are American soldiers, wearing the uniform of your country, and you have a right to expect to be teated as such," emphatically declared the colonel. 'Prejudice, discrimination, and segregation on the basis of color at this camp will not be tolerated, and if there are any such cases I personally want to know about them at once."

CHANCES EQUAL 3-31-44

The colonel told the men that they would rise or fall on thier individual merits alone. He pointed out to them that despite the restrictions on the number of officer candidates, they would have equal chances with anyone else, within the reduced quotas, to become officers. 3-31-44

The men were frankly told, however that they themselves must assume certain responsibilities "in helping to improve your character and efficiency as soldiers and men and to maintain the excellent records already set by other colored troop who have preceded you."

"Our mission is to train and develop ourselves into good soldiers so that we may do our full share as American citizens. This job we have to do would be materially hindered by excessive absence without leave, by sickness and by other things which cause us to lose training time," the colonel asserted. "To demonstrate your quality, we must seek constantly to reduce the amount of training time lost, not alone to keep our records as good as those of other units, but to make them better and thereby to become more efficient soldiers and more useful and happier citizens." 3-31-44

COURSE EXTENDED

The lectures were a part of the orientation program of the training center, which is receiving increasing attention in army circles for its work among the colored troops of Indiantown Gap.

Said to be one of the first of its kind, the regular army orientation course at this center has been extended and adapted to answer the specific questions of their own leaders in helping to solve their own problems, the orientation section has been largely staffed with colored personnel, including two young Negro officers, Lt. Dunbar S. McLaurin and Lt. Everett Morrow.

In commenting on the results, the colonel stated, "The magnificent response to this program from the thousands of men is highly gratifying and is the best proof of its value and rightness." This would seem to mark a new era in army training, for through its personnel the orientation section has been able to secure many changes which have improved the morale and training efficiency of the troops. Many eyes have been focused on the program with the view of its adoption or extension in the army. 3-31-44

The training center is completely garrisoned with colored troops who are in training for duty with port companies in the transportation corps.

Fort Ontario Is Soldiers' Dream

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.
1-1-44

All Work Together in Teaching and Guard Duties at N.Y. Camp; 369th Credited With Building Up Democratic Feeling; Only Drawback Is No Colored Officers

By TONY MARINO

OSWEGO, N.Y. — Thanksgiving Day jumped like mad here at Fort Ontario. Every company had a big party with turkey and all the trimmings.

Sergeant Johnson, of Company E, an excellent violinist, arranged a fine program; and Company F even found enough talent to form a swing band, that didn't do badly after all.

This is about the best camp for colored soldiers that I know of. The first day we arrived here from Fort Niagara, N.Y., we found colored and white soldiers working together all over the post, in a democratic way that many leaders, even of our own group, argue cannot exist during wartime.

Armed Guard

It was nothing to see an armed MP escorting a white prisoner. On several occasions, over three-fourths of the guards, who drilled the prisoners were colored.

The job done here is primarily one of teaching the fundamentals of formal education. The readin', 'ritin' and 'rithmetic are geared up to the tune of war, but its effects will be longer lasting and more potent to the men that the war could ever be.

The men who teach these subjects are colored and white, all college bred and good soldiers. T/5 Asbery Reynolds, a graduate of the Buffalo State Teachers' College, was the first of the colored instructors to take other classes. He did such a good job in teaching this class of Spaniards, Chinese, and white, that integration became even greater.

Five Colored Companies

NCO (non-commissioned officers') school is mixed; the service club resembles an assemblage of many nation; the USO is liberal and the townspeople of Oswego are fair.

There are five colored companies, totaling some 1000 to 1,500 soldiers. Morale is high, and in my estimation we are unfortunate only in that we have no colored officers and no colored population in the neighboring town. 1-1-44

But we didn't build up this democratic spirit ourselves. We are thankful to the men of the 369th for most of the good feeling that exists. Their name will long be remembered by the people of Oswego. The members of the 1210th have to soldier like mad to equal their reputation half-way.

Two day rooms were recently presented to Companies E and F of the 1210th service unit. Principals in the dedication ceremonies were First Sgt. Leeland Jones of Company E, and First Sgt. Clarence Brown of Company F. All of the bigwigs of Oswego attended the program.

Colored Combat Troops

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

By MICHAEL CARTER

A hot speech on the non-use of colored combat troops will be made in the House of Representa-

tives early next year and action
to force a Congressional investi-
gation of major dimensions may
be one result.

If the plan as advanced by sev-
eral Republican members of Con-
gress is a success, the 91st Divis-
ion may be activated.

If so, it politically advisable.
will be the first full division of
colored combat troops in the war

Campaign Issue 1-1-44

The Republican leaders who has been in
plan the speeches frankly admit siderably long
that the whole plan is part of the ar white out
election campaign and the complaint aga
1944 perimental" despite the fact that
Divis- speeches will only be made when in general.
If so, it politically advisable.
The same quarters that pre if it took th
dicted the speeches further allegemen for co

that the 91st Division is staffed simply have to take that
by inferior white officers. (There would But, he said, "I wonder
are many colored commissioned time. whether the 91st is not now ready
officers in the unit.) and being withheld from combat
They also state that the 91st service for racial reasons."
Patton Case Cited.
Some high army quarters hang
longer period than simi- to the racist idea that
There is no tenaciously
the use of colored troops is "ex-
Congressman told me that colored troops have covered them-
three years to train selves with glory in
combat duty, then it every war
since 1776. 1-1-44

These same quarters maintain that colored troops have low morale, are unable to learn complicated mechanisms and meneuvers and have a generally low intelligence rating.

However, the only examples of officer-class hysteria that have reached American papers are instances of white officers.

Private-slapping General Patton is a case in point as was the shooting of one colored soldier and the stabbing of another, all by white officers. Military men call this hysteria and inability to meet a military situation even in a safe zone.

Possible Results of Probe

If ample Congressional action is begun the results will be far reaching. First of all, it will be front-page news in all the daily papers.

Most Americans do not know that colored combat units simply do not exist as large, identifiable groups of fighters. The relation of the use of colored combat outfits to the draft of fathers and essential workers will be a reason for comment.

It can also be expected that many Congressmen who have no interest in racial affairs will voice opinions. Casualties among whites have been proportionately higher than colored casualties because colored troops are used to build bridges and not to fight Nazis.

Fish Distressed

Hamilton Fish (R., N.Y.) told the AFRO that he was deeply distressed at the non-use of colored troops.

Fish, when in political hot water because of his alleged relations with George Sylvester Vierick, convicted Nazi agent, offered to command a detachment of colored troops. The army refused his offer although he had been a company commander in the 369th in 1917-1918. 1-1-44

"They knew I'd only be interested in the command of colored combat troops and that as soon as my outfit was ready to fight I'd want to take it overseas," Fish said.

Private Probe Made

He has recently made two speeches against the non-use of colored combat troops. It can be expected that he will make another.

Fish has been making private investigations concerning the problem. He is a "MacArthur-for-President" man and will utilize his findings in any way that is politically convenient.

He told the AFRO that:

"As far as I can find out only a few colored troops are being used as soldiers," Congressman Fish stated. "I know of no infantry regiment, artillery or tank units that have been serving in a war area.

"There are many engineer regiments building roads and airfields. But judging from information which comes to me, most colored soldiers are in non-combat regiments.

"If these facts be correct, then it is an entirely different picture from the last war. Within one year after war was declared in 1917 the 369th Regiment was in the trenches.

"It was shortly followed by other regiments which served with valor and distinction. Within a year and a half an entire colored division was in France. The war is now two years old.

"We are informed that it is a war to preserve the Four Freedoms throughout the world. Surely, then, colored troops are entitled to participate in the war on an equal basis with the whites."

Fish was the author of the Selective Service amendment which attempted to prohibit discrimination against colored troops.

Cites 369th's Record

He feels that every colored person in the country resents the non-use of race combat personnel. He answers critics of the proved abilities of colored troops with incontrovertible facts. 1-1-44

"The record made by the 369th in France, where they suffered large casualties, and were decorated by the French Government, is incontestable evidence of the value of colored soldiers," he declared. "The record established by those valiant men justifies the use of colored combat troops in this war."

Representative Fish said that he had not made a recent check on the use of colored troops. But he sarcastically added, "I am sure that the War Department will not refuse that information to the colored press which represents millions of loyal Americans.

"We have repeatedly told the press the names of the white divisions of infantry and marines who are seeing service," he added.

"I can't see how it could be giving away military secrets to announce the names of colored units, if they exist. The people should know what colored combat regiments or divisions are fighting in the front lines for our country."

Casualties Low

Fish also remarked about the relatively small number of battle casualties among colored troops. This is obviously do to the fact that they are not being used in headline-making combat positions.

"I doubt that one-tenth of the announced casualties are colored," he said. "We are fighting for democratic principles — let's not let them down."

I.Q.'s Not Important

As a former commander of a company in the famed 369th Regiment in World War I, Fish is not interested in the I.Q.'s of troops.

Some War Department observers feel that colored troops have a low intellectual level.

"The best machine-gunner in my company could not read or write," Congressman Fish pointed out. "Millions of soldiers in the armies of our allies, as well as our enemies, are illiterate. Yet they make first-rate soldiers.

"Among troops in the British Eighth Army is a detachment of Indians. There is no reason to believe that they are educated men. A considerable percentage of the Japanese are illiterate. The army is reported to have turned down an estimated half-million colored men because they were illiterate." 1-1-44

Sound Body Needed

Hamilton Fish believes that it is much more important to have a sound body and good eyesight than a college education if you are simply going to be a soldier.

Top-notch spokesmen for the Republican party who want to get the idea across, but who do not want to be identified, said:

"The Republican party should hold the administration accountable for the non-use of colored troops in combat units. They should give some pledge to the people that equal treatment will be given to all men wearing the uniform of the United States Army."

Although Republican leaders were eager to get this statement of a plank into the AFRO, no one I talked to wanted to use his name in connection with it. It was simply a carefully-worded announcement of what the race should expect from them.

IT HAD TO BE A NEGRO

Weekly Review
Bham, Ala.
2-5-44

A soldier who is camped in Mississippi wrote his wife who lives in Birmingham to come to see him on the thing which would get her there quickest. She found that the bus was the answer.

She and a Negro man got a seat on the bus. About 2 A. M., at night down near the Mississippine the driver stopped the bus, went back to the rear of the bus and unceremoniously told the Negro passenger: "I ought to throw you off the bus. Why didn't you give me your ticket!" The Negro replied, "I did give you my ticket." He was disputed by the bus driver. The passenger begged the driver pardon and at at the same time contended that he had given him the ticket.

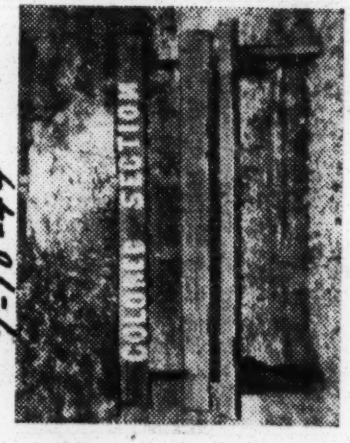
The sixteen white persons by this time were all aware of the driver's increasingly beligerent attitude. The lone Negro woman was terrified at the possibility of being thrown off the bus because she suspected that the white passengers would side with the driver. 2-5-44

About this time a white soldier yelled, "Here is your ticket." The bus driver asked why he hadn't given him the ticket when he got on. The soldier replied it was the driver's business to get the ticket. Reports have it that the driver would not take the ticket from the soldier who later threw it on the floor where it remained. where it remained.

The soldier didn't let it die down but kept fussing about the

colored man because he happened to be colored and in the bus driver's mind had to be the one guilty of not having a ticket. The soldier added "I'll be glad when this war is over so I can get out of the South."

Wholesale ill treatment of Negroes by some transportation systems should drive the Negro to separate bus lines for Negroes and others, which of course means that they must organize to protect such ventures in courts.



2-10-44

. . . But Ne-
of the camps close by

gro soldiers, who are forbidden entrance to the movies, restaurants and hotels, are permitted to sit on only three or four benches shamefully designated like this in the whole park. Isn't it a shame, when they may be giving their lives for

J. H.

Color Seen As A Bar To Army Promotions At Fort Benning

Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va.
1-15-44

FT. BENNING, Ga.— (ANP) — The seeming intention of the Army to hold Negro promotions down to the minimum has rarely been shown in clearer perspective than one sees it here at Fort Benning. This is not the only post where the commander has called his Negro officers in and told them that if they were to stay on that post, they would have to be content with first lieutenancies. The story has just come to light. It is about a group which calls itself "The Legion of Glorified Corporals."

A year ago December 17 there was started a regiment at Fort Benning which was ironically called the proving ground for Negro officers.

THE SITUATION

"In December, 1942, an enthusiastic group of young Negro quartermaster officers met at the temporary headquarters of the provisional truck regiment. Their conversation consisted mostly of speculating, speculating whether they would be commanding car companies, truck companies, or van companies.

A group of white second lieutenants fresh out of officer candidate school came and the rumor was started that these were the company commanders. The company commanders were appointed—all white except one. This fortunate one was called a company coordinator, not commander. All the adjutants (5) were white, all supply officers were colored (5).

The colored officers began to wonder just what this regiment was supposed to prove.

Then started the period of surprises. First, all white officers from the rank of second lieutenant to lieutenant colonel were promoted. Colored officers were told they didn't have enough **background**; yet they had all had experience as enlisted men and officers in truck regiments, whereas none of the whites had.

TRANSFERS REFUSED

After this the "guinea pigs" of the proving ground practically all applied for transfers. No transfers were allowed but a limited few were promoted to first lieutenants. 1-15-44

Then in March came the blow that left all concerned groggy. The commanding officer called all colored officers to a meeting and politely informed them that no Negroes on this post would be tolerated above the rank of lieutenant.

Shortly afterwards the ranking Negro officer of the post, a Major Cooper, was transferred to A. and T. College at Greensboro, N. C. Two months later all battalion supply officers and adjutants were changed. There were now white supply officers and colored adjutants. The job of supply officer

Only three out of 38 Negroes remained in positions requiring a promotions of these three, two were first lieutenants when some of the present white captains were still in OCS.

NOT ALL BAD

Fortunately, not everything at Ft. Benning is bad. A new post commander has shown himself to be fair. He has challenged the

Segregation
Editor
Dear
Enclosed
park surrounding the State
only three or four benches
fully designated like this in the
whole park. Isn't it a shame, when
they may be giving their lives for
our country.
J. H.
New York
2-10-44

47d-1944

First Racial Discrimination Case Filed Under Bolton Cadet Nurse Corps Measure

Admission To Class Denied Girl In Iowa

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
3-18-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— In the first case of discrimination growing out of the Bolton nurse training bill enacted last spring, the general counsel of the Federal Security agency, at the request of the U. S. Public Health service, ruled that discrimination is indicated only when funds are denied an institution on account of race, creed or color, and not because of the refusal of a white institution to accept a Negro application for training

The instance was disclosed by Leslie Perry legislative representative of the NAACP, last week, and deals with the experience of Mrs. Virginia Parsons of Kookuk, Iowa. Mrs. Parsons, it appears, applied to the St. Joseph's hospital of that city for training last fall. The hospital is a private institution.

"Apparently Mrs. Parsons met all requirements except that of color," according to the NAACP "Hospital authorities submitted the question of her admission to hospital to the student body which voted not to accept her."

It was the late Sen. Warren Barbour of New Jersey who presented the amendment to the Bolton bill barring discrimination "in the administration of the benefits and appropriations made under the respective provisions of the act on account of race, creed or color." However, when the Kookuk branch of the association took the matter up with public health, the ruling was requested.

The decision of Jack B. Tate general counsel for FSA, was that "the requirement of the act..will be complied with if in the administration of the act no plan is disapproved or payment denied to any institution on account of race, creed or color of the students, teachers or other personnel."

Whereas the Nurses' Education association lists 32 state accredited schools which admit only Negroes none of these schools are in Iowa, the nearest being Missouri, the Kookuk branch informed.

The association is now considering what action it shall take in line with the problem presented, Perry said.

They Want Jim Crow Thrown Out of the Army

Daily Worker. New York, N.Y. 3-16-44

—Daily Worker Photo

Members of the Fur Floor Boys and Shipping Clerks Union, snapped as they circulated through the fur market yesterday, gathering signatures on petitions asking Army and Navy to give Negroes in the armed services the same treatment as white comrades-in-arms. A hundred unionists participated, gathering thousands of signatures. Petitions said that Officer Candidate Schools, from which Jim Crow is excluded, work well and that this equitable policy should be extended to offer equality in training, promotion and assignment to active combat duty without discrimination for race, creed or color.

NEGRO ENSIGNS

Life, N.Y., N.Y. June 5, 1944

Sirs:

Shame on Mr. Jones (Letters to the Editors, May 15) for his thoughtlessness in condemning Negro ensigns. His ideas are of the kind which start race riots and prevent closer collaboration between the races.

I am a Southerner, but more than that, I am an American—and white.

W. W. RITTER JR. USNR
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Sirs:

We read with great distaste the letter in LIFE which expressed antagonism toward Negroes in the Navy. Our nation is engaged in a life-and-death struggle to insure equal opportunity for all men. If any man, regardless of his race, color or creed, can hasten our victory by his efforts he should be given that opportunity.

C. R. HARRIS, USNR
J. V. GREGSON, USNR
J. A. FISHER, USNR
F. T. WEHR, USNR
F. N. KIRCHHOF, USNR
O. D. MUNN JR., USNR
F. R. REINICKE, USNR
A. H. WHISLER JR., USNR
Princeton, N. J.

Hit Mistreatment of Sick Negro Soldiers

The Worker-New York, N.Y.
2-13-44

(Special to The Worker)

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Treatment of a group of sick Negro soldiers at Westover Field near here in the 1189th Guard Squadron has aroused bitter indignation among Negro and white troops as well as civilians.

Some 40 Negro troops had up until Feb. 8 been relieved of ardorous duty and properly con-guard duty.

ined to sick barracks because of The sick soldiers hesitantly in- hernia, rheumatism, arthritis and formed their immediate commander other painful ailments. On that they were unable to perform such date, Major E. H. Worth, who duties because it entailed outside recently took over command, called re-duty in cold weather, garbed in light of the sick Negro soldiers to his fatigue clothes. The commander in- office and told them to report for formed the Major of the soldiers' complaint, whereupon he sent 12 of the 15 to the guardhouse as prison-

ers, while three others reported for guard duty. 2-13-44

Adding to the mounting bitterness is a ruling segregating Negro soldiers from whites at the post theatre and field movies. Indicating the feeling of the Negro soldiers on this matter one remarked "There's not much difference to the sign 'Jews and Verboten' in Berlin restaurants and with our segregation at the Westover theatre."

UNDER GUARD

Four of the 12 who were sent to prison in the guardhouse, simply too ill to work, while eight more made an attempt to guard duty. However, those who did try to carry out orders found themselves surrounded with other guards armed with sub-machine guns and clubs.

Meanwhile other Negro soldiers at such as graduate parachute riggers, mechanics, armorers, radio men and so on, have been put to menial tasks making beds, firing boilers, KP orderlies and other tasks. Major Worth recently issued an order that Negroes firing boilers work 12 hour shifts instead of the customary eight hours. The troops also accuse Major Worth of "busting" Negro non-coms for minor infractions.

Army Bulletin Warns Racism Perils Victory

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

4-26-44

By Eugene Gordon

The War Department, probably stung by criticism of past undemocratic attitudes toward Negro soldiers, seems to be on the point of mending.

This fact is noted in an article by the Rev. Ben Richardson, assistant pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, in this week's issue of the People's Voice. Mr. Richardson reviews a new War Department pamphlet entitled "The Command of Negro Troops."

The pamphlet is intended to create "a fuller degree of understanding between Negro soldiers and the white men who now, or may in the future, command them."

"Commanders are told point blank that Negro soldiers frequently have lower averages on the Army General Classification Tests than do white men processed the same time," writes Mr. Richardson, "but this is the result, it says, of Negroes' having been denied opportunities in technical trades or jobs as civilians."

Commanders are told also that the comparatively low averages that occasionally appear "must not be taken as a sign that the Negro soldier cannot laern, but that he has not been given a chance previously and must be given one now."

Population trends, due to the shift of the Negro from the South, are noted, the pamphlet showing that, whereas one of every five Negro soldiers came from the North during the first world war, three of every five now come from the North.

This fact is, in turn, reflected in the findings of the general classification tests, in which the Negro soldier from the North is shown to posses a higher intelligence quotient than the Negro from the South. This criticism on the backward educational methods of the South, is not stated in so many words.

This scientific honesty throughout the pamphlet is probably the reason why its sponsor, the Secretary of War and its endorsers, Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff, and Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio, adjutant general, introduced it so quietly. They presumably feared lest is suffer the fate of "The Races of Mankind." The job, too, is a fine compliment to the Roosevelt administration, reason enough for poll taxers and their allies to fall upon it.

WHAT TO DO

The pamphlet says that men of advanced skills must be given every chance to find their places in the proper services; that literacy classes must go on constantly; that officers must not allow their inefficiency to result in blame of the men, this inefficiency being defined in terms of failure to get fullest cooperation of the soldiers. 4-26-44

Racial theories are condemned as "idiotic" and as dangerous to victory. Officers are told to seek the men's cooperation by treating them simply as Americans, not as Negro Americans. Offensive epithets are banned absolutely.

The Negro press, which Westbrook Pegler charges with responsibility for the Negro's hardships, is praised for "its honest protest" against persons and conditions which create the hardships.

The pamphlet, in short, according to Mr. Richardson, is a first-rate job for morale

BOOK EXTOLLING MIND OF NEGRO BARRED TO ARMY

Tribune
Chicago, Ill.
3-6-44

Washington, D. C., March 5 (AP).—Chairman May [D., Ky.] said today a threat by the house military committee to "expose the motive behind this book" had blocked army distribution of a pamphlet which he said described northern Negroes as the intellectual equals of southern white men.

The committee action, May said, came after it was learned that 55,000 copies of the book, "The Races of Mankind," had been purchased by the war department for distribution in connection with army orientation courses, following refusal of the United Service organizations to allow the pamphlets to be circulated in U. S. O. centers.

Designed for Tolerance.

The Kentuckian said sponsors of the book claimed it was prepared to promote tolerance by teaching the fundamental unity of races and contending that economic differences are largely responsible for racial differences. It was published, he said, by a New York City publishing company and prepared by Ruth Benedick.

May's ire was fanned by a claim he said the book made that a survey showed that the average Negro in New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut ranked on an intellectual level with the average white man in Kentucky, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

CIO Unit Aids Book.

After the U. S. O. had banned the book, May asserted the CIO war relief committee promoted its distribution and the army obtained 55,000 copies. Army spokesmen, he said, told the committee distribution had been held up because some of the material was subject to misinterpretation.

"It won't be distributed by the army," he said flatly. "If it is, we will have plenty to say and it will be said right on the floor of the house. It has no place in the army program." 3-6-44

While no further committee action is contemplated, May added, "we intend to keep an eye open to see that this book does not go out to our soldiers thru war department channels. If it does, somebody is going to have to do plenty of explaining."

Issuance Halted

Racial Book Used by Army Hit in House

Post
Washington, D.C.
4-28-44

"The Races of Mankind," a publication of which 55,000 copies were purchased by the Army for distribution among students of its orientation course, was assailed by a House Military subcommittee yesterday as containing statements ranging "all the way from half-truths through innuendos to downright inaccuracies."

Army distribution of the publication for study courses was halted, the committee said, after complaints were made that the pamphlet sought to make an intellectual comparison between Southern white men and northern Negroes.

Not Proper Time

The subcommittee, headed by Representative Durham (D., N. C.), said it was "convinced that war-time is no time to engage in the publication and distribution of pamphlets presenting controversial issues or promoting propaganda for or against any subdivision of the American people."

The book was written by Prof. Ruth Benedict and Dr. Gene Weltfish, department of anthropology, Columbia University. Its promoter was identified as the Public Affairs Committee, Inc. of New York. Publications of the Public Affairs Committee, Inc., the report continued, "are recommended by the affiliated schools for workers (Communist) and sold by Communist book stores.

Brotherhood Theory 4-28-44

The committee said the book's basic theme was that the races of mankind "are all brothers; but even brothers in the same family are not necessarily equal mentally, physically, socially, politically, or morally."

The most controversial statement in the book, the committee said, purported to be the result of an intelligence test given soldiers of the last war, with "soutrern whites from States having small educational appropriations" being compared with "northern Negroes from States with much greater budgets, to the detriment of the former."

NEGROES KEPT FROM FIGHTING; FISH ASKS WHY

Tribune
Chicago, Ill.
2-24-44

Stimson Says They 'Can't Master Weapons.'

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.—Rep. Fish [R., N. Y.] today told the house of his astonishment that virtually no Negro troops have been engaged in combat after 26 months of war.

An officer of a colored infantry regiment in the last war, Fish criticized the war department policy of using these soldiers as service troops, recalling that they made gallant fighting records in 1917-18.

He inserted in the Congressional Record a letter from Secretary of War Stimson which denied discrimination is being practiced against Negro soldiers, but asserted their efficiency ratings were so low that many of the Negro units have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons."

Forecasts Resentment

"I believe many American Negroes will resent bitterly this broad indictment of their people and the discrimination against them in combat units in defense of their country," Fish declared. "It seems passing strange that French Senegalese or whole British divisions from India have been fighting so superbly with our allies, and that Russians with low educational qualifications have been the heroes of this war."

The New Yorker referred particularly to the "breaking up of such a well known and gallant Negro regiment as the former 8th Illinois National Guard unit."

Turned Into Engineers.

"I cannot speak for the colored people of Chicago," he said, "but I should think they will be shocked to learn that this regiment, of which they rightly have been so proud because of its service in the last war, is now being turned into an engineer regiment after more than two years of training in preparation for front line service as a field artillery unit." 2-24-44

Stimson, in his letter to Fish, admitted that Negro combat units had been converted to service units, but added:

"Large numbers of Negro troops are overseas or en route and will be given every opportunity to win battle honors and demonstrate their worth in actual combat."

Bias Seen In Resignation Of Mississippi Draft Board

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 2-25-44

MERIDIAN, Miss. — (Special) — The ugly head of racial prejudice was seen in the resignation of Lauderdale County Draft Board here last Saturday, in the statement issued by Mrs. Lula Abraham, Clerk of Laudardale County Draft Board, No. 1, who resigned her office after being exonerated of charges of ineptness by W. Ludham and Robert Gillespie, members of the board, who also resigned following Mrs. Abraham.

Upon her resignation Mrs. Abraham, who is of Latin-European extration, issued the following statement: "For this I have been literally crucified on the cross of intolerance because of my nationality and in spite of the fact that I have been born an American citizen in this beloved southland. Truth, right, and justice will prevail against every form of racial persecution by small pressure groups."

Mr. Gillespie stated that Mrs. Abraham was guilty and he knew of nothing she had done to justify him in disagreeing with her removal. Mr. Ludham stated on had no knowledge of any act on her part to justify her removal.

The resignations closed a controversy of two months, beginning when American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Spanish War Veterans, and the Carpenters Union, made complaint that Mrs. Abraham had been exempted from service by Washington Selective Service Authorities, who returned a verdict to Washington Selective Service Authorities, who returned a verdict exonerating the clerk of Service Authorities, who returned a verdict exonerating the clerk of general charges, and suggesting that the local board members make the final decision.

47d-1944

Colonel Raps Segregation, Puts Words Into Action

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Indiantown Gap Commander "Ashamed of Mess My People Make of Racial Situation"

By RICHARD E. HARRIS

INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa.—Col. Forrest E. Ambrose of the Army Service Forces Training Center, the one post commandant openly to declare himself against discrimination, then put his words into action, took such a stand because he is "frankly, ashamed of the mess my people have made of the racial situation." 7-22-44

The path that led this writer to seek an interview with the colonel

COL. FORREST AMBROSE

were statements of the highest praise for the man from soldiers of both races, from buck privates to commissioned officers.

Men like Pvt. William Zuber of Birmingham, Ala., previously stationed at four camps, and Second Lieut. James M. Morton, asserted "victim" of sixteen camps, proudly insist that the "Gap" is tops.

Building Post-War Amity

Explaining further the motive behind his precedent-setting stand, the colonel said he was determined to make good the big opportunity of instilling in the hearts and minds of his "boys" the necessity of learning to work and live together harmoniously in the post-war world. 7-22-44

"As long as I am here," the veteran of thirty-two years with the Army said, "there will be no discrimination here. I teach my boys the value of good teamwork at every opportunity that presents itself."

The championship baseball team, the war bond show, which brought in $2,000,600 from its six-day tour and the orientation staff, are outstanding examples of this teamwork between races.

Colonel Ambrose is personally sponsoring a letter contest among section leaders concerning their ideas and interpretation of teamwork. 7-22-44

No Dramatics, He Says

"There's nothing dramatic about this," he replied, answering as to why he took the problems personally. "The problems simply present themselves. Then there are instances of soldiers' parents continually sending letters of appreciation for what I have tried to do for their sons. This means a lot to me."

"Democracy is to mean everyone, if it is to mean anything. It's got to be 100 per cent. Even though America has set examples all over the world, we still have great flaws in our system of democracy, and these flaws must be eliminated," he contended.

The father of an Army lieutenant and an ensign, Colonel Ambrose came here from Washington twenty-one months ago. He dislikes office work.

Abe Lincoln His "Ideal"

Born of Virginia parents in Springfield, Ill. the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, his "ideal," the Colonel was schooled in Kansas, but traveled later with his parents, who were engaged in home mission work for the Presbyterian Church. 7-22-44

His travels took him to China, and other parts of the Orient and Manila, where his sons were born. At these places, he said, he gained a greater perspective of what America meant to the world.

It is to help justify the little nations' beliefs in America that the beloved commandant of this post is working unceasingly.

"If America is to maintain that high position of respect which she holds among peoples of other nations, then she must strengthen her position here at home," he emphasized.

This Is Not Democracy

Amsterdam News

Sir: In this war for liberation, Negro as well as white Americans are working, fighting and dying side by side. In addition, Negroes like white Americans, are making specific sacrifices and contributions on the home front such as giving generously to the American Red Cross and to National War Fund which disburses money to USO. When funds are collected by these organizations, none is earmarked: "For white soldiers only" or "For Negro soldiers." Ostensibly, funds are collected for democratic purposes. All monies are supposed to be spent for "all our boys" without discrimination. When American Red Cross appeals for funds, it says: "Remember, the ARC is always at his side." ARC does not say: "at the side of white soldiers..." His side means, at the side of ALL soldiers, Negro or white: at the side of all American soldiers.

Yet what do we find? At Schick General Hospital, Clinton, Iowa, ARC holds social affairs, gives parties supposedly for ALL the patients. Actually, these parties and affairs are for whites only. Of course ARC does not openly drive Negroes away from these affairs. But in practice it does just that. New York, N.Y.

Jim Crow In Action

All hostesses at these affairs are white, ARC refuses to permit Negro hostesses. The reason? Negro hostesses might MIX with white soldiers! Consequently, when these social affairs are held, Negro patients find themselves isolated and alone. 7-22-44

"Oh, no," says ARC... "we don't ask the Negroes to leave...we don't discriminate..." Eventually, the Negroes leave the auditorium. They aren't part of things. They're left out in the cold.

"Give...Remember, ARC is always at his side..."

Is ARC at the side of these Negro patients who find themselves isolated and alone, frozen out of social affairs?

Is it for this that democratic whites contribute to ARC?

Call it what ARC will. This is discrimination against Negroes. It is un-American and must be stopped.

Similar Situation

At the local USO, Clinton, Iowa, we have a similar situation. Negro soldiers, accompanied by Negro girls, are not allowed to dance at the USO. The reason? Negro girls are not registered with USO. When the girls ask to register, they are told this is "against rules," and both Negro men and women are asked to leave and not cause "trouble."

Is it for this that the National War Fund helps sustain USO? Is it for this that Negroes contribute to the National War Fund and to USO? 7-22-44

It is not the Negro who is causing trouble here. It is the anti-Negro policy and practice of USO.

Funds for USO were contributed by Negro and white Americans on good faith; with the understanding that such funds would be spent for the recreation of ALL our boys regardless of color. USO must keep faith with all Americans, Negro and white—USO must keep faith with democracy.

Is This Liberalism?

Clinton, Iowa, prides itself in its long history of liberalism and anti-slavery. Iowa is democratic. Its people overwhelmingly support the war. But some businessmen in Clinton do not understand the meaning of democracy.

Negro patients can't sit down to eat a sandwich or drink a glass of beer in most of Clinton's clubs and bars.

"Oh, no!" they say to Negro soldiers, "we don't discriminate. We invite your trade."

But in Clinton, Iowa, Negro soldiers recuperating from wounds and injuries sustained in all war theatres must drink standing up or "on the curb." They can eat a sandwich served "on the sidewalk," or they can "have it wrapped and put in a sack," take it home and eat it there. 7-22-44

Negro soldiers are dying so that "free enterprise" can survive in Clinton, Iowa. Free enterprise in Clinton, Iowa, must be made democratic.

An Army Sergeant
"Stationed" in Iowa.

Color Line Is Fading As Net On Japs Drawn

World — Memphis, Tenn.

8-4-44

All Races Fight, Work To Defeat Common Enemy

8-4-44

By WILL V. NEELY
(ANP Foreign Correspondent)

WITH U. S. TROOPS IN THE PACIFIC, — (ANP) — The war now in progress in the Pacific can, when it is recorded in history, be considered the war of the races.

It is a war where several races are being pitted against the influx of the Japanese. To appreciate the true meaning of what is going on in the Pacific, one needs only to glance at the record.

China, with her millions powerful, yet struggling against a nation of aggressors, realizes that the Japanese grew in power even under her very shadow while she passed thru the years in confusion.

CHINA HOLDS KEY

China holds the key to the new free world. Across her sprawling lands, men are fighting and dying to regain the torch of freedom so vital to her peoples. 8-4-44

To the aid of China came the big nations, realizing that to lose China was to risk the future of the Asiatic-Pacific world.

Yet, China in her deathhold against aggression was not alone. There was huge Australia with a total population about the same as New York City.

'At the start of the war, Australia rushed her fighting men to the middle coast and to Africa to stem the tide of Rommel and his German hordes. From England to Egypt, the Australian soldier did his part to represent his homeland and the homeland of millions who were to come into the war later.

This left Australia pitfully weak in fighting men but not weak in fighting spirit.

FORCES SANK

The Japs knew of Australia's weakness. They thought invasion of her soil would be an easy task. First, they would take New Guinea and then----

American planes sighted and sank the invasion forces before they had a chance to carry out the threat. 8-4-44

After the arrival of Gen. Mac Arthur, Australia took a new lease on life. American soldiers began to arrive and for the first time in history, Negro troops set feet on Australian soil. With the defense of Australia came the task of moving back the Japanese in New Guinea

New Guinea became the fighting ground for the Australians, and American white and Negro troops. Supplies were rushed to the Jap infested jungle. Australian infantry moved forward while American infantry completed the encirclement.

Negro engineers and quartermaster troops made roads thru murky jungle paths. The net tightened. The whites and Negroes were pitted against the Japanese.

FIGHT TOGETHER

Negro troops arrived in India and Burma and China. Mixed races fighting an working together for one common cause—Democracy!

And so the net still tightens. It is a huge football game with the navy making the passes and being followed up by the Marines and the army, or perhaps the army or marines making the passes and being supported by the Navy.

It is a mixture of races, this war in the Pacific. 8-4-44

When the book of time is closed and the world is at peace again—the peoples of all races can thank God that when freedom is at stake, the color line is as flexible as the horizon.

officers of this or any other nation.
5 per cent of the colored
would vote to get out of
ay by tomorrow morning,"
a frank colored officer, a
in telling about some of
ildish white supremacy
rules here. Ft. Huachuca, being
major, in telling about some of
the childish white supremacy from the lips of crushed spirits.
declared a frank colored officer, a not hearing, callous to the mul-
the army by tomorrow morning," ceiving an not seeing, hearing and
officers would have to become adept at re-
post, 99.5 per cent of the colored "To remain in the army, one

Says Army Clings To Supremacy Rules

Memphis Tenn. World

7-29-44

FT. HUACHUCA, (ANP) —"I an all-Negro
believe that if a vote were taken the best ra

a fair hearing for that matter," he said. 7-21-44

"Every officer of color hates segregation a thousand fold, more than he did when he left home. Under its cruel and unyielding yoke, lawyers serve in service regiments, social workers, teachers and business men are in quartermaster corps and college graduates never get to officer candidate school." Frustration is the order of the day, he disclosed.

BI RACIAL INEQUALITIES

He hit the evils of racial segregation by pointing out the inequalities of bi-racialism. "Nowhere is there equality of opportunity," he said. "White civilians out-rank colored; recreational facilities are grossly inadequate for the one, while for the other, every opportunity is open." Even on a so-called Negro post, this condition exists, he declared.

"Think of serving in an army where doctrines exist prohibiting a Negro from operating on a white man," the colored officer continued, "or where a white woman is not allowed to perform in a show exclusively for Negro troops." He explained that the former regulation or rule is sometimes violated by special order from the commanding officer but the latter rule remains inviolate.

"I think the future security of this nation as a democracy calls for severe efforts on the part of every thinking person to fight for the complete integration of Negroes everywhere into every line of endeavor," he said. "There should be no more separate institutions with consequent separate and often inadequate facilities and personnel." 7-25-44

He said that he had observed how many southern views had changed on the race question since they have had a chance to mix, and mingle with intelligent Negroes The officer referred to the fair treatment members of the 92nd and 93d division had received at the station hospital, which is staffed entirely by Negro medics and nurses, adding that colored doctors and nurses have set a record in the army's medical corps.

Army Stresses Jim Crow Ban

PM—New York, N.Y. 8-25-44

The War Dept. has taken steps to end discrimination between whites and Negroes at Army posts throughout the U. S. A.

A stop-discrimination directive, dated July 8, went out to all post commanders but its existence did not become known publicly until yesterday when the Montgomery, Ala., *Advertiser* learned that Jim Crow post exchanges had been abolished at nearby Maxwell Field.

At Washington, a War Dept. spokesman confirmed reports that the orders came from Washington, explaining that the directive was a general letter to all Army establishments calling attention to the Department's standing policy against discrimination.

The spokesman explained that the Department's policy was that there must be no discrimination at Army posts, especially at post exchanges, bus depots, in theateres and on buses.

The War Dept. would not release the text of the directive, signed by Maj. Gen. James A. Ulio, the adjutant general, explaining that it was in "a restricted classification," but disclosed that Army rules provide: 8-25-44

¶ That no post exchange may be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race.

¶ That buses, trucks or other transportation owned and operated either by the Government or by a Governmental instrumentality will be available to all military personnel regardless of race and regardless of local civilian custom.

¶ That no Army theater or performance therein may be denied any group or individual because of race.

At Maxwell Field, publication relations officers refused to discuss changes there, standing on the position that the directive was "restricted" and could not be released or discussed.

The *Advertiser*, quoting civilian workers, reported that instructions were read to civilian and military personnel by organization officers at the big air base adding that some civilians had quit their jobs protesting indignantly against the change.

No Bias In New Guinea Hospitals

World—Memphis, Tenn. 8-22-44

By CONRAD CLARK

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA — (A N P)—Discrimination has received a terriole kick in the pants over here in New Guinea, as far as hospitalization for the Negro soldiers are concerned.

This afternoon I went to one of the station hospitals to visit two fellow New Yorkers, who are members of an all-Negro Anti-aircraft Artillery battalion over here.

The two soldiers were, T/4 Norwood Seigel and T/5 Eddie Conover, both residents of Harlem. According to the medical records Seigel had a slight attack of bronchial pneumonia, and Conover was suffering from a mild attack of backache.

While in the ward visiting T/5 Conover, a nurse came in to treat the patients in her section. There were less than four Negroes in the ward, as compared to a dozen white GIs. 8-22-44

The nurse went down the line, treating each patient the same as the other, and when this correspondent asked how was the general attitude of the white medical personnel towards their Negro patients, she replied, "the duty of a nurse is to administer to the sick, and the hospital knows no patient by color, simply that he is an American soldier, fighting for his country, and who needs medical attention."

Army regulations prohibit the using of an individual name, but during the course of many visits to the different hospitals, the writer has found the same spirit of democracy, all times

Ban Segregation At Maxwell Field, Ala.

Daily Worker—Atlanta, Ga.

Newspaper Reports

8-25-44

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (SNS)—The Montgomery, Advertiser said Thursday the "segregation of races at the Maxwell Field Post Exchange was terminated Wednesday on instructions from the War Department."

The newspaper said a directive read to all military and civilian personnel was "restricted information."

Public Relations officers at the post Thursday declined comment on the story.

The Advertiser said its information, "from a trustworthy but non-military source" indicated the "directive reaching Maxwell Field was only one of others going to every military post in continental United States." 8-25-44

The directive, the newspaper said, "requires the removal of all segregation devices on the post so far as military personnel is concerned."

Maxwell Field, on the outskirts of Montgomery, is one of the Army Air Forces' oldest installations. It includes the headquarters of the Eastern Flying Command and a four-engined school.

Civilian employes at the field have limited access to post exchange facilities. They make purchases for "on premises" consumption, but pay the state tax on such items as cigarettes and tobacco.

The Fight on Jim-Crow Gains

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.

THE recent War Department order prohibiting segregation in army post exchanges, transit facilities and movie theaters is the latest in a series of recent historic victories against Jimcrow. 8-26-44

It follows the Army order ending all discrimination against Negro nurses and the President's action in upholding the Fair Employment Practices Committee in the Philadelphia transit situation.

These advances, and many made earlier, are inseparable from the nature of the war we are fighting. They are essential to national unity, to national morale and to maximum participation of the people in the war. They reflect the contribution made by Negro Americans toward victory, such as that of the 8,000 Negro seamen who have been shipping war materials across.

These victories are made possible by the policies of the national administration, headed by President Roosevelt, and by the ever-increasing movement of the people, Negro and white, for the elimination of all discrimination.

The War Department action hits at the last refuge of the white supremacists' race segregation, and already their spokesmen are howling for the President to cancel the order. 8-26-44

Much still remains to be done in the battle against Jimcrow. With the chief carriers of the race supremacy virus—the Nazis—now facing total destruction, this is the time to rally all democratic forces to put an end to the infection in America.

It is especially vital to guarantee that the direction in which the nation has been going under President Roosevelt's leadership is not reversed. Negro and white patriots, irrespective of party, who oppose race discrimination should throw their full weight into the campaign to reelect FDR.

Army Bans Jim Crow From Its PXs, Buses, Film Showings

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y. 8-25-44

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—Negro and white soldiers are to be equals in Army post exchanges, and Army buses and motion picture houses, according to a War Department order issued yesterday ending race segregation.

First knowledge of the order came in an article in The Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser that "segregation of races at the Maxwell Field post exchange was terminated yesterday on instructions from the War Department." 8-25-44

The history-making order said: "Post exchanges—While an exchange or a branch exchange may be allocated to serve specific areas or units, no exchange will be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race. Where such branch exchanges are established personnel will not be restricted to the use of their area or unit exchanges, but will be permitted to use any other exchange on the post, camp or station.

"Transportation—Buses, trucks or other transportation owned and operated by the government: Restricting personnel to certain sections of such transportation facilities because of race will not be permitted either on or off a post, camp or station, regardless of local civilian custom.

"Army motion picture theatres may be allocated to serve certain areas or units, but no theatre or performance in any theatre will be denied to any group or individual because of race."

47d-1944

Interracial Group Protests Abuse Of Soldiers At Westover Field, Mass.

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

2-26-44

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Westover Field, an army site near this town, came in for caustic criticism from Springfield residents Friday, after an interracial delegation had investigated charges of jim crow and persecution of colored soldiers at the field.

Following a two-hour conference with officers in charge, the delegation came away charging that Col. U. G. Jones, commanding officer at the field had sought to "whitewash" the situation.

Conditions at this army base reached a climax last Tuesday when 20 colored soldiers, confined to a hospital barracks were ordered to do heavy patrol duty. All except three refused, protesting that they were in no physical condition to perform the task. Nine of the soldiers were immediately placed in the guardhouse while eight others, attired in prison garb, were marched out onto the field by white soldiers armed with sub-machine guns, clubs and pistols, and forced to clean the field of debris. 2-26-44

It was this incident, revealed by colored soldiers themselves, that precipitated the citizens' investigation. The Springfield group that, urged by popular protest, went to the field to demand action against such abuses, was composed of the following local leaders in civic affairs: Mayor J. Albin Anderson, two colored ministers, the Reverends H. L. Moore and Herbert Wilkins; Russell Hatton, post commander of the Harrison Wright chapter, American Legion, Springfield's Negro chapter; C. Herbert Salter, organizer, United Electric Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO; John Haraty, chairman of the Western Massachusetts CIO Council Committee against discrimination; and Mrs. Katharyne Jones, chairman of the Springfield Committee for the Abolition of Poll Tax, who served as spokesman.

In presenting its case, the delegation demanded an immediate end to all forms of racial segregation and persecution at the field. When questioned about the soldiers who had lodged the complaints, the delegation flatly refused to divulge any names. 2-26-44

Concerning the matter of segregation, soldiers at the field have constantly complained of being discriminated against in the barracks, mess halls, chapel and in the post's theatre. Further, they charge that colored soldiers are assigned largely to menial tasks, kept working long hours and those who protest are deprived of their stripes.

Major E. H. Worth who has been in charge of Negro personnel since Jan. 1, was directly blamed by the delegation as being responsible for the humiliating conditions aimed at Negro soldiers in the camp.

The city of Springfield prides itself on being the first city in the United States to initiate a broad program of education for tolerance in its public schools. This program is called the Springfield Plan, and has become widely accepted by educators throughout the country.

Uncovering Washington

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By Harry S. McAlpin
White House Correspondent
(Released Through the National Negro Publishers Association)

4-22-44

WHEN an Army officer with several years' ratings of "excellent" finds his morale so low as result of service in the South where he has been subjected to discriminations, insults, segregation, and lack of opportunity to use his skills to the fullest, says he would feel better if his fellow-Americans would just treat him like they do the Nazi prisoners—it's time for the War Department to sit up and take notice.

This officer is a Negro. He is educated. He is not a "squawker." He has been a good soldier. He admits a lot of progress has been made—over a hard, bumpy road—toward improvement of the Negro's plight in the Army. He cites the advance in aviation brought about through the efforts of Judge Hastie, of the present Civilian Aide, Truman Gibson, and public pressure — particularly the Negro press. He is not unmindful of the increased number of Negro officers as compared to the last war, nor of the broadened base of training given Negro enlisted men. 4-22-44

McALPIN

But he is bitter about the lack of respect the uniform of his country gets when it is draped upon the body of a Negro—officers and enlisted men alike.

And significantly, he says, the problem is not among the rank and file, in the Army, nor among the lower ranks of officers. Whites and Negroes can and do work together, play together, eat together, whenever they are not ordered not to do so.

White officers have insisted he accompany them to hotels, restaurants, etc., in the deepest South. He has done so. White enlisted men go to the "colored" movie on the post, though Negroes are refused tickets to enter the "white" movie. He has seen white soldiers, in protest against discrimination, take the seats at the "reserved tables" for Negroes in mess halls, where Negroes have been ordered to sit, but the whites have not been ordered not to sit.

The "problem" he says, is usually the creation of the top ranking officers, who "decree" separate movies, separate mess halls or tables, separate officers' clubs, separate seating on busses, separate toilets, etc. "In the interest of harmony, good order and morale," or "in compliance with local laws and customs."

Yet they do these same things in Iowa, Michigan, New Jersey, and most places outside of the deep South, even where laws and customs are in direct opposition to the Army policies of segregation—even when past experience proves the detrimental effect on morale. 4-22-44

What is needed, says this officer, are orders from Washington on the matter of race. Every officer, and particularly those wearing "leaves" and "eagles" and "stars," are "order-minded." They are jealous of their rank and conscious of the shame they may bring upon themselves and their families by disobeying orders.

A lot of us have arrived at similar conclusions by observation from the "outside." Here it is from a man who is living it every day. He can't do much, if anything about it as a member of the armed forces. He has gone on being a good soldier and an "excellent" officer—as he should.

The correction of such conditions should be a "must-drive" on the part of civilian Negroes and liberals during the Victory-year of 1944 as an integral part of the spirit of democracy—not to mention the political campaign this fall.

NAACP Asks Seabees' 'Unfitness' Charge Review

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

9-23-44

NEW YORK — Permission to file briefs and appear personally on behalf of two colored Seabees dismissed from the U.S. Naval Reserve October 23, 1943, on a charge of "unfitness" was asked by NAACP special counsel in a letter September 13 to Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal.

The men, Arthur M. Segoins and Clifford F. Smith, were among the original 15 Seabees given "undesirable" discharges for discussing racial grievances at a supposedly "off-the-record" meeting called by the commanding officer while they were on duty at a base in the Pacific.

The facts revealed in a statement made to the NAACP by the Seabees immediately after their dismissal revealed that:

"When the meeting was called the commanding officer explained that the meeting was absolutely off the record. Each of the men told of grievances. Some of them were: 9-23-44

"White" and "colored" signs; the matter of ratings; a colored man could not be promoted to a first class rating; separate liberty buses for colored and white; all of the first class men and leaders with the exception of a few, were white.

Ratings Meant Nothing

"It was also brought out that the colored masters of arms were not permitted to place white sailors on report or to take any other measures, but were forced to refer the matter to white masters of arms; any punishment for breaking rules was uniformly more severe for colored men than for white.

"At the close of the meeting the men were told by the CO that he was glad the meeting had been called, that they would have similar meetings in the future, and it was decided that an interracial committee would be formed to bring about better relationship between white and colored. 9-23-44

"The next day the Regimental Commander wanted to know what the meeting of the day before was about, and who sponsored it. Told that we had no right to be at that meeting, we were asked if we knew exactly what we had gotten into; that it was against Navy regulations to hold such a meeting."

Why Selfridge Ousted Flyers

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Two Air Force Units Transferred South

CLUB IS ISSUE

Regulations Forbid Jim Crow Clubs

6-26-44

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SELFRIDGE FIELD, Mich. — The real reason that two Army Air Forces units were suddenly removed from this field to Southern camps is because they insisted on a square deal, War Department denials to the contrary.

This is the inside story behind the surprise transfer of the 477th Bombardment Group to Fort Knox, Ky., and the 333rd Fighter Squadron to Walterboro Air Base, S.C.

Colored officers of the units were barred from the officers' club and a group of the more militant ones appealed to the commanding officer.

He upheld the jim crow and an appeal was made to the air forces area commander who ruled that as long as he was in charge, colored and white officers would not socialize together. 5-20-44

Offers Separate Club

He promised, however, that a separate officers' club would be constructed for colored only and such a club was being built when the units were shifted.

Dissatisfied with a jim-crow arrangement, the officers threatened to resign their commissions en masse, but lacked 100 per cent support from all the men.

One of the men who spoke out against the jim-crow order was Lieut. Milton Henry of Philadelphia who was dismissed following a court-martial hearing for insubordination.

Army Regulations Cited

Real reason for his dismissal from the Army, however, is he insisted that the jim-crow arrangements and barring officers from the regular club was a violation of Army regulations. 5-20-44

titude instruction, etc.

Had the Army intended to re- that the two move the air force units, it would een stationed not have started installation of now in Italy, this latest equipment. Word now ember, were is that the base will be used as ly is the a rehabilitation camp for return- ildings, train- ing army veterans. nical devices Residents of near-by Detroit are here, includ- up in arms about the transfer of trainers, low- the men. 5-20-44 for high al- In addition to rapping the

s Noted'

Other Indications

[EDITOR'S NOTE: It is regulation Army made the next move—trans- moved out. 210-19, 1940—No officers' club, mess for all units to the South, where etc., shall be permitted to oc- they would be forced to abide by cupy any part of a public building Further indication that unless such club, mess, etc., ex- the mores of the Dixie commun- ends to all officers on the post ities. right of full membership.]

Another of the men released here since the 332nd. now for the same reason was Lieut. and who was assigned to the unit transferred suddenly Bob Carter of East Orange, N.J. and told he would be there for fact that special building

The dismissal of one or two men trates that the transfer was made were being installed here was designed to scare the others on the spur of the moment. The into obedience. This failing, the day after he arrived, the unit pressure chamber for

Army for attempting to enforce jim-crow laws in a non-segregated community, they are lambasting a colored major who, they say, betrayed the colored officers who were fighting for equal rights and gave out the information which led to their dismissal.

Soldiers Who Went On Strike Back To Work

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

Granted Extra Pay And None Has Yet Been Punished

9-30-44

TUSCON, Ariz. — The 57 Negro soldiers stationed at Marana AAF here who went on strike Sept. 11 returned to work two days later. The soldiers, assigned permanently to kitchen police, have been granted the extra pay they say was their due when working for cadets. None of the men has been punished.

The strike was the climax against conditions which have long caused resentment among the men. Performing KP for periods up to 19 months, working 9 months for cadets without the customary extra pay, obliged to execute their extra squadron duty in the mess halls or other squadron areas than their own, unable to find adequate recreational facilities in Tucson — all these anteceded the strike which occurred when civilians were assigned to the recently reopened cadet mess hall.

9-30-44

PUT IN GUARD HOUSE

Thirty-three of the strikers had been put in the guardhouse for the two days of their work stoppage, and all had been warned of the long prison terms to which they were subject for mutiny.

The outcome of the strike is as follows: all Negro KPs have been assigned to the cadet mess hall where they will draw $25 per month in extra pay. However, they now work 84 hours a week as compared to the 56 hours a week they formerly worked in the general mess hall.

9-30-44

Civic leaders in Tucson have expressed renewed interest in establishing a Negro servicemen's center near amusement and transportation centers.

Whites Didn't Mind Business in England

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

5-20-44

WASHINGTON—Denying that efforts to stir up feeling against our soldiers in England had been successful, George W. Goodman, recently returned ARC worker, told of an order issued by General Dwight Eisenhower stating that white soldiers had a right to their own prejudices at home, but that Britain was the Englishman's home.

The order ended with a blunt admonition to white soldiers to "mind your own business." Unfortunately," said Goodman, "Gen. Eisenhower went to Africa shortly afterwards, and they didn't mind their own business."

Mr. Goodman, former executive secretary of the Washington Urban League, who spent approximately two years as a Red Cross Club director in Bristol, England, addressed the Capital Press Club on Wednesday. He denied recent reports that our soldiers were being excluded from the community life of England as a result of the importation of native prejudices by white American soldiers.

5-20-44

Most Popular Soldier

While agreeing that prejudiced whites, officers and enlisted men alike, were sparing no efforts to force their racial bias upon the English, Goodman contended that the colored soldier has made himself the most popular allied soldier in the British Isles.

This, Mr. Goodman said, "has been due largely to their sense of humor, respect of local customs, and outstanding work records."

The English have been told that our soldiers were lazy, uncouth, and not to be compared with the British colonials.

Tale of Two Armies

The lord mayor of an English town told him that white American officers had said that they were bringing two different armies to Britain, Goodman related. The officers gave the impression that the colored troops had been picked up on the coast of Africa and brought on to England.

Said Goodman: "I told him that the only difference between the actual and reported occurrence was that of timing.

"I told him that we had been picked up on the coast of Africa against our wills and brought to England. But I also pointed out that we had stopped over in America long enough to help them to build a great nation before coming here."

5-20-44

Built Greatest Base

The Englishmen were rather confused, according to Goodman, at seeing the colored soldiers, relatively untrained in engineering, construct one of the greatest systems of air bases in the world.

They were no less amazed to see their work around the docks. The speed and skill with which they handled and unloaded cargo amazed even the skilled and experienced stevedores.

Commenting upon the "black and white nights" which nearly led to the resignation of all the colored Red Cross workers in England, he said that a command order had been issued to prevent the concentration of unusually large numbers of soldiers in any given village or city at one time.

"By the time that the order had filtered down to Bristol it read that no colored soldiers should come to Bristol on leave on certain nights."

Dailies Omit Negro Gun Crew News On Feat

Informer — Houston, Texas

NEW YORK.—Most daily newspapers and the big press associations failed to identify a Negro gun crew on the destroyer Lansdale whose sinking on April 20 was announced by the Navy department May 10.

Among New York papers, the Daily News was the only one to mention the Negro gun crew. It used the following language:

"Although the ship was torn almost in half, her gunners fought on and shot down at least two of the attackers (German planes). One gun, manned by Negro mess attendants, kept firing after the deck was awash and brought down one plane."

7-12-44

The United Press account, carried in the World Telegram, used the following language: "Though the ship had been torn almost in half, the Lansdale gunners fought on, downing at least two of the attacking planes. One of the planes was shot down even while the deck was awash."

The Associated Press account mentioned far down in the story the fact that colored mess attendants manned one of the guns.

Obey Jim Crow or Else, U.S. Tells Service Men

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

5-20-44

NEW YORK—Precise and "official" information as to what a colored man in uniform may expect by way of personal humiliation if assigned to a training camp in the South was revealed last week by the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces.

The committee, organized on a nation-wide scale, with offices at 360 W. 125th Street, to fight jim crow in uniform, began national distribution this week of a sheet of instructions titled "Laws Concerning Segregation of the Races."

The sheet, an exact reproduction by photo-offset of the original mimeographed paper, is, according to the committee, the key part of a "so-called indoctrination course" given every colored trainee upon arrival at the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Memphis, Tenn.

5-20-44

Called Typical Example

"The paper is all the more damning," the committee adds, "in that it is not an isolated instance of official backing up of jim crow by Federal authorities, but rather is typical of the kind of 'indoctrination' colored troops are subjected to throughout camps in the South."

While the committee points out that "it comes as no surprise that the army and navy carefully practice segregation," it adds, "it comes with something of a shock to see the details actually on paper and to read the cold, contemptuous language in which it is written."

The offending "order" picks up all of Dixie's jim-crow laws, rules and regulations providing for separation of the races in public transportation, hotels, restaurants and places of amusement, and places behind them the official sanction of the Federal Government.

5-20-44

The so-called "indoctrination" paper in full follows:

Laws Concerning Separation of Races

1. The laws of the State of Tennessee require the separation of races on all public transportation systems in this State.
2. Members of the colored race upon entering a street car or bus shall occupy those seats which are located at the rear portion of street car or bus and whenever seats in the bus or street car become vacant which are to the rear of any member of the colored race, such person shall vacate the seat which he then occupies and move back and occupy the rear seat which is then vacant.
3. The conductor or other person in charge of the street car or bus shall have the right to increase or decrease the space so set apart for either race, or he may require any passenger to change his seat when or so often as the change in passengers may make such change necessary.

5-20-44

4. All passengers on street cars or buses are required to take the seats assigned to them, and any person refusing to do so, shall leave the street car or bus, or if they remain in the street car or bus after having been asked and refuses to take the seat assigned to them shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than twenty-five dollars ($25).
5. The laws of the State of Tennessee also give to the owners and their employees of hotels, inns, theatres, public houses, moving picture shows, restaurants, places of amusement, or other business the right to determine for themselves the kind of patronage, customers, or guests they desire to have, and to exclude from their premises or business any person or persons for any reason they think necessary.

Goodtime Record — the Baltimore can understanding any kind of

friends at the Shoppe in Baltimo stand my drinking

hear."

For Colored, Good Conduct Medal; for Whites, DSC

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

8-12-44

Tan Yanks Tell How Embarrassing It Is to Have to Serve in Non-Combat Units Only

BALTIMORE—Resentment over being compelled to serve primarily in non-combat units is found among many colored soldiers on Saipan Island, according to a Baltimore soldier in an engineer battalion there.

Private Lonesome praised the morale division for its work on the island. He said that movies are shown nightly and transcriptions of popular radio programs in the States and leading dance bands are broadcast.

He described the Koreans, many of whom were captured and later released and given unskilled jobs, as the hardest workers he has ever seen.

One of the best sellers at his outfit's field exchange, he said, is beer "which is almost as hot as coffee," and added, "I know my

Praises Morale Unit

47d-1944

THEY LIVE AND WORK TOGETHER IN FIGHT FOR VICTORY

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif. 8-21-44

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

Negro and white troops are living and working together in the best traditions of the U. S. Army in the all-out effort to defeat the Nazis, according to recent official War Department reports from the European Theater of Operations. These photos show commissioned and enlisted personnel of a Quartermaster trucking station. Upper photo shows officers at mess. Left to right: Capt. F. D. Robinson, Evansville, Ind.; 1st Lt. Alfonso Finch, Weldon, N. C.; 1st Lt. Walter L. Mitchum, Memphis, Tenn.; 1st Lt. C. H. Marshall, Philadelphia, Pa., and Capt. Paul L. Stagg, Alloy, W. Va. Enlisted men file into a mess hall in center photo. Bottom photo shows enlisted men at their places in the mess hall. Left to right: 1st Sgts. John H. Thomas, Baltimore, Md.; Leroy Z. Davis, New Orleans, La.; William P. Tompkins, Jamaica, New York; Samuel I. Thomas, Warren, Ark.; Robert P. Jordan, Savannah, Ga.; Walter Bowell, Columbus, Ga., and Archie N. Jones, Topeka, Kans. (Photos by U. S. Army Signal Corps.)

Says Race Unit's I. Q. Was Highest

Informer — Houston, Texas
Mar 18, 1944

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Revelation that the 184th Field Artillery regiment formerly the old Illinois Eighth regiment, had the highest I. Q. rating of any army units known to the officers of the Fifth Infantry division came this week from Maj. Ovid E. Harris, former battalion commander, in a letter repudiating Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson's charge that "many Negro units have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons," of which the 184th was one of the units mentioned in the charge.

Major Harris, now on the inactive list, sent his letter to the President and Sec. Stimson.

"It is both amazing and shocking to find your signature placed over so gross a misstatement of fact." Major Harris said to Stimson.

Served 3 Years

As a battalion commander of the 184th Field Artillery regiment for three years, Major Harris said that every test given in handling weapons was passed with credit by his men. The test teams of the Fifth Infantry division gave a "superior," "excellent" and "very satisfactory" ratings following a combat test. All of this went to naught, however, to Gen. Courtland Parker.

"Despite all that has been said to the contrary, your regiment is not ready for combat," Gen. Parker declared. "You can march, you can implace your weapons, and you have demonstrated your ability to fire; but until your housekeeping improves I'll never certify you for combat. Why, just this morning I made an inspection of your barracks and found a pair of unlaced shoes under one of the beds. That is poor leadership." 3-18-44

"More than 300 of the enlisted men were college trained, but as replacements came the I. Q. rating was lowered," the Major revealed. "Of the first group received, 40 could not read nor write. Then we were called upon to furnish a cadre of 300 men for a quartermaster unit. Instead of allowing us to keep our best material for the artillery requirements, the selection was made from personnel cards and our men with the highest I. Q. were transferred."

"Our communications were rated superior," Major Harris pointed out. "We were credited with peculiar adaptability for motor marches and our fire direction centers became quiz centers for all visiting artillery personnel. In the fall of 1941 the 1st battalion went to Camp McCoy, under my command, for firing tests. Its scores for the G. H. Q. tests 1 and 11, have not been equaled. Col. Lewing of the second army conducted the test. Four official commendations resulted. Then came the usual reward— 350 men were transferred as cadre. Replacements were received. Our task started over again." 3-18-44

Broken Up

The 184th was gradually broken up and reorganized into the 930th and 931st field artillery battalions which the war secretary disclosed will be converted into combat engineer units. "Certain other existing Negro field artillery units are being converted to heavier artillery, but the 930th and 931st 155-mm. howitzer battalions have not been selected for conversion to heavier artillery or retention as field artillery owing to the unsatisfactory records of both units," Stimson wrote Rep. Fish.

In his letter Major Harris hit the mistreatment of Negro soldiers in the South. Colored officers were ousted from post theatres and denied the facilities of libraries, he said. Men and officers were openly insulted by post commanders and their complaints were turned back upon them as reprimands, he declared.

"In the interest of morale and the war effort," the major continued, "I suggest that the individual records of these units be examined prior to public condemnation. The pride and hope of these soldiers is to accomplish their assigned mission. Their desire is to perform as their predecessors did under the regimental flags of the Old Eighth in Cuba, on the Mexican border and so gloriously in France —one country, one flag."

"No soldier can say that those men lacked discipline," he stressed. "Nor can it be said truthfully, despite the handicaps encountered, that they are unable to 'master efficiently the technique of modern weapons. Fort Sill does not say it. Nor can it be said that these officers, in regimental ratings certify them for combat and at the same time indicate that they are unable."

3-18-44

Race Segregation In Armed Services Too Hot to Handle

Globe + Independent — Nashville, Tenn
6-16-44

Winfred Lynn Case Is Disposed of by Use of Word "Moot"; Effort Will be Made to Get Justices to Make Up Their Minds at Next Session

NEW YORK, N. Y., June 1—Last Monday the U. S. Supreme Court refused to review the Winfred Lynn case, involving racial discrimination in selection for the American Army. The Court's refusal even to hear the case was unexpected since one of the three judges in the lower court had ruled in Lynn's favor. The Supreme Court evidently regarded the Lynn Case as "too hot to handle."

Today, the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces revealed the U. S. Supreme Court's reason for refusing to review the case. The clerk of the Court informed Arthur Garfield Hays, Lynn's attorney, by telephone: "The petition for a writ of certiorari is denied on the ground that the case is moot, it appearing that petitioner is no longer in respondent's custody." 6-16-44

In less technical language, the Court holds that the Lynn Case is "moot"—that is, it cannot be decided one way or the other—because the "petitioner (Winfred Lynn) is no longer in the "custody" of the "respondent" (Colonel Downer, commandant at Camp Upton, N. Y., at the time Lynn originally brought his suit). This amazing pronouncement of the Supreme Court, which bids fair to make legal history, ignores the reason Lynn is no longer in Colonel Downer's custody, which is, of course, that he is a soldier in the Army and was ordered overseas to the Pacific area several months ago. The Government's right hand, the Supreme Court, apparently takes no responsibility for what the Government's left hand, the Army, is doing.

Thus was born the Supreme Court's great Moot Suit. This issue, of course, has been pulled out of a hat at the last moment. The question of "mootness" was not even raised in the lower courts. The entire purpose of the Court's maneuver is therefore to avoid the issues: Does the Court sanction discrimination and segregation in selecting our thirteen million Negro citizens for the armed forces or are the military authorities acting illegally?

6-16-44

At the time that Winfred Lynn was ordered overseas, Mr. Hayes protested to the Adjutant General and received the following reply dated the 9th of February 1944 from Major General J. A. Ulio: "Should the unit to which he (Winfred Lynn) is assigned be ordered to proceed outside of continental United States and he is qualified for the duties to which assigned, he will not be removed from his unit."

The attorneys for Winfred Lynn will file a petition for a rehearing immediately and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Workers Defense League and the March on Washington Movement will file supplementary amicus curiae briefs. 6-16-44

Wilfred H. Kerr, co-chairman of the Lynn Committee, issued a statement today: "Our Committee will carry on the fight. The Supreme Court is adjourning shortly and the case will not be finally decided until the fall. In the meantime we must fight for the right to have the highest court in the land review this crucial case. The Negro and the progressive people of this country want to know why segregation is not discrimination and what is the meaning, if any, of the clause against discrimination in the 1940 Draft Act."

Policy Of Equal Treatment For Troops Affirmed

Atlanta Daily World, Georgia
Sept. 7, 1944

Patterson Replies To Protest Of Ala. Governor

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(S N S)—The War Department, says Acting Secretary Robert P. Patterson in a letter to Governor Chauncey Sparks, has insisted during the current war that "all soldiers, regardless of race, be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy the recreational facilities which are provided at Army posts, camps and stations.

Patterson added that the War Department is "not an appropriate medium for effecting social readjustments."

The acting secretary's communication was a reply to a telegram Sparks dispatched to President Roosevelt last month in protest of a War Department memorandum banning the segregation of races at Army installations. Sparks said the instrument "violates a statewide practice and belief and aggravates rather than helps" race relations.

Patterson declared Spark's telegram had been referred to him for reply. "The thought has been," he said in his letter, "that men who are fulfilling the same obligations, suffering the same dislocation of their private lives, and wearing the identical uniform should, within the confines of the military establishment, have the same privileges for rest and relaxation."

Sparks said the letter did not constitute an answer to his telegram to the President.

"I agree,' said the governor, "that Negroes should be given equal facilities as white soldier. same facilities as white soldiers. There should be segregation. understand the War Department order also applies to civilian personnel of Army posts."

No Color Line In This Army Hospital

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va

By CONRAD CLARK

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, (ANP) — Discrimination has received a terrible kick in the pants over here in New Guinea, as far as hospitalization for the Negro soldiers is concerned. 8-26-44

This afternoon I went to one of the station hospitals to visit two fellow New Yorkers, who are members of an all-Negro Anti-aircraft Artillery battalion over here.

The two soldiers were, T/4 Norwood Seigel and T/5 Eddie Conover, both residents of Harlem. According to the medical records Seigel had a slight attack of bronchial pneumonia and Conover was suffering from a mild attack of backache.

FOUR NEGRO PATIENTS

While in the ward visiting T/5 Conover, a nurse came in to treat the patients in her section. There were less than four Negroes in the ward, as compared to a dozen white GIs.

The nurse went down the line, treating each patient the same as the other, and when this correspondent asked how was the general attitude of the white medical personnel toward their Negro patients, she replied, "the duty of a nurse is to administer to the sick, and the hospital knows no patient by color, simply that he is an American soldier, fighting for his country, and who needs medical attention." 8-26-44

Army regulations prohibit the using of an individual name, but during the course of many visits to the different hospital, the writer has found the same spirit of democracy, all times.

Rep. Boykin Assails No Segregation Rule

News — Birmingham, Ala.
8-28-44

BY FRED TAYLOR
Washington Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Bitterly attacking a recent War Department order banning segregation of whites and Negroes in Southern Army camps Rep. Frank W. Boykin, of Mobile, Monday wired Gov. Chauncey Sparks that "the whole Southern philosophy of segregation and white supremacy is at stake."

He asked the governor to wire all Southern and Western governors and "any others that agree with us" in protests. 8-28-44

Declaring that "we had just as well bring this to a head right now," Boykin called for a delegation of governors, senators and congressmen to call upon President Roosevelt in protest.

"If we don't, our way of life in the South is ruined," he stated. "I believe that the time has come when we will have to do something about the Negro problem and in many cases it is not the fault of the Negroes. The next thing they will want the Negroes in the white schools and colleges in the South, the law and medical schools.

"I believe also we should take this up with the leaders of Tuskegee and our other Negro leaders in the South and see how they feel about this."

He declared: "It is mighty hard to buck over a million bureaucrats but we have been doing it and will work harder." 8-28-44

He said he was leaving for Alabama Monday night to meet his son Seaman 1-C Richard A. Boykin USCG, who has been overseas two years and that he would be at the governor's service.

Starnes Wires Protest Of Segregation Ruling

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Guntersville, Ala., Aug. 26 (AP) —Representative Starnes (D., Ala.) wired President Roosevelt and Secretary Stimson today asking that the recent War Department ruling against segregation in Army installations be rescinded as "a violation of the customs, traditions and laws" of the South. 8-27-44

Starnes said "the people of the South and of the country know this order had its inception in the political program of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Congress of Industrial Organization, the Communist Party and other left-wing and radical groups."

Fascist 'Mother' Incites Race Hate at Hearing on FEPC

Daily Worker — N.Y.
Sept. 8, 1944

SPREADS EPITHETS

Among those labelled as "crackpot" supporters of anti-discrimination legislation by the witness were (R-NY), John E. Rankin (D-Miss), chairman Malcolm Ross, AFL FEPC chairman Martin Dies (D-Tex) and Sens. director Boris Shiskin, research director Theodore Bilbo (D-Miss) and Richard Russell (D-Ga), as well as industrial union council director John Brophy and others on the CIO industrial union council director John Brophy and others on the FEPC staff.

(By Federated Press)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The names of Gerald L. K. Smith, America First candidate for President, and five notorious race-hating Congressmen went into the record today against "any legislation creating equality for Negroes, Jews or other Communist minority groups," at hearings for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee before the Senate Subcommittee on Labor and Education.

Mrs. Waters introduced liberal president Philip Murray and the quotes from the speeches of the Congressmen and Senators to "de-Congressmen and Senators to "de-leaders who urged enactment of S. 2048, as well as President Roosevelt, who established the FEPC. 5-24-44

Agnes Waters, whose name is linked with various fascist "mothers" organizations, testified she spoke for Reps. Hamilton Fish

Mrs. Waters wound up by saying: "I have completely denounce this terrible bill that would the bill, S. 2048, as well as President Roosevelt, who established the FEPC. If I ever get to be President I hope I have the courage to be a candidate), she claims to be a candidate), enactment of the bill.

James B. Carey, CIO secretary-treasurer; William Kohn, ex-president of the International Upholsterers Union (AFL), and Donald Henderson, president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers (CIO), urged swift

47d-1944

Breaking Up Of Negro Combat Units Is Hit As Demoralizing

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

2-16-44

Fish Calls Upon War Department To Explain Plan For Race Soldiers

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)— Declaring that " the training of Negro personnel as combat units for months" and then breaking up these units and transferring the personnel to service units "is demoralizing to Negro soldiers" and " a waste of taxpayers' money," Rep. Hamilton Fish, New York Republiran, called upon the war department to state clearly whether "there is a deliberate plan to keep Negro soldiers out of actual combat."

In his latest blast against the war department, the veteran congressman, also a veteran of World War I having served as a captain with the old 15th. Fish wrote to Sec. Henry L. Stimson on Feb. 1 and invited him also to explain whether the non-discrimination clause introduced by him has been faithfully adhered to in the matter of training and utilization of Negro inductees.

PROMISES REPORT

John W. Martin, administrative assistant to the war secretary, promised that a comprehensive report would be made to the congressman in due course.

Citing several reported instances to bear out his inquiry, Fish sought the truth about reports that "several Negro tank destroyer units, which underwent training for several months at Camp Hood, Texas, have been broken up and the enlisted personnel transferred to quartermaster truck companies." He wandered in the same way about the disposition of the 931st Field artillery at Camp Forrest, Tenn., reported reorganized into quartermaster corps. 2-16-44

"I am aware of the fact that military necessity must control the assignment of personnel in the army," Fish wrote Stimson, "but if the planning of the general staff were adequate such actions would not be necessary. In the circumstances, however, I am still wondering wether there is not a deliberate plan to keep Negro soldiers out of actual combat.

99TH IS NAMED

"As far as I am informed, the only Negro units which have actually engaged in cimbat in this war are the 99th Pursuit squadron and a few anti-aircraft units. The record of Negro troops in all of the wars in which this country has engaged (and in which they have participated as fighting soldiers, does not justify their being relegated now to the ranks of labor battalions only." 2-16-44

Regarding the application of the Selective Service act, Fish said thot if Negro soldiers are being trained as combat troops but denied as such, such discrimination would appear to be a violation of the non-discrimination amendment.

Dixie Train Pulls Out Without Race Soldiers

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 5-12-44

BIRMINGHAM.—(ANP)— Is this what we're fighting for? a group of soldiers asked Saturday as they watched Southern railroad's No. 8 pull out of the Birmingham terminal station, after denying them accommodations to various camps east.

Almost 50 soldiers, enroute to camps in Florida, North Carolina and Georgia, were aboard the Frisco's Kansas City-Florida Special No. 105, and all held tickets which entitled them to board Southern's No. 8 which makes connection with 105 for points east. Though many of the soldiers had barely enough time to make it back to the various camps, the conductor, station master and MP's gave them no consideration whatever. 5-12-44

Significant is the fact that every white person aboad the Frisco soldier and civilian, was accommodated. The usual jim crow car was filled with whites as the Negro soldiers watched helplessly.

Although flood waters delayed many trains, the next one was scheduled for 11:00 p. m.; more than seven hours after the departure of No. 8

forces I was shipped 3,000 miles from my family for the convenience of the government,' demoted and finally my refusal to accept a drastic reduction in salary resulted in my being discharged for inefficiency. 3-10-44

Files Discrimination Charges With FEPC Against Air Forces

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

3-10-44

Received Salary As Instructor But Was Given No Class: Fired

NEW YORK — (ANP —"I was obliged to just sit for eight hours a day for a period of approximately 120 days, dangling aimless around," declared Henry N. Conyers, instructor of army personnel, who has filed charges of discrimination against the air force with the FEPC, following his dismissal because of allege inefficiency.

A graduate civilian instructor of the army air force technical school for instructors, Chanute Field, Ill., Conyers said he was prepared to teach enlisted army personnel "the theory of electricity as applied to aircraft power systems," but charges that because he is a Negro, he was shifted from Chanute field to Miss., then Lincoln, Neb., and finally on June 1, 1943 to Sacramento Air depot Calif.

NOT ASSIGNED

"Not for one minute during my first four months was I officially asigned to a class although I received my salary regularly," declared the instructor.

Conyers attended the New York Institute of Commerce and Accountancy for three years before entering civil service in 1944 with the New York port of embarkation. His complaint to the FEPC, which has been forwarded to the agency's San Francisco office for action, states the following charges:

"I was obliged to just sit for eight hours a day for a period of approximately 120 days, dangling aimlessly around. 3-10-44

"On one occasion, our department had a class and no instructor for the class, but rather than untilize my service, the class was held up while the chief instructor drafted an instructor from another department to come to our department to instruct the class. 3-10-44

CALLED 'UNFAVORABLE'

"After three months, my chief instructor turned in 'unfavorable employes' rating' on me, although never once was I assigned to the duties commensurate with my classification.

"The supervisor subsequently removed me from the electrical department for which I am trained, to another department for which I had no instructor training, and replaced me with a mechanic.

"Because I refused to take an examination to remain a qualified instructor, which is not the procedure of any army school, I was dismissed.

"I also refused to take this test because the board of about eight chief instructor chosen to give me this test consisted of two of my accusers." 3-10-44

Conyers, who says that all he wants is to be cleared of the accusation of his being fired because of inefficiency, restoration of his classification and his civil service status, further stated:

"Everywhere I go I have to produce my papers. They show I was dismissed for inefficiency and I can't get a job.

"I wish therefore, to appeal this miscarriage of justice on the basis that for the good of the army air

RAMSEY REMOVAL ASKED

Removal of Maj. James P. Ramsey, also a Negro officer, was requested. Ramsey is claimed to have repeatedly engaged in arguments with Lt. Henry. 5-2-44

The charges against Henry were preferred by Col. A. R. DeBolt of Mitchel Field, N. Y., and Lt. Col. Charles A. Gale, commanding officer of the 553rd squadron to which Henry was attached.

The court martial was conducted by Trial Judge Advocate James W. Reddne, Negro captain assisted by 1st Lt. Douglas L. Edwards, white. 5-2-44

Officer Is Convicted In Selfridge 'Squall'

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

5-2-44

Stress Laid On "Revolution" Talk To Superior

SELFRIDGE FIELD — (ANP) — Charged with disrespect to his superior officers, insubordination and seven other military violations, 2nd Lt. Milton Henry, prominent Negro attorney of Detroit, was found guilty Tuesday and recommended dismissed from the service by a court martial composed of five white and two Negro officers at the Selfridge field army air base.

Although much importance was attached to the charges, it is revealed that Henry was in poor condition physicaly. One physician testified he was not on the alleged assertion by Lieut. fit for army service.

Henry to his commanding officer Francis M. Dent, p... that he got his ranks "through ini... gro civilian, attorney ...tiative and integrity. You officers represented Henry ... can't say that. All revolutions have ...been initiated by minorities . . . step was a request fo...

Negro Soldiers May Get Better Break From Army

PM-New York, N.Y.
3-13-44

By EARL CONRAD

PM

Rep. William L. Dawson (D., Ill.) said today, in a telephone interview, that a controversy now raging in the Negro press is "smoking out the whole anti-Negro atmosphere in the War Dept. and predicted that, as a result, decisive changes in the segregation policy would come about.

The issue stems from a decision, confirmed by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, to convert some Negro combat troops into labor battalions. He reported that two Field Artillery Battalions, the 930th and the 931st, have been transformed into a force of "combat engineers." These troops, though labor units, are also prepared to fight if necessary.

Stimson has been under fire for a statement published in the *Congressional Record* Feb. 23d, which according to the virtually unanimous opinion of the Negro press, falsely impugns the Negro's efficiency.

Stimson, explaining what Rep. Dawson calls a "no combat" policy, in answer to an inquiry from Rep. Ham Fish (R., N. Y.), made this statement:

"It so happens that a relatively large percentage of the Negroes inducted into the Army have fallen within the lower educational classifications, and many of the Negro units accordingly have been unable to master efficiently the technique of modern warfare."

Later, when Stimson was asked, "Is it the position of the War Dept. that colored American troops, on the whole, cannot be made into combat units because of their allegedly low educational classifications," he replied that it was not. He added: 3-13-44

"The number of troops now in combat and being prepared for actual combat is a clear indication of our policy."

Dawson, the only Negro in Congress, said that the issue had grown beyond the merits or demerits of Stimson's statement.

"The repercussions of the incident have served to bring into the open the whole vital issue of the War Dept.'s segregation policy," he said. "I can say that the question of the Negro's second-class position in the armed services has reached a stage where it can and will result in decisive changes."

He said he was in close touch with the War Dept. and that the whole question of the segregation policy was under discussion.

Dawson blames the "confederate" elements in the War Dept. with responsibility for creating and perpetuating the Jim Crow system in military affairs, and said the whole Department was "honey-combed with professisonal Southern military career men." President Roosevelt inherited that situation, Dawson explained, he did not create it.

Dawson, himself a veteran of World War I, said that Southern officers and their "confederates" in the War Dept. were especially fearful of the development of any very large group of Negro officers.

The influential *Baltimore Afro-American*, widely read along the East Coast, said editorially:

"Our own views are that the Secretary of War's statement on educational qualifications of colored troops is a stupid half-truth, an indefensible excuse for not doing his duty."

The Harlem newspapers, the *Amsterdam News* and the *People's Voice*, said the controversy revealed the real reason why Negro combat battalions have not been sent into service in war theaters. They pointed out that the only Negro combat units which have seen action are the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the 450th Anti-Aircraft Battalion.

States' Rights Record - Include Justice For Negro GIs

Philadelphia, Pa.
5-21-44

One point stands out above all others in the recent report by Orrin C. Evans in The Record on the treatment of Northern Negro soldiers in Southern camps:

Application of good will and common sense can and does provide easy solution to what at first may appear a difficult race problem.

In touring 14 camps in seven Southern States, Evans found that, while discontent among Northern Negroes was exaggerated, one abuse particularly promoted bitterness.

That is the failure of local transportation firms to serve the needs of the Negro soldiers. Purely on the basis of race discrimination.

UNWANTED

Unwanted as bus passengers, badgered and bullied by club-toting drivers, they are compelled to hike miles from camp to neighboring towns—and then back.

Either that or, as increasing numbers of Negro soldiers are doing, they remain in camp denying themselves a holiday in order to escape degrading slights and trouble.

They have before them the shocking, inexcusable violence visited upon one of their comrades, Private Edward Green. 5-21-44

Green was shot and killed by a vicious, quick-triggered bus driver in Alexandria, La.

Unfortunately, as the Attorney General of the United States discovered after an inquiry, there is no Federal statute under which the driver can be prosecuted.

Since Louisiana, where intolerance and prejudice corrupt the law, has taken no action, the driver is a free man — free to shoot down other American soldiers.

There was impassioned Southern oratory in support of States' rights when the soldier vote and poll tax bills were debated in Congress. Here is a State right and a State duty for Louisiana—

Prompt arrest and trial for a man charged with a brutal slaying.

PROBLEMS EXIST

Such problems as transportation failure at camps exist—only because somebody lacks will or imagination to solve them. 5-21-44

Brigadier General George Horkan provided an answer pronto at Camp Lee near Petersburg, Va.

He entered into an agreement with the local bus company to furnish busses exclusively for soldiers, white and Negroes alike, to travel from camp to Petersburg.

The War Department — now apprised of the transportation problem if hitherto uninformed—should assure adequate service at all camps.

The Army Acts

A week after Evans' articles appeared, four days after this editorial, the War Department ordered non-Jim Crow bus service provided at all camps.

How Brooklyn Navy Yard Retards Colored Workers

Afro-American-Baltimore, Md.
1-15-44

Puts Most Women on Night Shift and Bars All from Promotions, Workers Tell AFRO

By JONATHAN RICHARDS

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — Racial discrimination in war industries is no longer a matter of speculation but a fact. A recent survey by the War Manpower Commission disclosed that "only very small advances have been made in the placement of colored people in skilled and semi-skilled occupations."

This report has been given very little publicity and the Office of War Information has made efforts to soft-pedal it.

For some time the Brooklyn Navy Yard has been accused of discrimination by labor unions, the National Urban League, and also by various individuals who have made unsuccessful attempts to fight this government agency.

Few Hired Before War

Prior to the war, very few colored workers were hired by the Navy Yard Labor Board, located at the Sands Street Gate in Brooklyn.

In normal times probably no more than 5,000 people constitute the entire working force. Now this figure has swelled to 60,000 or more workers.

Naturally, with the manpower shortage situation reaching a critical stage, more and more colored men and women have filled the employees' ranks with the result that they number several thousand at this time.

The discrimination brought to light has nothing to do with the navy yard's hiring policy, since most people now applying for jobs get them provided they have the necessary experience and can pass the physical examination. It begins after you're hired.

Rating Based on Colored

It many cases your color will determine the rating and salary you will receive and also the particular type of work to which you are assigned and also the shift you work—day or night.

I spoke to a young man who told me that he filed an application for the position of helper trainee machinist which begins at $6.16 per day. For this job one needs only to have six months of experience in the machine trades. No examination is given to quality except, of course, the regular physical examination.

"One day," he related, "I received a letter telling me to report to the labor board for the job. I went down and found that I and six white men, were applying for the same job and pay.

Special Test Given

"We had been waiting there a few minutes when a man came over and told me to follow him. We went to a machine shop where he told me to take off my coat and see what I could do with a machine. 1-15-44

"I applied myself to an engine lathe and faced and turned a piece of steel down to several thousandths of an inch according to specifications. Evidently this satisfied the man as he told me to return to the labor board office and wait my turn for medical examination.

"I got back to find the same six men still sitting around. They said that they hadn't been called for a machine test. After I was put on the job, I talked to many other whites and they also said they never had to take the test I did.

"There was absolutely no reason why I had to do it. Pick up the application form and it says specifically that no test is required for this position."

I checked the application form and found what this man said was true.

Say Ability Is Overlooked

I talked to several other men who told me that they were first class mechanics and should be receiving a mechanic's pay. Instead, they were doing a high type of work, running lathes, automatic screw machines, radial drill presses, and were getting only a helper machinist's salary.

In short, the navy yard disregarded their experience and accorded them the lowest ratings despite the importance of their work.

Girls Get Night Work

A girl told me:

"For very obvious reasons, you'll find that most of the women working on the night shift are colored. They make sure to put as many whites on the day shift as possible. If this isn't outright discrimination, then what is?

"We can't complain to the supervisors about this because their comeback is that there's a war on and we all have to do our share. You can't fight that kind of talk and you won't be able to reason with them. They're always right and you're always wrong. That's the policy here!"

A woman working in a department which uses precision instruments and testing devices complained: 1-15-44

"I've been working here for

In none of the tight labor markets of the North does there appear a significant use of skilled colored people-colored workers in war industry but that there is no question but little or no use their good money. There has been an increase as a whole."

Interviews with a score of people revealed that they found them jobs. Some had been at the same type than a year and I haven't had a raise yet, while white girls doing very menial work length of time they say they could ave had as many as three and with hardly any chance of up- full skills on vital war jobs. The War Manpower Commission now it thoroughly. The only rea- there has been an increase in I know is that my skin is total employment of colored ack. I can't think of any other of work for two or three years. progress had been made in by stating: n you?"

concluded its report

47d-1944

Jim Crowism Abroad Is Laid to Red Cross

PM - New York, N.Y.

2-14-44

Former Aid Charges Discrimination in North Africa and Middle East

By WILLIAM FISHER

PM Exclusive

John H. Faulk, a former American Red Cross assistant field director stationed at a camp in Cairo, charged today that the Red Cross had allowed itself to become associated with Jim Crowism in the minds of Negro soldiers serving throughout North Africa and the Middle East.

Faulk, who recently resigned because he felt his post was "useless," said that after talking with hundreds of Negro service men he had become convinced there existed "an universal distrust in their minds" for the organization supposed to be their "big brother" because it:

¶ Refuses to permit them to attend dances.

¶ Admits them to clubs at furlough centers with a condescending "do come in, you're colored," which, he said, was as effective in keeping Negro soldiers away as barring them outright.

He called the Red Cross policy on discrimination "buck passing." The Red Cross, he said, constantly shunts the blame for Jim Crowism overseas onto the Army.

Prejudiced Superiors

Faulk, who collected Negro folk lore in rural Texas and Louisiana on a Rosenwald Fellowship before the war, said:

"While the Red Cross made every effort to disclaim official responsibility for its inability to wipe out discrimination, I found to my surprise many of my superiors had decidedly prejudiced views toward the Negro soldier. 2-14-44

"There are many Red Cross men overseas who do not approve these practices. But they are seemingly in the minority. Consequently, it was my impression that the Red Cross is trying to make the best of an unhappy situation without taking a definite stand against discrimination."

Faulk, who was interviewed here while on his way from Cairo to Texas, said he was constantly reminded by his superiors that he had been sent overseas by "American money to maintain the *status quo*. This was most apparent in the instance of Negro service men," he said.

Tried to Enlist

He reported one of his superiors as saying to him: "You don't understand the nigger problem, although you're a Southerner. You have to make them sweat." The superior, Faulk said, had been a Brooklyn policeman.

A former English instructor at the University of Texas, Faulk was rejected as an enlistee in the armed forces because of an eye defect. He joined the Merchant Marine, serving on a tanker for eight months. He went overseas for the Red Cross last February.

"The job appealed to me," he said, "with one eye it seemed to be my only chance to get overseas with the troops.

"When I arrived overseas I asked to be stationed with Negro troops because through my work I had become deeply interested in Negro problems.

John H. Faulk

"The authorities ostensibly approved and said they thought my request commendable, but did absolutely nothing about placing me where I wanted to be."

Instead, Faulk was stationed with white troops to keep them informed on home-front happenings and to encourage the soldiers' families to write. It was a window-dressing job, he says, which was in constant conflict with the overseas Army Special Services Division. 2-14-44

Unpopularity

Faulk said he found the soldiers enthusiastic over Red Cross work in the hospitals and in the clubs at furlough centers, but that they were extremely indifferent to the type of activity for which he was responsible.

"Many of my co-workers—morale builders—had so little to occupy themselves with, they were constantly off on sight-seeing trips," he said. "Because of this, coupled with the fact they enjoyed all the privileges but none of the responsibilities of Army officers, it is my impression we were unpopular with the soldiers.

"No one in this country knows what American boys overseas are going through, soldiers of all ancestry—Negro, Jew and Gentile. And it would be doubly hard for anyone to understand what Negro troops have to put up with."

In Washington, Harold G. Anthony, Red Cross Publicity Director, said that Faulk had arrived in North Africa about the time Red Cross activity was being dismantled along with the closing down of the military theater there.

"As to his second charge," he said, "our clubs are open to white and Negro alike. That's definitely Red Cross policy. 2-14-44

"If it is disagreeable to the white soldiers when Negroes enter the clubs that is not our fault. If things are as bad as Faulk says they are the Red Cross is not responsible for the situation."

Conditions in Southern Camp Shocks Delegation

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

2-15-44

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14. — The Associated Negro Press announces that the War Department late last week was handed the most comprehensive and best documented report ever made on the treatment of Negro soldiers in the South. Prepared by the Rev. J. L. Horace president of the Illinois Baptist Convention, for the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, the report names specific instances of mistreatment and charges that in one camp Nazi prisoners had more rights than the Negro soldiers.

The report was made first to the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in St. Louis on Jan. 18, following Mr. Horace's tour of 10 Southern camps.

The Negro ministers, shocked at the revelations, requested that the report be made to the Secretary of War. Last week, accompanied to the War Department by Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, and the Rev. Dr. William H. Jernagin, Mr. Horace laid his documented charges before Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy. 2-15-44

Mr. McCloy, according to the ANP, was deeply impressed. He commented that many complaints on the treatment of Negro soldiers had come to his desk but that this report was the most comprehensive. Mr. Horace was himself an officer in the first world war.

SOME MAIN FACTS

The following are highlights of the findings:

1. The civilian community near which Negro soldiers are stationed in the South, and not the War Department, determines the way these men shall be treated.

2. Clinics, in general, mark Negro soldiers fit for duty, regardless of what the men say of their own condition. It is, therefore, difficult for Negro soldiers to get hospital treatment.

3. Policemen are cruel and revengeful, and seem to express the pent-up hatred of the community. They take jurisdiction and arrest soldiers for the slightest disorder and the government does not seem to interfere.

4. Civilians treat the colored soldiers as undesirables. . . . Many soldiers refuse to take leaves for fear of trouble in town.

5. Many Negro residents of such communities assume a similar attitude, fearing that to treat the Negro soldiers differently will bring unpleasant reaction from white people.

6. This complete atmosphere of hostility embitters the Negro soldier.

7. At Grenada, Miss., "German war prisoners receive more courtesy than American Negro soldiers. Our men have to use certain latrines and drinking fountains, while German prisoners use them anywhere."

8. At Camp Flora, Jackson, Miss., Negroes are not allowed to send their clothes to the camp cleaners. They must send them to town, where they frequently get lost. 2-15-44

9. A Negro battalion at Camp Livingston, Alexandria, La., was trained as artillerymen for two years, then made into a labor outfit.

The camps visited by the Rev. Mr. Horace were Robinson, Little Rock Ark.; Livingston and Clairborne, Alexandria, La.; Flora and Jackson Air Base, Miss.; Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Sibert, Gadsen, Ala.; Fort McClelland, Anniston, Ala.; Fort Benning, Columbus Ga.

The Negro minister, commenting on his report, said that the South "is still fighting the Civil War and is trying to win this one so it can dictate the racial policy and peace terms." He concludes:

"We must refute and expose the propaganda that is leveled against us—concealing our part in the war; keeping us out of important parts of the war and vital industry; magnifying our death rate and venereal diseases, much of distortion coming from biased white health officers. Our low income, bad housing and slum dwellings are the fault of the social pattern and should be the basis of condemning the social order instead of piling up biased figures to fix Negroes to a lower status."

Army Commander Condemns Bias

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-18-44

AMERICAN PROVING GROUND, Md. — (ANP) — "Who will tolerate no racial fooling at Aberdeen," declared Col. P. C. Kelly, director of training for the Aberdeen Ornance Replacement Training center, in a recent lecture before 500 mixed basic trainees in the Tropical theatre of the post. Any man who is spilling his blood for his country has the same right to identical treatment with any other American soldier," he told the men.

Speaking in a vigorous Dixie voice, the army fighter who was recalled from retirement after receiving an injury in the Chinese theater of operations, told the "new recruits" that racial intolerance would not be contenanced on the

"Some of you are southerners and expect partiality and discrimination in your favor," declared Col. Kelly. "We absolutely will not tolerate any racial feeling at we don't ever want it here."

londness for their mess.

"Your drills and chow are some of the best here," the officer said, "and especially do I like them on fried chicken day. So just remember, men, we will tolerate no racial feeling at Aberdeen!"

Army Asked to Investigate Westover Field Jim Crowism

PM - New York, N.Y.
2-13-44

Staff Correspondence

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 12.—Springfield citizens, continuing their fight against Jim Crow rules at nearby Westover Field, today carried their case to Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio, adjutant general in Washington, demanding that he launch an immediate investigation at the base.

Protests against segregation and mistreatment of Negro personnel at the field also were sent to Sen. David I. Walsh (D., Mass.) and Rep. Charles R. Clason (R., Mass.). Clason announced that he already had asked the War Dept. for an investigation of earlier protests by Springfield citizens.

The protests, outlining in detail the alleged mistreatment of Negro soldiers at the base, were signed by Mrs. Katheryne Jones, chairman of the Springfield Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax; John Haraty, chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee of the Western Massachusetts CIO Council, and Russell Hatton, past commander of the Harrison Wright chapter of the American Legion, local Negro chapter.

Together with Mayor J. Albin Anderson, and two Negro ministers, they formed a delegation Thursday which called on Col. U. G. Jones, commanding officer at the field, demanding an immediate end to segregation policies.

The group charged that Negro soldiers were segregated in the post movie theater and at chapel services, that the sick were denied medical treatment and instead were put to work, and that most of the 500-odd Negroes at the base were assigned to menial tasks, in spite of having received specialized training by the Army. 2-13-44

Meanwhile, the protests appeared to be bearing fruit in a relaxation of some of the Jim Crow restrictions. Negro soldiers at the post reported that an order banning issuance of passes to colored personnel was revoked an hour after the visit by the Springfield delegation Thursday. It was also reported that Negroes assigned to making beds for white enlisted men, in violation of Army regulations, had been relieved of that assignment.

It also was reported that Negroes heretofore denied medical treatment on the grounds that there were no available beds in the field's hospital were now being called to the hospital.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
January 2, 1944

From a Negro Soldier

To The News and Courier:

As we negro American soldiers march forward into battle, we are mindful of our past, and are wondering what has the future in store for us. We have had, since being in the army, some very unpleasant experiences. We fear if these things are allowed to happen at a time like this they will become worse in the future.

We feel sure that there are only a few of each race who will deliberately instigate trouble between races after such tough war, but the few who will do so are the ones with whom we are concerned. These few can easily spread propaganda which will lead to trouble. We, the negroes, are determined to deal with all problems which may arise intelligently.

We are ardent readers of your newspaper, and especially your editorials. Being your editorials do not seem to have the same conception of the word democracy, where the negro is concerned, as our conception; being we are now in a country where it is likely for your editorials to get into the wrong hands, we destroy them after reading them. We do not know very much about the fine points on censorship, so we are somewhat in doubt whether or not your editorials represent excellent propaganda for the Japs and Germans to use advantageously.

Yes, as we march on the field of battle we ask that you look toward the light and finally see that all men are created equal. We ask that you help to make the peace that we are now fighting for an enjoyable peace.

ALBERT N. BROOKS,
First Sergeant, U. S. Army, formerly of Charleston.
Somewhere Overseas.

Equality Topic Stirs Peterson

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—(AP) Officials of the War Shipping Administration and Representative Hugh Peterson, Democrat, Georgia, are engaged in a sharp battle over the social equality question.

Peterson says WSA leaders "are lacking in courage and are being unfair to the government and to laborers" unless they oust administrators who enforce social equality rulings. 3-20-44

Agency officials maintain "it is all right" for key WSA men to believe in social equality, but have agreed to investigate some of them to see if they are connected with subversive organizations.

The tussle got under way during a hearing of the special house committee investigating executive agencies, as Peterson renewed his campaign against Craig Vincent, WSA regional director in charge of providing crews for ships sailing from Savannah, Jacksonville and other Atlantic ports.

OPPOSES MIXED CREWS

The Georgian said Vincent and other WSA officials "are forcing white seamen to accept social equality by providing mixed crews."

Then addressing Samuel D. Schell, WSA executive officer who is Vincent's superior, Peterson declared:

"It is not fair to laborers of this country for you men in high executive positions to place in key official positions men who believe and openly announce and confess that they believe in social equality and who can force the laborers to live in a condition of social equality. 3-20-44

"You fellows ought to have courage enough, as American citizens, to do your duty, to see that the rights of our people and our laborers, are protected.

"It is not conducive to good government for you men in key positions to take the stand you are taking today."

After hearing Peterson's remarks, Schell promised a full investigation of Vincent, but added that he would recommend his dismissal only if evidence proved that he was associated with subversive organizations. 3-20-44

Schell said that he thought it was all right to have key WSA officials who believed in social equality, although he did not hold such beliefs himself.

RAPS NEW DEAL POLICY TOWARD NEGRO SOLDIERS

Daily Tribune
Chicago, Ill.
2-12-44

Ex-Senator Declares Rights Are Denied.

Negroes from 36 states, attending a national Republican conference in the Pershing hotel, 6400 Cottage Grove av., yesterday heard William E. King of Chicago, former state senator, urge that some action be take nin behalf of the Negro fighting man.

"Under the New Deal," said King, "the Negroes have been denied the right to fight and die for the country they love. I hope this meeting will work out some plan to right this wrong.

"The mask of deception was pulled from the face of the New Deal in the repudiation of the fair employment practice committee. There is but one party in America that holds out any hope to the Negro—the Republican."

Storm Delays Delegates.

The conferees, who are to consider recommendations to the Republican national convention which will be held here June 26, gathered slowly because of travel tie-ups resulting from the snow storm. Representatives from six more states are expected before the meeting closes tonight. 2-12-44

Edwin Henry, judge of the Municipal court in Philadelphia, was named temporary chairman of the meeting. Other officers chosen are: Charles W. Anderson, member of the Kentucky state legislature, vice chairman; Mrs. Fennie Shenks of Minneapolis, second vice chairman; Atty. Eunice H. Carter of New York City, recording secretary; Charles Mahoney of Detroit, treasurer.

Consider Permanent Group.

Move to make permanent the organization opened a lively floor discussion. A committee on permanent organization was chosen and charged with making a report before the meeting ends.

Republican planks concerning Negro participation in the post-war program were scheduled for meeting debate. The Republican position on the rights of minorities and the possibility of Negro representation at the peace table were expected to draw attention.

Questions And Reasons

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

The last few weeks Italian prisoners of war at Fort Knox were rigged in brand new American uniforms and absorbed into the United States Army as an Italian Service Unit. We also have in this army thousands of Negroes who were born in this country, were drafted into service units and wear this uniform. I want to pose two questions: Will these prisoners who have shot at our flag be discriminated against when they partake of public recreation and when they travel in public?

Will these Negro soldiers who defend our flag be discriminated against when they do these same things?

Whether the answer to each of the above questions be yes or no, will some one in each case, please, give me, one good reason why?

FLOYD W. CRAWFORD.
Louisville.

House Committee Eyes Army Book On Races

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — The Military Affairs Committee of the House closed the books Monday on a secret investigation of Army plans to distribute 55,000 copies of a pamphlet on racial equality, but kept an eye on a Government warehouse to make certain that the books stay there.

Titled, "The Races of Mankind," the pamphlet was published by the Public Affairs Committee Inc., of New York City, and was prepared by Prof. Ruth Benedict and Dr. Gene Weltfish, identified with the department of anthropology of Columbia university. 3-7-44

Chairman May, (D-Ky.), said the War Department abandoned plans to distribute the book in connection with its orientation courses after the committee threatened to "expose the motives behind the book." The purpose of the book, he declared, was to teach racial equality of white men and Negroes.

COMMITTEEMEN IRKED

What irked May and other committee members was what the Kentuckian said was a claim in the book that surveys indicated the average Negro in New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts was the intellectual equal of the average white resident of Kentucky, Arkansas and Mississippi.

Committee members said the book had been banned from U. S. O. centers and its distribution then was promoted by the C. I. O. Refugee Committee. When the Army purchased 55,000 copies, May said the committee decided to investigate. 3-7-44

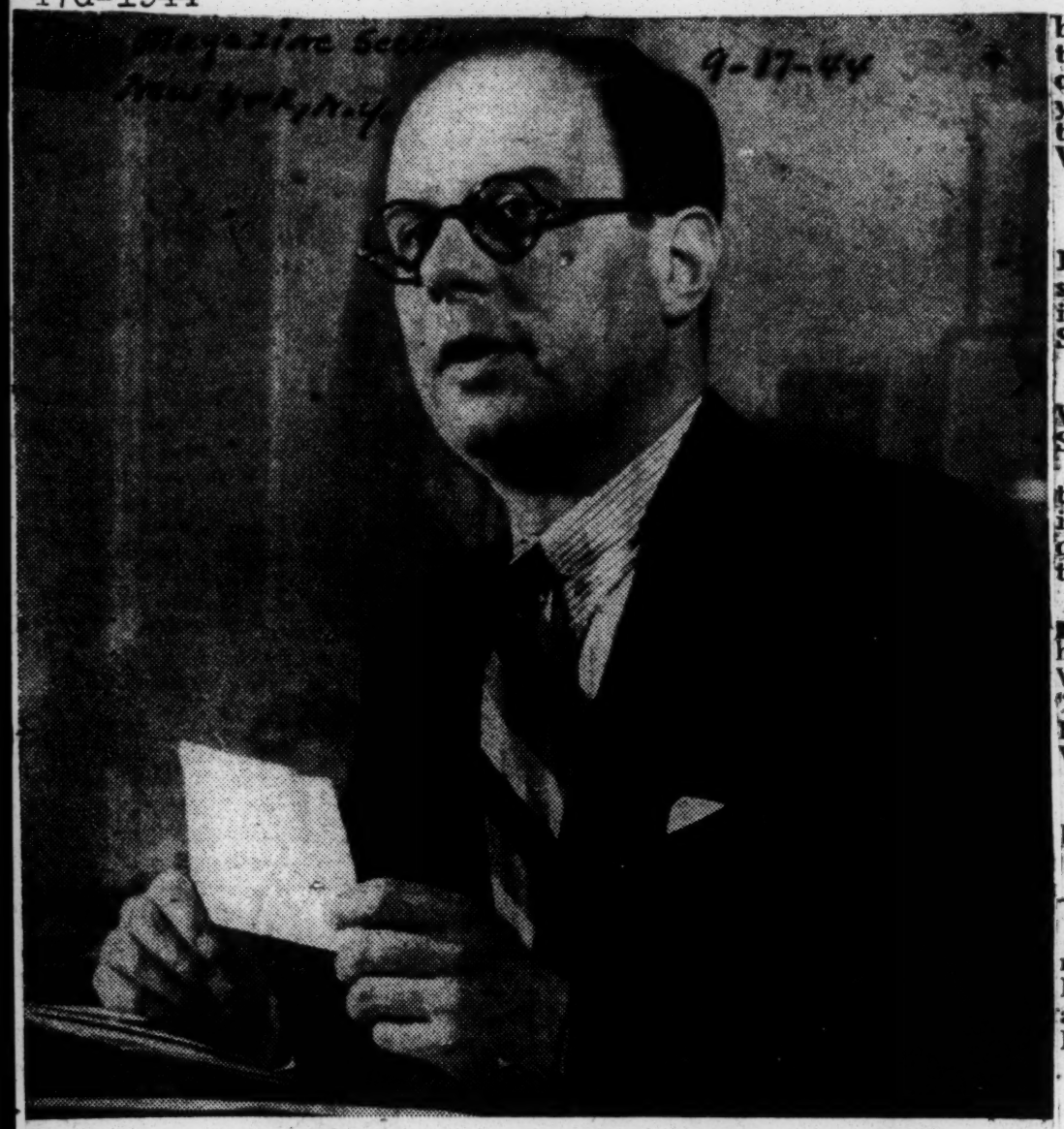
Army spokesmen claimed the book was never intended for general circulation among soldiers, but was to have been distributed among officers teaching orientation courses as background material to refute the Nazi "super race" theory.

DISTRIBUTION HALTED

Because some of the material was founded inadequate, the Army said the book was not distributed and the 55,000 copies were stored in a warehouse. The decision to hold up distribution, spokesmen added, was made before the committee investigated. 3-7-44

So far as the committee is concerned, May said, "the matter is closed, but we intend to keep an eye open to see that this book doesn't go out to our soldiers through War Department channels. If it does, somebody is going to have to do lots of explaining."

47d-1944



Newbold Morris, City Council president: "What the hell is the war about?" (story at right)

Army & Jim Crow: a dialog in five parts

ONE OF THE SERVICES we perform for our readers is to telephone important people and ask for their opinions on important issues in the news.

This week we called up some people to ask whether they thought the War Department was wise to send out that recent letter to all Army esablishments reminding them that they were not to permit discrimination (Jim Crowism) in their buses, theaters and post exchanges. Gov. Sparks of Alabama wired a protest to FDR as soon as the Army's reminder came to his attention. We wanted to know whether certain people felt that the War Department was right, or Gov. Sparks.

We tried first to speak to John Shaw Billings, executive editor of Time Inc. We got his secretary who sounded rather young. When we said that we wanted to talk to John Shaw Billings she said he was not around at the moment.

WE: Is he expected back later in the afternoon?

SEC.: Well, he might be. But I wish you would call Mr. Hodgins. He will take care of anything that you want to see Mr. Billings about.

WE: We don't want to *see* Mr. Billings. We want to *talk* to him over the telephone to get his opinion for a story we are doing.

SEC.: Well, Mr. Billings doesn't talk to anyone outside of the company. You'd better talk to Mr. Hodgins.

WE: But we don't want Mr. Hodgins' opinion. Who is Mr. Hodgins?

SEC.: He's the vice-president. He talks to everybody first.

WE: Doesn't Mr. Billings talk to *anybody* unless Mr. Hodgins talks to him first?

SEC.: Well, that all depends on who is calling.

WE: Will you give Mr. Billings a message —that the newspaper PM is calling.

SEC.: Well, can't you tell me more about it? Is it concerning the Luce story?

WE: No, it has nothing to do with the Luce story. It's about the letter sent out by the War Department to all Army establishments on the subject of race discrimination at Army posts.

Mr. Billings' secretary told us to call back in 15 minutes after she had had time to give her boss the message. When we called, she said that Mr. Billings had not yet returned and again suggested that we talk to Mr. Hodgins.

WE: We'd rather wait until Mr. Billings gets our message. We'll call again in 10 minutes.

We did call again, but apparently Mr. Billings had not returned. We told his secretary that we would call in the morning, which we did.

SEC.: I told him what you wanted, and he said he didn't have any opinions to give out.

WE: Won't he talk to us to say why?

SEC.: I'm afraid not.

After that, we thought maybe we ought to call Mr. Hodgins after all to find out if he could get Mr. Billings to give us an opinion. Mr. Hodgins listened without interruption to our explanation of what we wanted to talk to Mr. Billings about, and how much trouble we were having in our efforts to reach the editor. When we had finished, Mr. Hodgins said: "I have no idea whatever what Mr. Billings' opinion is."

WE: His secretary said that if we told you about the subject matter, you would then tell Mr. Billings about it.

HODGINS: I am in no way disposed to secure a statement from Mr. Billings for PM, in the light of your headline yesterday.

We thought for a moment, trying to remember if we had carried a headline about Mr. Billings or Mr. Hodgins, and then we asked, "What headline?"

HODGINS: If you will look at yesterday's issue of PM, I'm sure you will be able to find it.

(We remembered a headline about William Bullitt; when we looked at it later on we read *Answering Bullitt's* Life *Magazine Call for War Against Russia*).

WE: Is it because of our headline that you would not want to ask Mr. Billings for his opinion?

HODGINS: I would most definitely not care to ask him.

Mr. Aldrich's secretary

We ran into another secretary when we tried to call Winthrop Aldrich, chairman of the board of the Chase National Bank. At our first call, his secretary, who sounded terse, competent and protective, said that Mr. Aldrich was not in, but that we might reach him the next morning. When we called at that time, the secretary said: "I talked with Mr. Aldrich this morning over the telephone, and he says he is not familiar with the letter which you mentioned, but in any event, he doesn't have any comment to make.

WE: We could give Mr. Aldrich all the available information about the letter. And we'd like to talk to him to find out if he cares to say why he does not want to comment.

SEC.: Because he doesn't know enough about it.

WE: We have all the facts which he could check very easily with the Army.

SEC.: He would want to read them himself, but in any event, he doesn't have the time to give any thought to it.

We got Newbold Morris, president of the City Council, after only four calls. When we told him about Gov. Sparks objecting to the Army letter, Morris said:

"Who is Gov. Sparks?"

We told him, the Governor of Alabama.

"Well, that is just about the kind of statement to expect to hear from the Governor of Alabama," he said.

Did he think that the Army was wise in taking such action at this time?

MORRIS: If you know anything about me at all, you would know how I feel about those things. I once publicly stated that if I were a soldier in the United States Army, and a Negro officer told me to do anything, I would do it just the same as if he were white. What do you want me to say now?

WE: Do you think the Army's action was a wise one?

MORRIS: Why, of course I do. Who wouldn't, except the Governor of Alabama? That is an American doctrine. What the hell is the war about? What is the Declaration of Independence about? When the War Department issues an order like that, it's a shame that it has to be necessary to reaffirm an American doctrine that we have been living under since 1776. This is the Army; where merit is the basis for recognition, and color is not supposed to have anything to do with it.

WE: Then you think the Army was wise in issuing the letter?

MORRIS: It's not only wise but mandatory. I hope they carry it out in practice and enforce the doctrine that they have announced.

We put it in writing

Our next call was person-to-person to DeWitt Wallace, editor of the *Reader's Digest*, and we reached him without going through several secretaries first.

Wallace said, "Well, I wish you'd put that question in writing. I'm in the middle of a conference right now."

We said we would, and that we would mail him a special delivery letter immediately, so that maybe we might receive a reply in time to make our deadline.

The next afternoon, we received the following telegram:

YES THE ARMY IS RIGHT. MOREOVER IN OUR OWN ORGANIZATION NEGROES AND WHITES ARE WORKING TOGETHER IN COMPLETE AND MOST GRATIFYING HARMONY. DEWITT WALLACE, READER'S DIGEST.

Mr. Hibbs of the SEP

We tried to get Ben Hibbs, editor of the *Saturday Evening Post*, but a man by the name of Day Edgar answered to say that Mr. Hibbs was not there, but that he might be able to reach him if we would explain what we wanted.

EDGAR: You give me the dope. I handle everything that has anything to do with the editorial part of publicity.

WE: We'd like to talk to Mr. Hibbs directly, because it's his personal opinion that we want.

EDGAR: He refers all those calls to me.

So we gave Mr. Edgar the dope, and he said: "I don't know if he has any opinion, but if there is any opinion available, I'll get it for you."

He called back later in the afternoon

Winfred Lynn Committee Enlarges Scope To Fight All Segregation In The Armed Forces

In the committee's quarters at 360 West 125th street, Wilfred Lynn, chairman of the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces, explained that the recent decision was an attempt to meet the growing concern throughout the country on the matter of racial

The National Citizens Committee for Winfred Lynn has become the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces. Announcement of this change was made on Monday.

segregation and discrimination in training the nation's military forces.

"There is no greater contradiction in our American life today than that represented in a bi-racial American army, two armies in fact, one white, the other black, waging a war for freedom and democracy abroad while it perpetuates at home those things against which it professes to fight," said Mr. Kerr.

Originally, the Lynn Committee was organized to push the case of Winfred Lynn, a Negro gardener of Jamaica, Long Island, who in 1942 brought suit in federal court against the "Negro quota" system by which he as well as all other Negroes, was being drafted into the U. S. Army.

Lynn, now a corporal serving in New Guinea, maintained that the very idea of a "racial quota" was in itself a plan of racial discrimination, and that, as such, it was illegal and unconstitutional. His is the only legal attack made to date against discrimination in selective service.

NINE SICK VETERANS COULDN'T BELIEVE IT

4-8-44

EL PASO, Texas — Nine sick Negro soldiers, refused service in the local railroad station's dining room because of Dixie's jim-crow policy, were forced to look on as 24 German prisoners of war came into the same lunch room, accompanied by two guards . . . sat at the tables, had their meals served them, smoked and enjoyed themselves.

This was the amazing story as told by a Negro war veteran as an answer to the gripping letter written by Corporal Lucius Adams from "Somewhere in Italy" and carried exclusively in The Pittsburgh Courier under the title, "What Are We Fighting For."

The story as related by the Army veteran . . . also a corporal . . . draws a clear-cut picture of the skin-difference among fighting troops, which is amplified only in this country.

Parts of his statement follow:

"I have just read Corporal Adams' letter. . . He claims to know what he is talking about, as he has crossed one ocean. However, there is one thing he has failed to understand. The people 'over there' know that they are one, be they black or white. There is but one law. A soldier is a soldier, a sailor is a sailor, no matter the color of his skin, his race or his creed. He is treated as a man and a soldier. He knows he belongs, and come hell or high water, he is willing, nay eager, to die, if needs be, for his people, his flag, his country. 4-8-44

WHAT HAPPENED TO US HERE IN AMERICA

"I know what I'm talking about. I was born in Trinidad, B.W.I. I left there at the age of 14, went to school in Cardiff, South Wales. I ran away from school and joined the merchant navy during the first world war. I have sailed the seven seas and the five oceans. There is hardly any port of this known world I have not visited.

"But the all-time low in human relationship occurred less than two months ago. Allow me to tell you what happened on the 5th of February, 1944, right here in the United States.

"Nine of us, all colored soldiers, were on our way from the hospital at Camp Claiborne, La., to the hospital at Fort Huachuca. After having been crowded like cattle in one coach from Alexandria, La., (Editor's Note: Jim Crow) we arrived here on the 4th of February and had to wait for our train for about 12 hours. We went to the "colored" USO, slept overnight and returned to the station the next morning . . . NINE SICK AMERICAN SOLDIERS.

WE COULDN'T EVEN 4-8-44
BUY A CUP OF COFFEE

"We could not purchase a cup of coffee at any price around the station. The only place that would serve us was the lunch room at the station. But we couldn't eat where the white people were eating. To do that would contaminate the very air of the place, so we had to go to the kitchen.

"That was bad enough, but that's not all. About 11:30 the same morning, about two dozen German prisoners of war came to the lunchroom with two guards. They entered the large room, sat at the table. Their meals were served them. They smoked and had a swell time.

"As we stood on the outside and saw what was going on, we could scarcely believe our own eyes. There they (the Germans) sat; eating, talking, laughing, smoking. They were ENEMIES of our country, people sworn to destroy all the so-called democratic governments of the world. 4-8-44

"And there we were. Men sworn to fight, to give our lives for this country, but WE were not good enough to sit in the lunchroom.

"That, my dear corporal, would never happen in England.

"What are we fighting for? On what team or on whose side are we playing or fighting? The only time a colored person has any trouble of that kind in England is when these white Americans . . . cause it.

" . . . I too, am asking myself, what are we fighting for?"

EDITOR'S NOTE: For obvious reasons the name of the person who gave us the story is being withheld, although this was NOT his request.

New Times

The worker — New York, N.Y.

ONE of the most important victories yet achieved in the struggle against Jimcrow in the armed forces was the order of the War Department banning segregation—which is another form of racial discrimination—in GI post exchanges, theaters and transportation. An order dated July 18, 1944, handed down by the Adjutant General, said in effect: No theater may deny admittance to a member of the armed forces because of race; all races will be permitted to use army exchange on the post without segregation, and U.S. buses and trucks may not refuse colored passengers, or Jimcrow them to certain seats. This latter provision applies to U.S. buses and trucks on or off the post.

8-27-44

I did not get this enormously significant and pertinent information from Sen. Robert Taft, since, I'm sure, it would come under the ban of news favorable to the policies of President Roosevelt, our Commander-in-Chief, and hight influence Negro soldiers and thousands of whites, to cast their ballots for FDR (that is, if the soldiers' vote can slip through the legal pillboxes and barbed wire entanglements set up by the Republican candidate Dewey in New York).

8-27-44

THIS order does two things. It is a direct attack upon segregation which, although it is Jimcrow, some people accept on the basis that there can be "separate but equal accommodations" for Negroes—a state of affairs which does not and cannot exist, and the Army has begun to realize it. Secondly, it attacks Jimcrow against Negroes in the armed forces at the point where it is worst. For although discrimination still exists in the armed forces, considerable progress has been made within the armed forces toward breaking it down. A typical example is the fact that Negro and white officers have been trained together even in Columbus, Georgia—and in the last world war there was a Jimcrow officers training camp established in Des Moines, Iowa.

8-27-44

This is not to say that all is well, but it shows that the forward march of history which has brought forth the FEPC—and the use of the armed forces to enforce its decrees—has also affected the armed forces. The grim reaper has put his finger on the shoulders of white supremacy in America, and all those who cling to it are likely to pass into oblivion along with their beloved mistress.

* * *

THE most fierce examples of Jimcrow in respect to the armed forces have been the free hand which the polltax officials in the South have had to utterly and contemptuously disregard the American uniform when it is on a Negro soldier. These one-horse sheriffs—with the citizenship of an American, the mentality of Hitler and the trigger-finger of Ku Kluxers—have been known even to shoot down Negro soldiers simply because they sought to get into town or to go on furlough to see their families. The past policy of the Army had been to appease these prejudiced officials by having the camp regulations conform to the states' rights—page Mr. Dewey!—conceptions of Martin Dies, Cotton Ed Smith and Joe Starnes who have just been defeated. Now the Army headquarters in Washington, with no politics in its mind, has sent this vestige of states' rights into oblivion by guaranteeing equality of Negro troops—without segregation—on U.S. vehicles of transportation, theaters and exchanges. 8-27-44

Obviously, the other system is bad for morale of Negro troops—and white troops—and that doesn't help speed victory. It is the dictates of military necessity in a war which requires that the forces of right win over the forces of evil, and that element of compulsion is as permanent, as moral and as powerful as Lincoln's wise Emancipation Proclamation was a military blow against the slavocracy.

There are still sharp and disgraceful evidences of prejudice with respect to the armed forces—as the ban against Negro women in the WAVEs and SPARs. But the Adjutant General's order of July 18 shows that it can be done.

The Negro And the Armed Forces

by Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

on the army post in Camp Sibert, Alabama, following the ation there, several days ago, of S/Sgt. Joe Louis, world heavy- boxing champion, and Sgt. rather than submit to Jim Crow, obinson, "uncrowned world whereupon both he and Sergeant weight champion." Robinson were taken into custody. s and Robinson were at the When the provost marshal's office pot waiting for transporta- failed to satisfactorily settle the issue, Louis asked to be taken to Birmingham. the commanding general. The wait was Brigadier General Scherkjian, that Louis went inside the post commander, reportedly stated to call a taxi, Robinson com- that jim-crow waiting rooms on th him. Inside, they were the reservations were unauthorized and ordered the MP's to release the two soldier-boxers.

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4-8-44

Sergeant Louis pointed out ere were no signs designat- ite or colored, and chose to en to the provost marshal

War Dept. Reduces Terms of 5 Soldiers

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

9-16-44

Men Had Rebelled Against Jim Crow Practices in Florida Camp

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Five soldiers, sentenced last March at Dale Mabry Field here to terms of fifteen and thirteen years on mutiny charges, have had their terms drastically reduced.

David Levinson, Philadelphia attorney, was advised Wednesday that the sentences have been reduced as follows:

William J. Flemons, of Washington, and Leo M. Jones of Philadelphia, five years; James E. Crowley, Brooklyn, and Arthur Boyd, Summit, N.J., two years; and Joseph R. Kent, Evanston, Ill., three years.

The men had been put in the guardhouse at the field on minor charges after each had encountered trouble at various Army camps in the South because they protested treatment handed them and other colored soldiers.

They refused on March 23 to leave the guardhouse for fatigue detail, demanding to see the commanding officer. They said that their meals from soup to dessert were dumped on one plate while white prisoners had their food served on two.

For an answer, Levinson said, a non-commissioned officer threw several tear gas bombs into the jail. At a court martial the men were accused of inciting to mutiny, mutiny and not attempting to curb mutiny. 9-16-44

The next step will be an appeal for Presidential pardons.

War Department Will Probe Joe Louis Affair

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. War Department will make an early investigation of unauthorized segregated bus depot waiting

47d-1944

War Official Declares Army Will Continue Jim Crow Policy

Amsterdam News 4-1, 4-4,

By AGNES E. MEYER
(Wife of Eugene Meyer, Publisher of the Washington Post)

This is the THIRD and last in the series on the Negro and the war written by Agnes E. Meyer and published in THE WASHINGTON POST and New York HERALD TRIBUNE in their issues of March 19 and 26. The first article by Mrs. Meyer, which appeared in the POST and HERALD TRIBUNE on March 19, was reviewed in THE AMSTERDAM NEWS of March 25, but in view of the special importance attached to the official statement of discriminatory policy toward the Negro in the United States Army by John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, THE AMSTERDAM NEWS published, by permission of THE WASHINGTON POST, the entire second article. In this final instalment, Mr. McCloy's statement as quoted by Mrs. Meyer is published in full.—Editorial Note. 4-15-44

Army's Aid Forgotten

All the many constructive contributions which the Army is making to the military training and general education of the race are forgotten; the fact that its policy of segregation is more limited than ever before is overlooked.

Through a series of accidents the Army bears the brunt of the Negro's long accumulating passion for equality. The fact that democracy as an aim is explicit in this war not only lends added inspiration to the Negro cause but makes the major arm of our military forces a logical target for Negro protest.

What position does the Army take in regard to this complicated situation? I asked that question of the men who could give not only the best informed but the most sympathetic reply, the Assistant Secretary of War, John J. McCloy, chairman of the Army's committee on minority groups. This is his statement as dictated to me.

"We have taken as our basic policy that there will be segregation of the Negro regimental units. This has been the policy of the Army ever since the Civil War and even before. We are fighting a tough war and our troops have to go up against seasoned champions. Therefore we cannot trifle with morale. We have to go the tried way. 4-15-44

"In gaining the highest possible morale of the Army you cannot make extreme experiments. Segregation makes difficulties, but mixing units would create even more upheaval, and we cannot take such risks. The Army is not a social institution and it cannot get too far ahead of the social structure in which it has its origin. We are in thorough sympathy with the Negro as a soldier but nothing can be done to endanger the military value of our effort.

Some Progress Reported

"Compared to the last war, however, we have made considerable progress. The Negro soldier is treated like the white soldier in every particular except that he is segregated.

"There is a complete non-discrimination policy in respect to facilities, food, clothing, housing and treatment. We have insisted that he should have the same caliber of leadership as any white regiment. 4-15-44

"On every post we have endeavored to maintain a policy of just and equal treatment. There have been breaches. In a Southern company, new officers come in, not professional soldiers, who feel they know 'how to handle colored people.' They are apt to apply the policies of the communities from which they come. We hop on them for it and are continually alert to the trouble they make. Our greatest problems are the prejudices and general attitude of local areas, and the abuses of various kinds that spring from prejudice.

"The lack of facilities for the Negro in such communities is a great handicap in itself. We had to make great efforts to increase the Negro's recreational facilities in the Southern towns where his recreation has been neglected. But the greatest practical difficulty is still securing adequate transportation. We have not been able to control the Jim Crow laws in local Southern towns on the buses and even on the railroads. 4-15-44

Blamed for Police Brutality

"The brutal behavior of the local police to the colored soldier made matters worse. We have been criticized for this, but we have done and are doing our utmost to combat it. In many cases we have even used the threat of boycott to improve transportation, by the cancellation of franchises, or by taking over transportation ourselves. Actually we haven't enough trucks to do this everywhere. But if we did this for the Negro, it would be free and then the white boys who pay carfare on the other buses would object.

"We have begun a new survey of the whole situation, particularly as to colored troops from the North who are not used to the segregation practiced by the South. We do not put colored Northern troops in the South as a matter of racial discrimination, but because most of our camps have been placed there for climatic reasons. 4-15-44

"The Army is now far ahead of civilian life as a whole in regard to its discriminatory policies, but it does not seem so to the Negro because he is more conscious of

O. K.'s Jim Crow

JOHN J. McCLOY, Assistant Secretary of War, whose blunt statement of policy regarding the segregation of Negro units leaves no question or doubt about the place of the Negro in the Army. 4-15-44

himself and his problems than he was in the last war.

"The officer candidate schools are not segregated and the Army is doing what it can to select the officers carefully. Promotions are supposed to reveal unfairness. Actually we are making them up to the point that the war effort demands. There are several battalion and regimental commanders, several full colonels, in fact, every grade of officer up to brigadier general. The Negro is in all branches of the service. Negro paartroopers are making their first jumps at Fort Benning this very week.

"As far as the use of Negro troops in the Army is concerned, they are already located in every theater of combat throughout the world. Several units have distinguished themselves. A number of individuals have won citations, such as the D. S. C. down to the soldier's medal for heroism. Other combat units will be shipped abroad when we feel they are ready. 4-15-44

"The Negro is at a disadvantage in the mass because his education has been neglected. We cannot with the most intensive training make up in a short period for his lack of educational background. It is not as easy, therefore, to make them into efficient combat troops, but by selection we hope to give the Negro every chance to make good on the field of battle. We are interested in making a military asset out of the Negro, and, just because he is handicapped in the mass, we have been careful to give the specially qualified individual every opportunity for progress.

Local Prejudice Increased

"The complaint of the Negro is directed against the Army because it is a good focal point for his whole general state of dissatisfaction. The Negro hoped and we had hoped that the Southern civilian attitude toward him would change if he was in uniform. But, unfortunately, the Southern local prejudice increased in intensity, and only a strong public opinion can change it.

"The Negro's irritation which is leveled at the Army should be directed against these local prejudices over which the Army cannot presume to exert control.

"It is especially short-sighted for the Negroes to heap their general sense of wrongs upon the Army because their troops would take better advantage of the training program if their morale were higher. The Army is doing all that it can to improve morale, and the Negro leaders should co-operate. Instead of using the situation to step up race consciousness, the emphasis should be placed upon the fact that the Negro has a great opportunity in the war to show what he can do. 4-15-44

"The propaganda of Negro leadership depresses their troops and increases their lack of morale at a moment when it should be at the highest pitch. The propaganda against the Army encourages the fatalistic sense of not belonging, to which the Negro is always sensitive. The men hear the talk of their own leaders and say; 'What's the use?'

"But their instinct, and the rational decision of some Negro leaders, is to go the other way and encourage full participation. Actually more can be gained for the whole race by encouraging morale in spite of any and all dissatisfaction, justified or not. Many of the Negro Army officers and Army chaplains are taking that position, but they have to meet the opposition of their racial leaders, who say: 'We won't move unless we get something for it.'

"Negative Attitude" Cited

"This seems to me a short-sighted policy as far as the elevation of the race is concerned.

"I confess that some Army men are discouraged about this negative attitude of Negro leadership. Our committee and the general staff have worked very hard to overcome the problems that exist, but our efforts meet with little response. We are constantly hearing that the Negro is disgruntled and yet our only aim is to make him feel as adjusted to military life as the other men. 4-15-44

"The Negro is getting better care, attention, nourishment, education and consideration than he receives in civilian life. I am told that G-3 checks up more carefully to get good subalterns for Negro regiments than for white troops. The 9th Squadron, which has lately done so well, got better equipment, better and longer training than any other Army flying units, as we were eager to have them make good.

"We shall continue our efforts to overcome mistakes, but injustices can occur in so large an organization as the Army in regard to handling of white recruits as well as Negroes. Our aim is to right these mistakes in both cases as quickly as they come to our attention. It is a pity, therefore, that complete equality in the Army has taken such hold of the Negro mind as to become their predominating thought. For our first aim, whether Negro or white, should be the winning of the war." 4-15-44

In evaluating Mr. McCloy's statement, Negro leadership should take into consideration that he is as free of inherited prejudices and emotionally as stable in his judgment of Negro problems as any one with whom I have discussed the question of Negro morale.

Civilian Morale Depressed

What Mr. McCloy did not know is that the morale of the civilian population has also been depressed to a point of deperate melancholy.

"The cynicism and resentment of our students," said the gentle and judicially minded Howard University professor of philosophy, Dr. Alain L. Locke, "has become markedly greater in the last few years. It is a bitter thing to see young people so disillustioned. The Army situation is the nub of the matter, for its policy of segregation implies second-class citizenship."

The young people, themselves, have expressed their feelings to me in much more violent language. "I am beginning to hate the face of a white man," said one of them.

The white reader will find it difficult to understand this mounting hatred and resentment in the face of an ever-improving Negro status in the Army. There are two answers. The Army has not sufficienty publicized among the Negro masses the numerous advantages offered them in its ranks, nor has it used its powers to build up public sentiment against the maltreatment of the Negro soldier. This left all the tactical advantages to the Negro leaders and they did not fail to seize them.

Problem for the North, Too

But the North will also have to meet the attitudes which the Negro troops bring back from the front. It should examine critically the reasons for its growing impatience with its intransigence toward the Negro in uniform, will then reap the evil harvest that it has sown and continues to sow.

come more militant in its demand that the backward Southern communities begin to practice better race relationships. Otherwise the returning Negro troops are bound to be the focal point of racial disorder. Viewing the present antagonisms between the Negro and the Army from their largest aspect, nothing is more important than that.

4-15-44

In the mean time greater harmony can scarcely be achieved unless Negro statesmanship modifies its strategy and does its share to put the Army program for the Negro in a more favorable light.

In addition, the efforts of both the whites and the Negroes must unite in securing for the returned Negro soldier his fair share of the jobs when the industrial reorganization takes place. Reassurance to the Negro that this time he can count upon retaining some of the economic progress he has made during the war would be the most practical proof that the moral conscience of America is genuinely aroused and that our democratic war aims are not the eyewash they seemed to him after the World War.

4-15-44

Then he would also have more reason to believe that his partial segregation in the Army was not the insult that it seems, but an unavoidable military necessity. He might even heed the advice which Dean Hastie gave just after his resignation from the War Department "to grit his teeth, square his shoulders and do his best as a soldier."—M.—R.

JOHN DAVIS GOES SOUTH; GETS FACTS

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-22-44

Editor's Note: Who runs the U. S. Army?

What men are responsible for the conditions which have disturbed both soldier and civilian morale among Negroes?

The Courier knows these men . . . key-figures in establishing and maintaining Army policy. The Courier knows these men come out of the South.

The Courier, however, wanted to know more about these men . . . their backgrounds, their training, their qualifications.

John P. Davis, brilliant news analyst and a member of The Courier editorial staff, went into Dixie . . . into the home-towns of these men.

His investigation produced rich news dividends. His findings, contained in three soul-searching articles, draw aside the curtain of mystery and give you a highly dramatic expose upon which the entire attitude of the War Department policy on Negro troops can very easily be based.

By JOHN P. DAVIS
Washington Bureau

The other day a Negro soldier in a Southern Army camp wrote his former high school principal in Atlanta, Ga.: "I don't know, but I'm positively sure something is happening to me. Whatever it is I believe it is feeding me with hatred and prejudice, and I eat it, drink it and digest it. . . . I have seen and heard things here in camp that crushed my spirit and morale more each day. Should we attend a post theatre we are segregated. The same equally applies to bus transportation, patronizing the camp PX or what have you . . . I feel I prefer death fighting for democracy in America rather than to die on a battlefield."

4-29-44

GOOD BAROMETER ON ARMY POLICY

The existence of such a sentiment among Negro soldiers is the barometer by which America should judge the policies of the War Department affecting Negroes. It is not likely that many Negro soldiers have such extreme feelings as those expressed in this letter. But the fact that even a few Negro soldiers feel this way is a grave problem for America. It throws open for serious questioning the whole attitude of the War Department on Negro troops.

4-29-44

The War Department has publicly stated that it did not approve of mixing Negro and white enlisted men in the same regimental units. It has publicly stated that because of the lower educational classifications of many Negro soldiers they have been unable to master techniques of modern weapons of war. And for this stated reason it has pursued a policy of converting to labor battalions some of the most famous units of Negro troops, among them the 9th and 10th Cavalry regiments and the 8th Illinois National Guard regiment.

VISITS DIXIE CENTERS

Add to this the failure to use a single unit of Negro ground forces during the first 27 months of the war, the unsatisfactory program of promotions of Negro officers, the constant irritations experienced by Negro "G.I.'s" in southern camps and you have some of the basic reasons for a low morale among some Negro soldiers.

These policies do not help America win her war for freedom.

Who are the men who make these policies and carry them out? what have been their relationships with their Negro fellow-Americans? It was to answer these questions that The Pittsburgh Courier sent me more than 1,000 miles into the Deep South. The assignment was to get the facts about the Army's Poll-Tax Generals.

SOME BENEFITS

4-22-44

Not all the policies of the War Department are harmful to the morale of Negro troops. The majority serve well the interests of America and her Negro soldiers. The nearly 700,000 Negro servicemen —many of them for the first time in their lives—have been given good training, taught discipline and orderly habits, fed wholesome food and clothed comfortably. In many instances they have been under the command of officers who respected them and treated them with sympathy and understanding.

Commanding generals such as Lt. Gen. Mark Clark and Maj. Gen. Omar Bradley in the North African, Sicilian and Italian campaigns were quick to recognize and commend Negro troops under their command for gallantry and soldierly accomplishments.

Nor do all the Army's generals who happen to come from the South deserve the title "poll-tax general." There are those in a position to know something of the way the Army General Staff is run who have a good word to say about Maj. Gen. Ray E. Porter, born and trained in Arkansas, and now Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, War Department General Staff. Porter received the Distinguished Service Cross and the Croix de Guerre with Gilt Star in World War I.

WILL UNCOVER POLL-TAX GENERALS

4-29-44

But it will serve no good purpose to America's war effort to gloss over the fact that all too frequently there are men on the General Staff, whose background, traditions and experience prevents them from dealing with Negro troops free from bias and prejudice associated with the poll-tax system in the Southern States from which they come. These are the poll-tax generals.

Negro America—with the lives of 700,000 of its finest sons pledged to the cause of America's victory over the Axis—has a right to know the facts about the men who anonymously develop Army policy and prepare such letters as the one Secretary of War Stimson signed and sent to Representative Hamilton Fish, saying in effect that Negro soldiers are too dumb to fight. For today these men have much to do with running Uncle Sam's Army.

Negroes Asks FDR's Help

Post — New York, N.Y.

9-20-44

A protest against the War Dept.'s plan to create separate facilities for Negro soldiers returning for relief from battle strain was wired to President Roosevelt yesterday by 26 Negroes of Harlem who also asked an appointment to discuss the question.

The signers included Judge Jane Bolin, Police Lt. Lewis Chisholm, Judge Hubert T. Delany, Rev. A. C. Powell, Jr., Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Walter White and Doxey Wilkerson.

The telegram said, in part:

"We learn that white soldiers brought back from overseas for recreation and relief from battle strain are to be given appoximately two weeks each at Government expense at luxurious hotels and resorts at Lake Placid, N. Y., Santa Barbara, Calif., Miami Beach, Fla . . . But Negro soldiers are to be required to go to Theresa Hotel in New York's Harlem and Pershing Hotel on Chicago's southside . . .

". . . The action of the U. S. Government in segregating Negro soldiers who also have faced death on foreign battlefronts and in introducing segregation in northern communities where it is both illegal and contrary to public opinion is a reprehensible act which Negro soldiers and civilians alike resent . . ."

Army Stands Firm On Jim Crow Order

World — Memphis, Tenn.

9-8-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — There appears to be no disposition on the part of the war department to recede from the position it has taken in the non-segregation directive sent to all army posts early in July, in spite of the ranting and protests on the part of southern legislators and governors.

Last week Rep. Newsome of Alabama entered into the record the protest of Gov. Chauncey Sparks of his state sent to President Roosevelt August 27 asking that the opinions of southeners be invited before it is made effective.

Up to last Thursday the White House had not replied to the Sparks telegram. A. spokeman there acknowledged receipt and simply said that the matter "is in the mill". There was no clarification as to whether there would be an answer or not.

Meanwhile, as rabid segregationists continued to rail against the war department directive, liberal elements were hailing it as "an important step forward in the fight to abolish discrimination based on race, color or creed from the armed forces and from our country." The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties has been notable in this respect.

9-8-44

In a letter to President Roosevelt which referred to "those ossified white supremists" who would suspend the order, the federation told him that "the great majority of Americans abhor the views and tactics of this group and assured him of continued "support to your leadership of our country."

Anti-Jim Crow Order in Army Stinks—Report

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

9-16-44

"The belated order by President Roosevelt and the War Department to the Army to cease segregation and Jim Crow in camps against Negro soldiers, stinks to the high heavens. It is an insult to the intelligence of the Negro and of all liberty loving people. It comes too late," declared Attorney William A. Booker, of Chicago, prominent in political and legal circles in the Windy City, on a visit to New York last week. Mr. Booker is the regular Republican candidate for state representative in the Illinois General Assembly from the first district of that state.

"I think the systematic manner in which Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York has gone about his campaign," he replied in answer to a question as to his opinion of the GOP Presidential nominee, "in which he has tied up state after state under Republican governorships, is further proof of his fine ability for organization and the executive capacity to get things done.

"The one thing this country at large will need, and the Negro in particular, after the war," continued Mr. Booker, "will be a man of the type of Governor Dewey who is fresh with vigor, endowed with ability, and has the courage to recognize worth and ability among all our racial groups without regard to race, color or national origin—his record in New York is proof again of that fact. The Negro will need such a man who has the courage of his convictions to face and solve the problems of post-war employment, assuring us post-war security. I believe that Dewey will see to it that the Negro is just as indispensable in peace as he was in the industry of war.

9-16-44

"I was with him at Springfield, Ill., in August, at a round table conference at Governor Dwight Green's mansion, and this is the impression he made on all of us: namely, that he is concerned with giving security through the enactment by Congress of a fair employment practice commission as one of the basic needs to assure us economic stability. I believe that his forthright position on law enforcement would cause him to act swiftly and with justice in frowning upon, and eradicating maltreatment of Negroes in the armed forces. The utter disregard of the Roosevelt Administration in this connection has been an insult to the intelligence of all liberty-loving people."

47d-1944

NEGRO TROOPS SLANDERED

Ref-New York, N.Y.

CONGRESSMAN Hamilton Fish (R., N.Y.) has done Negroes a great service by getting officially from Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson a statement on the use of Negro American troops in combat units in Europe and Asia. 3-4-44

On February 1, Congressman Fish wrote to the Secretary of War and asked for an explanation as to why Negro regiments were being broken up into smaller units and shifted to labor work almost exclusively. On February 19th, Secretary Stimson replied to the Congressman's letter and while he did not answer all the questions asked of him, much of what the Secretary of War shows crystal clear that Negroes can expect no gains to be made in the Army.

"Your information concerning the utilization of certain Negro personnel from Tank Destroyer and Field Artillery units in organization of service units is correct," Secretary Stimson wrote. "Moreover, additional Tank Destroyer units organized with colored personnel have been retained. The 930th and 931st Field Artillery Battalions, both former components of the 184th Field Artillery, are currently being refilled, but present plans contemplate conversion of the Battalions to Combat Engineer units. Certain other existing Negro Field Artillery units are being converted to heavier artilley, but the 930th and 931st 155 mm. Howitzer Battalions have not been selected for conversion to heavier artillery or retention as Field Atillery owing to the unsatisfactory records of both units. To have retained those troops as Field Artillery units and concurrently to have converted or stripped other Negro or white Field Artillery units with substantially high efficiency records, would have been an uneconomical use of manpower. The present plan to convert the units to Combat Enginners is based on similar considerations." 3-4-44

Continuing the Secretary of War wrote:

"In converting combat units to service units, the War Department's selection of units to be converted has been based solely on the relative abilities, capabilities and status of training of the personnel in the units available for conversion. It so happens that a relatively large percentage of the Negroes inducted in the Army have fallen within the lower educational classifications, and many of the Negro units accordingly have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons. To have committed such units to combat at the dates of conversion would have endangered operational successes as well as submitted the personnel to unnecessarily high casualty rates. Our limitations of manpower and urgent and immediate need for service units of a type whose mission would be efficiently discharged by the personnel concerned left no choice but to include Negro troops in conversions such as those mentioned in your letter.

"Concerning the use of Negro troops overseas, our general policy is to maintain the same ratio between Negro and white troops overseas as exists in the Army as a whole. I am sure you realize, however, that it is impracticable to maintain a uniform ratio of races to branches of service in all theatres. Your statement that Negro combat units overseas are used on service assignments is, of course, correct. The statement is equally applicable to white units overseaas. The fact is, there is no defensible reason for not so employing combat troops when necessary, and the procedure actually is to be encouraged in order to obtain maximum manpower value. As you know, rarely are all combat units in an area committed simultaneously. The decision as to when and how any unit shall be employed rests entirely with the responsible commander.

"I believe the foregoing will clarify the major problems raised in your letter. Permit me to emphasize, in conclusion, that any implication that the War Department is deliberately attempting to avoid sending overseas, or to keep out of combat, troops of the Negro or any other race, is entirely without foundation. Large numbers of Negro troops are overseas or en route and will be given every opportunity to win battle honors and demonstrate their worth in actual combat."

Congressman Fish commenting on the War Department Secretary's letter declared that "it is astounding to me that after twenty-six months of World War No. 2 virtually no Negro units have been engaged in combat except the 99th Pursuit Squadron and a few antiaircraft units. 3-4-44

"I do not agree at all with the official policy of the War Department in using colored soldiers as service troops, and particularly with its policy of breaking up such a well known and gallant Negro regiment as the former Eighth Illinois National Guard, which served with distinction and heroism in both the Spanish-American War and the World War.

"I specifically asked the Secrtary of War why the crack 24th Infantry Regiment, fully equipped and prepared for any eventuality, is performing service duties at docks and supply dumps while awaiting possible assignment to combat. Twenty-one months have passed since this outfit embarked for California for the South Pacific. Mr. Stimson simply ignored this question and give it the silent treatment.

"I cannot speak for the colored people of Chicago, but I should think they will be shocked when they learn that the Old Eighth Illinois National Guard Regiment, of which they rightfully have been so proud because of its service as an infantry combat regiment in the last war, is now turned into an Engineer Regiment after more than two years of training in preparation for front line service as a Field Artillery unit.

"I do not understand how it is that four separate colored regiments made such gallant fighting records in the last war, which was won in approximately 19 months and yet no colored infantry troops have been ordered into combat in this war. The educational standards of colored people have improved in the last 25 years, and I cannot agree with the Secretary of War's inference that colored soldiers' efficiency ratings are so low that 'many of the Negro units have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons.' I believe many American Negroes will resent bitterly this broad indictment of their people, and the discrimination against their use in combat units in defense of their country.

"It seems passing strange that French Sengalese or whole British divisions from India have been fighting so superbly with our Allies, and that Russians with 'low educational qualifications' have been the heroes of this war, and that even the Japanese with 'lesser educational qualifications' than American Negroes, have been found to be brave and efficient soldiers." 3-4-44

Congressman Fish has rendered a great service by getting Secretary of War Stimson to at long last answer — if even insultingly — why Negro soldiers are treated no better than they are.

Breeze From 1944 Elections Stirs:

Henry Replies to Ham On Negro Combat Troops

People's Voice-New York, N.Y.

3-4-44

'HAM'

Representative Hamilton Fish of New York, who has been given a thorough "airing" on several occasions by Walter Winchell and who is feeling the "breeze fanned up by the rising storm of the 1944 Presidential and Congressional elections, read on the floor of the House of Representatives last Wednesday, Sec-ad ...p of late retary of War Stimson's reply to about the in- his February 9 letter asking how justice of it all, come Negro troops are accused Stim- combat units Mr. Fish, who son of giving aren't "combat-has been steam-

...sifications, and many of the Negro units accordingly have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons.

...units accordingly have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons.

"YES, I BELIEVE IN SOCIAL EQUALITY"

...T Gun for WSA Boss Who Obeys FEPC Orders

Tribune-Washington, D.C. 3-4-44

If you had any doubts that Congressman Howard Smith, Alexandria (Va.) Democrat, is a reactionary leading the forces which makes discrimination against Negroes not only permissible but compulsory, then you should have dropped in on his special House Investigating Committee, Wednesday.

If you doubt that he's not using every opportunity to smirch the Fair Employment Practice Committee, then you should have been there more so.

The occasion was the hearing of Craig Vincent, Atlantic Coast regional director for the War Shipping Board, called to testify in regard to the WSA policy of hiring of seamen in the Merchant Marine.

The Seafarers' International Union has charged the WSA with "checker-boarding" crews, insisting upon mingling Negroes with whites on board ship, despite the objections of both Negro and white seamen.

Marshall E. Dimock, WSA assistant deputy administrator, Vincent's boss, was also called upon to testify. 3-4-44

Confused on Social Equality

Although the charge was specifically stated, the committee got mixed up on the FEPC non-discrimination policy and social equality between Negores and whites.

Vincent and Dimock emphatically denied deliberately trying to mix the crews, saying they adhered to the FEPC policy and followed a system of first-come-first served in sending out men for ship crews.

Asked early in the hearing by Smith whether or not he believed in social eyuality, Vincent replied that while he did personally, the President's order against racial discrimination in jobs was not involved in the question. Then Vincent's fat was in the fire.

Rep. Clare Hoffman (Rep., Mich.) also got an affirmative reply when he asked Vincent whether or not he believed in the social intermingling of races.

3-4-44

Hammer at Record

Hammering at Vincent, the committee revealed that through a bookkeeping error which persisted for some months, the administrator drew two fat Government salaries—$5,800 and $7,500 a year—at the same time.

This happened when Vincent was promoted from his Washington job with the WSA which paid $5,800 to his present Newed York City position with the agency which carries a $7,500 salary. His wife is also on the Federal pay roll at $3,800.

Eventually the mistake was discovered and Vincent has paid back $625, it was said.

The committee harped on the fact that Vincent received a draft deferment obtained by the WSA on the ground that he was indispensable to the war effort. They also tried to picture him as subversive on the basis of a brief membership in one or two so-called subversive organizations.

"Not Disqualified"

On the stand, Dimock insisted that despite the attempted smears, Vincent was indispensable, that he knew nothing to disqualify him, and that the WSA is interested primarily in full manpower utilization."

The committee did not give Vincent an opportunity to rebut the union's charges, but members expressed themselves as doubtful of his usefulness after the views he had given.

AIR FORCE BANS DISCRIMINATION

The Herald—Boston, Mass. 8-25-44

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24 —(AP)—The War Department said Thursday the Air Forces sent to all its commands recently a memorandum calling attention to War Department policy forbidding discrimination between Negro and white personnel at Army posts.

The Air Forces memorandum dated Aug. 17, was based on a general Army circular issued July 8 which restated a long-standing department policy. This policy forbids discrimination at post exchanges, theaters and other recreational facilities at Army posts and by Army-operated transportation facilities.

The July 8 order, issued over the signature of Maj. Gen. James A. Ulio, the adjutant general, said:

"Exchanges — While exchanges and branches exchanges may be allocated to serve specific areas or units, no exchange will be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race. Where such branch exchanges are established, personnel will not be restricted to the use of their area or unit exchange, but will be permitted to use any other exchange on the post, camp or station. 8-25-44

"Transportation—Buses, trucks, or other transportation owned and operated either by the government or by a governmental instrumentality will be available to all military personnel regardless of race. Restricting personnel to certain sections of such transportation because of race will not be permitted either on or off a post, camp or station, regardless of local civilian custom.

"Arm Motion Picture Theaters—Army motion picture theaters may be allocated to serve certain areas or units, but no theater or performance in any theater will be denied any group or individual because of race."

Louisiana Is Hell Hole to Camp Claiborne Men

Afro American—Baltimore, Md. 3-4-44

Soldiers Would Rather Go Overseas Now Than Stay in Dixie

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CAMP CLAIBORNE, La.—Soldiers can't be polled concerning their opinions of the Army in general of this camp in particular, but after spending a few hours here one gets the idea that "it stinks."

After spending a few days here, one revises that opinion downward, and reaches the conclusion that it is one of the worst hell holes in this man's Army.

Most of the men here seem resigned to Army duty. They don't go beyond the usual healthy griping about the work, but there seems to be a general dissatisfaction with the lack of recreation facilities and adequate transportation between the camp and the nearest town, Alexandria. 3-4-44

Overseas No Worse

The net result of these conditions has been to cause the men to feel that they won't be any too sorry to get overseas—that conditions there can't possibly be any worse than here.

There's an unwritten law that colored service men cannot ride busses from town unless there are five of them. If there are five, they may occupy the back seat; otherwise they must wait until five are ready to go. 3-4-44

It seems that this arrangement was made because colored people constitute one-third of the population and therefore are entitled to only one-third of the seats. These busses hold fifteen.

Some Haul Whites Only

There are fifteen or sixteen GI busses which have been hired out to private companies which do not allow colored persons to enter at all.

In addition, there are four busses which operate irregularly, for colored troops only.

I asked the public relations office about this situation. Officials there said that transportation was a problem and that there are as many complaints from whites as from colored service men.

Has Army Sanction

The fact remains, however, that colored officers are not allowed to ride certain busses and that this policy is approved by the Army, which rents out the busses and has a say as to how they shall be operated. 3-4-44

There have been many instances which indicate that white service men themselves do not like the setup which denies their fellow colored soldiers transportation.

On the bus out from Alexandria, Friday, a white soldier occupied the vacant seat next to a colored soldier. The driver stopped the bus and demanded that he move. He finally did after a rough exchange of words.

Recreation Lacking

Recreation after reaching Alexandria is nothing to write home about. The town boasts a USO center, several beer gardens and a few girls, but going to town to some is better than staying on the post and seeing movies night after night.

Recreation on the post is as limited as would be expected with separate activities for colored and white troops and a sharp line drawn between what one can and can't do.

Lt. Isaiah Taylor, of Le Compte, La., special service officer in charge of recreation for the 1311th Engineer General Service Regiment, promotes the usual basketball and boxing contests, movies and one camp show a month, but these activities don't begin to meet the needs of the 1300 men in his unit.

Morale Low 3-4-44

There is need of additional big name shows, more dances and social entertainment, because jim crow has caused the men's morale to drop very low.

The same holds true for the several thousand other colored troops in the camp.

There are seven movie houses and one main theater on the post for white personnel, and one in the colored service area. At the main theatre there are broadcasts from the stage.

Too Few Clubs

There are four USO clubs in the town of Alexandria for white personnel; one for colored. There are a number of service clubs on the post; two for colored.

Not only is there a transportation problem to and from the camp; there's one at the ticket office, too. At the Missouri-Pacific office I saw colored soldiers wait an hour while attendants waited on white service men at the eight "white windows."

Soldiers tell me they often have to buy tickets on the train, although they reach the station an hour ahead of train time.

Officers Restricted

Besides the gripe about recreation and transportation, officers of the colored regiments have an additional complaint, namely: they are ignored when promotions are made and that many of them, eligible for upgrading in status, have been "overlooked."

As a result, letters are being prepared by these men requesting transfers from the regiment. One of them was commissioned fourteen months ago and, despite efficiency ratings of "excellent," and additional administrative work, has not been elevated from second lieutenant. 3-4-44

Medical Captain Highest

The highest ranking colored officer on the post is Capt. D. V. D. Bradley, of Philadelphia, who is medical officer for the 1311th Regiment.

Among the soldiers here at Claiborne are:

Sgt. John M. Ross, Beltsville, Md.; Pvts. Jesse Jackson, Roanoke; Noah Smith, Tampa, Fla.; Sgt. Calvin Ball, 1401 Winchester Street, Baltimore, who has been in the army a year; Sgt. William Davenport, Gloucester, Va.; Sgt. Benjamin Crawford and Alfonso Wallace, both of Pittsburgh; Charles Hines, Chicago; Sgt. Joseph F. Anthony, New York City, who was busy at his work of demolition for field day exercises; 8-4-44

Sgt. Percy Berry, Pittsburgh; Pvt. Harold F. Wills, Washington, regimental mail clerk, and T/5 Richard L. Johnson, Richmond, Va., who likes his job as driver

"CHAUNCEY SPARKS, "Governor of Alabama."

dent, declared the o... esday to civilian ... sonnel at Maxwell ... down an essential p... relationship in th... "grievously handica... bring about better ... ships."

Gov. Sparks' tele... follows:

"Local newspaper... on equal bases.

"May I respectfully ask that you ... War Department's or... give this matter your personal at... ... segregation of ... tention and, before the order is ... axwell Field post ex... made effective, that you give con... As Governor of the ... sideration to the opinions of those ... races at the Maxwell ... better relationship between the two ... and an improvement of both ... races and an improvement of both

8-25-44

Sparks Protests Order In Wire To President

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 24—(AP)—Alabama's Gov. Chauncey Sparks protested to President Roosevelt Thursday a War Department order forbidding racial discrimination at post exchanges and other facilities on Army posts and races at the Maxwell Field post executive to give change here. As Governor of the State of Alabama, I protest such an order, which violates a statewide practice and belief and aggravates neutralized by such orders.

8-25-44

47d-1944

Blood Bank

BLACK BLOOD

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By HORACE R. CAYTON

A Successful Means of Protest Against the Red Cross Blood Policy

"YOUR Red Cross is by his side," says the poster. But that blood bank is sure Jim Crow. And that's what's embarrassing the American Red Cross in its current drive for funds. The response of Negroes to the various local war community chests and to the bond drive has shown that they are earning money and are willing to give. But appeals from the Red Cross have fallen flat. Why?

4-8-44

Recently a friend of mine who works for the NAACP was faced with this problem: A Negro employed in one of the defense plants complained that the management wanted to deduct a certain amount from his salary as a contribution to the Red Cross drive. This fellow had read in the press about the Jim Crow blood bank, which the Red Cross had refused to change even though it wanted Negroes to aid its financial campaign. He had seen how the Red Cross had picked out Negroes for ridicule in a recent newsreel film. He had read how in England, Italy, and North Africa, Red Cross officials were accused by their own Negro staff of upholding the army caste-color system with greater diligence than did the regular army officers. Now, this fellow objected to giving to the Red Cross, but he did want to do something more for the war effort and didn't mind giving either money or blood.

Mr. Cayton

My NAACP friend couldn't help him, but after thinking about it for a while, I've got an idea.

WHY NOT GIVE IT TO THE CHINESE? 4-8-44

Why don't Negroes contribute the amount of money they would normally give to the Red Cross to a fund which would be used to establish a blood bank for the Chinese? This would kill two birds with one stone, including the most obnoxious one, Jim Crow. Why give to the Chinese? Well, they're our allies. They're not getting as much lend-lease as they ought to, so it's an absolutely patriotic objective to aid the weakest of our allies. If the country can't send them enough airplanes, well, Negroes can send them all the blood they need. I don't think there would be many Chinese soldiers who would choose to lie on the battlefield and die just because there weren't any containers of white—or perhaps Chinese—blood handy. They'd be glad to get a little black blood if it would save their lives — clever fellows, these Chinese. 4-8-44

BLOOD AIDS DEMOCRACY

Then look at it from the point of view of the American Negro. He wants some share in this world revolution; at the same time, he's not interested in encouraging the lily-white policies and practices of the Red Cross. This would be a successful means of protest without someone saying that Negroes were disloyal or weren't aiding the war effort, or were interested in "social equality"—except, perhaps, with the Chinese.

WHEN you get to thinking about it, the idea grows on you. Look what it would mean for our relations with the non-white people of the world. American diplomats could tell them, "You know, we have a racial minority at home. The Japanese and Germans tell you that all we do is lynch them. But nobody can say the Negro's morale isn't high! Look—they're sending the Chinese their blood! Nobody can say they're not interested in this fight."

BLACK BLOOD FOR REDS

Wouldn't that be an inspiration to India? Just as the American Negro is accepted in the American system and is willing to give his blood to see that system projected throughout the world, so the Indians can find a "place" for themselves within the British Empire. Score a point for the idea that this isn't a color war, but a real war for democracy! (Thank you, Father! It's wonderful!)

4-9-44

OF course, I could suggest that we send the blood to the Russians, who apparently have no race prejudices. But I'm only afraid of one thing. Most of the poll-tax congressmen have already accused many vigorous Negroes of being 'Communists" or "Reds." These gentlemen have always assumed that the Negro's blood was black, or probably, at best, a deep purple. If they were to get a look at this blood bank and find out that the Negro's blood was really red, and it was being sent to the Red Russians — my! Mr. Dies wouldn't like that.

RED CROSS JIM CROW TO BE CONTINUED

Courier — Pittsburgh Pa.

5-14-44

NEW YORK—In response to a letter from Basil O'Connor announcing continuation of the blood plasma segregation policy, Walter White expressed sharp disappointment about the attitude of the newly appointed Red Cross head. In a communication to the latter, Mr. White said: "I had honestly hoped that you would show more courage and forthrightness in your approach to what is one of the most shameful episode and practices in the war for human liberation."

New Jersey Solons Implore FDR To End Red Cross Bias

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-22-44

TRENTON, N. J.—The latest effort to end the official Red Cross policy of blood segregation comes from the New Jersey State Legislature which, last Wednesday memorialized Franklin D. Roosevelt "to use his office to abolish racial discrimination as to donors of human blood plasma."

The resolution was sponsored by Dr. James O. Hill, Negro Republican assemblyman from Essex. Addressed to the President as ex officio head of the Red Cross, the resolution states:

"The American Red Cross has always been an American institution that has never discriminated in the objects of its bounty regardless of race, creed or color. It has been reported that persons of the Negro race have been denied the right to give their blood to save the lives of others, regardless of race, color or creed."

4-22-44

The Red Cross policy of accepting Negro blood only for use with Negroes has been under constant attack from liberal groups all over the country since its announcement prior to the entry of the U. S. into the war, but the action of the New Jersey assembly marks the first such condemnation to come from a State Legislature. Added irony of the segregation policy is the fact that Dr. Charles Drew, noted Negro surgeon and Spingarn medalist for 1944, was largely instrumental in the development of the Red Cross blood plasma bank.

Labels On Blood Plasma Unknown To AEF Doctors

Courier — Pittsburgh Pa.

12-23-44

With American Forces In France —"There is no racial segregation of blood, either plasma or whole," a foreign correspondent has written a colored weekly. "If there is a label segregating the blood, it is removed before it reaches the front."

The writer sent several labels from blood plasma cartons to substantiate his assertion and added, "Very few doctors have even heard of the Red Cross' policy."

One medical corps captain is quoted as saying: "I have been using blood plasma in the treatment of combat patients for 3 years, and I have never seen any race identification of blood or even heard of it. Why, it's ridiculous! Do you think we go around asking unconscious soldiers what race's blood they prefer?"

Louisville Interracial Conference Asks That Blood Donor Center Be Open to All

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

6-26-44

LOUISVILLE. — (ANP) — One of the recommendations made at the conclusion of an interracial conference held at the Presbyterian Theological seminary on Thursday night was that there be no "segregation" at the blood donor service center here.

The blood-donor recommendation provided that Louisville chapter, American Red Cross, be asked to let Negroes go to the center and volunteer whenever they are ready to give blood.

Under the present plan a mobile unit visits Beecher Terrace Health center and other Negro centers to collect the blood donations at stated intervals. The new arrangement, according to predictions, will encourage greater participation of Negroes in donating blood to the Red Cross.

A move toward post-war security for the Negro worker was made by Robert Black, Urban league official, and Walter Rauth, Jeffersonville Boat and Machine Works representative.

Their recommendation said that "some type of assurance against dismissal after the war be given the Negro who adjusts himself in industry." It was also urged that the Negro not be confined to the low-paying jobs and that upgrading be dealt with according to "qualifications and not discrimination."

One of the recommendations made by a group headed by Dr. Charles H. Parrish of Louisville Municipal college, and the Rev. Dr. Edward A. McDowell Jr., of Southern Baptist Theological seminary, was that a Negro be named to the board of education.

One-fifth of the Negroes in Louisville own their own homes and 11 per cent of those over 25 are high school graduates, said Dr. Parrish. He listed the changes in the attitude toward the Negro during the last 15 years. "Despite a favorable white press not one change has come about in favor of the Negro that has not been protested," Dr. Parrish declared.

Although he warned that racial uplift can become an obsession, he predicted that there was a trend toward rejection of the caste system.

5-26-44

The attitude and policy of downtown stores towards Negroes was hit in a recommendation by Frank Stanley of the Louisville Defender and Miss Louise Diecks, acting city director of welfare. Downtown stores will be asked to adjust their policy toward Negroes and encourage instead of

of the Red Cross at the Forest Glenn annex of Walter Reed Hospital. The majority of the soldiers there are convalescing from wounds received in combat areas overseas. White and Negro soldiers were indiscriminately quartered and treated at Forest Glenn. Segregation there by the Red Cross cannot be laid to the Army as in the labeling of the blood of Negroes in the blood banks.

Ousted From Dance

Some of the Negro patients who were being visited by their wives and sweethearts, went to the dance given for "wounded servicemen" and their guests. A Red Cross worker approached the dancing Negro couples and asked them to leave the hall.

Several of the white soldiers—particularly those who have been overseas—objected to their Negro buddies being ordered out. But the Red Cross worker was adamant.

The story of the insult and discrimination spread. When the Red Cross a couple days later sought to obtain a regular quota of blood donations at the Annex, the Negro soldiers, who normally give 60 to 120 pints, gave only 20 pints. The resulting loss was from 5 to 12 gallons. The men told the commanding officer the reason for refusing to give when he inquired at request of the Red Cross.

4-28-44

Blood Policy

RC Loses Five Gallons Of Soldiers' Blood in Protest Over Jim Crow

By HARRY McALPIN

(Washington Bureau, NNPA)

WASHINGTON—While the National office of the American Red Cross was attempting to meet valid objections of Negroes to the movies showing Negroes as "gutterbugs" in the war, a Red Cross worker effort by ordering colored soldiers out of a dance. This latter action led directly to the loss of 5 gallons or more of blood for the Red Cross blood bank.

The dance was given last week as part of the recreation program

Soldiers Balk Amsterdam News

On Red Cross

New York, N.Y.

D. C. Police Halt Protest Meeting Against Red Cross Blood Jim Crow

Members of the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington shown informing a group of 300 blood donors that they will not be permitted to hold an open air meeting scheduled in protest of Red Cross blood segregation policies, because of their failure to obtain a police permit or permission from the owners of the building which houses the center.

The five young women shown above were among 300 who contributed 300 pints of blood at the D.C. blood donor center on Labor Day, accompanied by protests. They are, left to right, Misses Charlotte Parkus, Frances Jones, Bernice Narcisse, Helen Schonick and Lanng Beran.

formed Judge William Hastie, president of the D.C. NAACP and one of the leaders of the delegation, that groups larger than four or five persons "could not gang up" on the Capitol grounds.

Since the group had not obtained the permit necessary for the holding of a meeting on property under control of the Metropolitan police, Captain Joseph Pearson of the second precinct informed them that there was no place in the vicinity that the meeting could be held unless it was on the steps of the Acacia Life Insurance Building which houses the donor center.

When permission for the use of the steps was denied by Acacia officials, the meeting was called off.

Although more than 200 persons were on hand for the meeting, there was no disturbance or disorder of any type and the squad of ten plainsclothesmen, present to augment the six uniformed Metropolitan policemen and like number of Capitol policemen, amused themselves by playing car poker and batting about a soft ball borrowed from a passing youngster.

Dr. William H. Hastie, president o fthe D.C. branch of the NAACP, is shown protesting the denial of the right to hold the meeting. Captain Joseph Pearson of the Second Precinct stated that his men were merely following orders and seeing that regulations were upheld.

22 Cops Halt Protest Against Blood Jim Crow

Labor Day Demonstration Broken Up After Group Presents 300 Pints

By JOE SHEPHARD

WASHINGTON

Though D.C. and Capitol regulations, enforced by more than 22 Metropolitan and U.S. Capitol police, prevented the holding of a scheduled open-air protest meeting, members of the Washington labor and race rganizations presnted 300 pints of blood to the D.C. blood donor center on Labor Day.

Accompanying the blood donations were 300 protests at the Red Cross policy of blood segregation according to the race of the donor.

Letter to O'Conor

Earlier, a letter had been sent to Basil O'Conor, director of the American Red Cross, pointing out the lack of scientific jurisdiction for the practice and protesting its continuation on behalf of members of the organizations supporting the demonstration.

Behind the contributions and the protests were members of the United Federal Workers of America, CIO; the Washington Industrial Union Council, the D.C. branches of the NAACP and National Negro Congress, and the Laborers' Union, AF of L.

Both Races Donate

The donors, colored and white, Federal employees, professional workers, laborers and domestics, poured into the blood donor center at 51 Louisiana Avenue, Northwest, in a steady stream of groups of five from 10:30 a.m. until the center closed at 5 p.m.

Declaring that the day's contribution had been "average," Mrs. Loretta Bickford, director of the center, reported that 377 pints of blood had been received at 4:45 p.m.

An open-air meeting, scheduled to be held in the park across the street from the donor center, was called off after Capitol police in-

Blood Segregation Is Protested Anew

CIO-New York, N.Y.

The Newark Interracial Council announced yesterday that it has again volunteered its services to the Newark Chapter of the American Red Cross in its 1944 campaign for funds, at the same time continuing its policy of protest against the Red Cross' segregation policies.

The Council is actively raising funds for the Red Cross, and carrying on also a program of intergroup education in which it is exposing to the public the scientific facts concerning blood plasma and the un-American policy of blood segregation." 3-17-44

In co-operation with various Newark organizations, the Council has prepared a petition form which calls for funds for the Red Cross and, at the same time, solicits signatures of protest against the separate blood bank policy of the Red Cross. The forms have been widely circulated in Newark.

By Albert Deutsch

Dr. Charles Drew, Surgeon — A Study in Blood and Race

PM New York, N.Y.
3-30-44

MEMORANDUM: To Reps. John Rankin and Andrew J. May.

SUBJECT: Race, Blood and White Supremacy.

You'll appreciate, I'm sure, the juicy irony in the story of Dr. Charles R. Drew, professor of surgery at Howard University. Dr. Drew has just been awarded the Spingarn Medal for "the highest and noblest achievement" by an American Negro, presented annually by the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People. Dr. Drew rates the award for his outstanding work in blood plasma.

And thereby hangs an instructive tale, gentlemen. Dr. Drew, who had done brilliant research in blood plasma with Dr. John Scudder at the Presbyterian-Columbia Medical Center in New York, set up the first big plasma bank in this country, in answer to an urgent call for help from Britain during the awful blitz period of September, 1940. Drew was unanimously chosen to direct the project by a distinguished group of blood experts as "the best qualified of anyone we know to act in this important development."

In a review of this pioneer work, the Blood Transfusion Betterment Assn. stated: 3-30-44

"Since Drew, who is a recognized authority on the subject of blood preservation and blood substitutes, and, at the same time, an excellent organizer, has been in charge, our major troubles have vanished."

Drew was appointed first director of the American Red Cross blood plasma bank in New York City when it was set up in 1941. His organization became a model for other Red Cross blood banks.

Here's the cream of the jest, gentlemen. At the very time Drew was setting up this Red Cross blood bank, helping save thousands of American lives through his brilliant scientific and admisistrative work, his blood would have been rejected by the Red Cross had he offered to donate it. Later, when the Red Cross modified its policy and accepted Negro blood on a Jim Crow basis, his blood would have been segregated with that of other Negroes.

All because of the blind, baseless prejudices of gentlemen like yourselves. Red Cross officials will freely admit that their blood segregation policy represents an appeasement to prejudice. There is no scientific basis whatever for segregated blood in plasma banks.

Dr. Drew — who is only 39 — is now chief of surgery at Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D. C., besides teaching surgery at Howard. His scholastic career was phenomenal. He was loaded down with honors during his undergraduate years. At McGill University Medical School at Montreal—one of the finest medical schools on the continent—he won first prize in physiological anatomy, obtained the Rosenwald Fellowship in Medicine, and graduated with top honors.

While gathering these scholastic honors, he gained international renown as an athlete. He was National Junior AAU champion in high-hurdles in 1926 and all-time top scorer in Canadian intercollegiate track competition at McGill. 3-30-44

Drew not only holds an M. D. degree, but obtained also the coveted Doctor of Medical Science degree as a result of four years of post-graduate work at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Handsome, modest, well-endowed both physically and mentally, he is a living refutation of the myth of white supremacy. He has fought his way up through the dense mass of discrimination that only a Negro knows. He is all American calibre, a man deserving homage from all, black and white.

New President Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. O'Connor Asked To Take Action

8-5-44

Policy Refutes Our War Aims, Asserts White

NEW YORK—(SNS)—In a congratulatory message to Basil O'Connor, newly appointed President of the American Red Cross, Walter White, NAACP Secretary, urged immediate reversal of the current segregation policy between Negro and white blood plasma.

Asserting it has done more than any other act to depress the morale of American Negroes and of many white Americans, Mr. White pointed out that "Our Axis enemies have used this policy of segregation to convince colored people of the world that our country is not sincere when it says that it is fighting against the racial theories of Adolph Hitler while at the same time it practices a similar master theory." 8-5-44

Commenting on the increasing need for blood plasma at this time, Mr. White said, "Courageous action by the Red Cross in reversing its present policy, will we know, result in the immediate donating of of blood by many hundreds of Americans, Negro and white, who want to do their utmost but who have been stopped by the segregation policy of the American Red Cross, the Army and the Navy."

Mr. O'Connor, who is Trustee and Executive Chairman of the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, and a senior member in the firm of O'Connor and Farber, was the law partner of President Rooseevlt from 1925 to 1933.

BLOOD SEPARATION IS PLEA OF RANKIN

News-[illegible]

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24—(AP)—Rep. Rankin (D., Miss.) told the House Thursday that a policy of non-segregation of blood being shipped to the armed forces would be "an insult to white men in service." 8-25-44

Rankin exhibited to the House a statement which he said was sponsored by labor groups and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, calling for a general Labor Day protest against segregation of Red Cross blood shipments.

"I protest in the name of the white people of North America," Rankin said.

By Albert Deutsch

New Red Cross Head Stands Pat on Jim-Crow Blood Bank

PM New York, N.Y. 8-4-44

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Basil O'Connor, who was recently appointed by President Roosevelt as chairman of the American Red Cross to succeed the last Norman Davis, expects to continue the present policy of segregating the blood of Negro and white donors for plasma banks intended for the armed forces.

"I contemplate making no change in the present policies of the Red Cross in general, including that governing the blood banks," O'Connor told me. He did add, however, that his present position didn't preclude the possibility of reconsideration of the Jim-Crow blood policy in the future, in consulatation with military authorities.

Basil O'Connor

Mr. O'Connor's statement blasts the hope of some liberals that the change in Red Cross directorship might bring about a reversal of the shameful segregation stand that has caused more resentment among the Nation's 13,000,000 Negroes than any other single wartime factor with the exception of the Army's Jim-Crow policy. Liberals based their hope largely on O'Connor's previous record as a promoter of racial and religious amity. He is an active member of the Conference of Jews and Christians. 8-4-44

The Jim-Crow policy pursued by the American Red Cross is absolutely indefensible on either scientific or humanitarian grounds. Physiologists and other scientific experts have pointed out time and again that there is no difference whatsoever in the blood of whites, Negroes or any other race. (The skin color of the different races is caused by pigmentation of certain glands underlying the skin; blood plays no part whatever.) The Red Cross position on segregated blood represents outright appeasement to prejudice and ignorance. It is the one great blemish in the otherwise notable war record of the Red Cross. The racist bloc in Congress has been a powerful factor in preventing that humanitarian agency from changing a morale-weakening policy conceved in error and continued in cowardly appeasement.

Red Cross doctors in several Northern blood-collecting centers have been so disgusted with the anti-scientific segregation policy that they haven't bothered to label blood donations as white or colored.

O'Connor, a genial, well-disposed man, a close friend of the President and his former law partner, shouldn't be judged too harshly for his failure to reverse the long-standing policy of the Red Cross. New to his post (which he fills without pay), unfamiliar with the long, complicated and painful story of how the present policy was developed, anxious to learn more about the vast undertaking he now heads, he may feel that other factors outweigh the rumpus that might be stirred up if the present policy is ditched—no matter how unsut or unsound it is. He may yet be persuaded to change his mind.

Meanwhile, it is to be hoped that liberals and union workers—in our armed forces. The blood does get to GI Joe, regardless of policy.

Negro and white—who have opposed the Jim-Crow policy will nevertheless continue to pour their blood into the plasma banks so vitally needed to save the wounded

Basil O'Connor Announces Continuance Of Blood Bank Segregation In The Red Cross

In response to a letter from Basil O'Connor announcing continuation of the blood plasma segregation policy, Walter White expressed sharp disappointment about the attitude of the newly appointed Red Cross head. In a communication to the latter, Mr. White said: "I had honestly hoped that you would show more courage and forthrightness in your approach to what is one of the most shameful episodes and practices in this war for human liberation."

Referring to the southern origin of the United States Surgeon General responsible as a single individual for the establishment of the unscientific policy now being protested on all sides, Mr. White pointed out "It had been our hope that the American Red Cross would have the moral courage to admit that it had made a mistake and that it would have initiative enough to say frankly to the Honorary president of the American Red Cross, the President of the United States, and to the Army and Navy that it could not be a party to a practice and doctrine which savors more of Hitler's theory of a "master race" than of a democracy."

Denouncing the excuse made by Basil O'Connor that "From the point of view of all the people of the United States, the present arrangement is the best possible in all of the circumstances," Mr. White declared in closing, "It is this same lack of moral courage which is responsible, from my personal observations in four war theatres of operations, for the surrender to and the spreading by the Red Cross of patterns of segregation and discrimination which hold it not only up to question of its bona fides, but America as well."

No Basis for Red Cross JC Either

NASHVILLE—The Red Cross's policy of segregating blood of colored Americans is a "concession to prejudice for which there is absolutely no biological basis," Dr. Otto Klineberg, professor of psychology at Columbia University, declared here Friday.

Dr. Klineberg was speaking at the American Missionary Association's three-week Race Institute in session at Fisk University.

He declared that type A blood in colored people is the same as it is in whites, Australians or Hottentots.

Hopkins Caters to Whites

He cited the case of Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, which maintains a separate blood bank for colored and white patients as an example of how hospitals also cater to the prejudices of their clientele.

Dr. Klineberg stated that there is no correlation between physique, stature, color, etc., and mentality and that there is no reason to suppose that people who differ physically will differ mentally.

He said also that it is impossible to discover what criterion to use in distinguishing race, pointing out that some have advocated color and head shape, both of which are not conclusive.

Eliminate Word "Race"

He added that classification on the basis of race is an "outdated and outworn pastime" and advocated the elimination of the term "race" because it creates a false idea of differences.

He admitted that his view represented the minority view among scientists.

In discussing the question of race mixture, Dr. Klineberg said that any two groups of human beings can intermarry and have perfectly healthy offspring.

The nature of the offspring, he said, depends in a large measure on the kind of genes, stating that if there are healthy genes in both parties, the offspring will have good healthy genes.

Advantages, the Key

He indicated further that given the same educational, economical, and social advantages, colored people will end up with the same kind of mentality and response as other groups.

The only circumstance under which a race may have a distinctive mentality, he said, occurs when a small group has isolated itself and interbred and the result is a small physically homogenous group.

Hopkins Blood Policy Cited

Famed Otto Klineberg Calls It Unscientific

ALL BLOOD SAME

Race Barriers Collapse; White Donors Aid Mother In Chicago Daily; Save Her Life

Kindness crashed the color line here this week.

Red Cross' Jim Crow blood banks notwithstanding, white blood doners are willing to mix their blood with Negroes to save a life.

Stricken and near death, a 34-year-old Negro mother faced a life or death test of Senator Bilbo's and A. Hitler's pure blood policy.

She is Mrs. Clara Saladin. She is alive today because some 200 white donors did not believe in the pure-blood bogey.

Shrunk from 130 to 98 pounds, and needing a rare type of blood to build up resistance for a critical operation, Mrs. Saladin appealed through a daily newspaper for blood donations.

She had been confined for seven weeks here at the Women and Children's hospital. Her letter, printed on Thanksgiving day, frankly faced the race issue and stated:

"I think it fair that I let you know I am a Negro. I can't believe that will make much difference when a person wants only a chance to live."

Race and color prejudice apparently collapsed in face of this appeal. Offers of blood poured into the hospital.

Among some 200 race-unconscious donors, only 11 were found to have the correct type: 2 R.H., negative. They were all white.

Hospital officials state that Mrs. Saladin will receive transfusions from the donors at two-day intervals until her resistance is sufficient for surgery. She is suffering from intestinal tumors. It will take at least three transfusions before she can withstand surgery, officials stated.

Mrs. Saladin lives at 2318 S. State street with her husband, Harry, 37, a mechanic, and one of their two sons, Calvin, 16, a junior at Waller high school. Calvin is also a member of the Civil Air Patrol.

Her second son, Gerald, 18, is working on a Mississippi farm.

CHICAGO—(ANP) — More than 200 Chicagoans last week forgot racial barriers and rallied to the cause of shutting out death from the Saladin family when it was publicized that the mother, Mrs. Clara Saladin, 34, was in need of a rare type of blood.

Now resting easy in the Women and Children's hospital, the woman Saturday was given her second transfusion of blood by a second white person.

Mother of two boys, Calvin, 16, a high school junior and Gerald, 18, now working on a Mississippi farm, Mrs. Saladin last week seeking to procured blood donors, directed a letter to a Chicago daily, stating:

"I think it fair that I let you know I am a Negro. I can't believe that will make much difference when a person wants only a chance to live."

Scarcely four or five hours had passed when more than 200 persons had offered their blood but doctors found only 11 of the number to possess the rare 2 R. H., negative type. All the 11 were whites.

Mrs. Saladin, in the hospital for the past seven weeks, has come down from the 130 pounds which she normally weighs, to 98 pounds.

Whites Rush To Give Blood To Race Woman

200 Answer Ad

Hit Jim Crow Blood Banks In Louisville

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Jim Crow blood banks collected by the Louisville Chapter of the American Red Cross were hit when members of an interracial conference, held at Presbyterian Theological Seminary last week, asked that the blood of both races be collected and pooled together instead of segregating colored donors at Beecher Terrace Health and other centers of Negro population.

The conference led by Dr. Harvey Curtis Webster of the University of Louisville, and sponsored by the Union for Democratic Action and the Louisville Committee of the Kentucky Council on Interracial Co-operation, recommended specific actions on problems affecting race relations and agreed to appoint a steering committee to continue the program outlined at the conference.

Asks Job Rights

Frank Stanley of the Louisville Defender, head of the "general community contacts and conflicts" division, and Miss Louise Diecks, acting city director of welfare, urged that downtown stores adjust their policy towards Negroes and encourage their trade. Other recommendations from this committee were that Negroes be represented in the housing units on the basis of need rather than population; that training facilities be provided for Negro doctors and nurses and that the Louisville Railway company be asked to employ Negroes as operators on its transportation facilities.

A minimum wage-and-hour law for domestic workers was asked by Mrs. Emmet F. Horine and Mrs. Mahalie Holman who recommended standardization of domestic work it was pointed out that the approximately 4,000 domestic workers in Louisville receive a weekly pay of $12 to $18, compared to some 14,000 and provisions for old-age security. A few years ago whose average sal-

Wants Negro On Education Board

Dr. Charles H. Parrish of Louisville Municipal college and the Rev. Edward A. McDowell Jr., of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary said that one-fifth of the Negroes in Louisville own their own homes and that 11 per cent of those

ary was $4.20.

Mulzac Opposes Blood Separation

PHILADELPHIA

"If I must give my blood, I want the Red Cross to give it to the white man as Yellow as to the colored man," Capt. Hugh Mulzac, of the Booker T. Washington Liberty ship, said here Thursday.

He was speaking at the Thirteenth Ward rally of the Red Cross held at the O.V. Catto Hall, Sixteenth and Fitzwater Streets.

47d-1944

Blood Bank

Until The Doctor Comes

Chicago, Ill.

By DR. U. G. DAILEY

Chicago Defender

11-20-43

Racial Bloods

THE FURORE caused by orders given a couple of years ago prohibiting the use of Negroes as donors for the United States Army has died out. It would seem that by now all well informed persons are aware of the ridiculousness of the idea that there is any racial superiority or inferiority as regards blood plasma for saving life.

Yet several requests have recently been received for information on the subject. An indubitably authoritative statement on the matter is supplied by the following quotation from the "Queries and Minor Notes" Section of the Journal of the American Medical Association for May 16, 1942:

'Numerous chemical and serologic investigations have yielded no evidence that the blood of one race can be distinguished from that of another. Manoiloff, a Russian investigator, devised for the differentiation of races a **chemical test** of the blood based on oxidation reactions, color changes in dyes serving as indicators.

"He and his colleagues claimed that they were able to distinguish by this method the blood of Russians, Jews and Ukrainians, but subsequent investigations by other workers have **failed** to **substantiate** their conclusions. The test was not applied to distinguish Negroes and Caucasians. This particular problem has been investigated chiefly by immunologists. Bruck stated that by means of **complement fixation tests** he could distinguish the serum of a Caucasion, a Negro, a Malayan, a Chinese and an Arab.

"His experiments were repeated by many investigators, especially Marshall and Teague and Landsteiner and Miller, **none** of whom **could corroborate** his data. Using the serum of a Caucasian, a Negro, a Japanese, a Negrito and a Tagalog as antigens for comparison, Marshall and Teague could find no difference among them.

"Fitzgerald, in similar experiments, used the serum of a Caucasian, a Japanese and a Negro and obtained results that led him to say that 'the existence of specific (serologic) differences has not been proven.'

'Landsteiner and Miller on repetition of Bruck's experiments, stated that if serologic differences exist between Negroes and white persons they are much smaller than those between man and the anthropoid apes. The significance of this statement is shown by the difficulty experienced by Nuttall in distinguishing between the primates and man by means of the precipitin test.

"In a review, Landsteiner wrote that the only serologic peculiarities observed are those concerning isohemagglutinins and that these are not such as to demonstrate the existence of slight but regular differences by which the race of an individual could be ascertained but have only statistical significance and deal with the frequency of certain properties. In this respect these serologic qualities are comparable to more or less distinguishing but not always constant attributes of a race, like the color of the eyes or hair or body weight.

"Wiener reached a similar conclusion as to the general failure to disclose race specific antigens. He stated: 'Attempts have also been made to produce sera which would serve to differentiate the blood of different races of the human species. Thus far all attempts have failed.' There is, therefore, no factual basis for the discrimination against the use of Negro blood or plasma for injection into white people.

"The present agitation arises from the inopportune publication of orders prohibiting the inclusion of Negro plasma in the proposed military plasma bank. The aversion perhaps represents the persistence of the ancient folklore that one's personality is closely associated with one's blood. Frequently used cliches, such as 'noble blood,' are remnants remaining in the language from a day when such supersitions were more prevalent than they now are.

"Blood transfusions were originally practiced with the blood of stockyard animals. This practice was discontinued not because of an aversion to the source of the blood, but because of severe and frequently fatal reactions. Patients repeatedly receive into the veins serum from rabbits, horses, sheep and other lower animals. These substances are received with an equanimity that is completely inconsistent with the aversion often associated with the injection of blood as much like that of the recipient as two substances can be."

Congress Ends Without Permanent FEPC, Other Pro-Negro Measures

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.
12-23-44

Anti-Poll Tax, Army Discrimination Other Progressive Bills Hit 'Snags'

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—The historic 78th Congress came to an end last week without establishing a permanent FEPC, or abolishing the poll tax, or providing protection for Negroes in the armed forces against assault by civilians.

While important legislation in- fluenced largely by the incidence of war was enacted during the session, none of it was designed to meet the special needs of Negroes against the evils of economic, political and social insecurity — today or in the post-war period. On the other hand, activity was great.

Poll Tax Bills Dropped

The poll tax bills were dropped into the hopper on the first day of the first session, yanked out of the rules committee in less than six days, and swept through the house by a vote of 265 to 110. In the senate, however, it went through protracted consideration, some hearings on constitutional phases, and finally came up on the floor in the early summer. A filibuster ensued and the senate refused to vote electure. 12-23-44

At the request of the war department the chairmen of the two military committees presented legislation which would extend the jurisdiction of the federal government in the prosecution of offenses against men in the uniform of the United States. The bill passed the senate in February and although reported by the House group, had to go before the rules committee where it still reposes.

Present FEPC Not Invited To Congressional Hearings

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.
11-18-44

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—Although it is extremely likely that congressional committee and possibly floor discussion of permanent FEPC legislation will come up in the next few weeks before the 78th congress expires, the present agency has not yet formulated any views as to the soundness of the bills now under consideration by committees of both houses.

11-18-44

Because of the opinion held by some outside of FEPC that the agency is willing to see "any kind" of bill passed so long as it gives permanency, officials of the committee were asked to discuss the subject last week.

ChairMalcolm Ross said quite frankly that neither he nor his staff had formed any conclusions regarding the coalition bill now before the senate and house committees on labor and education. Of course, he said, individual members of the staff have probably made personal observations, but none of this has been organized as a committee viewpoint. 11-18-44

Ross explained that when he testified before the house labor committee, he had been instructed to confine himself to the question of need for such a committee, and not to venture opinion upon the particular legislation under consideration. This he did.

The presumption is, however, that in the three years the FEPC has been in business, the experience gained certainly should be of some value to those who are planning for a permanent agency. That such information has not been requested thus far is not the fault of the committee, it is freely recognized. It is nevertheless being considered remiss on the committee's part not to have formulated a set of opinions in preparation for such an invitation, either from public or private groups interested in the legislation.

Last week the National Council for a Permanent FEPC announced its opposition to a "purely advisory" permanent committee, claiming such would be "ineffectual in relation to the problem."

N.Y. Threat to Kill FEPC After the War

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

Signal Co. Praises Women; Blames Men for Abesenteeism; Lying; Sleeping; Gambling

By RICHARD DIER

9-2-44

NEW YORK—Denouncing the FEPC as a hindrance to the war effort and as a constant source of infection for the creation of racial problems, Herbert Hessler, plant superintendent and assistant personnel director of the Horni Signal Manufacturing Company, frankly states that the employers' time will come after the war ends and the FEPC is abolished.

In an exclusive AFRO interview, the executive of this company, which operates ten plants in New York with over 2,000 employees, bitterly assailed the present tactics used to eliminate discrimination in war industries.

"The FEPC has taken entirely too much authority for itself," he said. "They've gotten to the point where they come in and tell you just how many colored people to hire. I had a recent investigation by the members of that committee and I'm just about fed up.

"I know I'm talking for thousands of employers when I say: just wait until the war's over! There'll be no more FEPC. You can bet on that, and then we'll run things our own way.

"They have no idea of what we're up against when we hire colored people. Don't think I'm against employing them. In fact, I was the one to suggest to the company that we take them on.

"Right now, we have colored women working on machines, on the assembly lines, and also as matrons. They're doing a damn good job, too. We have no kick coming about them. 9-2-44

Men Blamed

"It's the colored men employees who are giving us the trouble. We started putting them to work in the shop, and they always looked around for a place to fall asleep during working hours.

"They showed no interest in the work. They gambled, played the numbers, and we had to get rid of them because they were breaking the morale of our white employees.

"We employ colored men now as guards only. To prevent any friction, even the chief guard is colored. As far as I know, there has never been any trouble between our white employees and our colored guards.

"That's a pretty good record, when you consider that the whites have to have their packages and pocketbooks inspected by the guards when they come in to work and when they go home.

"We've had a hell of a lot of trouble with our colored guards.

Police Records

"When they put in their applications for employment with us, they lie like hell. They claim to have had no police records. When we send their applications down to the police department to be checked, we find all sorts of things charged against them.

"Naturally, we can't hire them because of this, and the police department is angry because we always bother them. But we have to get the records checked because we are manufacturing vital equipment for the armed forces, and we must be careful whom we hire. 9-2-44

"We had one colored guard who stole a company pistol out of the plant. We had some tough job getting it back.

"Others come in drunk on the job. It's not an easy situation.

"When I first put colored girls on the assembly line, a few white girls resented it and I let them walk out. After a few weeks, the other whites got used to working with them and now they think nothing of it.

No Racial Trouble

"I've always done my best to see that both races get along well on the job. We've had no racial trouble here in the past two years. I'm proud of that record.

"The colored women are doing a fine job in the shop. As for colored men, I've had my experience with them. I'll never put one of them to work in the shop. They're no good, no matter what the FEPC comes around and tells me." 9-2-44

Personal Observations:

Mr. Hessler's hatred for the FEPC is similar to that which so many of our industrialists have. They resent anybody's telling them a few things about economic and racial equality. If these executives practiced tolerance, they wouldn't resent having friendly discussions with the FEPC.

The fact is, they know they're guilty of discrimination and they don't want to do anything about it nor have any governmental agency bring it to their attention. They're guilty of two things: hatred of colored people, and interference in the running of their business.

all the more reason to fight for the continuation of the FEPC as a permanent governmental agency, with more power than it has now.

Make FEPC Permanent

his threat that ven- be taken after the he FEPC is abolished, and other employers, us one. This can mean ing—mass firings of ers when peace is de- 9-2-44

True of Whites

Hessler's experiences with colored workers women employees are good workers. only one thing— ers.

President Roosevelt Declares For Permanent FEPC; Wants Post-War Period Free From Discrimination

The New York Age. 11.4.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Speaking before record turnout of voters here Saturday night, President Roosevelt urged the Congress to make the FEPC which he created by executive order a permanent body. The President also outlined his domestic policy and specifically warned that there must be no discrimination because of color.

11-4-44

"The American people," said President Roosevelt, "are resolved that when our men and women return home from this war they shall come back to the best possible place on the face of this earth, they shall come back to a place where all persons, regardless of race or color or creed or place of birth, where they can live in peace and honor and human dignity—free to speak, free to pray as they wish—free from want and free from fear."

"Last January, in my message to the Congress on the state of the Union, I outlined an economic bill of rights on which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all.' And I repeat it now:

"The right of a useful and remunerative job in industries, in shops, on the farms, or the mines

"The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;

"The right of every farmer to raise and sell his product for a return which will give him and his family a decent living;

"The right of every business man, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition, from domination by monopolies at home or abroad.

11-4-44

"The right of every family to a decent home;

"The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;

"The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, of accident, or unemployment;

" And last of all the right to a good education."

Talking about the F. E. P. C. which he created by executive order, President Roosevelt said:

"And with all that our economic bill of rights, like the sacred Bill of Rights of our Constitution itself, must be applied to all our citizens, irrespective of race, or creed or color.

"Three years ago, back in 1941, I appointed a Fair Employment Practice Committee to prevent discrimination in war industry and Government employment. The work of that committee and the results obtained more than justify its creation.

11-4-44

"I believe that the Congress of the United States should by law make the committee permanent."

BILL PASSES BY SCANT MARGIN OF FOUR VOTES

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

6-3-44

Faces Stiffer Opposition When Measure Comes Before Senate

By VENICE SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Passing the House by a four-vote margin of 123 to 119, Saturday, the proposed new funds for the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices faces an even stiffer opposition and the possibility of defeat in the Senate.

Included in the omnibus War Agencies Appropriation Bill of $1,033,358,367, one of the largest votes against any war appropriation was registered in the 247 to 58 roll call vote when the $500,000 for FEPC was allowed to stand in.

Southern Democrats led the fight against the agency they claimed was promoting racial disunity and was "discriminating against the white people," and provided most of the 58 votes cast against the bill in final passage.

6-3-44

Republicans Change Vote

On two preliminary tests made with the House in Committee status the FEPC appeared to have been put out of business. Rep. Malcolm C. Tarver, Democrat, of Georgia offered an amendment which would strike the FEPC appropriation from the bill.

On a standing vote taken while the House was in committee status the Tarver amendment was adopted tentatively by 139 to 95 receiving strong support from the Republicans.

Rep. Marcantanio (American Labor Party, N. Y.) demanded tellers. Again about half of the Republicans supported the Tarver proposal and it again was adopted tentatively by 141 to 103. In the House proper the Republicans torn between a stand against agencies created by executive order without legislative sanction, and political expediency in a campaign year switched their vote. A teller vote of 123 to 119 set aside the earlier committee vote.

6-3-44

Exemption of FEPC Possible

An agreement has been reached on the amendment to the Independent Office Bill now in conference which will permit agencies created by executive order to continue until January 1, only unless appropriations are made for their maintenance.

6-3-44

The amendment sponsored by Senator Richard B. Russell, Democrat of Georgia is conceded to have been designed to kill FEPC. If the appropriation voted by the House gets through the Senate FEPC will be exempt from the provisions of the Russell amendment.

Getting off to a heated debate on the preliminary procedure by which Chairman Clarence Cannon, Democrat of Missouri had obtained unanimous consent in the House earlier in the week to waive all points of order on the bill, the foes of the FEPC disputed bitterly the parliamentary triumph which side-tracked the use of the technicalities with which they had expected to block the appropriation.

Challenging Rep. Hobbs, Democrat of Alabama who claimed that "under this infamous, nefarious FEPC, the majority of the American people, the bulk of the taxpayers, are being discriminated against every day, and that the FEPC is denying white people the right to work or is ousting them from their employment." Rep. Vito Marcantonia declared that the FEPC "did not compel anybody to work," that it confined itself to only one activity, "the prevention of discrimination against anyone because of race, color, or creed."

Dawson Defends FEPC

Representative William L. Dawson, Democrat of Illinois, noticeably stirred by the invalidity of the Southern Representative's argument rose in defense of the FEPC saying, "I too am an American and in making my claim to that I apologize to no man. By every rule that you may measure men, apply it to me and see if I measure up to the test."

6-3-44

Speaking of his service in the first World War and showing a scar on his forehead resulting from mustard gas he said, "I volunteered then because I was an American. In the war we were called to the colors but we were not called back to work."

The FEPC Dawson said had been appointed merely to "give the Negro a fair chance at employment, it had no power to compel anyone to do anything. Their work should be continued."

Put Limit On Use of $500,000

Call-Kansas City, Mo.

6-23-44

Amendments of Georgia Senator Added to Bill

WASHINGTON. — The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee was saved Tuesday, when, by a 38 to 21 vote, its $500,000 appropriation was approved. After vicious debate in which the senate sank to the lowest levels of dignity, honesty and democracy, 22 Democrats and 16 Republicans upheld the appropriation.

Thirteen Southern senators, one Western Democrat, Johnson of Colorado, and seven Republicans voted against the measure.

After refusing to adopt the amendment offered by Senator Russell of Georgia to strike FEPC from the 1,030-million dollar war agencies supply bill, the senate adopted Russell's amendments to prohibit use of the $500,000 appropriation to pay the salaries of any persons on the staff who (1) initiate or investigate or otherwise work on any complaint where the person accused of discriminating does not have the right to appeal any ruling to the President; (2) work on any case which might result in seizure of the plant by federal authorities, or (3) violate any act of congress by orders or directives or recommendations of the FEPC.

6-23-44

The senate, after being told by Senator Thomas of Utah, who called the amendments "conniving and subtle," and by Senator Chavez of New Mexico and Senator Mead of New York that it was killing FEPC after voting to continue it, refused to pass Russell's amendment to prohibit consideration or investigation of complaints wherein there might be an existing contract between a labor union and an employer.

It likewise defeated another in which Russell sought to limit the FEPC to use of not more than 25 per cent of the funds for employment of persons of minority groups which represent less than 15 per cent of the total population of the United States.

Senators Bilbo of Mississippi, McClellan of Arkansas, Eastland of Mississippi and George of Georgia were leaders of the "white superiority" arguments. Senator Pepper of Florida was the only Democrat from the Deep South who voted for FEPC's appropriation.

Fair Employment Practice the Democratic Way

Stated in those terms ... tions its agent in correcting bad ... industrial practices. That was no one dares object ... equally there must be a fair ... practice employment agency ... such as is now under consider- ... ation on a federal basis by ... Congress and on a state basis by ... New York. Ours is a democracy, a commonwealth which is ... stronger the more the inequal- ... ities in it are leveled up. To ... end we have free schools, housing codes, health services and ... the like.

For the law to serve all ... reasonable and entirely adequate if the labor organizations ... no race or color bar operating ... can speak for all white workers, ... to keep them out. But they do not speak for Negroes whom they ... many unions deny membership ... by writing "white" into their ... by arbitrary regulations. Human values are involved ... union laws, or by arbitrary re- ... feelings. Southerners declare ... in Congress declare ... is an attack ... on the people from ... oloyer's right to ... e pleases. They ... act express the American view ... that Negroes are ... equally the bene- ... Wagner act. They ... pecially the Asiatic exclusion ... its progress that lies in keeping ... Negroes at a sub-standard wage. ... A half century ago Samuel ... Gompers, the peerless leader ... of the American Federation of ... substandard of ... goes on to say, as southerners ... within our own can keep the American public Labor, sounded the call for organized labor to admit the Negro upon it as a "race" ques- ... Labor, the group immediately affected, sees the threat to ... have legislated against when in ... from outsiders. But high and mighty ... Due to that same philosophy ... workers should have a good ... cannot deny that ... not sharing equally ... those not fits of the Wagner ... labor laws are made, the Amer- ... ican people believing workers ... are entitled to a living wage and ... act should be given it. Hence ... security out of what they pro- ... there is need for a fair employ- ... duce. The Wagner labor act ... ment practice agency set up by ... expresses that social conviction ... law, whose business it will be to ... bor creates a sub- ... within our own ... shall live here ... As a practical step, the gov- ... see that minorities too ... ernment made labor organiza- ... have its friendly aid. ... the very thing we are ... boundaries. the ...

gro. Progress in that direction has been steady, highlighted on a national scale by the admission of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and locally in many places as in the Building Trades of Kansas City of which Perrin D. McElroy is the executive.

The southern politicians alone hold out against reason and conscience. They dare not trust their fortunes to honest elections and a fair count. They need the "race" issue and so cling to it in spite of all inconsistencies.

The FEPC as operated under President Roosevelt's executive order insisted that no barrier to the employment of Negroes should exist in plants doing work for the government. To have it otherwise would have meant that Negroes could not work on production for which they helped to pay. Only the southerners dare defend that discrimination. And they do it indirectly, claiming that the FEPC program amounts to dictating to employes whom they shall hire.

Let's consider that charge: If unions under authority of the Wagner act use their bargaining power selfishly, if they refuse to open their doors to all workers, regardless of race, the law, speaking through the mouth of "white" unions already says Negroes may not be hired! The FEPC would only be restoring equilibrium when it says Negroes shall not be discriminated against.

Discrimination and segregation are not for a democratic plan of community life. We ought not need an FEPC, but we do so long as we have "race" as a political issue.

Governor Dewey's Mistake

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa 4-1-44

Great oaks from little acorns grow and catastrophes spring from slight errors. 4-1-44

This is likely to be brought home to Governor Thomas E. Dewey sooner than he thinks.

Famous as a racket-buster and with an excellent record as chief executive of our most populous State, Governor Dewey of New York has long held the lead among Republican aspirants to head the G.O.P. in the 1944 Presidential election.

But Governor Dewey made a little mistake last week that may bring about his downfall, when he by-passed the demand of New York liberals, colored and white, for the enactment of a State Fair Employment Practices Act, and appointed a committee instead to gather more facts on the Negro problem—as if there were not enough available already.

From the angry criticism of the Governor's action which comes from all sides, it would appear that the colored citizens of the Empire State have soured on Mr. Dewey overnight.

This would be serious enough in a key State in a Presidential election year when the balloting is bound to be very close; but it is even worse for Mr. Dewey when it is considered that Negro voters everywhere are dead set against any candidate even slightly suspected of having no interest in their fight for more and better jobs.

They are bound to ask "If he by-passed a State FEPC, will he not by-pass a National FEPC?"

Logic is of course on their side, because we have to judge men on their records and not on their speeches.

We do not pretend to know what Governor Dewey can do now to appease the Negro voters, but if he wants their vote he had better give a better demonstration in New York of his friendliness toward them, or his chances of getting into the White House will be very slim.

And this goes for all the other men with ambitions to lead this Nation, wherever and whoever they may be.

Congress Urged to Fulfill Campaign Pledges on FEPC

PM New York

By Elizabeth Donahue

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29—Campaign pledges by both major political parties to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission will be tested in this session of Congress.

Chairman Mary Norton (D., N. J.) of the House Labor Committee, with the backing of a majority of her Committee colleagues, is requesting that the measure setting up a permanent FEPC be given a number one priority on the legislative calendar. 11-27-44

Mrs. Norton is first requesting the House Rules Committee to make way for the FEPC bill immediately. The Rules group is responsible for determining how and when important bills reach the floor for final action. If the Rules Committee pigeonholes the measures, Mrs. Norton will resort to the only other possible device for forcing action in this session. PM

She will start a petition among members of the House and if she succeeds in persuading 218 members to indorse the bill ,it must be acted on before adjournment next month.

Meanwhile, although companion legislation has been favorably reported to the Senate some weeks ago, there is no indication that the Senate sponsors of a permanent FEPC will press for action before adjournment. Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.), the logical man to bring the measure to the floor, will not return to Washington until Dec. 4.

The House abor Committee which acted favorably yesterday was divided 9-5 on the legislation. The only Republican who opposed it was Rep. Clare Hoffman of Michigan.

In recognition of the Committee's action the National Council for establishment of a Permanent FEPC issued a statement declaring: "The Committee's action, so soon after the campaign is a good test of campaign pledges. Both the Republican and Democratic political leadership promised enactment of this measure. Both parties supported it in the House Labor Committee."

Despite the fact that a temporary Fair Employment Practice Committee, set up by order of the President, has curbed racial discriminations in war industries, minority groups are demanding that the Government establish a permanent policy insuring them equal job opportunities.

Davis Shows How State Failed To Protect Negro Nurse's Job

By HARRY RAYMOND

The urgent need for strong amendments to the proposed New York State FEPC bills was stressed to the State Commission Against Discrimination yesterday by City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Manhattan Communist, through his recital of a typical case of job discrimination against a Negro girl by a county official and buck-passing on the matter by state agencies all the way up to Gov. Dewey's office.

Ben Davis, Jr.

Miss Bettie L. Brown, 594 Teasdale Pl., had qualified last year as a public health nurse. Davis testified at a hearing of the commission, and early this year reported at the Clinton County Public Health Committee in Plattsburg to fill a vacancy, but was barred from the job because of her color.

She was forced by Edward Gallant, chairman of the Health Committee, to resign the position because "there were no Negroes in the community" and she might be in "danger personally," Davis said.

The case was then taken to the State Department of Civil Service in Albany, which stated it had "no authority" in the matter, Davis continued. Miss Brown was subjected to a grand run-around, with the Director of Public Health Nursing offering "sympathy" and the State Committee on Discrimination in Employment holding conferences with the Department of Health and the Civil Service Commission, but getting nowhere.

DEWEY PASSES BUCK

Then, according to Davis, Miss Brown wrote directly to Gov. Dewey, and the governor's assistant counsel referred her back to the Committee on Discrimination. Finally, Davis explained, Dr. Alvin Johnson, chairman of that committee advised Miss Brown the committee unfortunately had no power in the case, as its field extended "only to concerns having war contracts."

Davis congratulated Dr. Johnson, vice-chairman of the present investigating commission, for his stand in labeling the case "a disgraceful situation" and for his work on the commission in behalf of stringent anti-bias laws.

AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED

He pointed out, however, that the commission should go further by amending its tentative bills setting up a permanent five-man State FEPC. He asked that the loop-holes be plugged with these amendments:

1. That court review of the commission's findings be limited to questions of law.

2. That the clause disqualifying an investigating commissioner from voting on a finding be eliminated.

3. That the right of complaint be granted not only to the aggrieved person but also to other parties.

4. And that exemptions of non-profit organizations from the law be eliminated.

These amendments were clarified by Harry Sacher, labor attorney, who said there must be "no long study, no run-around, no drawn-out review."

"But the bill makes employment without discrimination a civil right," declared Assembly Majority Leader Irving M. Ives, chairman of the commission. "It is a far-reaching measure."

"That's just it," replied Sacher. "I want you to make the enforcement of the right equally broad."

Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs, Manhattan Republican, and Abraham Isserman, of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, both argued for inclusion of charitable and non-profit organizations, as did Sacher.

The first support by industrialists of the anti-discrimination voiced so far came during today's session from S. J. Novick, president of the Electronic Corp. of America, and Stanley Simon, director of industrial relations of the Bulova Watch Co. A telegram from Thomas J. Watson, president of the International Business Machine Co., declared support of legislation "deemed necessary" to asssure equal rights and opportunities for all "regardless of nationality, religion or color."

Sole opposition to the legislation so far was voiced by industrialist groups in Syracuse and Rochester.

Among others testifying in behalf of the legislation in the big hearing room at the Bar Association were Dorothy Funn, National Negro Congress; Willard Johnson, National Council of Christians and Jews; Mayor Stanley Church of New Rochelle; Assemblymen William T. Andrews and Hulan Jack of Harlem; the Rev. David Licorish, of the National Postwar Planning Commission; William H. Kilpatrick, Urban League; J. M. Carpenter, Brooklyn Council of Churches; Rev. W. D. Clemens, N. Y. State Council of Churches.

Dr. George Hallett of the Citizens Union, and Ben Hurtzberg, of the American Jewish Committee, supported the bills with substantially no amendments.

Adopts Resolution To Ban Race Bias, Back FEPC

Staff Correspondence

CHICAGO, Nov. 24.—Walter Reuther, UAW vice-president, warned the CIO convention here yesterday that only 200,000 of the present 2,000,000 aircraft workers will be retained in the industry after the war unless a way is found to convert airplane factories to other production.

He proposed that aircraft industry—that part of it not needed for the manufacture of peacetime planes—be converted to the manufacture of pre-fabricated houses.

Reuther said that mass-production housing would make fine, modern homes available to workers for $3000, compared with $8000 for present comparable homes.

Working all day Thanksgiving, the CIO convention heard a number of speakers and adopted other important resolutions.

An anti-discrimination resolution recommended that CIO unions seek to incorporate in future collective bargaining agreements the provision that no person seeking employment shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, color or place of origin. The resolution also called for the end of Jim Crow, the poll tax, and "any other form of discrimination or bigotry." It praised FEPC and demanded that it be made permanent by Congress.

Attack Reilly

The removal of Gerard Reilly as a member of the National Labor Relations Board was demanded in another resolution, on the ground that he "expressed bias and prejudice and unprincipled administration which results in the practical negation of the benefits guaranteed labor" by the Wagner Act.

The convention approved reconversion and postwar tax programs drawn up by a special CIO tax committee. Those programs in substance would exempt from Federal taxes workers making less than $3000 a year; retain present tax rates on corporations and persons with incomes of more than $5000 a year; favor small business, and plug existing loopholes in the inheritance tax.

Price Control

Tightening controls on price and rent control and rationing was demanded in another resolution. The WPB was called on to require the textile industry to produce adequate quantities of necessary clothing and household textiles giving them priority over high-priced lines; and it asked the OPA to establish specific and enforcible prices on clothing and textiles.

"Forthright support" of Government policy and Secretary of State Hull in refusing to recognize the Argentine Government was voted in another resolution. It also encouraged the industrialization of Latin-American nations, with a view to raising the standard of living in those countries.

Describing himself as "a farmer from Manhattan," Mayor La Guardia urged the CIO delegates to establish closer and better relations between workers and farmers.

Utility Firm Asks Strong Anti-Bias Bills

By HARRY RAYMOND

Spokesmen for the Associated Gas and Electric Co. joined with representatives of organized labor, religious, civic and legal bodies yesterday in demanding adoption by state legislature of vigorous fair employment practices laws as the State Commission on Discrimination wound up its seventh and final statewide hearing on a pair of proposed anti-bias bills.

Dennis J. Driscoll, trustee of the power company, told R. Brodsky, International Workers Order; Michael Obermeyer, Hotel and Clarice F. Brows, Restaurant Employes (AFL); counsel, told of bloody revolution," declared the conservative Charles H. Tuttle, Dr. Bella V. Dodd of the Communist Political Association, and counsel for the commission. Commission Chairman Irving M. other witnesses. Ives likewise rebuked Hart, saying:

"You mean to say because Communists are for the bill it's no good. I think the Communists can have some good ideas, too."

Ives challenged Hart's arguments that no laws could make persons of both "principle" and "de- different races work and live together. He pointed to men in the armed services "who are doing so under a Selective Service."

FASCIST-LIKE

The only total opposition to the proposed legislation came from Dr. Bella V. Dodd, Merwin K. Hart, president of the National Economic Council, who in earlier by both all CIO and most AFL spokesmen, stating it would be "impractical" and "inconsistent" a fascist-like amendments to the main bill urged for the law to provide court review of the commission's determination of fact in discrimination cases.

On this point she was in agreement with John F. O'Donnell of the American Labor Party; Saul Mills, city CIO secretary; Rose Russell of the Teachers Union; Joseph

"We've travelled around the state for two weeks but have seen no sign of bloody revolution," declared the conservative Charles H. Tuttle, counsel for the commission.

Ives challenged Hart's arguments that no laws could make persons of different races work and live together. He pointed to men in the armed services "who are doing so under a Selective Service."

He assailed "colored folks" for inciting "lawless demonstrations" and claimed anti-bias laws would lead to "bloody revolution."

"That's due to patriotism," responded Hart.

"Well," declared Ives, "it would be

Dodd

patriotic for all people to live and work together in peace."

Fearl Buck, novelist and educator, criticized those who claim race bias should be eliminated by education and not law.

"We cannot wait for education," she said; "education must be backed by law."

Among the scores of witnesses appearing at the final session for a stronger FEPC law, minus legal loopholes, were: Julius Cohen, Brooklyn Community Council; George E. Haynes, Federal Council of Churches; Thurgood Marshall, National Association for Advancement of Colored People; J. H. Cohen, American Jewish Congress; James V. King, State, County and Municipal Workers of America; Max Meyer, White Plains Friends of Interracial Cooperation.

Also Judge Nathan D. Perlman, Special Sessions Court; James Quinn, Central Trades and Labor Council, AFL; Thomas R. Sullivan, Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians; James H. Shelton, Metropolitan Council for Fair Employment; Dr. John Wade, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Ordway Teed, chairman of the Board of Higher Education; Charles A. Collins, Hotel and Club Employes Union, AFL.

More than 300 persons testified before the commission during its two weeks of hearing sessions.

Last night the commission adjourned and set Jan. 18 as the date for its next executive session. Meanwhile, a sub-committee of the commission, including Assemblyman Ives, Mr. Tuttle, Robert Benjamin and John Brosnan, is scheduled to go to work rewriting the bills in light of mountains of testimony taken at the hearings.

FEPC Reports More Firms Aid

12-6-44

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—The Committee on Fair Employment Practices reported today that it is getting increased compliance from employers with the President's anti-discrimination executive order.

Summing up FEPC activity in October, Chairman Malcolm Ross said that almost 50 percent of the workers complaining of discrimination were directly benefited.

A total of 120 of the 279 cases closed during the month resulted in satisfactory adjustments, Ross said.

In 11 cases of discriminatory firing, all workers complaining were rehired after FEPC moved. In three out of the four cases involving discriminatory refusal to promote, workers were promoted as part of employment settlements with FEPC.

In two thirds of the cases, complaints were against private industry. But 28.5 percent of the complaints were against private agencies and five percent were against unions.

One of the successes reported by FEPC was in obtaining hiring and training of Negroes in "a large aircraft plant in the deep South. . . . In a variety of jobs above the lower categories."

While FEPC is making inroads into breaking discriminatory practices, it is pointed out that establishment of a permanent FEPC with real powers would lead to far more effective results.

State FEPC Is Opposed By Industry Spokesman

Hearing Is Told That Enforcement Commission Is Unnecessary

By KARL PRETSHOLD
Staff Correspondence

SYRACUSE, Nov. 29.—The first opposition to establishment of the proposed State Fair Employment Practice Commission was voiced here yesterday by Forest E. McGuire, executive vice president of the Syracuse Manufacturers Assn.

McGuire, appearing before the State Commission against Discrimination, said he didn't oppose the general purposes of the proposal to outlaw discrimination, but insisted that a new commission to handle enforcement was unnecessary.

The Discrimination Commission moves on to Rochester today where more than 150 civic leaders and representatives of labor and industry have been invited to appear before it. The Commission is making a survey of public feeling on proposed legislation, which would declare the right to work without regard to race, creed, color or national origin a civil right and would establish a special commission to enforce the law.

Cites Possible Cost

McGuire said enforcement should be handled by the State Labor Dept. and the Industrial Commissioner. Existing laws, he pointed out, ban discrimination in giving employment, and the proposed measure would merely broaden those existing laws by declaring employment to be a civil right.

Speaking for industry, he "took strong exception" to the proposal to set up a five-man commission with members drawing $10,000 a year. The cost of the commission might soon run into several hundred thousand dollars a year, he said.

Under questioning by Commission members, he admitted he was not acquainted with the present work of the Labor Dept. and Industrial Commissioner, and said he didn't know if they were already overburdened with work.

Mrs. Rhea Eckel, executive secretary of the New York State Citizens' Council, testified that one of the most important features of the proposed legislation was that which would encourage local citizens' councils to fight discrimination and work for tolerance.

"Without local backing the whole program might fail," she said. "About 20 upstate cities and towns already have local citizens councils trying to promote goodwill, understanding and co-operation between racial and other groups within the communities."

Not Broad Enough

Sidney Greenberg, Syracuse attorney for the American Labor Party and the Syracuse CIO, said the proposed law deals only with discrimination in employment. He urged that it be widened to prevent discrimination in housing, education, recreation and social welfare. The proposed agency should have power to investigate and act on discrimination anywhere it appears, he insisted.

In opening the hearing, Charles H. Tuttle, Commission counsel, again said the proposed legislation "goes much further" than any legislation either enacted or proposed in any of the states or by the Federal Government. The measure was drawn, and he said it was hoped it would operate, on the theory that it was necessary to go far beyond mere law enforcement.

"This measure invokes the forces of goodwill and conciliation of the state" he said, "and holds actual enforcement in reserve to be used" when conciliation and appeals to good will fail.

Next Congress to Vote FEPC Permanence, Mrs. Norton Says

By Mary Spargo

At the conclusions of hearings yesterday, on a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, Representative Mary T. Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee, predicted that the FEPC would be given permanent life by the Sevnty-Ninth Congrss, which takes office in January.

Mrs. Norton said that Republicans were pledged to support the measure by their party platform, and that the new Democratic House members are predominantly liberal. They wil be inclinde to support President Roosevelt's request for such legislation, she declared.

Although Mrs. Norton is attempting to call a session of her committee to report out an FEPC bill next week, the number of members out of town, the Thanksgiving recess and probable adoujrnment of this Congress early in December make action during this session questionable.

A measure creating an FEPC is on the Senate Calendar, but there is little expectation of action on that side either during this Congress.

The House group has three measures to consider, proposed by Representatives Thomas E. Scanlon (D., Pa.), William L. Dawson (D., Ill.) and Charles M. La Follette (R., Ind.).

Unless the soldier votes, counted late this month in Pennsylvania, change the present totals, Scanlon, a member of the Labor Committee, is defeated for reelection and will not return from his district.

Mrs. Norton declared that if Scanlon does not return she will introduce his legislation in the new Congress.

So many members of the powerful House Rules Committee are opposed to the measure, that it is expected that it may have to reach the floor by petition.

Southerners yesterday declared that they would continue their long fight to kill the measure, although many privately admitted that their fight is hopeless.

Senator Richard B. Russell (D., Ga.), declared, "We can keep it from being passed this session, and then maybe we'll have a better chance to block it finally in the next Congress."

Hearings closed yesterday without any opponents of the FEPC having requested to be heard. Mrs. Norton said the record would remain open long enough for opponents to file statements with the committee.

3 Members Of State Committee On Discrimination In Employment Quit In Protest Against Governor Dewey's Killing Of Their Legislative Proposals

Age — New York, N.Y. 4-1-44

The State Committee on Discrimination in Employment lost one-third of its members by resignation on Friday when they met on Friday afternoon at 80 Centre street. Eight of the 25 members resigned in protest against Governor Thomas E. Dewey's tabling of proposed anti-discrimination legislation in a special message to the Legislature on the eve of adjournment.

The resignations followed several weeks of protest by committee members to Gov. Dewey against his silence and indifference towards bills prepared and recommended by the committee to the Legislature. The Governor's special message to the Legislature called for an investigation into the problem of discrimination by a legislative committee of 23 to report in February, 1945.

Those who resigned from the committee, a branch of the State War Council, were:

Dr. Channing H. Tobias, senior secretary of colored work, National Council Y. M. C. A. 4-1-44

Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League.

Dr. Myra Logan, prominent Harlem physician.

Dorothy Bellance, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO.

Lewis Gannett, book editor of the Herald Tribune.

Dorothy Strauss, attorney.

Dr. Sidney Goldstein, Free Synagogue.

Louis Weiss, attorney.

Led by Dr. Tobias, five other members of the group resigned on Friday, and two who were absent, Mr. Granger and Dr. Goldstein, followed shortly with their resignations. All joined in signing a strong letter to Governor Dewey which said in part:

4-1-44

Statement of Resignation

"The undersigned hereby resign as members of the Committee on Discrimination in Employment. They have taken this step only after mature deliberation and in the conviction that recent events have left them no practicable or proper alternative. They deeply regret that they feel unable to carry forward, as members of the Committee, a task which they know to be of immediate and crucial importance alike to the war effort, to the minority groups whom they were appointed to assist, and to the people of this state.

. . . "In October, 1943, the conclusion of the Committee — that there was urgent need for one or more new statutes — was communicated to you. The proposals of the Committee, being still inchoate, could not receive definite approval, but you did indicate general interest in the ideas advanced. Thus encouraged, the Committee went forward with its work, and, after studying a wide variety of legislative proposals, prepared two bills. 4-1-44

"One of these looked to the creation of a new civil rights bureau in the State Attorney General's office; the other definitely made it unlawful for employers or labor unions to discriminate against individuals by reason of 'race, color, creed, national origin or ancestry.'

"The substance of these bills received the unanimous approval of the Committee on Discrimination and they were submitted to you on March 1, 1944. You received them sympathetically and indicated to the subcommittee which brought the bills to you that they constituted a new and promising approach to the problem. Obviously you did not — and could not — give them your final approval without further study, but you advised the subcommittee that you would institute that study at once. 4-1-44

"In the period immediately following your receipt of the bills from the Committee, neither the Committee nor its Chairman heard anything from you. The Committee was not advised whether you approved or disapproved the bills nor whether you regarded any changes in the language used in the bills as necessary or desirable. Instead, on March 8, without any notice to the Committee and without any public support from you, the bills were introduced into the State Senate by Senator Wicks. Thereafter, so far as the undersigned know, nothing was done in regard to the entire legislative situation until March 16. On that day, the Chairman of the Committee on Discrimination, by telegram, requested you to give the bills your support and indicated that he and other members of the Committee would regard your failure to do so as a repudiation of the work of the Committee which would leave them no alternative but resignation from the Committee." 4-1-44

Delay Of Year Cited

"On the following day, March 17, you sent to the Legislature your special message in which you called the bills prepared by the Committee 'well intended,' and expressed yourself as 'in accord' with the principles of the bills, but concluded that a new commission should be created to study 'the entire subject of discrimination.' On the following day, the Legislature passed legislation authorizing the new committee which you had requested. Thus all action on the whole problem of discrimination has again been postponed—this time until 1945—while a further commission makes a further study of the entire subject.....

"Your action in proposing a new commission to restudy the problem of discrimination is in essence and in effect a repudiation of the work done by the Committee on Discrimination which leaves its members no alternative but to resign....The urgency and gravity of the problems with which the Committee has concerned itself are so great that a year's further delay in seeking a remedy is, in the opinion of the undersigned, wholly unjustified. **Whatever reasons may have moved you to suggest the delay, the undersigned are unwilling, by silence or** acquiescence, to share with you the responsibility for the postponement of the action. 4-1-44

"The Committee cannot continue to function without any real power. To the public it is held out as a Committee on Discrimination in Employment and the public believes that it has and exercises extensive powers to reduce such discrimination. The undersigned have studied, and are aware of how limited the Committee's present powers are. They are further aware that, for the present and until the new commission has made its study and recommendations and these have been enacted into law, nothing more can be done. Thus, if the present Committee survives at all, it must go on subject to the basic weakness that it is charged with grave responsibilities which it cannot appropriately discharge. The undersigned are unwilling to continue as partners in futility. It is these conclusions which have compelled the undersigned to send you their resignations." 4-1-44

Two Remain On Committee

The resignation of Dr. Tobias, Mr. Ganger and Dr. Logan leaves the Committee with two Negro members, Rev. George H. Sims, pastor of Union Baptist Church, and Dr. C. B. Powell, editor of the Amsterdam News, who was last year appointed Boxing Commissioner by Governor Dewey.

Professor, Va. 12-2-44

COLUMBUS, O. — (ANP) — Advocating the establishment of a state FEPC in each state in the union, Dr. Charles S. Johnson, professor of social science, Fisk University, Nashville, speaking the morning before the second biennial assembly of the United Council of Church Women, said that such formations would strengthen the work which has already been accomplished by that agency.

"The militant support of Christian citizens in each community is needed to establish and help keep in continuous operation the principle of fair play in the employment of those who have been chronically handicapped by prejudice," the school head stated.

The Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill, a bill which treats with socialized medicine and now pending before congress, should be supported, Dr. Johnson said as he spoke of the need for a federal health program.

Also stressing the need for better houses, Johnson said that if church treasuries with millions of dollars would consider investing their funds in such socially useful channels as model housing projects, they would realize profitable returns.

Ross Gets Wings Clipped By FEPC

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

10-4-44

By HARRY HcALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) — Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, has had "his wings clipped" according to information leaking from the meeting of the FEP committee held last week in New York City for the purpose of working out a reorganization of FEPC staff functions.

Ross has enjoyed almost absolute freedom from criticism in the Negro press because of fear that such criticism might hurt the FEPC, which has innumerable ill-wishers in Congressional and business circles. Internal frictions and bickering, which are known to have existed, and regarded as indication that he is not a good administrator. 10-4-44

Riding on the wave of poularity which the agency enjoys among Negroes, and lulled by the absence of criticism, Ross has assumed the stature of an expert on Negro affairs. He is reported to have reached the assumption that he could dispense with the advice and counsel of the exceptionally qualified Negro members of his staff, and to have disregarded the organizational chart by taking the director of field operations, Will Maslow, also white, into his confidence as adviser.

The committee is reported to have been critical of this organization recently when it advised Ross at a previous meeting to abandon his plan to submit a series of amendments to the Chavez bill in the Senate for a Permanent FEPC while hearings were being held. The admendments had been worked out by Ross and Maslow without any knowledge of them on the part of other staff members. The committee told Ross to clear all amendments and everything else concerning a permanent FEPC through the National Council for a Permanent FEPC with an office in Washington. Both Ross and Maslow are reported to have been lukewarm to the FEPC bills pending in Congress, which provide for enforcement powers in the proposed new agency. They are said to have favored a milder proposal which some Congressional members plan to recommend. Ross should be the head. No suggestions have been made that Ross head up the commission sought in the Senate and House bills now pending. 10-4-44

It is also reported that many of the committee members were disappointed with the showing Ross made as chairman at the hearings held in St. Louis and Los Angeles in August.

State FEPC 2nd Urged By Fisk Guide

Daily Worker N.Y.

Council Passes Quill Transit Resolution

By ART SHIELDS 11-29-44

In a dramatic session yesterday, the city Council backed Councilman Michael J. Quill's fight for higher wages for transit workers employed by the Board of Transportation. At the same time the Council unanimously endorsed a resolution asking Congress to support a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee to give Negroes equal rights in industry.

The FEPC resolution, which was sponsored by the Council as a whole, was identical with the resolution originally introduced by Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Communist.

Mr. Davis had asked the Council to adopt the resolution on a non-partisan basis. It calls on Congress to support the Marcantonio and Dawson bills on the FEPC issue.

The Council also rebuked the John L. Lewis' United Construction Workers for its threats of a strike by maintenance workers in city public schools.

And it urged that no plays should be produced in this city by Noel Coward, the playwright, who slurred Brooklyn soldiers in Europe.

TRANSIT ACTION 11-29-44

The transit decision was a complete endorsement of Quill's fight.

By an almost unanimous vote—only one member abstaining—the Council asked Mayor LaGuardia to appoint an impartial committee to investigate the low wage situation in the city transit industry and make a prompt report as Quill was demanding.

Speakers from both sides of the chamber said wages were shockingly low.

A delegation of more than 100 CIO subway, bus and streetcar workers in the gallery was a silent but weighty argument behind Quill.

The transit issue first came before the house in a general resolution introduced by Councilman Joseph Sharkey and Louis Cohen, asking the Board of Estimate to approve increases commensurate with those given other city workers.

This was too general, said Quill. Definite action must be taken. Accordingly he proposed that the mayor—

". . . appoint a committee of disinterested and impartial citizens to examine into and report, with its recommendations, on the pending dispute between the Board of Transportation and its employes' request for adjustments in their wage hours and working conditions."

Quill's measure, first proposed as an amendment to the Sharkey-Cohen resolution, was finally adopted as a special resolution.

COHEN YIELDS 11-29-44

Majority Leader Sharkey backed Quill in the fight to the chagrin of Cohen, who said that "I seem getting to be the foot. The majority is becoming the minority."

Cohen, who took the floor several times against Quill's measure, finally accepted it, however.

Quill pulled no punches in his denunciation of Chairman Delaney of the Board of Transportation, who often refuses to meet labor representatives and who pays substandard wages.

More than 4,500 transit workers are still getting wages of 58 to 75 cents, said the transport workers' leader.

"This means a take home wage of $23 to $31 a week," said Quill. "How in the name of God can an American family be raised on $23 to $31 a week."

The Board of Transportation's wages were 5 to 11 cents an hour under those paid by private transit companies having agreements with the Transport Workers Union, said Quill. 11-29-44

The transit workers will keep their no-strike pledge as they have kept it in the past, said Quill. But they must have justice.

Councilmen Stanley Isaacs, Peter V. Cacchione and Benjamin Davis took the floor for Quill's measure.

Doctor Witherspoon Dodge

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga. 11-16-44

Negroes of Atlanta and the Southeast will receive with deep regret and dissappointment, announcement of the transfer of A. Bruce Hunt from the Regional Office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in Atlanta to the position of Western Counsel at Los Angeles. In his brief tenure here, Mr. Hunt had made a deep and abiding impression upon the minds of Negroes for the absolute thoroughness and utter sincerity with which he grappled with the problems of discrimination against minorities in War Industries coming within the purview of his Committee. His keen and critical appreciation for the problems and handicaps under which Negroes labored and his strong determination to perform faithfully the duties of his office in the face of unfair and unfriendly attacks, both upon him and the Committee by local elements, created for him a following among Negroes seldom achieved by anyone similarly stationed. Nevertheless, we take comfort in the fact that his services will not be lost to the race and that his transfer is a promotion to a wider and more critical area of service.

In is stead, we are pleased to welcome Dr. Witherspoon Dodge as our new Regional Director. Dr. Dodge is no stranger in Atlanta. Neither is he a novice in the Labor Movement and the cause for Minority rights. His sincerity and his devotion to the race have been thoroughly demonstrated and tested. Negroes in Atlanta will doubtless remember him best as the pastor of the Radio Church, in which he vigorously and fearlessly espoused equality and justice for all. In the Deep South he is more generally known for his service with the Textile Workers Union and with the Office of Production of the War Production Board. Besides these, Dr. Dodge has had a brilliant career both in the ministry and in the field of education.

11-16-44

It is assured, we believe, that the change will in no wise alter or circumscribe the activities of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice in the Southeast. The Nation needs this Agency now, more than ever. The great welter of problems, both during and after the war, which the Negro worker and other minorities are most certain to face, demand, not only the continuation of the vital services of this Committee, but likewise make it mandatory that the approaching sessions of the 78th Congress will give substance and meaning to both the Republican and Democratic parties' platforms to work for a Permanent Committee. Negroes could not expect to be satisfied with anything less. Even the presence of such a Committee, despite the fact that most of its investigations are strictly private, will serve as a great deterrent to unscrupulous employers, bent upon exploitation of labor for selfish designs.

U.S. Post Office Dept. Bars FEPC Stickers from Mails

12-23-44 Baltimore, Md. American

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Letters bearing FEPC stickers will not be accepted for mailing, according to instructions given to postmasters by the U.S. Post Office Department. Ralph Handlin, Department of New Orleans, received a letter from the Post Office which he said was received November 27 from the Washington R. Butler, hosiery Life Insurance Company.

A check with the Post Office Department in Washington brought forth the information that the order banning the stickers was sent out on November 23 by Postmaster-General.

The last line on the sticker, reading: "March on Washington Movement," was considered controversial. The other printed matters had been given the same ruling had been given for any other city. 12-23-44

According to Handlin, "The use of stickers bearing slogans of a controversial nature can not be approved and, therefore, mail matter bearing stickers like the specimen submitted should not be accepted for mailing."

These letters were received by

The inscription on the stamp is as follows:

"MAKE FEPC PERMANENT For Jobs and Justice March on Washington Movement" Controversial Slogans Barred

In letters to two local businessmen last week, returning covers of letters they had mailed bearing the FEPC endorsement, Mr. Handlin quoted part of a letter from the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General. Asked whether other postmasters had been given the same ruling, a department spokesman said that unless requested, no similar ruling had been given for any other city.

47d-1944

Malcom Ross, FEPC Head, On 'Spot' for Liberalism

Call - Kansas City, Mo.
1-7-44

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — While investigators of the Dies committee made a congressional charge that the FEPC "promotes disunity and racial unrest," further steps in the plan to destroy the committee were noted this week in the form of a "get Ross" campaign.

Fearless Leader

Malcolm H. Ross, FEPC chairman, is guilty of defying southern anti-Negro traditions by demanding a discontinuance of race discrimination as practiced by 14 southern railroads and seven unions.

Hailed as one of the country's most fearless leaders, Ross' anti-discrimination attitude has resulted in a concerted attempt to destroy the FEPC and label him a dangerous "Red," because of his determination to enforce the fair employment practice policies of his organization.

A recent attack came from the Smith committee, named for Rep. Howard W. Smith (D. Va.), when Aaron Ford, former Democratic congressman from Mississippi, and investigators demanded FEPC records and files on the southern railroad and union cases.

A promise of public hearings against the FEPC on the ground that it has "acted without proper authority" was made by Smith, who openly represented the grievances of railroads and unions.

Ross explained the precedent of turning the railroad cases over to the President by pointing out that about a year ago the committee asked the President to enforce an order against the International Association of Machinists, AFL, which had been found to have prevented the hiring of Negroes in the Boeing Aircraft plant at Seattle, and at the Bethlehem shipyard at San Francisco.

Ross revealed that the six non-southern railroads who have made offers to confer with the FEPC were not included in the case sent to the White House, which he listed as the Pennsylvania, New York Central, Baltimore and Ohio, Chicago Terminal Co., Missouri, Kansas and Texas, and Union Pacific railroads. 1-7-44

Early Background

The plan to persecute Ross is being followed on the claim that Ross' early background while at Yale is evident that he is a Communist; that his book, "Death of a Yale Man," published in 1939, was pro-communist; that his great interest in Negro welfare is in line with his Communist leanings; that he is a protege of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle, both guilty of defying southern race traditions and accused of causing racial unrest.

"The first step in the plot to oust Malcolm H. Ross and to destroy the FEPC is in the making," one government official commented. "Now the world can see what forces are behind our country's race traditions, which have nearly crushed its Negro people."

Unflinchingly, Ross has continued his courageous fight against discriminatory employment policies in war work by issuing a final directive against the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employes Union, Inc., ordering it to eliminate all barriers to the employment or upgrading of Negroes into platform jobs on the Philadelphia street cars and buses, and a written statement of facts has been obtained by the FEPC from the Capital Transit Co., of Washington. This is a step toward enforcing the committee's order here. Ross declared.

House Votes To Restore FEPC Funds

Post-Washington, D.C.

Party Lines Crossed As Move to Withhold Appropriation Fails

BULLETIN

The House last night passed the $1,033,358,367 appropriations bill for a scor eof home-front agencies, including the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

5-27-44

By the Associated Press

After earlier voting to deny funds for the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, the House last night reversed itself and restored a $500,000 fund for the agency in the War Agencies Appropriation bill.

A teller vote of 123 to 119 in the House proper set aside an earlier teller vote of 141 to 103 in committee of the whole to strike the FEPC fund from the bill.

In the earlier vote Southern Democrats were aided by a large group of Republicans in tentatively knocking the appropriation from the $1,033,000,000 omnibus bill financing almost a score of home-front war agencies for the fiscal year starting July 1.

The voting crossed party lines, about half of the Republicans present voting with Southern Democrats in support of the amendment deleting the FEPC item after being challenged by Southerners and one of their own colleagues to evidence the sincerity of their past criticism of New Deal bureaus by voting to deny the FEPC more money. 5-27-44

FEPC now is financed from the President's emergency fund.

Two days debate on the omnibus bill had been devoted almost entirely to the FEPC. The fight against it, led by Representative Tarver (D. Ga.), was based on contentions of Southerners that the agency, not specifically authorized by Congress, was more interested in advocating social racial equality than in preventing discrimination against Negroes.

The bitter debate brought warnings of grave racial problems in the future and a remark from Representative Gibson (D. Ga.) that "there are only two things that are going to save this nation: one is ballots and the other is bullets."

Navy Will Lift Race Marks From Brooklyn Yard Badges

PM-New York, N.Y.
5-22-44

Navy officials have informed the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) that racial designations will be removed from the badges of workers at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

For several years, workers at the Yard had been compelled to wear badges containing, among other information, the letter W for white workers and the letter C for colored employes. Charges of discrimination at the Yard were first revealed by PM in February.

When the FEPC began investigating charges of racial discrimination at the Yard, Adm. Monroe Kelly, who resisted attempts of the Committee to conduct an on-the-spot-survey of conditions there, said Franx Knox, then Secretary of the Navy, was responsible for forcing the workers to wear the racial designations on their badges.

Kelly himself said he saw no reason for the designations from a security point of view, although the letters indicating color had been ordered from Washington "for security reasons."

FEPC investigations revealed that Navy Yards in other cities did not require designation of race on the badges worn by their employes. 5-22-44

Numerous complaints were filed with the FEPC by labor unions, citizens groups and the Negro employes themselves charging that the badge designation made for discriminatory employment practices within the Yard. The complaint on badges was only one among many charging discrimination at the Yard.

Meanwhile, Edward Lawson, Director of the New York Regional FEPC office, announced that considerable progress was being made in adjusting more than 50 charges of discriminatory employment practices which have been filed with the FEPC. Of the complaints handled recently, Lawson said, four were found warranted and two were dismissed.

The four warranted complaints resulted in the promotion of four Negro employes, who had charged that they were being denied promotions apparently because of their race.

Parliamentary Triumph May Save Life of FEPC

PM-New York, N.Y.
5-26-44

By NATHAN RORERTSON
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 26.—The FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) has a good chance today to win another year of life from Congress as the result of a major parliamentary triumph yesterday in the House over the die-hard Southern poll taxers.

The Southerners, enraged by the Appropriations Committee's approval of a $500,000 fund for the FEPC, tried desperately to win the right to kill the appropriation by a point of order. They were beaten in a series of parliamentary maneuvers which left them only the slim chance of killing the appropriation by a direct vote.

The FEPC item was included by the Appropriations Committee in the big war agencies' appropriation bill which was approved in a form indicating that Committee members had taken notice of recent

...busses, or in other public places ...Labor Board—and its jurisdiction was confined to ...discrimination in employment in war industries and Government.

...members were urged to ...testimony of Chairman Malcolm Ross, which the Committee described as "a clear, fair, dispassionate discussion of a democratic policy of national scope and importance."

The parliamentary battle on the House floor was of tremendous importance to the FEPC, because the agency has never been authorized by law and was in a precarious position. The Southerners have been continuation, planning to use that technicality to block the appropriations.

But they suddenly found that Chairman Clarence Cannon (D., Mo.), had obtained unanimous consent in the House Tuesday to waive all points of order on the bill, which blocked the point of order whatsoever they had planned to make against the FEPC appropriations.

Speaker Sam Rayburn upheld the

Agencies Praised

In the past year or two the House Committee has missed few opportunities on bills of this kind to crack down on the agencies it didn't like, such as OWI. This time all of the major agencies came through without serious cuts, and most of them, including OWI, won praises on the back in the Committee's report.

Here is what some of the major agencies got, as compared with what the budget asked for them:

¶ OWI—Requested $64,390,000; approved $58,625,367.

¶ FEPC—Requested $500,000.

¶ Committee for Congested Production Areas—Requested $669,000; approved $1,139,000.

¶ Office of Civilian Defense—Requested $57,000,000; approved $1,-000,000.

¶ Coordinator of Inter-Americanever over social problems affairs—Requested $19,174,000;

One Agency Cut

The only program abolished by the Committee was the Committee for Congested Production Areas, which has been a trouble-shooting agency designed to straighten out problems in the crowded war areas which threatened war production. The War and Navy Depts. strongly recommended its continuation, but the Committee turned it down.

In reporting on the FEPC appropriation, the Committee said there had been "much misunderstanding in the House Tuesday to what the budget asked for them: duction Areas—Requested $669,-ers" of the agency. It said the FEPC had "no jurisdiction whatsoever over social problems such as discrimination in restaurants,

unanimous consent order, but Rep. Francis Case (R., S. D.), quickly appealed to the House to overrule the Speaker.

Most of the Southerners rallied behind Case, but were beaten 175-54. Cannon, under fire from the Southerners, asked unanimous consent to set aside Tuesday's order so far as it applied to the FEPC item. Up to this point, neither Cannon nor his critics had mentioned FEPC by name. They were trying to cover up the issue. 5-26-44

Marcantonio Steps In

But Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP., N. Y.), brought it out into the open, objecting to Cannon's request on the ground that "all this maneuvering is to make it possible to strike out the FEPC." Speaker Rayburn ruled that Marcantonio's objection settled the question.

Rep. John Rankin (D., Miss.), sputtered and fumed at the outcome of the battle. He shouted that it was "the beginning of the end of parliamentary government."

Later in the debate Rep. William M. Colmer (D., Miss.), protested that the FEPC's objective was "to see that a certain race is given preference over all other races" and suggested that it should be directed to "protect the white people from discrimination."

Rep. John Taber (R., N. Y.), agreed that the FEPC must "guard against" such preference to a single race. Marcantonio quickly objected that there was "no evidence" that the FEPC was "giving preference to anyone."

The Appropriations Committee report emphasized the value of OWI's propaganda work which has been under bitter attack from House Republicans.

"The Office of War Information," it said, "is the instrumentality of the United States, the 'Voice of America,' to tell to the people of the world the truth about this war, our part in it, the power of the Unted States, to convince the German and Japanese people that their defeat is certain, to encourage the people in occupied countries to continue their resistance, and to convince enemy soldiers through leaflets and otherwise that continued resistance is futile, and to induce them to surrender."

RAILROAD JIM CROW

Age - New York, N.Y. 1-8-44

THE MOST popular political pastime today is planning a new post-war world.

But, before the United States can take any great part in such a world, it will have to set its own house in order.

And there is plenty that the United States will have to do in order to set its own house in order. Typical of the many problems is the one just placed in the lap of President Roosevelt by the FEPC which on December 27th unanimously certified the cases of fourteen railroad and terminal companies, and seven unions — all charged with employment discrimination against Negroes.

The FEPC's action in the cases followed the receipt on December 13, of a joint reply from 14 Southeastern railroad companies in which the railway firms informed the committee that they would not comply with the FEPC directive regarding the hiring and promoting of Negro raiload workers. Since then three of the unions involved have also informed the FEPC that they would not obey its directives. Four other unions failed to reply. 1-8-44

The FEPC's action came at the same time that President Roosevelt, by executive order, directed the Secretary of War to take over the nation's railroads which had been threatened with a strike. The strike threat has passed, but the government still has the railroads under management to prevent any interruption of service so essential to the war effort.

Asked about his plans in connection with the complaint of the FEPC against the railroads, the President, at a press conference, explained he would probably appoint some kind of a committee of the unions and the carriers, from the South and the North, to see what they could do about the whole problem. He added that the objective would be steady progress, and maintained that, while distinct advances had been made in the last ten years in the problem of discrimination, he did not believe the millennium could be brought about right away.

The millennium will never be reached if the President feels that it cannot be reached or brought about right away. The President's attitude in the railroad jim crow case is rather puzzling. On the one hand, his own creation, the FEPC holds public hearings, issues directives, receives a defy, is challenged in its authority, and finally certifies the case to the President for final action. On the other hand, the President pussyfoots on the proposition and says he will probably appoint some kind of a committee of the unions and the carriers to see what they could do about it.

If the President appoints a committee, he will be merely postponing the day of final reckoning because we can see no reason for any other committee being set up except for the purpose of ignoring the findings of his FEPC. 1-8-44

The President can move quickly when he is so disposed and the best evidence of it is that he moved to take over the railroads several days before the strike deadline. There is a feeling that the strike threat was merely a bluff and would not have come to pass, several of the unions involved having already decided against such a move. The President, however, did not wait and explained that he couldn't "wait until the last moment to take action to see that the supplies to our fighting men are not interrupted."

The President can move just as quickly, if he wants to, in the matter of railroad jim crow employment practices. Just as he ordered the unions not to strike, so can he order them to cease discriminatory practices because the government is now the operator of the railroads.

All the high-sounding pronouncements on Democracy and the extension of the Four Freedoms to the whole world will go for naught if Negroes cannot enjoy Democracy and the Four Freedoms right here at home. Before the U. S. can take any great part in planning a new post-war world, it will have to set its own house in order. It must start by doing something honestly for its most loyal and its largest minority, the Negro. It can be done by a single stroke of the President's pen. It is his responsibility.

Across The Desk

By LUDLOW W. WERNER

Age - New York, N.Y. 1-22-44

THE FEPC—Ever since President Roosevelt first set up the Fair Employment Practice Committee to stop the threatened March on Washington, Negroes have seen a consistent battle waged on two fronts; first, there has been the fight of the committee itself to continue as an agency; second, there has been the fight of home-grown fascists to throttle the agency and prevent it from doing an effective job.

In the midst of all this fighting, Negroes, generally, have lost sight of the fact that the aims and aspirations of the FEPC, even if they became an actuality, would hardly solve all the problems of the race. There is still the issue of dis-

treated as citizens; they are given the position of second class citizens and are treated as such. 1-22-44

We have fought so consistently and so vigorously for the continuance of FEPC, for proper personnel, for adequate funds for the committee, that we have merely scratched the surface. And in scratching the surface we have temporarily forgotten the other issues which are just as important as the right to work without discrimination.

There is still the issue of the denial of the national administration has shown that under duress it will move. Under duress it created the FEPC, but since that time it has said in effect to Negroes: we have created an agency to fight your battles. That agency is empowered to do certain things for your interest, so just take what we've given you and be satisfied.

There is still the issue of the denial of the right to Negroes to live decently according to their ability to buy homes of their choice in the nation's railroads without being jim crowed and insulted.

There are many more issues, but all of them can be summed up by the statement that Negroes are not yet looked upon as

the right to Negroes now that the FEPC is just another sop, just another medium around which to center the feeling is general among Negroes now that the FEPC was a good political gesture — but just a gesture.

— a. t. d. —

The Question Of The Week

Informer—Houston, Texas

Would a Legal and Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee Solve the Major Labor Troubles of Negroes in the South?

YEA 3-11-44

If you are implying that the Government can do little to insure the Negro against discrimination in hiring, pay and upgrading, I think that you are wrong. Teeth can be put into labor legislation that will serve to improve the labor situation very much. Some employers would like to work their people more than 40 hours per week but they do not dare do so in light of present day requirements. Now discounting all the evasions that the South could make, I believe that a legal FEPC would help us very much.

Harry Ward,
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

—•—

A review of the work of the FEPC without legal status is a small indication of its possibilities. Just airing crass injustices accomplishes something. Then too, when a person is called upon to explain business policy which he has a perfect right to have, he has scruples (if he has any sense) about the way his policy sounds to others. Even the great railroads must be conscious of how feebly convincing their explanations were during the recent hearings.

A. J. Simon.

—3-11-44

I think that it would. All of these people who holler so much about not wanting the Government to bother the rights of labor, etc., know that it is hard to hide mean actions when a place is subject to investigations. It was just like me on my insulicient gas stove hose which I changed to a sufficient one, before the inspector came again. If the FEPC had nothing more than legal power to air, that would help matters a great deal. criminate like horse thieves, and all one can do is fuss and feel sorry.

(Name omitted by request)

NAY

Although I think that a legal and permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee would not hurt the labor situation in the South, I do not feel that it would be a cure-all for our labor ills in these parts. When you consider that the Constitution is the most legal document that America has, and yet there are sections of the country in which citizens are denied the rights that it exists to guarantee—you can see what could happen to a legal FEPC. No matter how legal anything is, there are politicians who are rigid states-rights adherents, who find ways of ignoring some of the most justly legalized provisions for any organization. There are some fine individuals among white people, who would carry out the provisions such committee might make.

Daniel V. Sawyer, District Manager
Universal Life Insurance Co.,
New Orleans, La. 3-11-44

By the time states-rights would be injected into the interpretation of a legal FEPC, the labor situation would be only slightly altered. We need an educational program to show that Negroes as humans, and as Americans have a right to equal opportunity to earn a livelihood. Our most workable solutions will come by education rather than by laws-making.

Miss Vera Dial,
Home Demonstration Agent,
Harris County.

As it is people can fire, maltreat and dis-

FEPC Wins 50 Race Bias

Daily Worker—New York, N. Y.

Shipping Cases With CIO Aid

7-19-44

Discriminatory employment practices of more than 50 shipping companies have been corrected through intervention of the New York Regional Office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, according to Edward Lawson, regional director.

As a result of 10 months of special attention to complaints of discrimination involving the maritime industry and unions, the majority of operators and labor organizations are now hiring qualified seamen without regard to their race, creed, color or national origin, Lawson said. A public hearing against major holdouts to the government's non-discrimination policy is contemplated for the early fall.

During the past year the FEPC regional office has received more than 100 complaints involving the maritime industry. Of 43 cases where discrimination was clearly established by investigation, 38 have been adjusted, with the operating companies agreeing to hire seamen they had previously rejected. Ninety-seven per cent of the cases handled alleged discrimination against Negroes. The remainder involved Chinese, Japanese-American, Honduran and Jamaican workers. 7-19-44

AFL UNIONS INVOLVED

However, Lawson reported that some of the most important recent gains of Negroes in the industry were won through the efforts of other unions, several of which have made refusal of members to ship out with Negroes the basis for disciplinary action. The National Maritime Union has an outstanding record in this regard and other CIO unions are also known to have cooperated.

Typical of the accomplishments of the FEPC in dealing with bias in the maritime industry is the adjustment of a complaint made last fall against the Army Transport Service, Brooklyn. The complainant, a Negro graduate of a government maritime training school, heard a call over the school's amplifying system for 12 seamen. He applied but was advised by a recruiting officer that he could not be sent to the job because of his race. A subsequent FEPC investigation substantiated his charge. When the Federal policy of nondiscrimination was brought to the attention of the commanding officer of the Army Transport Service, he agreed to the immediate employment of the complainant. Since, more than 300 qualified Negro seamen have been hired by the ATS. 7-19-44

NMU AIDS ADJUSTMENTS

A somewhat similar case of discrimination, called to the attention of the FEPC by the NMU, involved 30 Negro graduate seamen who had completed courses at government training stations operated by the War Shipping Administration. Although their training qualified them for engine and deck work, they had not been referred to such jobs by the schools because of the repeated rejection by the industry of colored workers for other than stewards' jobs. When investigation showed that the complaint was justified, negotiations with the employment office of the WSA resulted in the immediate referral of all the graduates, and their placement on ships within 11 days.

In a third case, a company operating merchant tankers for the U. S. Government rejected three Negro workers—one a quartermaster, one a wiper and one an able-bodied seamen—on the grounds that the crew objected to sailing with Negroes. An on-the-spot investigation verified that racial discrimination had occurred. A representative of the FEPC boarded the vessel and conferred with the master, who said that the three seamen had been rejected by his chief officer, his chief engineer and his first assistant engineer, respectively, in violation of the rules of his company.

Dixie Roads Charge 'Bias' Used Again 'Em

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.

3-11-44

Special

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Roosevelt's appointment of the Stacy Committee to adjust the "impasse" between the Southern railroads and FEPC (President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice) was a White House admission that FEPC had exceeded its lenged FEPC's legal status and authority, Sidney S. Alderman, counsel for the Southern Railway Company, told the Smith Committee in hearing here, last Thursday. Alderman, representing ten and scope of the hearings; Southern carriers who have chal-

proval and then s House.

Testimony from Frank L. Mul Association, and A H. Houston in su filled the day's he journed, Chairma House Committee FEPC Chairman that the Southern railroads would appear next Thursday be- of War Shipping Administration

fore them.

Alderman, from Mulholland, general way Labor Executives and Attorney Charles in support of FEPC charges was part of a two-pronged y's hearing. As it ad-attack on the FEPC by the Smith airman Smith of the Committee which, the day before, nittee announced that heard charges against the Recruit- rman Malcolm Rossment and Manning Organization

3-11-44

TWO-WAY ATTACK

(WSA) filed by the Seafarers International Union.

At this hearing, WSA Atlantic Coast regional representative Craig Vincent came under merciless fire as the House probers sought to pin a "subversive" label on him after he had openly admitted he believed personally in social equality. 3-11-44

Repeated attempts were made by questioners of Vincent, WSA Assistant Deputy Adminstrator Marshall E. Dimok and Vincent's New York assistant, Frank Pollatsek, to blame FEPC for the alleged "checker-boarding" of merchant marine crews. (Checker-boarding is used to denote mixing of Negroes and whites in one crew with resultant intermingling in bunks, and at meals asea.)

Charges by SIU Vice-President John Hawks that mixing of the races in ship crews provoked trouble aboard ship and thus impeded the war effort were countered by a statement by the National Maritime Union revealing several instances of mixed crews operating ships with no trouble of any kind.

Adjourned unfinished late Wednesday, the SIU hearing was deferred Thursday morning in favor of the railroad's charges against FEPC. Alderman was the first witness, testified through the luncheon recess and for the first hour of the afternoon session.

He contended that FEPC is nothing more than a fact-finding body, has no legal status and absolutely no authority to issue directives. Publicizing of the Southern railroads' cases, he said, had "sectionalized" the matter and FEPC had seized upon Southern attitudes and customs to stir up feeling against them, despite the fact that figures showed a much higher percentage of Negro employment on Southern roads than on Northern ones. 3-11-44

In support of his attack on FEPC's authority, he cited the failure of the White House to take legal steps toward immediate enforcement when the cases were certified to the President—even after the railroads had been taken over by the War Department during the strike threat.

President Roosevelt, said Alderman, had clearly indicated agreement with the railroads when in his letter of appointment to Stacy Committee members, he "ignored the sweeping demands of FEPC" covering all classes and crafts and had cited just five categories of jobs, apparently leaving the rest "out the window." 3-11-44

The promise that there would be no directives, Alderman stated, was made to Mulholland by FEPC Special Counsel Bartley C. Crum shortly before the hearings in September here. Mulholland, following Alderman on the stand, confirmed this statement, adding that during the hearings he sought and obtained verbal reassurance on the point from Crum in the presence of, though perhaps not within earshot of Bishop Francis J. Haas (then Monsignor and FEPC Chairman).

At the original conference which brought the promise, Mulholland also revealed, he was assured that it was the FEPC Chairman's desire that such a promise be extended.

The railroads' counsel also assailed Chairman Ross who, he said, attempted to "cloud the issue" in speeches and statements, and even to disclaim responsibility for the directives on the grounds that he was not chairman when the hearings were held. 3-11-44

FEPC member Milton P. Webster, international vice-president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, was also attacked as one of the sponsors in a large paid ad which appeared in several of the biggest dailies, hailing the FEPC decision and, Alderman felt, assailing the railroads.

Attorney Houston appeared representing the International Association of Railway Employees and the Association of Colored Railroad Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen. One of FEPC's special counsel during the railroad hearings, he blasted Alderman's assertion that the directives "don't help the Negro," and declared that the charges of FEPC's illegality probably originated from the fact that the language of the directives had apparently made "somebody" sore.

He reviewed the situation on Southern carriers where, by agreements with the brotherhoods, the roads had reduced Negro employees almost to the vanishing point and declared that, by their own testimony and records, the railroads and unions had indicated clearly an almost unbelievable undemocratic defiance of the government itself.

Another Laurel For The FEPC

World — Memphis, Tenn.

In its strident march toward victorious and triumphant democracy for all American citizens, the Fair Employment Practice Committee emerged with another laurel to its long chain last week, when an attempt to discharge 85 Negro women employes by the Pinaud Cosmetic Company was foiled by the Cosmetic, Soap and Perfumery Workers Union. 7-18-44

Benjamin Pross, Business Manager of the local A. F. of L., said of the attempted walk-out: "All workers, whether they be Jew or Gentile, Negro or white, receive the same protection from the Union. As far as the union is concerned, said Mr. Pross, a union member is a union member and will be treated on an equal basis." The white and colored women returned willingly to their jobs and all things are now satisfactorily settled.

The proud record of FEPC in this story can be duplicated throughout the country. In the western area over the past three months it has handled with reasonable success 193 cases growing out of discrimination. Two important railroads, the Pennsylvania and the Chicago and Northwestern have agreed to upgrade Negro employes from waiter to steward, thus flicking another scale from the long preserved occupational caste-wall in Philadelphia, the Office of War Manpower Commission announced that 68,436 Negro men and women were employed in the local Camden Market. This figure is considerably higher than the 17,602 Negroes employed during the entire 6-month period from July to December, 1943. The Chicago and Northwestern Railway has promoted Negro car cleaners to carmen's helpers and dining car waiters to steward. Thus the barriers against the employment of Negro workers, male and female, are breaking down rapidly under the double impact of a severe manpower crisis and the FEPC.

Despite this impressive record, the fight from certain quarters continues. Senator Russell of Georgia, together with Senator George, Congressmen Ramspeck and Gibson have pledged and actually are, fighting it in any "way they can". The recent hearing before the Senate saved the agency by the narrowest possible margin, due to the bitter and prolonged opposition from some southern Democrats and reactionary Republicans. Occasionally, a southern newspaper takes an editorial stand against the work and existence of FEPC, which turns out to be both shameful and shocking. 7-18-44

But to quote from the opening statement of Bartley C. Crum before the Railroads Hearings: "I submit, that in the emergency of the war, it is imperative that Negroes be allowed full and equal participation in all phases of the war program. We cannot measure the detrimental effect of race discrimination on the war program merely in terms of man-hours lost but by our own failure to use the loyalty and skills of Negro workers. This loss is compounded by an active undercurrent of bitterness among Negroes and other minorities."

We believe that the work of the FEPC will be continued, We believe that there will be a permanent FEPC. For as great as may be the impact of the war, the stress and strain of unemployment after the war will be more disastrous to Negro workers unless there is a government agency such as FEPC. This agency must not be killed or rendered impotent and Negroes north and south must look with suspicion on those who would rob them of this economic protection.

Charles Houston Named to FEPC

Register—San Antonio Tex

3-17-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The White House has announced the appointment of Charles Houston of Washington and Charles L. Horn, of St. Paul, Minnesota, to fill vacancies on the Fair Employment Practice committee occasioned by the withdrawal of P. B. Young and Samuel Zemurray. Houston is the noted constitutional lawyer and special counsel for the NAACP and Horn is president of the Federal Cartridge corporation.

Houston has long distinguished himself in the cases involving civil rights which he has championed before the United States Supreme court for the NAACP.

On many occasions he has appeared before congressional committees to testify on various pieces of legislation. He made a particularly good impression last spring when, in the course of a hearing on the Austin-Wadsworth national service act before the senate military committee, he was asked in

Horn is a newcomer to race relations. He did not strike the headlines when he spoke before the annual conference of the National Urban league in Chicago last October, but he contributed much to Horn's "new thinking" on the management-labor problem. "No clear-thinking westerner. Horn, incidentally, is a staunch Republican whereas Houston is a Democrat.

Going further and tech- his remarks directly to nt he maintained that "it b and mine, not only to d experiment in the full of Negro labor during me period, but to draw m total of our combined experience a certain of procedures and tech- ich can be applied to after the war."

ployer, Horn is under ve in his hire about s cut of a total per

Southern Press Got Anti-FEPC Text of Dewey Talk

PM – New York
N.Y.

Wallace Cites 2 Versions of Seattle Speech

10-30-44

Vice President Henry A. Wallace charged at Chicago yesterday that Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and his associates sent a garbled text of his Seattle speech to Southern newspapers putting the Republican candidate for President on record, for Southern readers, as opposed to the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Omitted from the Southern text, said Wallace, was a brief paragraph in which Dewey, for Northern readers and his radio audience, pledged himself to the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Addressing a Negro audience in Chicago's Savoy Ballroom, Wallace told how Dewey had discarded legislation for an FEPC in New York State, proceeding to give his example of "Dewey double talk."

10-30-44

Two Texts

"The Republican candidate for President," he said, "made a speech in Seattle a few weeks ago (Sept. 18). I have the full text of that speecl. as printed in the Memphis, Tenn., *Press Scimitar*, and in the St. Petersburg, Fla., *Times*.

"In these two southern papers the Republican candidate lists the Fair Employment Practices Committee as one of the bureaus which has smothered our labor relations right down the line.

"The Chicago *Tribune*, the New York *Times* and the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* which carried the text of the same Seattle speech—wonder of wonders—did not list FEPC as one of the bureaus smothering our labor relations, but the speech as printed in Chicago, New York and St. Louis said, 'We shall establish the Fair Employment Practices Committee as a permanent function authorized by law.'

10-30-44

Not for South

"The good people of Memphis and St. Petersburg did not read that sentence favoring FEPC because it was not in the speech sent to Tennessee and Florida.

"Let us not judge the Governor of New York too harshly. Perhaps this is part of his States rights theory—but it is double talk nonetheless."

Wallace told his audience that President Roosevelt was pledged to a permanent FEPC, to federal aid to education, to abolition of the poll tax, to more and better housing, to provide jobs at fair wages regardless of race, creed or religion.

Wallace reminded his audience that the FEPC was created by President Roosevelt who had pledged himself to a permanent FEPC, and cited the recent Philadelphia transit strike to show how "the right of Negro men to their jobs was safeguarded by the President" with "no double talk and no double dealing."

10-30-44

Wallace said the future would bring more Federal aid to education, abolition of the poll tax, more and better housing, jobs extension of social security to include millions of Americans now unprotected, jobs at fair wages regardless of race, creed or religion.

"I believe," said Wallace, "that we should judge a man not as a Jew, or a Gentile or a white man or a black man—but as a person—as a free citizen of the United States . . .

10-30-44

"It well may be that when our boys have captured Berlin and Tokyo that business, seeing through a glass darkly, will not put its foot upon the gas promptly enough to guarantee full employment.

"If that happens—we must throw our full resources into the construction of school houses, hospitals, parks and other instruments of human welfare. The proposition is jobs—training – and more jobs. Roosevelt stands for all this. Roosevelt knows that men are more precious than dollars and that dollars must be made the servants of men. The President believes in the people—all the people—Negro and white alike—and the future of the United States and the world belong to the people. The people are still on the march."

Is This for What We Fight?

Tribune – Washington, D.C.

The following attack on the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, made by Rep. John S. Gibson (Dem., Ga.) is typical of the deluge of race-baiting speeches being made in the halls of the Senate and the House by Southern Congressmen. Senator Richard Russell of Georgia, recently offered legislation to "wipe out the FECP." The committee is now seeking an appropriation of $585,000 to continue its work against job discrimination. Gibson's remarks made on Friday, which follow in major part are self-explanatory:

4-22-44

I have been very deeply concerned over the purposes and activities of the organization here in Washington known as the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

It is common knowledge that such an organization could have no proper functions in this democracy. It has been my opinion that it was born of the fertile mind of someone in this commonwealth of communistic philosophy and based on its activities I am convinced that my convictions were founded on truth and fact. The Communists some months ago came out with the statement that the South was the black man's country and in substance that they expected to put him in possession of the property of the South and in control of its destiny and people.

I have recently procured factual information on the personnel of this committee, which I think will and should be of vital interest to the membership of this body and for that matter to every taxpayer in the United States. It is, of course, known that Malcolm Ross is chairman of the committee, whose function is no discrimination in employment account of race or color in this country. It is noteworthy in the organization of his committee this principal is most flagrantly violated.

4-22-44

Over all, there are 106 paid employees—61 Negroes and 45 whites. Compare that with the percentage of Negroes against the percentage of whites in this country. I am a great believer in letting the people know the facts and that with such knowledge they will correct any wrong.

When the people are called upon to favor increased taxes I hope you will remember this committee which is not only totally useless, but a vicious bureau that breeds disunity and costs the people each 12 months $317,160 or approximately one billion dollars every 3 years.

The 45 white employees draw $143,600 per annum and the 61 Negroes draw $173,560 per annum. The employees of this bureau are the highest paid of any bureau or department of the Federal Government, on a per capita basis.

4-22-44

In the central office where all the policies are made and enforced here in Washington there are 13 white employees and 35 Negro employees, the whites drawing $48,540 per annum and the Negroes $94,220.

The chairman is white, his associate fair-practice examiner is a Negro. The office of the chairman is staffed by 2 other whites and 3 Negroes. His administrative office is staffed by 11 Negroes and no whites. His Operations Section is staffed with 7 Negroes and 6 whites, his Review and Analysis Section has 7 Negroes and 3 whites. His Legal Division 2 Negroes only. Hearing examiners, 1 white and 5 Negroes. The Director of Review and Analysis is a Negro.

4-22-44

In fact, the whole set-up is strictly Negro dominated with just enough whites to give a slight diversity of color. This is the gang that goes into the South and sets up offices with Negroes and whites working together; to Detroit and sets up an office with one Edward M. Swann, a Negro man, as fair-practice examiner, at a salary of $3,800 per year, with a white lady for his secretary at $1,620 per year, the 2 constituting the entire office force. This is the same gang that has told the management of southern railroads they must use Negro engineers and conductors, and union officials that they must accept Negroes in their organizations.

4-22-44

In the capital of my State, Atlanta, Ga., this same gang of Washington Negroes, by the authority of this Committee, set up an office with Bruce Hunt, a white man, as senior fair-practice examiner, at $5,400 per year; John Hope, Jr., a Negro, as associate fair-practice examiner, at $3,800 per year; James H. Tipton, white, associate fair-practice examiner, at $3,200 per year; Myra Bunting, white, clerk-stenographer, at $1,800 per annum; and Thelma Horton, Negro, whose classification and salary was either intentionally or inadvertently omitted.

Please note that Hope, the Negro, and Tipton, the white, have exactly the same classification, the only distinction being color, and the Negro gets $3,800 and the white $3,200 for the same duties and in the same office, and yet this infernal Committee is designated the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

They were liberal enough to let the regional offices in the deep South have a slight advantage in number of white personnel. In New York, however, the regional office has a personnel of nine, six of whom are Negroes and three whites.

4-22-44

The big boss, head of the office, with the classification of regional director, is a Negro at $5,600 per year, and the highest paid white in the office is designated "associate field examiner" at $3,200. His white lady assistant clerk-stenographer gets only $1,620, while her Negro boss draws approximately three and one-half times this amount.

There are four regional directors in the entire United States, one Negro at $5,600 per year and one Negro at $4,600 and two whites at $4,600 per year.

ment by the Communists of this country, and let them bury beside the heroes who made the air free for Old Glory to fly, the Stars and Stripes that has stood all that has made our Nation great, and sleep through the vigil over their tombs through the years of freedom and progress this Nation has enjoyed.

I am wondering if our people have become so spineless—and so weak and faint of heart that they will see perish before their eyes all that has made our Nation great, and sleep through the vigil over their tombs through the years of freedom and progress this Nation has enjoyed.

have reached the great divide in the path of civilization and have started down the slope to the sunset of the same. I wonder if our democratic system of government being performed on the operation of democratic system of government by the people. The greatest responsibility

placed on mankind is to keep his race pure; the greatest destroyer of civilization and Christianity is the mongrelization of races. 4-22-44

If this bunch of moral lepers is not stopped the depth to which they will bring our citizenry is unpredictable. God made his people as he would have them be, and if you doubt that the full plan and chart of these communistic rats call for a full race adulteration watch the years that are to follow soon, and your complacency so abundantly enjoyed now will stand before you an ugly skeleton of condemnation. 4-22-44

I have in the past and expect to in the future warn my people of these dangers and fight these Communist enemies of America as long as I am able to speak.

I hope it will be borne in mind that the Congress had no part in establishing this Committee, nor was this body consulted with regard to the advisability of its establishment; nor has the Congress ever appropriated one dime for the operation of this Committee, the money for its operation being taken from the President's emergency fund.

Wins Sum Back By 14-6 Vote

Informer — Houston Tex. 6-17-44

WASHINGTON —(NNPA WIRE) — The long and hard struggle to save the President's Fair Employment Pracitces Committee was a step nearer victory Monday when by a vote of 14 to 6 $500,000 for the agency was restored to the War Agencies Appropriation Bill which was approved by the Senate appropriations committee.

How They Voted

Three Democrats were present at the committee meeting and voted for FEPC. Five Democrats gave their approval by proxy. Four Republicans attended and voted for the item, while one voted by proxy.

Four Democrats voted against F. E. P. C. in person, and one by proxy. Only one Republican voted against the agency.

Democrats at meeting and voting for FEPC: 6-17-44

Thomas, Oklahoma; Greene, Rhode Island; Chavez, New Mexico; Meade, Wyoming; By Proxy: Hayden, Arizona; Tydings, Maryland; McCarran, Nevada; O'Mahoney, Wyoming; and Maloney, Conneticutt.

Republicans present and voting pro: Gurney, South Dakota; Reed, Kansas; Burton, Ohio; Ball, Minnesota, Brooks, Illinois, supported by proxy.

Says FEPC Progress in Middle West a 'Success'

By Stander — Des Moines, Iowa 9-14-44

Chicago — The work of the FEPC in the Middle West has been a success, declared Elmer W. Henderson, Chicago Regional Director of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in a statement released this week. The Chicago office covers the states of Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa. North Dakota and South Dakota.

"This does not mean that all employment discrimination has been eliminated or that all war industries are living up to the spirit of the Executive order. We have in this region employers who still defy our orders and refuse to lower their racial barriers," Henderson warned.

"One of the most flagrant cases of discrimination yet unresolved is that of an ammunition company in southern Illinois which has employed up to 15,000 workers but refuses to hire one single Negro. This company is located in a town which boasts of allowing no Negroes to live or work there.

"Racial and religious barriers in industry have been broken to the extent that members of minority groups have been able to play a tremendous role in winning the battle of production and today the great output of our plants is not being retarded by the discrimination which was so evident in the early months of the war.

"Although in some sections of the country opposition to our work has been violent, employers in the Middle West have accepted the policy of non-discrmination with decreasing resistance. Many have worked cooperatively with us and practical demonstration have shown their good faith. 9-14-44

"The success of our program could never have been achieved had it not been for the excellent work in public education and employer education expertly done by such organiaztions as the Urban Leagues in various cities, the Bureau of Jewish Employment Problems, the local branches of the NAACP, the friendly Press, other Government agencies, and the many other organizations and individuals who have worked with us.

Best Work

"Needless to say, our best results were obtained in those plants with enlightened trade unions represented in the CIO and some branches of the A. F. of L. 9-14-44

"There has been some loose talk in certain quarters about FEPC being dictatorial, removing contracts, creating labor disturbances and provoking strikes. This is, of course, pure nonsense and I believe a canvass of employers and union officials in our region will indicate that our approach has been on a practical basis.

"The man problems before us are those of upgrading and layoffs. Many employers still refuse to upgrade Negroes and other minorities on the basis of their ability and experience. An excuse frequently given is that since many Negroes are concentrated in the unskilled labor field and the great demand is now for common laborers, Negroes cannot be upgraded because it is difficult to find other workers to take their places in these lowest rung jobs. FEPC is combatting this wherever it is called to our attention. 9-14-44

"As the war approaches its climax, the problem of layoffs becomes more acute. The Executive Order applies to layoffs also and FEPC will be alert to see that no discrimination occurs," Mr. Henderson said.

Transit Company To Comply With FEPC's Directive On Jobs

AFC — New York, N.Y.

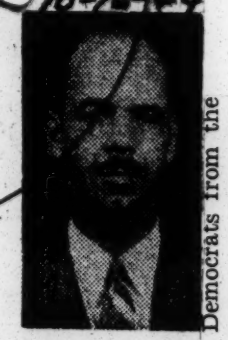
PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The Philadelphia Transportation Company indicated on Saturday that it had accepted a directive of the FEPC on the hiring and upgrading of Negroes as operational employes with the posting of notices in car barns stating that all qualified applicants for employment will be accepted "without regard to the applicant's race, creed, color or national origin."

The notice stated that the new hiring plan has been made retroactive to July 1, and added that the company would receive applications for transfer to better positions from all qualified employes now on its lists.

Toward Freedom

Daily Worker — New York 10-16-44

REPUBLICAN efforts to dress Gov. Dewey up as the noble champion of a permanent FEPC is characteristic of the cynical demagogy with which their entire campaign is being conducted. But if they are wise they will soft-pedal this issue because President Roosevelt holds all the cards—and the people know it. Just look at the President's record on FEPC.



When it was apparent that special steps must be taken to enable Negro workers to share in the expanding war industry, President Roosevelt (summer, 1941) issued the famous Executive Order 8802, barring racial discrimination in employment and creating the Committee on Fair Employment Practices to enforce the order. Never before in history had a special agency of the federal government been set up to break down racial discrimination. 10-16-44

When War Manpower Commissioner McNutt cancelled FEPC's scheduled southern railroad hearings during the President's absence from the country (spring, 1942), it was commonly predicted that FEPC would soon die. But the President reconstituted FEPC on a firmer basis and ordered the southern railroad hearings to proceed.

FDR's Record on FEPC Compared With Dewey's

By Doxey Wilkerson

WHEN Comptroller General Warren ruled in the Southeastern Bell Telephone Co. case that FEPC directives were merely "advisory" and need not be followed (fall, 1943), the President promptly reversed this ruling and made it perfectly clear that FEPC directives are "orders" which must be obeyed.

When Sen. Russell of Georgia introduced his amendment to kill FEPC as a non-statutory agency without authorization by Congress (spring, 1944), the President recommended a congressional appropriation of $500,000 for FEPC and fought hard to win its approval.

And, finally, when FEPC faced its greatest crisis in the recent Philadelphia transit strike (fall, 1944), the President, then in the South Pacific, demonstrated to the entire country just how far he was ready to go to defend this anti-discrimination agency. He called out the Army, the ultimate authority of the United States, to enforce FEPC's order for the upgrading of eight Negro workers.

Contrast this with the Dewey-Republican record on FEPC. 10-16-44

WHEN the FEPC appropriation was before Congress, House Republicans joined up with reactionary poll-tax Democrats from the South and were on the point of killing the appropriation until Representative Marcantonio forced a record vote. Then they ran for cover and allowed the appropriation to pass.

When the Philadelphia race-hate strike tied up war production for nearly a week, the Republican mayor of that city and the Republican governor of the state said not one word of condemnation. Gov. Dewey and two dozen Republican governors, then meeting in St. Louis to draw up their platform of "states' rights," completely ignored the transit strike. not even issuing a statement in support of FEPC or against the strike's instigation to racial violence.

When the Governor's own anti-discrimina-tion committee introduced bills for a New York state FEPC (spring, 1944), Dewey deliberately killed the bills for fear that their passage might cause southern delegates to the Republican national convention to vote against his nomination as the GOP presidential candidate. 10-16-44

When candidate Dewey and his GOP backers now say (as Dewey did in his Seattle speech), "We shall establish the Fair Employment Practices Committee as a permanent function and authorized by law," the Negro people are unimpressed. They remember the single word about his support for the continuance of FEPC. The Negro people are already profoundly impressed by his deeds. And on Nov. 7 they will remember the record.

But President Roosevelt need not say a

FEPC SAVED

FOLLOWING several days of explosive debate, the Senate on Tuesday passed the $1,030,000,000 War Agencies Appropriation Bill, allowing $500,000 for continuing the FEPC but setting up restrictions which might materially limit the functions and authority of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

In the face of bitter and outspoken denunciation of the FEPC and opposition to its continuance by Southern members, the Senate voted 39 to 21 to let it have the $500,000 in operating funds for the fiscal year, thus following the example of the House and giving first formal recognition to the agency whose existence has been the constant source of Senate controversy.

The FEPC got its directly appropriated operating funds (formerly supplied from the President's emergency fund) through the defeat by a vote of 39 to 21 of an amendment offered by Senator Richard B. Russell (Dem., Ga.) which would have stricken the item from the bill which the Appropriations Committee had reported to the Senate.

Senator Russell and Senator Burnet R. Maybank (Dem., S. C.) offered seven amendments proposing that Congress prescribe limitations for its operations. The Senate adopted three of them. Under the first amendment, passed by a voice vote, the right of appeal to the President would be given to all individuals or companies cited by FEPC, and subjected to Government contract cancellations in cases ruled by the committee and its local representatives to involve discrimination. The second amendment, adopted by a vote of 27 to 25, prescribed that the Government could seize and operate no plants on the basis of findings of employment discrimination by the FEPC. The third amendment, adopted by a voice vote, provided that no decision by the FEPC could amend or modify any act of Congress, a provision which was regarded by some as the most significant of the three restrictions.

These amendments will go to conference with the House, which allowed the $500,000 appropriation without providing limitations on FEPC functions.

During the controversial debates over the fate of FEPC, many of the Negro-baiting Senators from the South resorted to their usual tactics of dragging the old issue of social equality into the picture. Senator Theodore G. Bilbo, (Dem., Miss.) spoke of his plan to send Negroes back to Africa and declared that he had noted that it had been criticized by Mrs. Roosevelt.

"Of course, Bilbo said," she did not understand my ultimate plan. If I can succeed eventually in resettling the great majority of Negroes in West Africa, I might entertain the proposition of making her queen of that Greater Liberia."

Then again, there was the anti-Negro Senator Walter F. George (Dem., Ga.) who added this to the debate: "The FEPC that has haunted these gallories like vultures to watch our action and to compel our votes to give them a half-million dollars has done nothing on earth to promote better relations between the white and the black people. Its main purpose is to attempt to establish something like social equality, that is all."

On the positive side, there were many Senators who in defending the FEPC against attack held like Senator Chavez, of New Mexico that: "As Americans who believe in the Constitution and love our Government and want it to continue as it was created, how can we justify within our own country such practices as now prevail, although not under the law of the Constitution, when we condemn with the President those responsible for the sufferings of strangers?.... How can liberty be assured to ourselves and our posterity if one class of people have economic liberty and all the people have political liberty, but another class of people have economic slavery?.... How can the common defense be provided for, unless every citizen of the Nation is treated equally under the law and is accorded the same equality of opportunity? Is the general welfare promoted when Jim Jones, doing a piece of work in an industry engaged in the war effort or in everyday life, but who happens to be of a certain color—I am referring to actual work; I am not talking about social equality; I am talking about sweat and blood and suffering and the creation of wealth—is paid one wage while Tom Brown, doing the same class of work, laboring the same hours, creating the same wealth for these United States, is paid more than Jim Jones is paid? Is that one of the things for which the people of the Colonies revolted against England? Is that what they enunciated in the Declaration of Independence? I think not, although I may be mistaken."

Fears previously expressed that FEPC was nearing the end of its rope now appear allayed for another year at least. In the meantime, the bill for a Permanent FEPC is before Congress and so there is still hope that the bill may become a permanent government agency by legislation, rather than by appropriation.

THE F. E. P. C. SAFE

Several weeks ago the lower branch of Congress approved the appropriation for a continuance of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. The prediction was made that the senate would be antagonistic. The Southerners made a vigorous fight against it, but on Tuesday it was approved by a large margin. As usual the Southerners injected racial element, not based upon fairness. High toned statesmen would never resort to the harsh terms of Senator George of Georgia, Bilbo of Mississippi and Eastland of the same state. It is refreshing to note such expressions as made by Mrs. Dorothy O. Rainey of this state in a letter to the chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee relative to denying the Negro participation in the State Democratic primary. Mrs. Rainey stated:

"I am aware that the course of action suggested by the committee is dictated not by fear of the Negro, but by fear of a certain group of our white Southerners . . .whose thinking is steeped in poverty, in ignorance, and in prejudice.

"I know of no white Southerners of intelligence and high character who do not wish to encourage our Negro fellow Southerners to lives of thrift, responsibility and integrity—that is, to lives of good citizenship.

"To say to a Negro that, no matter what his competence and no matter what his personal worth, he is not to be permitted to have a part in the processes of citizenship seems to me a cruel and a shameful thing. For my part I am not willing to insult him in this fashion and to challenge his just resentment."

Ala. Gov. Hits FEPC, Defends Segregation

AUBURN, Ala.—(ANP)—The F.E.P.C. was attacked as "hostile to the genius of government" and segregation and the poll tax defended as necessary safeguards to southern economy by Gov. Chauncey M. Sparks speaking Tuesday before the 26th annual convention of Alabama Kiwanians.

Hostile

He described the FEPC as a 'thing as hostile to the genius of American government as anything that has been brought up and put into practice within its whole history."

Racial segregation, he declared, is necessary to preserve the integrity of both the white and Negro races, and he said that "constant agitation, both through army regulations and through insistence of political preachers and vote seekers," has resulted in a spirit of suspension on the part of Negroes.

On the poll tax question, Sparks asserted that "one point of attack which is often made by the politican and office seeker particularly in the north, is what is called the disenfranchising poll tax of the south. Our northern advisers have not discovered that registration laws, not poll taxes, are the real barriers to Negro votes.

"This poll tax business is a tempest in a teapot, and I think the south . . . should maintain its guard until the storm blows over and until the two races can agree themselves."

Discussing racial relations, the governor asserted that "much of the difficulty we encounter comes from misguided preachers and teachers, writers and pseudo-uplifters . . . It (theracial problem) can not be resolved in emotionalism."

FEPC Hearing Shows Anti-Negro Bias by AFL Seafarers Union

By EUGENE GORDON

The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee yesterday examined complaints of discrimination against Negroes by the Seafarers International Union (AFL). The hearing, on charges that SIU violated Executive Order 8802 and 9346, were held in the Bar Association Bldg., 42 W. 44 St. Malcolm Ross, FEPC national chairman, presided.

Emanuel Block, trial attorney for FEPC and a member of the agency legal staff, alleged that:

1. SIU, "because of a firm policy of designating certain jobs for Negroes and certain others for white men, has discriminated against Negroes and whites alike in referring and placing unlicensed crew

2. SIU's action "is in direct violation of the merchant marine ... outraging "every tenet of fair play

in that it denies equal opportunities to men who daily risk their lives and make the supreme sacrifice" in transporting war materials to the war fronts.

3. This policy "has impeded the efficient operation of the merchant marine and interfered with the full utilization of manpower in the war effort."

John Hawk, first vice-president of SIU, through Richard M. Cantor, counsel, presented a statement ridiculing the procedure of the hearing and attacking FEPC's jurisdiction.

The only direct denial of FEPC's charge of discrimination was this statement by Hawk: "The charges are absurd on their face, because they allege discrimination against both races. The most casual inquiry would have satisfied this committee that in none of the instances set forth as charged has the war effort been adversely affected."

Having presented its protest, SIU counsel declared that "we cannot expect justice from your committee under the conditions that now prevail," and formally declined to participate further. 10-11-44

FEPC, however, continued to present witnesses and documents to prove its charges. These charges seemed to be definitely proved when eight witnesses had testified from personal experience and scores of documents—embracing sworn statements by Negro seamen who had been discriminated against—had been read into the record.

Results of the hearing will be announced.

Opposition Alarms Bill's Supporters

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
11-11-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) — Congressional action to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee is endangered by American Federation of Labor opposition to the proposed prohibition against discrimination by labor unions, according to a report appearing in the newspaper PM last week.

The bill for a permanent FEPC has the wholehearted support of many labor, religious and liberal organizations including the CIO and several AFL unions. Supporters of the measure are alarmed by the AFL's attitude.

The story says AFL hostility to the pending legislation in its present form was disclosed by publication of the Senate hearings on the bill, which included a statement by the Federation ducking any commitment on the measure and opposing any government control of unions.

QUOTE REPORT

The statement, which was filed with the Senate Committee by W. C. Hushing, legislative representative of the AFL, quoted the report by the Executive Council of the AFL at its 1943 convention.

This report opposed racial discrimination in employment, but added: "The Executive Council does not believe, however, that imposition of any policy, no matter how salutary, through compulsory government control of freely constituted associations of workers, accords with the basic right of freedom of association among the American people."

11-11-44

Questioned about the statement, Hushing told PM the pending bill "does not conform" to the AFL convention action. He said the Federation might try to have the bill modified and probably would discuss the question at its convention this month.

SHISKIN WARNS

First open hint of AFL opposition, says PM, came during the Howard University conference on Posatwar Industrial outlook for Negroes, when Boris Shiskin, AFL member of the present FEPC warned that labor would oppose any regulation of unions, even to prevent discrimination.

Shiskin told the conference that legislation prohibiting racial and religious discrimination — the purpose of the permanent FEPC bill — by unions would open the door to much broader regulation of unions and labor spokesmen could not support it. His views were attacked from the floor of the conference during the discussion period following his speech by Judge William Hastie and others.

'Serious Trouble' Seen If FEPC Bill Is Delayed

PM New York N.Y.

Rep. Norton Echoes Fears of Labor Spokesman

11-17-44

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Witnesses before the House Labor Committee warned yesterday that unless a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee is established before the war ends, serious trouble will result during the reconversion period.

After a brief half-day hearing, Chairman Mary Norton (D., N. J.) said the Committee would go into executive session Wednesday to consider amendments and would probably report the FEPC measure out before Dec. 30, when the 78th Congress is scheduled to adjourn.

Mrs. Frances Saylor, of the United Electrical and Radio Workers, CIO, declared that, lacking a permanent FEPC, there would be many attempts to break unions by segregation of Negroes and white workers. 11-17-44

Foresees Trouble

Rep. Norton echoed her sentiments and said positively that if they fail to get passage of the bill this session the effort will be renewed immediately after the 79th Congress reconvenes. She added that trouble was bound to come if employment opportunities were denied to minority groups who are now overseas fighting for our freedom.

Mrs. Saylor in her testimony said it was the opinion of officials of her union that had it not been for employment of Negroes in skilled and semi-skilled jobs we would never have been able to meet our commitments to the men in the armed services.

She outlined in detail the steps taken to break down discriminatory practice—with considerable success in St. Louis and Baltimore, she said.

Rep. O. C. Fisher (D., Tex.) suggested to Mrs. Saylor that her recital of the union's success in handling discrimination could be construed as an argument that a permanent FEPC was unnecessary. She denied it hotly.

"Without the assistance of the FEPC we couldn't have accomplished anything," she declared. "We would hardly have made a dent in a bad situation."

Helped War Effort

She said that in the opinion of her union the procedures set up in the permanent FEPC bills is adequate and a guarantee that the ...m will be fairly met. She added in answer to a question from Chairman Norton that without the President's Executive Order creating the agency the country would have been unable to meet its quotas of arms and supplies for our Army and Navy.

The present FEPC, created by Executive Order, is due to expire June 30, 1945, but there is a possibility that if it is not made permanent by legislation that President Roosevelt will renew the order.

Proponents of the bill are not sanguine about the chances of getting it onto the House floor for determination before adjournment. It isn't on the list of "must" legislation and there are other obstacles.

After the executive session of the Labor Committee next week the measure must go to the Rules Committee. The time is very short for all the fumadiddles which must accompany the movement of a bill from the Committee hearings to a vote.

Meanwhile, a bill, similar in all particulars to that being considered by the Norton Committee, is already on the calendar in the Senate. Rep. Norton said she pinned any hopes she has of action this session on the fact that both political parties pledged themselves to stand behind permanent FEPC legislation in their campaign platforms.

FEPC STUDIES PLANT CASES

Argus—St. Louis, Mo.
8-11-44

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 9 — (Special) — Complaints of discriminatory employment practices against eight war plants in the St. Louis area were examined by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in two days of public hearings in St. Louis August 1 and 2.

After completion of the sessions, FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross announced that a study of the full record would be made before the committee's findings are announced. The complaints alleged refusal to hire Negro women and refusal to upgrade Negro male workers in violation of Executive Order 9346.

The firms involved in the hearings, all of whom appeared in their defense, include: Amertorp Corporation, Bussman Manufacturing Company, Carter Carburetor, Wagner Electric Corporation, McDonnell Aircraft Corporation, St. Louis Shipbuilding and Steel Corporation, United States Cartridge Company and McQuay-Norris Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Ross presided at the hearings. Other FEPC members who sat were Boris Shishkin, Milton P. Webster, Miss Sara Southall, Charles H. Houston and John Brophy. Ernest G. Trimble and Frank D. Reeves, of the Legal Division, served as counsel for the committee. 8-11-44

Complaints of more than 50 individuals were heard during the sessions, with about 40 witnesses offering testimony to support the charges. Denials of discriminatory employment practices were entered by each of the companies, FEPC said.

FEPC Protects Our Right to Work; Its Biggest Job Will Come With Peace

Call Heroes Every Day
8-25-44

"THE RIGHT TO FIGHT IS . . . THE RIGHT TO LIVE"

The National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice committee has issued a report on the meaning, effect and need of the FEPC. Because of the nation-wide interest in the FEPC, THE CALL is presenting the report in installments. Here is the first:

Of all the appropriations in the federal war budget before congress this spring, the smallest item created the greatest furore—$500,000 requested to continue for one more year the emergency-created Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

The winning of the fight for this appropriation—despite a bitter, misleading campaign by a minority to whom the maintenance of "white supremacy" was more important than winning the war—was a signal victory which helped turn the tide in favor of a Permanent FEPC.

From the beginning, the National Council for a Permanent FEPC knew that to win broad support for a Permanent FEPC, with adequate funds and authority, required the achievement of majority acceptance of the **principle** of federal action to prevent discrimination in employment.

Thus all our forces were thrown into the fight when this principle faced its first and crucial test in the House and Senate vote appropriation in June. For it was then that the present FEPC came up for congressional approval for the first time in its three years of operation.

OPPORTUNITY TO ABOLISH FEPC 8-25-44

And it was then that the southern advocates of "white supremacy" and their northern collaborationists in Congress saw their first opportunity—and they grabbed at it—to abolish FEPC. That many of them considered it more important to kill FEPC than to defeat Hitler and Tojo was demonstrated in the vote on the omnibus War Agencies bill in the House of Representatives. FEPC was included, with 17 other emergency agencies of the federal government, $1,030,937,242. Although each agency was discussed and acted upon separately, final clearance required a vote on the War Agencies bill as a whole. Enraged at the defeat of their amendment to strike FEPC out of the bill, 52 southerners recorded themselves as voting against passage of the War Agencies bill.

Southerners who had never before voted against an important war measure voted to kill the War Production board, the War Labor board, the Office of War Information, the War Shipping administration, the Smaller War Plants Corporation, the Selective Service system, and the rest—only because FEPC had been included, even though by majority vote of Congress.

But FEPC cleared the House by a margin of only four votes. The people had not made their desires sufficiently known. Much remained to be done to ensure passage in the Senate by a vote substantial enough to indicate unquestionably broad and non-partisan support

WANT NEW KIND OF FEPC 8-25-44

And when, scarcely three weeks later, the FEPC appropriation reached the floor of the senate, it was approved by a vote of 38 to 21. The job had been done. A substantial majority in the senate had become convinced that the people wanted FEPC continued (in spite of the fact that the southern opposition reached new lows in deceit and viciousness during a three-day senate filibuster).

Meanwhile, the eyes of the nation—and of Congress—were on the House Labor committee where, during those same crucial three weeks, hearings were being held on the Scanlon-Dawson-LaFollette bill for a Permanent FEPC. Here was the sounding-board of public opinion, and here spokesmen of civic, religious, and labor organizations, comprising millions of voters, were telling the House committee **what kind** of FEPC **they** wanted.

Unanimously they urged that they wanted more than continuation of the present FEPC. They wanted a new kind of FEPC. One with funds enough and power enough to do the job. They wanted an FEPC with **"teeth."**

It was almost inevitable, therefore, that, sensing the temper of America, in its convention a week later the Republican party inserted in its platform a plank calling for the establishment of a Permanent FEPC. And it follows that the Democratic party, under whose administration the FEPC was originated, will naturally include such a plank in its platform at its convention.

The mere establishment of the **principle** is only an opening wedge in the campaign for a Permanent FEPC with **"teeth."** We have only established the beachhead . . . 8-25-44

WHAT THE HOUSE HEARINGS REVEALED

A saga of frustration and insecurity haunting millions of minority-group Americans was dramatically unfolded in the House Labor committee hearings—June 1 through June 16—on the Permanent FEPC bill.

FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross, however, warned the House Labor committee that the Negro is not yet secure in his new gains. "The Negro,' 'he said, "has made practically no advance in any industry which is basic to the peacetime industries."

For Negroes particularly the FEPC has become a vital symbol of democracy in action. Striking evidence of the gains made in Negro employment was contained in a War Manpower commission report that there were 7.2 per cent non-whites employed in war industry in January 1944 in contrast to only 3 per cent in 1941. FEPC helped make this possible.

Even now, though, as all proponents of the bill pointed out—despite the manpower shortage and the efforts of FEPC—discrimination persists because FEPC does not have enough funds to more than scratch the surface, and because FEPC does not have the power to enforce its orders.

DISCRIMINATORY CUTBACKS BEGIN

Already the cutbacks have begun and the handwriting on the wall has become a living reality for Negro workers. As in the past, they were the last hired. And now again they find themselves the first to go. 8-25-44

Several examples which illustrate the trend were related by a Detroit witness, Mrs. Beulah T. Whitby, assistant director of the City of Detroit Interracial commission. We have lifted only one example from her testimony, but is typical: "L. A. Young operates three plants. Plant No. 1 had been manned entirely by colored workers. When they were ready to lay off by seniority they transferred white workers with longer seniority to Plant No. 1 and then began the layoff. By the use of this process all of the layoffs were of Negro workers."

DISCRIMINATION PREVENTS ADVANCEMENT

ing and firing tat discrimination exists. and firing that discrimination exists. Data were submitted to show that Negroes and other minorities—the Mexican-Americans particularly — are often denied training and upgrading opportunities, and equal pay for equal work. Striking examples of such discrimination were included in the testimony of Ernesto Galarza, Chief of the Labor division of the Pan-American union.

Mexicans, as well as Negroes, are restricted to the most menial jobs. "It is not an uncommon experience for Mexican workers," Mr. Galarza told the Labor committee, "to see younger and less experienced men move into the better jobs in spite of the principle of seniority. I have noted cases of Mexicans in oil refineries who receive ten cents an hour less than Anglo-Americans doing the same kind of work." 8-25-44

Mr. Galarza also urged consideration of the international implications of discrimination within this country. The status of people of Mexican origin in this country, he declared, "is the most sensitive test of good neighborly relations between the two countries."

Strong evidence of Mexico's awareness of the situation, and its deep concern, was the recent establishment by the Mexican Chamber of Deputies of a special committee to investigate discrimination against Mexicans in the United States.

South and Central American countries, Mr. Galarza added, "are equally sensitive to the discrimination suffered by the 2,500,000 U. S. citizens of Latin-American descent, "which Axis agents are constantly stressing . . . as a means of stirring up ill feeling on the part of the peoples of Latin-America towards the United States."

The danger of international repercussions was also analyzed by other proponents of the bill, among them Clarence E. Pickett, executive secretary of the American Friends Service committee. Study of Axis propaganda showed, Mr. Pickett reported, that "over and over again, and in hundreds of ways, the Japanese propagandists have said that there is no basis for hope for colored peoples as far as the United States is concerned; that they can expect no justice from us." 8-25-44

They have gone so far, Mr. Pickett added, as to declare that minority Americans who are serving on the battlefields today may, when they come back, have to fight within this country for the rights they fought to establish throughout the world.

The Chinese, too, are sensitive to the discrimination in this country, Mr. Pickett said. Quakers who have been doing relief work in China report that "the treatment of people of color, not just Negroes but orientals as well, in this country, is a matter of profound concern to the Chinese."

Dr. A. W. Taylor To Atlanta FEPC

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
3-18-44

ATLANTA—(ANP)—Dr. Alva W. Taylor, Nashville, public panel member of the fourth regional War Labor board and a public member of industry panels in the wage and hour division of the department of labor, has been appointed to the staff of the FEPC as consultant, it was announced by Bruce A. Hunt, regional FEPC director.

This appointment brings to four the number of professional appointees in the office, the other three being John Hope, 2d, and James H. Tipton, fair practice examiners, and Mr. Hunt. Dr. Taylor is a graduate of Drake university and the University of Chicago. He was formerly professor of social ethics in the schools of religion at the University of Missouri and Vanderbilt university. He has written numerous books and pamphlets on interracial and industrial subjects.

CIO AUTO UNION JOINS DISCRIMINATION FIGHT

Times — New York, N.Y.
9-4-44

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 (AP)—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices and the War Policy Division of the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers (CIO) have signed a working agreement designed to speed "the elimination of un-American discrimination."

The agreement, announced today by Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, and R. J. Thomas, UAW-CIO president, is the first negotiated between the committee and any union.

Under the agreement, the union will cooperate in the settlement of "bona fide complaints of discrimination involving any UAW-CIO officer or a plant in which the union has a local." 9-4-44

The agreement, Messrs. Ross and Thomas said, was expected to be of great benefit to both parties "by speeding the elimination of un-American discrimination which is undeniably harmful to the war effort and to the labor movement."

The War Policy Division of the union will cooperate with FEPC's regional offices in investigations, issue instructions to all UAW-CIO personnel that may be necessary for the observance of the agreement, and confer with FEPC representatives in an effort to adjust satisfactorily all cases brought to the division's attention.

Mr. Ross called the agreement "a great step forward in the American trade union movement which shows an ever growing realization that preservation of the right to work for all men regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin is the keystone to its future healthy existence."

Publisher Finds He Cannot Serve FEPC Further

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
2-22-44

Was An Original Member Appointed On July 1, 1943

By HARRY S. McALPIN
(Washington Bureau of Atlanta Daily WORLD And NNPA)

The resignation of P. B. Young from membership on the Fair Employment Practice Committee was announced Monday by Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee. Mr. Young is president and editor-in-chief of the Norfolk Journal-Guide.

In informing the committee that he had sent his resignation to the president, Mr. Young said it was contrary to his wishes and very much to his regret. He stated that demands of the armed forces and the war effort had drawn so heavily upon irreplaceable members of his staff that he would no longer be able to find the time and energy to devote himself to the work of the committee.

Mr. Young became a member of the FEPC on July 1, 1943, as one of the original seven members appointed by the president under Executive Order 9346. In a letter to Mr. Young, Chairman Ross said "The committee at its last

meeting learned with deep regret that your added responsibilities make it necessary for you to resign. Knowing the difficulties of running a newspaper during war time, we are doubly appreciative of the thoroughness and care with which you have devoted yourself to the problems of the committee. Your offer of continued help to the committee is readily accepted.

Difficulties of travel from Norfolk to Washington are known to have been an additional factor in Mr. Young's decision to resign. Only a few weeks ago, on an intended trip to a committee meeting, he was severely injured when his car skidded on a slippery road. He was unable to make the meeting, and as result of his injuries was hospitalized several days. Train travel to and from Norfolk is uncomfortably slow, requiring longer absences from his office at committee meeting times, and plane priorities of sufficient prestige are impossible to obtain for non-military persons. 2-22-44

It is rumored that another committee resignation may soon be announced.. On good authority, it is understood that Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit Company of New Orleans is seriously contemplating resigning or already has submitted his resignation.

Among names prominently mentioned as successor to Mr. Young are those of P. L. Prattis, executive editor of the Pittsburgh Courier; Carter Wesley, Publisher of the Houston Informer and other papers in Texas and Louisiana; and Archie Alexander, noted builder.

Add Two To FEPC

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-4-44

WASHINGTON—Attorney Chas. H. Houston, who was special counsel for the FEPC in the railroad hearings, and Charles Horn, president of the Twin-City Ordnance company, of Minnesota, have been selected by President Roosevelt to fill membership vacancies on the FEPC, created by the recent resignations of B. B. Young, Sr., and Samuel Zemurray, usually well informed sources here indicated this week.

Meanwhile, the Stacy committee, chosen by the President to recommend to him ways for securing substantial compliance of the railroads with FEPC directives against discrimination, met here last week with representatives of the carriers, the railway labor unions and FEPC officials, to canvass the situation presented by the refusal of the railroads and the unions to obey FEPC orders. 3-4-44

Following three days of negotiations with the parties concerned, Judge Walter P. Stacy, in a statement for the committee of which he is the chairman, declared: "The committee is of the opinion that progress has been made up to the present time and is hopeful that a solution may be reached that will be acceptable to all parties concerned."

The Future Of The FEPC

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

Whether the war ends this year or next year, it is certain that it will end some time. 8-26-44

When the war ends, the Fair Employment Practices Committee which deals with war industries and businesses related to the war will also end, because war contracts will end and the national emergency requiring tremendous war production will also terminate.

This means that business will no longer be required to give Negro workers employment or promotion, and we shall return to the situation obtaining before the President issued Executive Order 8802.

Whether or not there will be a post-war FEPC thus depends upon whether a law is passed making this agency a permanent Governmental fixture.

Bills to this end have been introduced in the U. S. Senate and the House of Representatives.

As now drafted, these bills apply to any employer having more than five workers in his employ, who is engaged in interstate or foreign commerce; or under contract with the United States or any of its agencies; or performing work under sub-contract or otherwise, called for by a contract to which the United States or any agency thereof is a party. It should apply also to labor unions which have five or more members in the employ of one or more employers covered by the preceding points. A commission would be set up to enforce this, and to prevent unfair employment practices. 8-26-44

If such a law should be passed, it would obviously cover all of the important private employers in the United States and all of the labor unions.

Those who are interested in having such a law passed should wire or write to Mrs. Mary T. Norton of the House Labor Committee, Washington, D. C., to speed up the hearings on this bill for a permanent FEPC; while similar appeals should be made to Sen. Dennis Chavez of New Mexico, to hurry up with hearings in the Senate.

Now is the time to fight for the passage of a permanent FEPC law, if it is ever going to be passed.

There will be little chance of passage after the war is over, or even after the November election is over.

In its platform, the Democratic party passes over the question of a permanent FEPC with suspicious silence, the assumption being permitted that President Roosevelt, will "do the right thing"; but how can we be sure?

While the Republican party platform specifically backs a permanent FEPC and promises to work for it, one can never be sure that a party will not go back on its platform promises once it is in office.

Both sides are now desperately wooing the Negro voters because they hold the balance of power, so now is the time for us to press for the passage of a law making the FEPC permanent. 8-26-44

There is not a single minute to lose.

No matter what party wins the election, if the end of the war finds us without a law making the FEPC permanent, we will never get one.

Action, FEPC, Action!

Tribune—Washington, D.C.

One of the chief factors in bringing the Philadelphia Transit Company's Fascist strike to a showdown was immediate, positive action. 8-26-44

This action had its strength in the fact that it emanated from the forthright and uncompromising positon taken by the local FEPC and War Manpower offices, and was backed up by a Presidential order for seizure which brought in the Army under Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes.

Unstinted praise was heaped upon the FEPC and WMC officials for their ethics in refusing to entertain the overtures of Dr. A. A. Mitten, top PTC official, that the Government directive requiring the company to upgrade eight colored workers be withdrawn in the interest of industrial peace.

Following the Philadelphia case, the FEPC went into action with the Los Angeles Railway Company. After a 1-day hearing, the FEPC broke down the company's discrimination policies. Action again.

Now, it would seem, that the scene should shift to Washington. Although WMC Director Eugene V. Connolly, of this area, gave the CTC authority to write its own ticket in employing personnel without referrals of the USES, he must have known that the variety of tricks, double talk, and deception resorted to by the company to avoid working Negroes as busdrivers and motormen did not indicate that the company intended to comply with the nondiscrimination provisions of Section 13 of the Manpower Control Act.

Last week, however, Harry MacAlpin reported that Alexandria Sapiro, CTC personnel director, said (with reservation) that there had been no change in the company policy "during the past year and a half since we last tried to qualify a Negro."

With respect to the company's known policy of discrimination, MacAlpin also disclosed that the WMC has assured "the National Negro Publishers Association that a perodic check will be made to see that the company complies with ceiling and nondiscriminatory provisions, but that until " 'we have some experience, there is nothing we can do but take the company's word.' " 8-26-44

Much as we dislike to say it, it appears that the FEPC is permitting the WMC to pull the wool over its eyes. The namby-pamby tactics of Connolly and the regional WMC office appear to be nothing more than defeatist collaboration with the jimcrow of the CTC.

No new "experience" is needed.

The FEPC can start out here with a clearcut charge of discriminatory discharge. Mrs. Sarah Grayson filed the charge last January when the company fired her on learning she was colored.

It is our belief that the people of Washington want this muddle cleared up with the same kind of forthright action that has characterized the settlement of the Philadelphia and Los Angeles cases. Action, FEPC, action.

251 Cases Are Closed By FEPC

Daily World—Atlanta

10-3-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(S N S) Operational statistics for the Committee on Fair Employment Practice docket-satisfactory adjustments of complaints, in proportion to the total number of cases closed, increased from 10 in September to 22 in August to 22 in September. Of the 283 new cases, 240, or 85 per cent in August to 201 of the 283 new cases, or 71 per cent in September.

Alleged discrimination in hiring because of race, creed or national origin jumped from 8 in August to 21 during September.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, announced Saturday that the increased number of cases closed for cause of discrimination rose from 33.4 per cent in August to 35.5 per cent in September.

The number of cases involving charges of employment discrimination because of race, creed or national origin during the month of September, 1944, and closed 251 cases, the 283 new cases, a slight decrease from the 89.3 per cent for the preceding month. Cases charging discrimination on the basis of creed increased from 14 in August to 22 in September.

Alleged discrimination in hiring because of national origin jumped from 8 in August to 21 during September.

As of October 1, 1944, the Committee had an increase of 41 over the total for September 1, 1944.

Make the FEPC Permanent

The Nation- 7-15-44

Dear Sirs: To those of us who were deeply involved in the struggle to insure continuance of the Fair Employment Practices Committee through Congressional approval of its appropriation for the next fiscal year it is clearly apparent that much of the credit for the favorable Senate vote of last week belongs to the many liberal forces throughout the nation which raised their voices in support of that agency. We know we speak for the millions of minority Americans when we say that by your splendid outspoken editorial of June 10 you contributed greatly to the cause of true democracy.

The FEPC has been granted its appropriation by Congress and has thereby received sanction and backing, but the fact remains that it is still handicapped by its lack of power to enforce its orders. Unless legislation is enacted to make it permanent, it will be abolished when the war ends and the problem of discrimination in employment becomes even more critical. 7-15-44

Awareness of the need for a permanent FEPC was indicated by the fact that even while the Senate was debating the advisability of continuing the present FEPC, the House Labor Committee was holding hearings on the Scanlon-Dawson-La Follette bill to give the FEPC permanent status and authority. Frustration and insecurity, it was demonstrated in these hearings, still haunt millions of minority-group Americans, for although they have made tremendous gains through employment in war industry, they have made practically no advance in any industry which is basic to the peace-time economy. Even when they are now employed, minority Americans, particularly Negroes and Latin Americans, are often denied full union rights, upgrading opportunities, and equal pay for equal work. Walter White, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who had just returned from a tour of the war fronts, told the committee: "Wherever I went the question most frequently asked by Negro soldiers . . . was whether or not Negroes on returning home will continue to be confined to bootblack jobs." And in this country Negroes are already finding themselves the first to go as the cutbacks begin.

As the hearings progress and the people generally become aware of the issues involved in the proposed bill for a permanent FEPC, we hope for clarification of many existing misunderstandings. To the people of North, West, and Midwest one fact, which has already been brought out in the committee investigation, is highly significant. That is the fact that only 10 per cent of the closed cases reported by the present FEPC originated in the eight states of the deep South.

What will the post-war reconversion period mean to the industrial centers of the North, West, and Midwest, where 90 per cent of the cases handled by the present FEPC originated? Gunnar Myrdal in his "An American Dilemma" recalls that "after the [First World] war the homecoming Negro soldier met the suspicion and fears of the Southern whites. In the North their new footholds in industry were contested by anxious white job-seekers in the post-war depression. A wave of lynchings swept the South, and even more bloody race riots swept the North." 7-15-44

Dare we neglect to take every possible precaution to prevent a repetition after this war?

Already representatives of most of the outstanding national civic, church, and union organizations have appeared before the House Labor Committee to urge approval of the Scanlon-Dawson-La Follette bill; and on June 23 an identical bill was introduced in the Senate by a group of six Republican and Democratic Senators. This would indicate that we are justified in our belief that the overwhelming majority of Americans are conscious of the dangers of the post-war period and are looking to their government for leadership in protecting the economic rights of minorities.

ANNA ARNOLD HEDGEMAN
National Executive Secretary, National Council for a Permanent FEPC

Washington, D. C., July 3

Teeth of FEPC Pulled, Southern Solons Aver

Constitution—Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, June 27.—(AP) Restrictive amendments to legislation providing $500,000 for the fair employment practices committee will "severely curtail" its activities, southern Democrats who led the recent congressional fight against the agency declared today.

"The far-reaching effects of the amendments written into the measure by Senator Russell, Democrat, Georgia, were not immediately apparent," Representative Hendricks, Democrat, Florida, said. "But careful study shows they will seriously restrict the FEPC'S operations." 6-28-44

"We may have lost out in denying FEPC funds," House Majority Whip Ramspeck, Democrat, Georgia, told a reporter. "But it looks like we really won our fight by sharply limiting its power and authority."

The amendments were added to the independent offices appropriation bill, which was adopted by congress last week and is now awaiting President Roosevelt's expected signature.

RUSSELL'S EXPLANATION

Senator Russell said his legislation "will not prevent FEPC from making investigations and recommendations, but it specifically prohibits the agency from taking any affirmative or directive action to compel obeyance of its orders."

One provision, the Georgian pointed out, states "no part of the funds herein appropriated shall be used to pay any person employed by FEPC who issues or attempts to enforce any rule, regulations or order which repeals, amends or modifies any law enacted by congress." 6-28-44

Russell said this would require the comptroller general to deny salaries to FEPC workers "if they attempted any action not authorized by congress, such as superimposing in any war contract some requirements of their own regarding proportions of employes." The southerners have contended FEPC has forced employers to accept certain numbers of Negroes in specific positions by requiring adoption of contract clauses providing for such actions. 6-28-44

AMENDMENT DESCRIBED

Another Russell amendment specifies that "no part of this appropriation shall be used to pay the compensation of any person to initiate, investigate or prosecute and proceeding against any person, firm or corporation which may result in the seizure or operation of any plant or other properties of such pesons, firm or corporation." 6-28-44

Russell said this provision "prohibits the government from taking over any firms, such as the railroads, just because they decline to abide by an FEPC order." The southerners have claimed the FEPC threatened to have the President seize 14 southern railroads if they failed to follow its orders regarding employment of Negroes.

Victory for Negroes' Rights in Philadelphia Gives FEPC Lever for Fighting Race Bias

PM's Bureau 7-16-44

By John T. Montoux

WASHINGTON, July 15.—The movement to end race discrimination in this country has won a big battle as a result of Philadelphia Transportation Co.'s capitulation to a directive issued last Nov. 15 by the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) giving Negro employes an opportunity to become motormen, conductors, and drivers on Philadelphia's street cars and buses. 7-16-44

The victory is expected by FEPC officials to have an important bearing on similar situations that have already arisen or which are certain to rise in other cities, including Los Angeles and the Nation's capital itself.

Besides strengthening the hand of the FEPC, the happy ending to the Philadelphia story serves to show up the bogus nature of the opposition and to encourage bona fide labor unions to take a firm stand against discrimination.

Complaints Come In

This Philadelphia case has all those angles, plus a slap at Rep. Howard Smith (D., Va.) for good measure.

The FEPC first became interested in the case about a year ago when it began getting complaints from Negro employes of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. charging that "chaos" and impairment of the city's transportation would result from enforcing that the company refused to upgrade them to motormen or conductors.

But the FEPC chairman, Malcolm Ross, went to Philadelphia to investigate. It issued a final order, advising the company that its contract clause on manpower shortage and expressed a willingness to upgrade without discrimination, but it pointed out that its contract with a so-called independent union, Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employes' Union, provided that "prevailing customs" should remain in effect. The contract had been in effect since 1937. The so-called union explained that it had not been the custom to upgrade Negroes to motormen and conductors, and to change that custom would involve violation of the contract. Both the union and the company made it appear that this was their main concern.

Malcolm Ross

FEPC took the position that the President's Executive Order prohibiting racial discrimination in the filling of war jobs took precedence over the company-union interpretation of the contract. It issued a tentative directive providing for the upgrading of Negroes.

At a hearing in Philadelphia on the proposed order, union officers cried "chaos" and impairment of the city's transportation would result from enforcement of the directive.

While this was going on, the independent union was involved in a

FEPC was unimpressed. final order, advising the company that its contract clause on

union representation contest with the CIO Transport Workers Union and the AFL Amalgamated Assn. of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes. In an election, the independent union based its campaign on "we've kept Negroes off the platforms of Philadelphia transportation."

The AFL union took no public stand. The CIO union favored nondiscrimination. 7-16-44

Final Chapter

Despite the fact that the independent union had twice before won Labor Board elections and despite its claim to a membership of some 6000 of the company's 10,000 employes, it was overwhelmingly defeated by the CIO union, polling only 1815 votes as against the Transport Workers' 4410. The AFL union got about the same number of votes as the independent union.

The election put an end to the independent union's defiance of the FEPC directive and its threats of strikes and chaos.

The final chapter in this story of the fight against race discrimination was written this week when the company posted notices in car barns to the effect that it will accept for employment "all qualified applicants without regard to the applicant's race, creed, color or national origin."

As a face-saver, the company notice explained that its action was taken in compliance with War Manpower's recent order requiring employers to accept qualified applicants referred to them by the U. S. Employment Service.

Ten Railroads For Fascism

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa.

Now we know definitely that ten of the 14 American railroads cited by the Fair Employment Practices Committee for racial discrimination have not the slightest intention of complying with mandatory orders to hire Negroes as firemen, train conductors and yard foremen.

The attorney for the ten railroads, one Sidney Alderman, publicly so stated last week, and Frank Mulholland, counsel for many organizations of railroad workers, concurred. 3-11-44

Worse, these attorneys took occasion to threaten their Government with predictions of strikes, terrorism and sabotage if the railroads were compelled to comply with the FEPC mandate.

Since the FEPC has no legal power to force these ten railroads to introduce democratic methods of employment and promotion, the whole matter would seem to rest there, and the color caste system in the railroad industry will continue through collusion of management and labor.

The system of industrial caste based on color is simply fascism which the American people are offering tens of thousands of lives and spending hundreds of billions of dollars to destroy.

In view of the admitted and obvious shortage of national manpower in a world struggle for survival, the attitude of the ten railroads and the railroad unions is nothing short of sabotage of the war effort, a crime for which hundreds of people have been properly sent to prison for long terms since Pearl Harbor. The FBI, however, will scarcely act in this case.

As we have said many times before, the FEPC is helpless without a strong Federal law to invoke against fascist-minded employers and unions, and such a bill has been introduced in Congress. 3-11-44

All of our efforts should now be devoted to dredging that bill out of committee and forcing a vote upon it as soon as possible.

Solons Sign Petition to Free Permanent FEPC Bill

Tribune - Washington, D.C.

3-11-44

Twelve additional members of the House of Representatives, among them ten from New York City, this week informed the National Negro Congress that they have signed the petition to bring H.R. 1732, the Marcantonio Bill for a permanent Committee on Fair Employment Practice, up for debate and vote.

The total number of signatures now on the petition is not known, since under the rules of the House, no member is permitted to divulge which other members have signed. Among those known to have signed, however, are all the Representatives who have themselves introduced similar measures.

The announcement of Representatives that they have signed the petition came in response to letters to all members of the House from Mrs. Dorothy Funn, legislative representative of the National Negro Congress, urging action.

First Twelve Signers

The first twelve Representatives to inform the Congress that they have signed Petition 18 are:

Charles L. Labollette and Louis Ludlow, Indiana; Emanuel Celler, James Fitzpatrick, Arthur G. Klein, Louis J. Capozzoli, Charles A. Buckley, Walter A. Lynch, Joseph L. Pfeifer, Thomas L. Burchill, Samuel Dickstein, and James J. Heffernan, New York. 3-11-44

Others known through previous announcement to have signed include: John Coffee and Warren Magnusson, Washington; George Bender, Ohio; William Dawson and William Rowan, Illinois; Thomas Scanlon, Pennsylvania; James Fay and Donald O'Toole, New York.

Smith Hears Railroad Challenge FEPC Power

Tribune - Washington, D.C.

3-11-44

Slapped back on their haunches by the "I believe in social equality" declaration of Craig Vincent, War Shipping Board director, in a hearing last week on charges that he forced racial intermingling among ship crews, members of Howard Smith's special House Investigating Committee chose for more agreeable personality on the following day for their diversion—a witness who speaks their own language, Sidney S. Alderman, spokesman for fourteen Southern railroads, challenging authority of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Alderman called the FEPC an impudent tribunal and asserted that some higher power than the FEPC would have to tell the carriers how to upgrade Negro train workers. Near close of 1943, the FEPC ordered the Southern lines to give Negroes equal employment opportunities with whites.

Alderman stated also that the President's naming of a special three-man board to study the issue raised by the refusal of the lines to obey the order, indicates that he does not deem the FEPC directive as binding.

The railroads' counsel also accused Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, of beclouding the situation by his public utterances.

To refreshen memories, here's how the railroads recently evaded the real issue, as well as an illustration of how Mr. Ross put his finger on their evasion:

Railroads Evasive

"It is wholly impracticable, and indeed impossible, for these railroads to put into effect your committee's directives addressed against them.

"Any attempt on their part to comply with those directives, for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors, would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful and co-operative relations with their employees, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present condition of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation and would gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country.

"These railroads cannot assume the responsibility for precipitating such disastrous results. . . 3-11-44

"These railroads are ready at any time to confere with their employees of various crafts and classes to ascertain whether, under the orderly and controlling procedures of the Railway Labor Act, any more generally satisfactory solution of the racial problem of employment can be worked out by mutual agreement."

(In other words, the railroads said to the nation, "Would you like to have black conductors and engineers?" They deliberately ignored FEPC's real complaint that the railroads were trying to get rid of Negro firemen whom they had been hiring for more than a half century. Even Alderman stated at the hearings: "I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the South would interfere with the employment of Negroes as fire men on locomotives.")

Chairman Ross Replied

"The question of preventing Negro railroad workers from being used by the carriers at their top skills is a war problem of the first order.

"Evidence at the FEPC hearing showed a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, this at a time when trained and experienced Negro firemen were unemployed and the carriers were preferring to take on green hands, simply because there has been for years a sometimes tacit and sometimes formal agreement between the railroads and the railroad unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen and give the jobs to white men.

"Racial prejudice is not at issue here. White Southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with Negro firemen. 3-11-44

"The firemen problem, and the problems of up-grading, job assignments and seniority rights of Negroes in the operating divisions and shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings in September.

"The railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings. The carriers made a perfunctory appearance. Their letter now makes a bid for public disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors . . . The carriers complain that its directives were too broad, branding them as "impossible and impracticable." Yet no carriers' move to remedy discrimination was made until these matters were publicly examined. The chance to talk this dilemma through has been present ever since the hearing."

FEPC

Tribune - Washington, D.C.

The President's Fair Employment Practices Committee was created by executive order and financed out of presidential funds. Congress has never given it either an authorization or an appropriation. Presumably, it would cease to exist, therefore, if Congress enacts the Russell amendment forbidding executive transfer of funds to agencies a year or more old unless they have been specifically authorized by Congress. Indeed, this consequence appears to be one of Senator Russell's purposes. We have already expressed editorial approval of the general reform proposed by the Senator. But elimination of the FEPC seems to us an exceedingly unfortunate by-product.

The FEPC was established in the summer of 1941 at a time when Negroes felt keenly resentful of discrimination against their race in war industries. Some of them had projected a "march on Washington" as a form of protest. This explosive demonstration was called off when the President set up the FEPC, which was generally accepted by Negroes as evidence that the Federal Government recognized the justice of their grievances and would take effective steps to remedy them. It cannot be said that the FEPC has been more than moderately effective. Working in an area of deeply entrenched prejudices, it sought patiently to open job opportunities for Negroes. Our manpower shortage and the need for all-out production strengthened the clear logic of its efforts. It did not solve the problem of employment discrimination in the United States; but at least it satisfied Negroes that a solution was being sought. 3-11-44

A year ago the FEPC was rejuvenated and given additional powers. Under the chairmanship of Malcolm Ross it has pressed, still patiently but with fresh vigor, to utilize the skills and energies of Negroes in the war effort. Not long ago it called a number of the country's railroads and certain labor unions to account for their flagrantly discriminatory practices. No doubt this is what has brought down upon the agency the wrath of some Southern Congressmen. From the point of view of the national welfare, indeed from any democratic point of view, it is a wholly misguided wrath. The FEPC is simply trying to bring about a fuller mobilization of the Nation's manpower for war and a fuller realization of the principle of human equality on which the Nation is founded. 3-11-44

It would be genuinely tragic if race prejudice caused the liquidation of this agency. To American Negroes whose loyalty to the United States and devotion to democracy has remained steadfast in the face of bitter deprivations, the FEPC is a vital symbol. To renounce it would be to slam a door upon the legitimate hopes which our American litany has engendered and encouraged.

MAKE FEPC LEGAL

Many of those who have believed that the office of President of the United States carries with it authority equal to that of an absolute monarch are now getting wise to the fact that presidential authority, actually, is held within bounds, just as we were told in the old text books on Civil Government.

Globe + Independent —

It is unfortunate that many of our leaders who allow emotionalism to sweep them off their feet, were not able to calm themselves long enough to read the Constitution. It would have prevented them from by-passing Congress when they sought to put this government on record effectively against racial discrimination in all industries under contract to do war work.

Nashville, Tenn.

Instead of taking the logical and legal step toward eliminating racial discrimination in war industries, colored leaders romped off to Washington and got a Presidential Executive Ortion to foster a Fair Employment Practice Committee. To our emotional leaders it appeared that a Presidential Executive Order was capable of wiping out discrimination. The FEPC, they thought, n e e d e d only to go up and down the country and get facts showing what industries were violating the terms of their government contracts and the President's Executive Order and report them to the President. The FEPC did a good job of investigating and reporting. The fact is, it appears to have been "too good." 3-10-44

The job was so good that congressmen and senators from the backward states, always prepared to invoke the Constitution when doing so enables them to escape just penalties for the rascality of their predatory clients, are pointing out that Presidential Executive Orders are trespassing upon the rights of Congress. They will not, however, make a law outlawing Presidential Executive Orders but will refuse to appropriate money to pay the board and keep of Presidential "leg men" who go about investigating those who disobey these orders. Specifically, the congressmen would destroy FEPC by depriving it of expense money. 3-10-44

Congressmen who realize the ridiculous position the United States is in from its many undemocratic practices should press for the passage of the bill to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee. That would be a bureau that most certainly would deserve existence if Congress continues to spend the taxpayers' money to support the vaudeville show that Martin Dies has on the road.

The Dangerous FEPC

Journal - Atlanta, Ga.

THE SO-CALLED Fair Employment Practice Committee was created by President Roosevelt as a wartime agency with the avowed purpose of promoting full use of the country's manpower and of preventing unjust discrimination, as the Executive order put it, "in the employment of any person in war industries or in government by reason of race, creed, color or national origin." If the FEPC followed these fair professions and thereby served to expedite war production, it would merit hearty praise. If it confined its activities to lawful or reasonable aims and joined common justice with common sense in its procedure, it would not deserve the condemnation of thoughtful Americans. But the FEPC is so misguided that it confuses instead of clarifying the manpower problem, hinders instead of helping war production, and tends to break down instead of upbuilding good relations between the races. 7-12-44

We shall not recount here the long list of the FEPC's unwarranted and sometimes inflammatory acts, but the interested reader can find them set down in the record of Congressional hearings and summarized in a clear and dispassionate speech delivered in the United States Senate on June 16 last by Senator Richard B. Russell, of Georgia. Senator Russell indulged in no unsupported generalities, played upon no sectional prejudices. Calmly he cited the evidence to show that this Executive agency, with the creation of which Congress had nothing to do, "has constituted itself as a quasi court," with the combined functions of prosecutor, jury and judge. It has assumed the power "to dictate the policies of manufacturing concerns, railroads, labor unions and individual citizens." It has asserted the authority "to abrogate a solemn contract entered into between the Government and one of its citizens, if the citizen is not willing to permit the agency to take over his employment policies and direct whom he shall hire and what employes shall or shall not be promoted in his plant."

Senator Russell went at length into the Maryland case, where the FEPC is said to have precipitated a costly strike in a war-production plant by insisting that the same washroom and related conveniences be used by white and colored employes. It appears that the colored people were quite content to have separate facilities equally as good as those provided for the whites, and on this basis the issue could have been promptly and happily settled. But the FEPC ruled thus:

> The Committee takes the position that in the circumstances of this case, where there are frequent and temporary transfers of workers from department to department, such installing of segregated duplicate facilities cannot but lead to discriminatory employment practice. 7-12-44

The Senator also put into the Record a letter from John Hawk, secretary-treasurer and vice president of the Seafarers International Union of North America. It was addressed to the chairman of the special committee of the House to investigate Executive agencies and read in part as follows:

> I consider it an urgent obligation to direct the attention of your committee to a situation which is fast developing to a point where it may hamper the delivery of the cargoes so desperately needed by our fighting forces. I have reference to the arbitrary, dangerous and unrealistic interpretation being applied to the President's Executive order establishing the Fair Employment Practice Committee by a pair of starry-eyed fellow travelers heading the Atlantic Coast division of the recruitment and manning organization of the War Shipping Administration. . . . They are trying to compel the union to abandon a sound and tested policy which has resulted in harmonious relationships between Negro and white members over a period of many years. This policy, which is supported by the more than 2,000 Negroes in our membership, provides for a rotary hiring-hall system, fair and equitable in every way, which enables whites to share ships' quarters with whites and Negroes with Negroes. The Negro members of our union receive the same wages and voting privileges and enjoy precisely the same working conditions as our white members. It is this particular section of the President's order which is being twisted and distorted . . . to conform to certain social reformist theories which they are seeking to experiment with at the expense of the American seamen and the war effort, and in defiance of the sober judgment of practical men who have spent the greater part of their lives in the maritime industry.

Whoever cares for more evidence along the same line will find it in the Congressional Record of June 16, 1944, pages 6103-6120. The cases cited by Senator Russell and his careful dissection of the so-called Fair Employment Practice Committee should be enough to cause any thoughtful American to ponder deeply. The Journal goes farther and respectfully submits that they should be enough to cause the President himself serious concern, for there is no authority except the President's to which this committee is accountable. Though it assumes to exercise legislative and judicial powers, it is apparently beyond the control of Congress and the courts. To whom, then, can we turn for justice against an executive agency which complicates the manpower problem, impedes war production and retards interracial good will, if not to the nation's Chief Executive? This is the President's responsibility. 7-12-44

The peculiar pity of the FEPC's abuse of power is that it hurts most the very people it is supposed to help. The sanest and best minds in the South, with the co-operation of the best and sanest elements among our Negro citizens are moving patiently toward a solution of their common problems. But when a clique of heady doctrinaires, "most ignorant of what they are most assured," strike out for an impossible revolution and propose to burn down the house in order to exploit their social theories and fry their political fat, the South and The Journal say, No.

Whites Demanded Better Conditions For Race Workers

World — Memphis, Tenn.

7-14-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — Quick settlement of a strike involving 500 workers at an Eastern war plant was one of the outstanding adjustments achieved by FEPC during the month of May, Chairman Malcolm Ross revealed today.

The settlement was one of 127 satisfactory adjustments reached during the period May 1 to 31 throughout the country. As of May 31, 1944, the Committee had 2,188 cases pending in its files, an increase of 39 over the April 30 total.

REACH AGREEMENT

The strike settlement, the work of FEPC Field examiners whose aid was requested by the U. S. Conciliation Service, averted a threat of disrupted production caused when some 500 white workers walked out demanding improved opportunities and working conditions for their Negro co-workers. Through conferences with the management, the union and the strikers, the FEPC representatives obtained promises of remedy for most of the complaints and agreement to submit unsettled points to the War Labor Board.

During the month of May the Committee docketed 401 cases and closed 362. In addition to the satisfactory adjustments, 18 cases were withdrawn by complainants, 17 were dismissed for lack of jurisdiction, 42 were closed because of insufficient evidence and 93 were disposed of for various other reasons.

7-14-44

Fourteen of the 401 cases docketed were of origin earlier than the May period, but were reopened and docketed during the month under the FEPC policy of reconsidering complaints when sufficient additional evidence is presented to warrant further action.

MOST INVOLVE RACE

Of the 367 cases docketed during May, 342 involved alleged discrimination because of race. Religious discrimination was featured in 23 cases and national origin bias in a similar number. 7-14-44

Discriminatory refusal to hire was charged in 151 cases. In 54 others refusal to upgrade in violation of teh Executive Order was involved, and 47 complaints alleged discriminatory working conditions.

Most of the adjustments were obtained through direct contact work in the field, Ross said. In a number of cases problems of war production stemming from threatened shortages of labor have been quickly eliminated through the cooperation of all parties concerned in conforming to the non-discrimination policy in employment.

CITE CASES

A few typical adjustments were cited by Ross:

In an iron works on the West Coast, complaints of discriminatory working conditions by Negroes were settled when FEPC representatives conferred with the management and the latter agreed to eliminate the objectionable practices.

The alleged discriminatory firing of two West Coast ship yard workers, referred to FEPC, was settled satisfactorily when the company reinstated the men, after some negotiation.

In the Midwestern refinery, the discharge of a dozen Negro workers, alleged through the device of a written examination on subjects unrelated to their specific jobs was brought to the Committee's attention. Conferences with company representatives resulted in agreement to rehire all of the workers in their former jobs.

7-14-44

A West Coast packing plant's failure to hire two qualified Negro women applicants although in need of such workers formed the basis of another complaint. During conferences with FEPC the company admitted no previous experience with colored women workers and a consequent fear of "trouble." Further conferences which also included the workers at the plant eventually resulted in clearing up of all difficulties and the company has proceeded to hire without regard to race ever since.

FEPC CONSIDERS POLICY ON LAYOFFS OF NEGROES

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Agency Keenly Aware Because Race Last Hired, First Fired

7-23-44

WASHINGTON—(A N P) —Exploratory conversations were begun at the offices of the FEPC last week looking to the establishment of a policy to be pursued toward restraining disproportionate lay-offs among Negro war workers due to cutbacks and the introduction of reconversion programs.

These informal talks, it is learned unofficially, have not yet gone outside of the agency, but ultimately will be extended to include the viewpoints of other agencies which might conceivably have a finger in the matter, notably the War Manpower commission, the war and navy departments, and perhaps the U. . Maritime commission. 7-23-44

FEPC is keenly aware of the saying that the Negro is generally the last hired and the first fired. Because this happens to be the demonstrated case in their own experience, the agency would like some way of altering this tradition and thereby aid Negroes in retaining some of the industrial gains which have been made in the period of the war.

DIFFICULT PROBLEM

One of the ideas advanced at the initial discussions was one which would call upon employers to observe certain agreed quotas in the matter of lay-offs. For example, whereas Negroes may have come into the employ relatively late and so have little seniority, some basis might be found for retaining a number of these workers irrespective of seniority.

Obviously this is an approach which would have to have the sanction of labor unions, which in many instances contol or "police" hirings and firings of all workers. 7-23-44

The problem was also recognized that under such a quota arrangement, other "interest" groups might use the plan as a precedent and push their own claims for "special treatment." Further, because general quotas for the hiring of Negroes were originally deplored and frowned upon, it might well be cause for wonder as to how FEPC could reconcile its acceptance of a quota basis in one instance and reject it in another.

CONSIDER "REABSORPTION"

An unofficial spokesman for the committee also pointed out that the War Production board might well play an important part even now. The suggestion was made that WPB might take into account, when it is about to force employment cutbacks due to contract cancellations, the "reabsorption" qualities of the workes layed off as a factor in determining the final action. 7-23-44

Specifically, where it is fairly obvious that Negroes in a given area are holding jobs won at great expenditure of effort are to be the chief victims of a cut-back because of the reluctance, and in cases the opposition, of other employers to obsorb them, such cutbacks ought not be made except as a final alternative.

The observation was also made that labor turnover may prove an important factor. Whereas turnover among whites has been relatively high, Negroes who have gotten war jobs have held onto them. The result is that their seniority has become higher due to replacements which have come in behind them.

THE POINT OF VIEW

Courier-Journal — Louisville, Ky.
Soldier of Camp Barkley, Texas, appeals for abolition of discrimination in employment
7-8-44

A Call for Fair Treatment

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

Let us prevent further discrimination in employment relations subject to the control by the federal government. Providing privileges and immunities and the right to work without discrimination should be declared a constitutional privilege not to be abridged by any state.

Employers should be forbidden by law to discriminate against any person because of his race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry with respect to the hire, tenure, or terms and conditions of his employment. Labor unions should be forbidden to refuse membership and otherwise to discriminate against any person because of race.

Our Congress is now considering legislation to give permanence to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices. If this action is successful, the government's policy to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin will continue into the postwar period.

I think it is the solemn duty of every Democratic Senator and Congressman immediately without hesitancy to back this plan 100 per cent. The question is vital to the postwar period and to what we are fighting for.

Don't abuse our constitutional right or blacken it with race riots or our own Bloody Monday. Avoid all this by passing this grand bill of our great leaders. Let us abolish discrimination now and in the future and let brotherly love prevail throughout our nation. Whether Republicans or Democrats.

Jayanese-American, Honduran and Jamaican

FEPC Steps on the Gas!

Pittsburgh Courier — New York, N. Y.
7-22-44

Discrimination in employment practices of more than fifty shipyards and other industries call upon them for fair treatment. Our future peace and its foundation will be based upon this just right in which we seek immemorial roads to victory.

Cpl. JAMES E. KAYROUZ.
Camp Barkley, Texas.

New York Regional Office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Edward Lawson, regional director, revealed through intervention of the FEPC as a result of ten months of discrimination involving the majority of operators and labor organizations are now hiring qualified seamen without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin. A public hearing against non-discrimination policy is

7-22-44

New York Regional Office has received ing the maritime industry. Of on was clearly established by adjusted, with the operating whom they had previously re- cases handled alleged discrim- remainder involved Chinese, maican workers.

Restore $500,000 FEPC Item To Bill

Call—Kansas City, Mo

Southern Senators Defeated

Georgia's Russell Fails in Attempt To Kill Committee

6-16-44

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Senator Russell of Georgia tried trickery Saturday, June 10, to remove the FEPC's $500,000 from the War Agencies Appropriation bill but he was out-maneuvered Monday and the item was restored to the budget.

The senate appropriations committee voted 14 to 6 Monday to give the FEPC a half-million dollars on which to operate for a year. The bill now goes to the senate floor where Russell says he will continue his fight to eliminate all funds for the FEPC and thus kill the agency.

Meeting of Committee

Here is the way Senator Russell attempted to eliminate the FEPC from the picture:

On Saturday with the permission of Senator McKellar of Tennessee, acting chairman of the appropriations committee, Russell called a meeting of the sub-committee considering the War Agencies bill. Having had no notice that the sub-committee would meet most of the senators were out of the city. Only two friends of the FEPC were present, Senators Thomas of Oklahoma and Gurney of South Dakota.

Therefore, three Southern senators, Russell, Bankhead of Alabama and Overton of Louisiana were able to eliminate the FEPC item by vote of 3 to 2. Thomas and Gurney voting against the elimination. 6-16-44

Learning of this brazen trickery, the N.A.A.C.P.'s Washington bureau immediately wired 19 non-southern members of the committee pointing out that three opponents of the FEPC had outvoted 10 senators known to favor it. Describing the action of the sub-committee as a "travesty on democratic processes," the wire told the senators that it was imperative that the majority favoring the appropriation attend the meeting of the full appropriations committee Monday and restore the FEPC item to the budget.

Senators Voting

"Whoever fails to vote for the appropriation," the N.A.A.C.P. wire continued, "in person or by proxy declares himself to be an enemy of economic justice for American minorities."

Before the appropriations committee met Monday morning, Leslie Perry of the N.A.A.C.P. bureau, talked with 16 committee members or their secretaries urging that the senators vote for restoration of the FEPC appropriation. 6-16-44

Senator Brooks who was in Illinois immediately wired his proxy favoring the $500,000 appropriation. The motion to override Saturday's action of the sub-committee was carried 14 to 6.

Senators voting to restore the FEPC item were:

Senators voting to restore the FEPC item were: 6-16-44

Ball of Minnesota, Brooks of Illinois (proxy), Burton of Ohio, Chaves of New Mexico, Gurney of South Dakota, Green of Rhode Island, Hayden of Arizona (proxy), Mead of New York, Maloney of Connecticutt (proxy), McCarran of Nevada (proxy), O'Mahoney of Wyoming (proxy), Reed of Kansas, Thomas of Oklahoma, Tydings of Maryland, (proxy).

Voting against the FEPC were: McKeller of Tennessee, Russell of Georgia, Bankhead of Alabama, Overton of Louisiana (proxy), Maybank of South Carolina and Holman of Oregon.

Senators not voting were Bridges, Glass, Nye, Truman and White.

An amendment was passed reducing the salary of the FEPC chairman from $10,000 to $8,000. Russell offered an amendment limiting Negro employes to 25 per cent of the FEPC payroll. When the amendment was defeated, Russell announced bitterly that he would continue his fight against the agency when the bill reaches the senate floor.

Groups Review 1943 Gains in Employment

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.

5-6-44

The second annual report of the Metropolitan Council on Fair Employment Practices, held last Thursday at the American Common, 40 E 40 st, revealed not only current trends in the fight against employment discrimination, but disclosed the unified effort of millions of Americans of many faiths and races engaged in a daily task of combatting one of the most basic and serious evils that endanger American democracy — that of denying minority peoples the right to work.

Although the reports indicated improvement in employment opportunities for Negroes and other minorities, they nevertheless pointed out that there is still a big job to be done in bringing about the fullest utilization of our nation's manpower in time of war.

POOL EXPERIENCE

Ten of the 33 inter-faith and interracial organizations comprising the Metropolitan Council on Fair Employment Practices reported on their work and achievements during the previous year. These reports will be the basis for the May 5th and 6th Conference at which similar organizations from other sections of the country will pool experiences and make plans meeting the national un-American problem of discrimination even more effectively.

5-6-44

Edward Lawson of the FEPC reported that "Negroes are making an increasingly important contribution to the industrial phase of the war effort." He says the WMC records show an increase in the employment of Negroes in war industries from the 1942 estimate of 3% to 7.2% of the 15,000,000 in the United States engaged in the production of ships, planes and guns. Refusal to hire and to upgrade as in the past make up the bulk of reported discriminations to his office. 5-6-44

GAINS IN INDUSTRY

Mr. Lawson's analysis of these unions which still bar Negroes from membership and therefore from vital war work showed that they are relatively few. Out of approximately 200 unions in the United States, 13 bar by constitutional provision, 5 by tacit consent of membership and officers, and 1 by ritual. Nine, according to Mr. Lawson, afford only segregated auxiliary status to Negroes. He pointed out that overcoming these practices is a major task. Mr. Lawson's report showed that major gains in minority groups employment have been in the maritime and railroad industries, in government employment and such essential service activities as hospitals and transportation. Pennsylvania RR will now have Negro dining car stewards, and the B&O will upgrade certain types of workers. Other railroads are making similar agreements. The FEPC report showed 12.5 of the 2,000,000 Federal workers. In 1938 Negroes composed 8.4. Mr. Lawson pointed out that up to a few months ago all but a few hospitals in N.Y.C. employed only white nurses. Today, the report states, 38 hospitals employ Negro nurses, or have signified a willingness to do so. Mr. Lawson's report offsets current fears of serious layoffs in war production. He said this was true only in a few plants.

5-6-44

PV will give a weekly summary of the following ten organizations that reported to the Metropolitan Council: Commission on Economic Discrimination of the American Jewish Congress, Brooklyn Urban League, YMCA, Greater New York Federation of Churches, National Conference of Christians and Jews, National Refugee Service, Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, Federation Employment Service, New York League of Women Shoppers and Vocational Advisory Service.

A Permanent FEPC— Its Friends and Enemies

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.

10-21-44

[EDITORIAL]

[NOTE: Dr. Channing Tobias's sensational revelations at last week's register-to-vote rally for Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in Harlem, emphasize the stake of the Fair Employment Practice Committee in the coming elections. (See page 21). For the guidance of voters, we summarize below the highlights in the hectic career of this hard-fought federal agency. From the following record, it is perfectly clear who are the true friends and the real enemies of FEPC.—Editors.]

SUMMER 1941

The Situation: Negroes were being barred from newly opened jobs in war production.

What Roosevelt Did: President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802 creating FEPC, and financed it out of his own budget. This was the first time in history a federal agency was set up to combat racial discrimination in employment.

What Dewey-Republicans Did: Nothing. 10-21-44

FALL 1943

The Situation: Comptroller General Warren ruled that FEPC was not a "war agency" which need not be followed.

What Roosevelt Did: President (Ga.) introduced an amendment to kill FEPC as a non-statutory agency unauthorized by Congress. Roosevelt reversed Warren's ruling, and declared that FEPC agency unauthorized by Congress. directives were mere "advisory opinions" which must be obeyed.

What Dewey-Republicans Did: Nothing. 10-21-44

SPRING 1944

The Situation: Senator Russell (Ga.) introduced an amendment to kill FEPC as a non-statutory agency unauthorized by Congress. Roosevelt reversed Warren's ruling, and declared that FEPC agency unauthorized by Congress. directives were mere "advisory opinions" which must be obeyed.

What Roosevelt Did: President

FALL 1943

The Situation: Comptroller Gen

What Dewey-Republicans Did:

SPRING 1944

The Situation: Senator Russell

What Roosevelt Did: President

SPRING 1942

The Situation: WMC Commis-

Roosevelt recommended a congressional appropriation of $500,000 for FEPC and fought hard until (with a small reduction) it was approved.

What Dewey-Republicans Did: House Republicans joined hands with anti-Roosevelt southern Democrats to defeat the FEPC appropriation — until Representative Marcantonio forced a record vote, causing the Republicans to run for cover. . . . Governor Dewey killed the Wicks bills for a New York State "FEPC."

FALL 1944

The Situation: The Philadelphia transit strike threatened to block FEPC's order for the upgrading of eight Negro workers, and thus to destroy the authority of the Committee (while the President was again out of the country).

What Roosevelt Did: From way out in the Pacific, President Roosevelt ordered the U.S. Army to enter Philadelphia and enforce FEPC's directive. The strike was broken, and the Negro motormen and conductors held their new jobs.

What Dewey-Republicans Did: The Republican Mayor of Philadelphia said or did nothing to stop this race-hate, anti-war transit strike. . . . The Republican Governor of Pennsylvania said or did nothing. . . . Governor Dewey and all other GOP governors, then meeting in St. Louis, said not one word in support of FEPC or against the strike

A PERMANENT FEPC

Both Presidential candidates have expressed themselves recently on the issue of a permanent Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

● President Roosevelt, in conference with Negro leaders at the White House, recalled that he "invented" FEPC and had fought hard to keep operating. He made clear his determination to make FEPC permanent;

● Governor Dewey, speaking in Seattle, said he was in favor of a permanent FEPC—but care was taken to leave this statement out of the press releases the Republicans sent to southern newspapers.

We agree with Dr. Channing Tobias, who declared: "I say we cannot trust this man (Dewey) to administer a permanent FEPC law if it is passed."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S "DEEDS" MEAN MUCH MORE FOR A PERMANENT FEPC THAN DO CANDIDATE DEWEY'S DOUBLE-TALKING (for use in the North only) "WORDS."

Hearings on State FEPC Drawing Wide Interest

Unusual interest is being demonstrated in the hearings on proposed state legislation against bias in employment, to be held by the New York State Commission against Discrimination in New York City Dec. 4, 5 and 6, the Daily Worker learned yesterday.

More than 250 representatives of religious and racial, trade union social, fraternal and good-will groups will be present at the Bar Association, 42 W. 44th St., to plead the case against bias in jobs.

Outstanding response is also reported to hearings to be held in four major upstate cities, beginning Monday in Albany in the Assembly Chambers in the State Capitol. Other hearings will be held in Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo.

PROPOSSED LAW OUTLINED

The proposed legislation provides for a Discrimination Division—a State FEPC—as an executive department under the Governor.

It would make it illegal:

1. For an employer to discriminate in employment or in conditions of employment because of race, color or national origin.

2. For a labor organization to exclude or expel from membership or discriminate in any other way against anyone.

3. For an employer or employment agency to discriminate against anyone who files a complaint or testifies concerning discrimination.

A full-time commission of five members empowered to investigate complaints and order corrections of illegal bias, is provided for in the measure. If the discrimination continues, the commission may go to the Supreme Court for an order compelling compliance. The commission is also empowered to set up community advisory councils to study bias problems in "all or specific fields of human relationships."

The present measure, considerably watered down, differs from the Wicks proposals in two important respects. The first measure carried a specific penalty for violation of the Commission's order of a $5,000 fine or a year in jail. The present measure fails to do so. The Wicks measure likewise banned bias in all fields, whereas the current measure is confined to jobs only.

Hearing Schedule On FEPC for State

Hearings on proposed legislation against discrimination in employment will be held by the New York State Commission Against Discrimination on:

Nov. 27 — Albany, Assembly Chambers, State Capitol.

Nov. 28 — Syracuse, Council Chambers, City Hall.

Nov. 29 — Rochester, Council Chambers, City Hall.

Nov. 30 — Buffalo, Council Chambers, City Hall.

Dec. 4, 5, 6 — New York City, Bar Association, 42 W. 44 St. All hearings will open at 10 a. m.

FEPC Measure Gets Hearing But Early Passage Doubtful

PM's

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—The House Committee on Labor, headed by Rep. Mary Norton (D., N. J.) today continues hearings on a bill establishing a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission.

Mary Norton

Asserting that "no opponents of the bill have asked to be heard," Committee spokesmen disclosed that today's witnesses include Robert S. Beach of the National Assn. of Building Owners and Managers, as well as spokesmen for the United Electrical and Radio Workers, and the United Canning, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers, both CIO.

Legislation for a permanent FEPC was rushed out by the Senate Education and Labor Committee and placed in line on the Senate calendar just before the pre-election recess. The Senate measure, authored by Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.) probably will not be acted on in this session, however. Chavez is not expected to return to Washington until Dec. 1. Chairman Elbert Thomas, whose Committee reported the bill, will not be at the Capital until next week. If the measure dies with this Congress, it must go through processing in committee and eventually take its place on the calendar of the 79th Congress.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Norton expressed the hope that if her Committee completes hearings on the bill this week, the House will take action before Dec. 10—the date on which the present Congress hopes to clean up and go home.

Both Houses of Congress will have to act, however, if the bill is to become law in this session.

America of racial and religious prejudice, and to build a post-war era of opportunity and security."

JOHNSON JOINS UP

Bishop Wright, a distinguished scholar, is former president of Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, Ohio, and a bishop in the AME Church.

Hillman also announced that Dr. Charles S. Johnson, director of the department of social sciences at Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., has joined National Citizens PAC.

Dr. Johnson directs the race relations division of the Julius Rosenwald Fund and the American Missionary Association.

Bishop Wright Vice Chairman Of PAC; Charles S. Johnson Member

NEW YORK CITY—Acceptance by Bishop R. R. Wright Jr., executive secretary of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, of the position of vice-chairman of the National Citizens Political Action Committee was announced by PAC Chairman Sidney Hillman here last week.

Hillman said that the addition of Bishop Wright to the committee would mean "new strength for PAC's fight to free

A Permanent FEPC

THE House Labor Committee has approved the La Follette-Scanlon-Dawson Bill giving permanent statutory basis to the President's Committee of Fair Employment Practices. In a dramatic session the City Council of New York unanimously endorsed a resolution asking Congress to support a permanent FEPC. This resolution was identical with the resolution originally introduced by Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. In Syracuse New York ALP and CIO spokesmen joined with other groups in urging strengthening of two state anti-discrimination bills.

These are important steps in the right direction. They must be backed by all labor and progressive forces and people's organizations. The hearings on the New York bills must be participated in because there are powerful forces who showed during the election that they will block every such measure designed to strengthen national unity.

The Globe Trotter

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga. 7-2-44

Taking Nothing From Nothing

By Cliff Mackay

THE POLL TAX SENATORS, though losing their bitter and demagogic fight to kill the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice by denying it funds, nevertheless are clapping their hands with glee over the successful insertion in the appropriations measure of three amendments. But their applause might be slightly premature.

These amendments were introduced by Georgia's Richard B. Russell, whose arguments revealed his belief that it is perfectly proper and just for Negroes to fight and die for America, and still be denied the chance to work for America. They were what was left out of six cleverly-worded phrases designed to completely emasculate the FEPC, just in case the battle to get rid of the agency once and for all was lost.

MACKAY

THREE REMAIN

The amendments held that (1) Persons found guilty of discrimination under the President's Executive Order were to be given the right to appeal to the President before the FEPC order to cease and desist from discrimination is binding upon them; (2) The committee is prevented from violating any act of Congress; and (3) The committee is prohibited from engaging in any activity which might result in plant seizure for failure of a defendant to abide by FEPC orders.

Russell and his poll-tax cohorts, Bilbo of Mississippi, McKellar of Tennessee and McClellan of Arkansas are patting each other on the back for having been successful in getting these tacked on the bill, and Georgia's junior senator last week went so far as to release to the press a statement virtually boasting that the FEPC would no longer be effective in interfering with the South's sacred traditions.

But a careful study of the President's Executive Order which created the committee discloses that Mr. Russell was actually erecting a straw man with which to do battle. In truth, the FEPC has never enjoyed any of the powers which the Georgia senator worked so hard to remove. His amendments are akin to trying to remove teeth from an already toothless lion. A third grade child knows that nothing from nothing leaves the inevitable nothing, event if Mr. Russell, so blinded by prejudice and intolerance, can't see it.

WASTED MOTION

The first amendment granting to discriminating employers the right to appeal to the President before obeying the FEPC order merely reaffirms a right they already enjoyed. Congressional action to affirm it was just so much wasted motion. Of all the thousands of cases acted upon by the FEPC since its creation in 1941 only two have been referred to the President. One was the Boilermakers' case on the West coast, the other came as a result of the railroad hearings. 7-2-44

Neither of these two defendants were denied the right to appeal to the President. In fact they did so, with the Boilermakers seeking to circumvent the directive by setting up auxiliary unions and the railroads having their case turned over to another committee, thus further delaying compliance.

Certainly this amendment will take nothing from the FEPC and should cause not a ripple of concern among those whose duty it is to enforce the executive order.

The second amendment dealing with "amending or modifying any act of Congress" is supposed to remove from war contracts stipulations that certain percentages of the contractor's employees must be Negroes. Again this fails to effect the FEPC which has no such powers. The agency issuing the contract, seeking to carry out the spirit of the administration's non-discrimination policy makes this stipulation. So amendment number two adds up to nothing.

MEANINGLESS GESTURE

The third, prohibiting the committee from "engaging in any activity which might result in plant seizure is another meaningless amendment which could have been written only by a person ignorant of the history of the FEPC or who choses to place a twisted interpretation on the work it is attempting to do.

The FEPC from its inception has not depended upon force to bring about compliance with its directives. It, instead, has depended solely on an enlightened public opinion exerting the necessary pressure to see that justice is done. Its investigations and examiners have gathered the facts, presented the evidence and relied upon an America fighting a global war for justice and democracy to see the dire necessity of making real these two war objectives to all Americans

Certainly Mr. Russell's amendments, no matter how evil were his intentions in introducing them, fail to interfere with this noble FEPC endeavor. 7-2-44

MUST GET BUSY

But the progressive forces in America and in Congress who made FEPC possible and who have just saved it from a premature death, have no time to sit back and congratulate themselves. The senate's 38-21 vote merely gave the agency a twelve months' breathing spell. Next year the reactionaries will be more determined and will again gang up in their unholy alliance to completely destroy this agency seeking to make economic opportunity more than mere words.

The bitter fight the agency has just gone through, should serve full notice to all who truly believe in, not merely give lip service to all America stands for, that immediate and unequivocable support must be given the Scanlon-Dawson-La-Follette bill and its senate companion, the Chavez bill creating a permanent FEPC.

Only by enactment of these bills can America promising freedom from want to the rest of the world, make it a living fact for thirteen millions of her own citizens.

Forum Of The People

Age-Herald-Birmingham, Ala.
FOR A PERMANENT FEPC

To Editor The Age-Herald:

To those of us who were deeply involved in the struggle to insure continuance of FEPC through congressional approval of its appropriation for the next fiscal year, it is clearly apparent that much of the credit for the favorable Senate vote of last week belongs to the many liberal forces throughout the nation who raised their voices in support of the principle of governmental action to protect minorities against discrimination in war employment. 7-1-44

We know we speak for the millions of minority Americans when we say that by expressing your awareness that "the general purpose underlying it (FEPC) is sound," in your editorial of May 26, you contributed greatly to the cause of true democracy.

FEPC has been granted its appropriation by Congress, and has thereby received congressional authority and backing, but the fact remains that it still is handicapped by its lack of power to enforce its orders, and unless legislation is enacted to make it permanent, it will be abolished when the war ends and the problem of discrimination in employment becomes even more critical.

Awareness of the need for a permanent FEPC was indicated by the fact that even while the Senate was debating the advisability of continuing the present FEPC, the House labor committee was holding hearings on the Scanlon-Dawson- La Follette bill to give FEPC permanent status and authority. Frustration and insecurity, it was demonstrated in these hearings, still taunt millions of minority group Americans, for although they have made tremendous gains through employment in war industry, they have made practically no advance in any industry which is basic to the peacetime economy. Even where they are not employed, minority Americans, particularly Negroes and Latin-Americans, are often denied full union rights, upgrading opportunities and equal pay for equal work. And already minorities are finding themselves the first to go as the cutbacks begin.

As the hearings progress and the people generally become aware of the issues involved in the proposed bill for a permanent FEPC we hope for clarification of many existing misunderstandings. Primarily it should be understood that governmental action to prevent discrimination in employment no more involves social relationships than does the wages and hours law, or the national labor relations act. 7-1-44

To the people of the South one fact which has already been brought out in the committee investigation is highly significant. That is the fact that only 10 per cent of the closed cases reported by the present FEPC originated in the eight states of the Deep South. The Negro is the traditional worker of the South, and it is not surprising that FEPC has not had many complaints of actual denial of war employment to him there. Nevertheless, there are problems of training and placement in skilled jobs which still remain to be solved, and as for the postwar period, we know that many Southerners believe that in the interest of the future industrial good health of the South, some means should be found to raise the general level of consumer prosperity. One effective way would be to insure the fullest possible use of all the craft skills the region owns. 7-1-44

Already representatives of most of the outstanding national civic, church and union organizations have appeared before the House labor committee to urge approval of the Scanlon-Dawson-La Follette bill; and on June 23 an identical bill was introduced in the Senate by a group of Republican and Democratic senators. This would indicate that we are justified in our belief that the overwhelming majority of Americans are convinced that race, color, creed or national origin should not be a barrier to employment and to fullest utilization of the skills of the individual.

We believe that, by calling these facts to the attention of your readers, you will be performing another great service in the cause of economic democracy.

ANNA ARNOLD HEDGEMAN,
National Council for Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee.
Washington, D. C., June 26, 1944.

$11,000 Pledged to Push Permanent FEPC Bill

4-26 American-Bulletin, Mo.
3-4-44

Nearly $5,000 Paid

WASHINGTON — To date, $4,976.28 has been received. Mrs. Stark stated that a

Over $11,000 has been subscribed by trade unions to support the national appeal for funds to raise work of the National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission, according to a report released last week by Mrs. Alice Stark, council secretary.

This included the following pledges: International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, AFL, $5,000; Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, $5,000; Textile Workers of America, CIO, $400; United Retail, Wholesale and Dept. Store Employees, CIO, $1,000, and United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers, Jt. Bd, AFL, $150.

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, $5,000; Knight Chalmers, of Broadway Tabernacle Church, are co-chairmen of the council which now has headquarters here at 1410 H. Street, Northwest.

The report stated that Senators Capper (R., Kans.), Gillette (D., Iowa), Ferguson (R., Mich.) Downey (D., Cal.), and Langer (R., N. Dak.) have already committed themselves to sponsoring the introducing of the bill in the Senate.

3-4-44

They Direct FEPC Investigations

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 3-4-44

Above is the first group picture of FEPC regional directors, taken when they were assembled for a conference recently. OWI suppressed the picture for more than three weeks. They are, left to right, (seated) Roy A. Hogland, Joseph H. B. Evans, Leonard Brin, W. T. McKnight, Eugene Davidson, Theodore Jones, George W. Johnson, Chairman Malcolm Ross, William Maslow, Clarence Mitchell, E. W. Henderson, A. B. Hunt, and James G. Fleming; (standing, rear) Edmond H. Lawson, H. L Kingman and Frank E. Hook.

Progress Cited in Rail-FEPC Probe

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Judge Walter P. Stacy, chairman of a special railroad employment committee appointed by President Roosevelt, issued the following statement last week:

"The special committee appointed by the President to consider the cases of discrimination in the railroad industry, referred to him by the Fair Employment Practice Committee, has been in conference with the railroads and unions involved and with representatives of FEPC. The investigation is proceeding.

"It will require some little time to complete the matter. The course being followed after three days of conferences and discussions in Washington this week has the approval of the railroads, the unions and the chairman and counsel of FEPC. 3-4-44

Believes Progress Made

"The committee is of the opinion that progress has been made up to the present time and is hopeful that a solution may be reached that will be acceptable to all parties concerned."

Other members of the committee include Judge William H. Holly of the U. S. District Court, Chicago, and Mayor Frank J. Lausche of Cleveland, O. Judge Stacy, of Raleigh, N.C., is chief justice of the Supreme Court of North Caro-

Saved By Narrow Margin

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

The narrow margin by which the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices was saved last Tuesday in the United States Senate, serves to emphasize the severe opposition it has and must continue to encounter from the forces of reaction and intense economic greed in the nation. 6-25-44.

Refusing to go alone with Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia, arch foe of the agency, the Senate voted 38 to 21 to save the FEPC by giving to it an official status as part of the regular war agencies appropriation bill with the vital half-million dollars necessary for its continued operation. The Senate, however, did support and uphold three crippling amendments by Senator Russell which would (1) prohibit use of the $500,000 appropriation to pay the salaries of any person on any staff who "initates, investigates or otherwise work on any complaint where the person accused of discriminating does not have the right to appeal any ruling to the president; (2) violate any act of Congress by orders of directives or recommendations of the FEPC;(3) work on any case which might result in seizure of the plant by federal authorities."

Whether the joint Committee of the House and Senate will accept Russell's amendments or just what effects they will have upon the effective operation of the FEPC, we are unable to know at this time. Nevertheless, Negroes and other minorities in the nation may be comforted in part by the fact that the agency was at least retained, in spite of the shocking and shameful opposition which has come to the measure from men who should never need to be told of their indispensable and clear duty to see to it that all groups in our nation should be given the right to work and be compensated for their work regardless to their racial or religious affiliations. 6-25-44

It is in the first instance a sad commentary upon the nation that the creation of such an agency was ever necessary in order to secure and safeguard minority groups from industrial exploitation and discrimination. But the plain fact is that minority groups have and continue to be denied their proper and honest place in our economic scheme. The practice of the railroads and their bland admission of gross discrimination against Negroes and other minorities, proves the point. There are hundreds upon hundreds of other examples. And the great pity is that they are permitted to defy their government and continue their customs of treating workers as they choose. Maybe yet the government must bring itself around to the matter of getting tough enough at least to serve notice on all such recalcitrants that it means to enforce its directives and that no son will ever get so big and powerful as to ignore his father's orders.

World Telegram — New York, N.Y.

Urging Support for Fair Employment Committee.

By Alfred Baker Lewis. 6-13-44

A measure which is very important for the morale of our Negro fellow citizens is the appropriation of $500,000 for the Fair Employment Practice Committee, the government agency set up by President Roosevelt to prevent discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or religion, in the employment policies of war industries. 6-13-44

The appropriation, tiny though it is compared with the total war expenditures, is being fought by some of the anti-New Deal forces among the southern Democrats, in alliance, I am sorry to say, with some northern Republicans. The measure is now before the Senate Appropriations Committee. If the efforts to knock it out of the Appropriations bill now before that committee prove successful, Negro morale will suffer a severe blow.

Progressive persons should also give support to the bi-partisan measure now under consideration by the House Labor Committee for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee to stop discrimination in job opportunities as a permanent peacetime policy.

Such a measure is necessary unless we are willing to continue giving the lie to our boast that our country is a land of equal opportunity.

Manhattan.

The Battle of Washington, III

Fight on FEPC Shaping Up

PM — New York, N.Y. 7-9-44

By NATHAN ROBERTSON
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 8.—One of the major legislative battles shaping up for the return of Congress is over the creation of a permanent FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee.)

Regardless of what the Democrats do about this issue in their national platform they will not be able to escape facing it because hearings already are scheduled to resume on the permanent FEPC bill as soon as Congress returns. A nationwide drive is now under way to line up support for the measure and the Republican platform has endorsed it.

The campaign for the bill is headed by a National Council for a Permanent FEPC, with Sens. Arthur Capper (R., Kans.) and Robert F. Wagner (D., N. Y.) as honorary chairmen.

A report just issued by the National Council hailed the action of Congress in voting funds for the temporary FEPC as a "signal victory" for "the principle of Federal action to prevent discrimination in employment." But the Council added:

"We want a permanent FEPC with 'teeth.' That means we now enter the most significant and important phase of our campaign.

The bill for a permanent FEPC was introduced in the House by Reps. Thomas E. Scanlon (D., Pa.), William L. Dawson (D., Ill.), and Charles LaFollette (R., Ind.). It was introduced in the Senate by Sens. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.), Sheridan Downey (D., Calif.), James E. Murray (D., Mont.), William Langer (R., N. D.), and Wagner and Capper.

Before Congress adjourned the House Labor Committee held three weeks of hearings on the measure at which it was supported by civic, religious and labor groups.

Capper

Fight For FEPC Funds

The Fair Employment Practices Committee is applying for $585,000 to carry on its work, and because it is the one Federal agency making an effort to eliminate America's curse of the color bar in employment, every American who loves his country and loves fair play will do everything he can to block any effort on the part of Negrophobes and reactionaries in Washington to hold up this FEPC budget.

All of us are distressingly aware that the FEPC has fallen short of being a success, but those acquainted with the numerous handicaps under which it started and has continued its work will be the first to concede that the committee has had a wholesome effect on general industrial employment practice, even though it was able to wield only moral force.

That certain elements in our Government regard the work of the FEPC as dangerous precedent is seen in the many attempts made to kill it off, the latest of which is headed by Senator Russell of (of course!) Georgia, who wants to "wipe out the Fair Employment Practices Committee" through his amendment to the Independent Offices Bill.

This danger will always be present as long as there are people like Senator Russell in this country and especially having authority in Washington.

To guard against the efforts of this element, lovers of fairplay must not only fight for the FEPC budget, but go much farther and work for the passage of a Federal law punishing severely those discriminating against citizens because of color, creed or nationality . . . thus giving the FEPC a real cudgel to work with instead of mere moral force.

There is a certain element in this country which has no intention of playing fair where the Negro and the Jew are concerned, and the only thing that element respects is force.

FRIDAY MOR ING, S. TEMBER 22,

FEPC LIMITATIONS

Globe Independent

This newspaper belongs to that small minority of realists who have never worked up an unnecessary amount of confidence in the wonders that can be performed for the Negro race with a Fair Employment Practices Committee. We have contended all along that all that has been accomplished in getting jobs for Negroes in industries operating under government contracts could have been accomplished just as effectively by the U. S. Department of Justice, thus making it unnecessary to add any more tax-eaters to the Federal payroll.

Industrialists who signed Government contracts, which stipulated they were not to practice race discrimination in hiring workers to do Government work, would have paid more attention to policing done by the FBI, we hold, than to any policing done by the traveling delegates of the FEPC.

We, however, are strong for a Federally-enacted FEPC because that is the way to have an agency with power and authority. Also, such an agency would very logically begin its work right in Washington, among departments and bureaus there. There is plenty race discrimination going on at the Nation's Capital. As long as it continues, industrialists will have a good excuse to follow the example of Uncle Sam and indulge to their heart's satisfaction in employing workers with due regard for their "race, color, religion and national origin."

We hope some of the FEPC enthusiasts will get wise to the fact that even a Federal statute, setting up such an agency, will not have authority to regulate the employment of persons in private industry. That is, if the American system of "free enterprise" accidentally survives the attack being made upon it by the totaliarians now seeking to move in and take over the American government.

We have many business enterprises operated by Negroes. The owners of these concerns—even those who yell loud for an FEPC—would invoke the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Golden Rule and what not, if any Government snooper came around and told them they did not have any white workers, or Chinese workers on the premises and they must hire some or go to jail.

Assuming that "free enterprise" is likely to remain with us in the post-war period, it would behoove Negroes religiously to make good on the jobs they now have—perform all the tasks they have so efficiently, so punctually and with such a show of good manners as to make themselves the most desirable workers obtainable in that period, so to come, when the supply of workers be far greater than the demand.

9-22-44

Move Pushed for Permanent FEPC

PHILADELPHIA. — The creation of a Pennsylvania Fair Employment Practices C[illegible]ion is being proposed to the legislature by the Ten[illegible] Commission on the Conditions of the Urban Colored Population. This is an official body, set up and financed by the legislature, and authorized to submit proposals for laws to it.

The public meeting in Philadelphia last Thursday to consider the proposed FEPC, and 28 other legislative recommendations, is one of a number of similar meetings to be held in other cities to win public support for the Commission's program. (It will be sent on request to the Commission's office at 524 South 16 St.) It includes, under Housing, the enactment of a uniform statewide housing and sanitation code, and proposals for low-cost public housing. Under Health, extension of state-owned medical facilities to provide medical care on a basis of need. Under Education, withdrawals of textbooks which misrepresent any racial, national, cultural, or religious group. We have selected these few examples out of the 29 proposed laws to indicate the new world that the passage of this entire program would allow to emerge in Pennsylvania.

WIDE COVERAGE

The state FEPC is naturally the spearhead of the proposed laws; along with it goes the outlawing of discrimination, not only in jobs, but in schools, recreation, hospitals, and many other fields. Ant the outlawing applies to religious and foreign-born discrimination as well as to Negroes.

It is clear that while developed ness men should understand that this is not a Negro program, but an American program for all the people. Not only because the proposed laws will affect all the people, but the opportunity of working to obtain public support for its passage.

White workers, and white busi- because the particular problems of the Negro people are everybody's problems.

12-10-44

PASTOR TAKES JOB OF BRUCE ON FEPC

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9—(AP)—Malcolm Ross, chairman of the president's committee on fair employment practices, announced Thursday that Southeastern Regional Director A. Bruce Hunt is being promoted to fill a newly-created position as western counsel to the committee.

Bruce will be succeeded as regional director by Dr. Witherspoon Dodge, who has been serving as field representative of the Office of Labor Production of WPB in Jacksonville, Fla., and Birmingham, Ala.

Dr. Dodge was formerly southern representative of the Textile Workers Union of America (CIO). A native of Jacksonville, he is a graduate of Davidson College in North Carolina and of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va. He has served several pastorates in Presbyterian and Congregational churches in South Carolina and Georgia.

PRESS COMMENT

To Safeguard Negro Gains

Weekly — New Orleans, La.
8-19-44

An Editorial in New York Tribune, July 25, 1944

THE Negro's participation in war production has grown steadily, according to statistics of the War Manpower Commission. Since the fall of 1942 the percentage of non-whites employed in munitions industries, such as shipbuilding and aircraft production, has risen 4.6 per cent to the present 7.3 per cent. However, several factors are causing concern among Negroes regarding the prospect of maintaining these gains in the post-war period. Their employment progress in industries less concerned with war has not been so rapid: only 3.5 per cent of employees in textile mills are non-whites, 3.1 per cent in utilities and 1.1 per cent in communications. They recognize that such progress as has been made is, in great part, due to manpower shortages, and that a period of less than full employment, such as the cancellation of war plants will doubtless bring, usually means a disproportionate number of Negroes unemployed.

8-19-44

To help secure the gains, the Republican platform calls for the establishment by Federal legislation of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee. Negroes value the aid which the President's committee, backed by an anti-discrimintaion clause in government contracts, has been able to give them. For their hope is that once the Negro is accepted in industrial organizations he may, by proving his worth, gradually overcome prejudices which have long hampered his porgress. Therefore, a cogent reason for their concern over future prospects is the fact that everything about the present F. E. P. C. is temporary and indefinite. It is an executive agency never legally constituted by Congress. Its powers rest solely on the President's vague war-time powers, subject to court interpretation in some distant day. It was at first financed out of the President's emergency funds, but in June of this year, after bitter debate over limitation of powers Congress had never attempted to define, Congress included an appropriation for it in the national war agencies bill. 8-19-44

The point we would make here is that grudging countenance given by Congress to a temporary executive agency does not provide an effective means for securing a greater measure of economic justice for Negroes. Congress should itself establish an agency to safeguard the Negro's opportunity to prove himself, now when manpower is in demand. In view of the intransigeance of Southern opposition, probably only a Republican Congress will be able to do that.

The Railroads And Fair Employment Practice

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

THE U. S. railroads, despite labor and employment shortages, have performed well a herculean task in advancing the war effort. In this performance the Southeastern railroads have shared.

3-18-44

But the Southeastern railroads — through their spokesmen — rendered a disservice to democracy and did violence to a long-established custom, when in 1941, they entered into an agreement with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen to discontinue the employment of Negroes as firemen. Similar agreements entered into barred by gradual elimination the employment of Negro brakemen.

At the peak of the war effort the railroads were found — by their own figures — to be short 850 locomotive firemen. So acute was the shortage that Defense Transportation Administrator Eastman, advised the use of war prisoners and women.

Then the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice entered the picture to hear complaints against the railroads which had been filed by discharged Negro firemen and brakemen. The interest of the FEPC was in the fullest possible utilization of the Nation's available manpower in the war effort, as its discretion is limited to workers in war industries.

3-18-44

Following hearings which lasted four days the FEPC found that both the railroads and the Brotherhoods discriminated against Negro firemen and brakemen through the device of an amazingly worded agreement which stipulated that "only promotable men" could be employed by the railroads as firemen and brakemen, and defining a promotable firemen or brakeman as a "white man."

This agreement the FEPC attacked by issuing a directive (a recommendation) that the agreement be revoked and re-negotiated in the interest of the war effort.

The unions, or brotherhoods, remained silent. They ignored the hearings. But the railroads were represented at the hearings by counsel. At the conclusion of the hearings, Mr. Sidney Aulderman, of Washington, speaking as leading counsel for the railroads, arose and stated that the railroads admitted the discrimination, were powerless to prevent it, and thanked the FEPC for the "high plane on which the hearings were conducted."

3-18-44

Then followed chapter two of the drama. Upon receipt of the findings and directives of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, the railroads, still speaking through counsel, bluntly stated that they would not obey the directives, and proceeded to raise the question of social equality, based upon the alleged intention of FEPC to direct (or recommend) the employment of Negroes as locomotive engineers and conductors, logical promotions from the jobs of firemen and brakemen, but promotions made under strict control of the railroads and the unions. The railroads, through their attorneys, dodged 98 per cent of the real issue — which was the re-employment of discharged Negro firemen and brakemen — and seized upon and exploited the fictitious issue involving the possible employment of engineers and conductors, an issue which had been dormant for 75 years, and which FEPC had no intention of raising as a condition to the employment of Negroes as firemen and brakemen.

3-18-44

Contrary to the position taken by some southern newspapers, which stated editorially that someone had "educated the President in the realities" of the issues involved, the FEPC itself asked the President to appoint the Stacy Committee to arbitrate the matter with the railroads, and the brotherhoods, even recommending the Stacy committee personnel.

3-18-44

There is not now and there never has been any question of social equality involved, except as it was projected in the agreement by the unions, or brotherhoods, and exploited by counsel for the railroads. The railway unions, or brotherhoods, which exclude Negro railway workers from membership but retain power to represent them in establishing their status as workers as well as in fixing their wages, shrewdly inserted in their working agreement with the railroads — an agreement which the railroads signed — a clause eliminating Negroes as firemen and brakemen — jobs they had held since the railroads were established.

3-18-44

The railroads would have much fairer and would have themselves in a much sounder position before the enlightened public opinion of the world if they had stated their real dilemma: That the agreement with the railroads, or brotherhoods, forced and drew a red-herring across the trail.

3-18-44

The railroads would have been brotherhoods did, they (the railroads) were now powerless to continue the employment of Negro firemen and brakemen. Instead of doing this the railroads took the rap of this fact, and in further view of they had held since the railroads sizing their business, and that in view were established.

laws enacted by Congress which validated just what the unions, or

REP. WILLIAM L. DAWSON

REP. VITO MARCANTONIO

Daily Worker N.Y.

House Group OKays Permanent FEPC Bill

11-29-44

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—The House Labor Committee today approved by 9 to 5 vote the LaFollette-Scanlon-Dawson bill giving permanent statutory basis to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

11-29-44

Rep. Mary Norton, Democrat, who heads the committee, made it clear that a determined drive to pass the FEPC bill will be made in the final weeks of the 78th Congress.

A formal report on the measure will be submitted to the House on Thursday, and an immediate request for clearing the bill to the floor will then be made to the House Rules Committee.

PETITION CONTEMPLATED

If the committee, dominated by die-hard poll taxers and Republicans, refuses to act, it is expected that a petition will be circulated to bring the bill up on the floor.

The only difficulty with this strategy is the short time remaining. The 78th Congress may adjourn by the middle of December.

But the Labor Committee members felt that in any event they had helped pave the way for final action by the Congress next session making FEPC permanent.

11-29-44

The Labor Committee action highlighted developments on important legislation assuring civil rights to minority groups and to the disfranchised people of the South.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax was expected to make plans for a big push to pass the anti-polltax bill early next session at an executive board meeting next month.

Committee spokesmen were encouraged by resolutions supporting the anti-polltax bill in the last few days passed by both the CIO and AFL conventions.

ASSAULT BILL STALLED

The AFL convention went on record reaffirming its opposition to the polltax and supporting the legislation for its adoption.

In similar resolution, the CIO pledged "to continue its determined effort to have Congress enact legislation eliminating the poll tax requirement which now prevail in eight of our states."

11-29-44

Still stymied in the House Judiciary Committee, headed by Rep. Hatton Sumners of Texas, is the G. I. Assault Bill to facilitate federal prosecution of persons in the South and elsewhere who assault Negro servicemen.

The Senate passed the bill on June 11, 1943, and a House Judiciary subcommittee approved it May 17, 1944. But, with time rapidly running out, the full committee is still sitting on the bill and has refused to take any action on it.

Racial Bias Still Bars Employment

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK. — Reports that employers continue to reject applicants because of race, creed or color in spite of manpower shortages were made at the second annual meeting of the Metropolitan Council of Fair Employment Practices, April 27.

Edward Lawson, regional director of the FEPC office here, disclosed that discrimination because of race accounted for eighty per cent of the complaints received by his organization from July 1, 1943, to March 31, adding that most of them involved colored workers.

4 Per Cent Increase

He pointed out, however, that colored workers today comprise about 7.2 per cent of the 15,000,000 persons employed in war industries as against 3 per cent in 1942.

5-6-44

Other speakers at the meeting, attended by representatives of thirty-three social welfare agencies, were Marvin M. Jager, secretary of the council; Charles C. Berkley of the State committee on discrimination, and Lorenzo F. Davis, Brooklyn Urban League official.

Irked Because Negro Gets More Pay Than White

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
4-29-44

ATLANTA. — (ANP) — Attempting to explain the difference in salaries paid workers in the southeastern regional FEPC office. A. Bruce Hunt, regional director, asserted Tuesday that "it was all a matter of classification."

The explanation came after the bitterly vicious attack made upon the federal agency by Georgia Rep. John Gibson in a speech on the house floor, in which he accused the FEPC of violating its own purpose of non-discrimination.

Gibson was particularly irked by the fact that John Hope II, a Negro, was receiving a higher salary than James H. Tipton, a white man, in the Atlanta office, a situation which he said was "wholly incompatible with the practice and traditions of the South."

"I am classified as a senior fair practice examiner and act as regional director," Hunt wrote Congressman Gibson. "John Hope II is classified as a fair practice examiner and James H. Tipton is classified as an associate fair practice examiner. The different salaries which we earn are explained by the different titles of our positions.

4-29-44

The fourth and part-time male employe is Dr. Alva W. Taylor of Nashville, who has the title of consultant and who is also on the staffs of other government agencies. Dr. Taylor earns the same annual rate of salary as does Hope.

"The FEPC's war job is to aid in securing maximum utilization of manpower so that the goods of war may be produced in the shortest possible time, thereby hastening the day of victory and saving the lives of American soldiers. Here in the south, where war plants advertise daily for workers, the only reservoir of unemployed labor is the Negro.

"In view of the large number of complaints which have been filed with the FEPC alleging discrimination in employment against Negroes, it is not surprising that members of this group should be useful workers in this field."

Make the FEPC Permanent

The Nation—New York

Dear Sirs: To those of us who were deeply involved in the struggle to insure continuance of the Fair Employment Practices Committee through Congressional approval of its appropriation for the next fiscal year it is clearly apparent that much of the credit for the favorable Senate vote of last week belongs to the many liberal forces throughout the nation which raised their voices in support of that agency. We know we speak for the millions of minority Americans when we say that by your splendid outspoken editorial of June 10 you contributed greatly to the cause of true democracy.

7-15-44

The FEPC has been granted its appropriation by Congress and has thereby received sanction and backing, but the fact remains that it is still handicapped by its lack of power to enforce its orders. Unless legislation is enacted to make it permanent, it will be abolished when the war ends and the problem of discrimination in employment becomes even more critical.

Awareness of the need for a permanent FEPC was indicated by the fact that even while the Senate was debating the advisability of continuing the present FEPC, the House Labor Committee was holding hearings on the Scanlon-Dawson-La Follette bill to give the FEPC permanent status and authority. Frustration and insecurity, it was demonstrated in these hearings, still haunt millions of minority-group Americans, for although they have made tremendous gains through employment in war industry, they have made practically no advance in any industry which is basic to the peace-time economy. Even when they are now employed, minority Americans, particularly Negroes and Latin Americans, are often denied full union rights, upgrading opportunities, and equal pay for equal work. Walter White, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who had just returned from a tour of the war fronts, told the committee: "Wherever I went the question most frequently asked

As the hearings progress and the people generally become aware of the issues involved in the proposed bill for a permanent FEPC, we hope for clarification of many existing misunderstandings. To the people of North, West, and Midwest one fact, which has already been brought out in the committee investigation, is highly significant. That is the fact that only 10 per cent of the closed cases reported by the present FEPC originated in the eight states of the deep South.

7-15-44

What will the post-war reconversion period mean to the industrial centers of the North, West, and Midwest, where 90 per cent of the cases handled by the present FEPC originated? Gunnar Myrdal in his "An American Dilemma" recalls that "after the [First World] war the homecoming Negro soldier met the suspicion and fears of the Southern whites. In the North their new footholds in industry were contested by anxious white job-seekers in the post-war depression. A wave of lynchings swept the South, and even more bloody race riots swept the North."

Dare we neglect to take every possible precaution to prevent a repetition after this war?

7-15-44

Already representatives of most of the outstanding national civic, church, and union organizations have appeared before the House Labor Committee to urge approval of the Scanlon-Dawson-La Follette bill; and on June 23 an identical bill was introduced in the Senate by a group of six Republican and Democratic Senators. This would indicate that we are justified in our belief that the overwhelming majority of Americans are conscious of the dangers of the post-war period and are looking to their government for leadership in protecting the economic rights of minorities.

ANNA ARNOLD HEDGEMAN
National Executive Secretary, National Council for a Permanent FEPC

Washington, D. C., July 3

South Must Prepare To Fight Monopolistic Trend, Says Sparks

News—Birmingham, Ala.
10-11-44

AUBURN, Ala. — A postwar monopolistic trend in the South was predicted Tuesday by Gov. Sparks in an address before the Alabama Kiwanians 26th annual convention in which he warned that the South must "guard" small industries and provide others through "our own personal and natural resources."

Gov. Sparks attacked the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) as "a thing as hostile to white and Negro rates and blamed "right "a tempest in a teapot." The genius of American government through Army regulations real barrier to Negro votes, he ments as anything that has been added, is not poll taxes, but registration laws, but the "Northern adbrought up and put into practice through "insistence of political ers and vote seekers for a within its whole history." He visers," he observed, have not discup-spirit of suspicion on the part of covered this. held racial segregation as necessary to preserve the integrity of both the Negroes."

The Kiwanians elected C. L. Harris, Ensley, state governor, succeed-

Gov. Sparks called the poll tax

ing Frank Boyd, Montgomery, and for the four state districts the following lieutenant governors were elected: 10-11-44

First, Carey Buffington, Tuscaloosa; second, Ray Wheeler, Anniston; third, E. V. Smith, Auburn; fourth, Irwin A. Harman, Troy.

Gov. Sparks, who spoke at a luncheon concluding the convention, blamed "misguided preachers and teachers, writers and pseudo-uplifters" for much of the difficulty over racial relations, and pointed out that the racial problem cannot be resolved in emotionalism.

On the subject of the development of small industries, the governor declared the South has been demanding for too long the transfer of industry down South and refusing to use its own financial resources to develop the kind and character of industry the South needs." 10-11-44

"In the matter of reconversion, we have an opportunity to show our courage, our ability, our foresight and our initiative," he declared.

Chicago Defender (Ill.)
12-2-44 47d

EXPECT DIXIE FIGHT ON FEPC.

Washington- Bitter opposition led by Southern legislators is expected to the passage of the bill to make the Fair Employment Practice committee permanent.

Despite the fact that the House labor committee took the bill up in executive session last week and is considering it again this week, little hope is held for its passage before the expiration of the 78th Congress.

Senator Russell (D.,Ga.) one of the foremost opponents of the law which would minimize racial and religious job discrimination, predicted that the bill "would only be passed after the most terrific fight waged in Congress in a long, long time." "In fact," he added , "I do not think it can be passed."

"I don't think that after the issue is understood the opposition will by any means be confined to the South."

The Georgia Senator contends that a permanent FEPC wouldn't necessarily work entirely to the advantage of the American Negro. He said, for instance that it would compel a Negro druggist in Harlem to a hire a Japanese-American pharmacist, whether he wanted to or not. 12-2-44

Representative Fisher of Texas is reported to be making attempts to emasculate the bill by adding amendments during the House committee sessions. However, Chairman Mary Norton(D.,N.J.), is said to be desirous of having the bill reported "as is".

The bill would then be t threatened by amendments from the floor which can only be stopped by the rules committee. A spokesman for the National Council for the Permanent FEPC said this week that enough commitments from Republican members of the rules committee had been obtained to prevent its sabotage by amendments.

Wiping Out Employment Barrier

Telegraph — Macon

Dispatches from Washington tell us that months before any action is due, legislation to make permanent the Fair Employment Practices Committee is starting along a rocky road already strewn with the wreckage of anti-lynching and poll tax measures.

A measure to set up a permanent agency charged with trying to minimize racial and religious discrimination in employment has not even emerged from a Senate or House committee, but Southern members are vigorously opposed to it and the Associated Press tells us that Senator Russell, of Georgia, may be the spearhead of the fight.

He is quoted as saying that it will be passed only after the "most terrific fight waged in congress in a long time," and in fact he does not think it will be passed at all.

It will be remembered that Senator Russell offered strong opposition when Congress was asked a few months ago to provide temporary funds for the Fair Employment Practices Committee, which Mr. Roosevelt had set up by executive order. He let it be know then that he would combat the creation of a permanent agency even more strongly.

We all know perfectly well that this mischievous organization, which brought about the strike and the bloody rioting in Philadelphia, is not designed in terms of economics, but is merely a device by which New Deal crackpots seek to win the Negro vote in the North for their fantastic ventures into national socialism.

Senator Russell points out that something more than racial relations are involved in this measure. He says frankly that it would go further towards nationalizing American industry than anything else. If it were enacted, it would give a government agency absolute control over all relations heretofore left to private industry and that, indeed, private industry would be dead.

There is still enough strength in both houses of Congress strongly lined up against this abomination to bring about a filibuster such as has so often killed off the anti-lynching bills and if necessary the same tactics should be pursued in this instance. In the meantime the people of Georgia extend their congratulations and warmest support to Senator Russell for his gallant stand.

Dixie Daily Hits Jim Crow Argument Against FEPC Bill

DURHAM, N. C.—A strong editorial in the Durham MORNING HERALD, September 11, pulled no punches in striking at the favorite argument against creation of a permanent FEPC. Declaring such theories as this, unfair, undemocratic, and un-American, the editorial pointed out that "Equal opportunity has nothing whatever to do with social equality —whatever those words mean. Equal opportunity means just what it says —a chance for every one according to his character and abilities, plus equal pay for equal work. This and no more, is what the Fair Employment Practices Committee has stood for and does stand for.

"Now a strong fight is ahead if a permanent FEPC is not to be blocked. Hearings in the House and Senate committee rooms show that the Negro is still being discriminated against. He still does not get the same pay for the same work. to campaign eloquence. We, therefore, urge your and members of your party to resist any efforts to mob violence will be very receptive white man gets for the first to go when there is still the Philadelphia legislation is enacted."

Americans facing the stark realities of unemployment and cutbacks. And the strike showed that the blame for the deep into the ranks of union men and women who ought to know better.

"There are no new arguments against discrimination. There are just the old ones. It is unfair. It is undemocratic. It is un-American. Or, if such an appeal falls on deaf ears, we may add that plan to cut war production in half the day Hitler surrenders, which we pray is not far off, will mean drastic reduction in employment. Without a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee, minorities will become the chief and first targets of such unemployment. We submit that members of the Congress seeking re-election can win far more support by staying in Washington to enact legislation of this character than they can by innumerable speeches however

Union Tries to Laugh Off Discrimination Hearing

PM—New York, N.Y. 10-11-44

SIU Refuses to Take Part and Calls FEPC a 'Secret' Organization

The Seafarers International Union (AFL) yesterday refused to participate in an FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) hearing on complaints that the union has discriminated against Negroes.

The hearing, called after six months of investigation into charges of discrimination in the hiring of Negro seamen, was held in the Bar Assn. Bldg., 22 W. 44th St. Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, presided.

Richard Cantor, attorney for the SIU, presented a union statement calling the complaints "silly" and "absurd," and the FEPC a "secret" organization. The statement said the union would not participate in the hearing. Nonetheless, Cantor, John Hawk, first vice president and secretary-treasurer of the SIU, and an SIU stenographer, sat through the entire proceedings. 10-11-44

FEPC to Study Case

Ross said after the hearing that, despite the union's defiance, the FEPC would follow its usual procedure in studying the case, and that he hopes "to reach an agreement with the union shortly." If the union refuses to recognize the FEPC's authority, the case can be referred to President Roosevelt for action.

Samuel Block, FEPC attorney, said:

"The SIU calls upon the War Shipping Administration for workers. It insists that from among those qualified men that are available certain ones be selected or eliminated on the basis of their race. This disrupts the orderly and efficient use of the already short supply of manpower available to the industry." 10-11-44

Block called six merchant seamen as witnesses. They testified they had been refused jobs on ships because they were Negroes. The men said the practice of the SIU was to ship out all-white staffs, or all-Negro staffs, and that the staffs were never mixed. The only jobs available to Negroes, they said, were steward, cook, messman or

Although Miriam Offer, trolley

Ship Delayed 5 Hours

Mrs. Eveilyn Cooper, also an FEPC attorney, presented evidence showing that in one instance the steward staff was mixed, but then only after the ship, loaded with coal last February for Massachusetts, was delayed five hours.

Other evidence presented was a photostatic copy of an assignment slip presented to the SIU by a Negro seaman recruited by the WSA. On it the SIU dispatcher had written: "We do not mix."

The SIU, which claims it does not discriminate, but only "segregates," has separate hiring halls for Negro and white seamen. 10-11-44

Sitting with Ross, as FEPC members, were Boris Shishkin, AFL research director; Milton Webster, vice president of the Brotherhood of Porters, AFL, and Charles Houston, Washington attorney.

AFL Hostility Grave Threat To the FEPC

PM—New York, N.Y. 10-29-44

1943 Convention Report Opposes Any 'Compulsory' Action

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Congressional action to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee is endangered by American Federation of Labor opposition to the proposed prohibition against discrimination by labor unions.

AFL hostility to the pending legislation in its present form was disclosed by publication of the Senate hearings on the bill, which included a statement by the Federation ducking any commitment on the measure and opposing any Government control of unions.

The statement, which was filed with the Senate Committee by W. C. Hushing, Legislative representative of the AFL, quoted the report by the Executive Council of the AFL at its 1943 convention.

10-29-44

Oppose Bias

This report opposed racial discrimination in employment, "I added:

"The Executive Council does not believe, however, that imposition of any policy, no matter how salutary, through compulsory government control of freely constituted associations of workers, accords with the basic right of freedom of association among the American people."

Questioned about the statement, Hushing told PM the pending bill "does not conform" to the AFL Convention action. He said the Federation might try to have the bill modified, and probably would discuss the question at its convention next month. 10-29-44

First open hint of AFL opposition came last week at a Howard University conference on postwar job opportunities for Negroes, when Boris Shiskin, AFL member of the temporary FEPC, warned that labor would oppose any regulation of unions, even to prevent discrimination.

Opening Wedge

Shiskin told the conference that legislation prohibiting racial and religious discrimination—the purpose of the permanent FEPC bill—by unions would open the door to much broader regulation of unions and labor spokesmen could not support it. 10-29-44

The bill has the wholehearted support of many labor, religious, and liberal organizations including the CIO and several AFL unions. Supporters of the measure are alarmed, however, by the AFL's attitude

FEPC-CIO agreement signed

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif. 9-11-44

WASHINGTON — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice and the War Policy Division of the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (CIO) have signed a working agreement aimed at promoting union cooperation in the settlement of bona fide complaints of discrimination involving any UAW-CIO officer or a plant in which the union has a local, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, and R. J. Thomas, UAW-CIO president, announced. The agreement, which is the first negotiated between FEPC and any union, is expected, Mr. Ross and Mr. Thomas said, to be of great benefit to both parties, "by speeding the elimination of un-American discrimination which is undeniably harmful to the war effort and to the labor movement."

The agreement provides that the War Policy Division of the union cooperate with FEPC's regional offices in investigations, issue written instructions to all UAW-CIO personnel that may be necessary for the strict observance of the agreement, and confer whenever necessary with FEPC representatives in an effort to adjust satisfactorily, "in accordance with FEPC and UAW-CIO policy" all cases that are brought to the division's attention. 9-11-44

The committee, under the agreement, will report all cases involving any UAW-CIO local or officer or plant where a UAW-CIO local exists, to the War Policy Division, together with a request for "any desired investigatory action by UAW-CIO thereon."

Describing the pact as "a great step forward in the American trade union movement which shows an ever growing realization that preservation of the right to work for all men regardless of race, color, creed, or national origin is the keystone to its future healthy existence," Mr. Ross said that the committee is willing to sit down at any time and discuss similar cooperative understandings with any other organizations concerned in "the vital problem with which FEPC deals." 9-11-44

NAACP attorney represents plaintiffs in ICC case

WASHINGTON — Arthur D. Shores of Birmingham, Ala., a member of the NAACP legal committee has been granted permission to appear before the ICC Examiner, today in Mobile, to represent plaintiffs in the case of Le Flore and Crishon in their suit for $2,500 each against the Gulfport, Mobile and Ohio railroad.

The complaint alleges that because of race and color, the plaintiffs were denied Pullman reservations and dining car service from Meridian, Miss., to Mobile, despite the fact that traveling space was available

Dawson Defends Bill In Debate

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa. 6-3-44

WASHINGTON — Observers of the House fight over FEPC last Friday saw two pieces of trickery that will bear recording here.

This is the background necessary to understand the tricks. In order to force an individual roll-call vote showing how each Congressman stands on a measure, it is necessary for one-fifth of those present to stand and call for an "aye and nay" vote. Congressman Marcantonio called for the "ayes and nays." Speaker Rayburn of Texas, whose desire to be the next Vice-President is common gossip here, declared that only 51 members had stood up, and that this was not enough to force a record vote. His ruling would have meant that there were at least 256 members on the floor. Yet the fact is that on the very next vote—a tellers' vote—there were only 242 Representatives voting, so that the 51 who did stand up were enough to have forced a record vote, which Rayburn refused.

The other trick was equally obvious. Many Republicans who gave lip-service to the FEPC secretly tried to knife it. They knew that if there was a roll-call they would have to vote against the Tarver Amendment, killing FEPC; hence, they stayed in their seats with the poll-taxers when Marcantonio called for the "ayes and nays." One such double-talk Republican was none other than Congressman William Hess of Cincinnati, Ohio. More than 10,000 Negro voters are in his district. 6-3-44

Begin Hearing on FEPC

WASHINGTON — Hearings on bills to establish a permanent FEPC will begin before the House Labor committee Wednesday of this week, Congresswoman Mary Norton, chairman of the committee, had announced. 6-3-44

It is expected that Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson will be the first witness favoring the adoption of the legislation.

WASHINGTON—By a slim majority of four votes in the House of Representatives last Friday the FEPC was saved from certain death, after a revolt by Southern Congressmen succeeded temporarily in wiping out every penny of a five hundred thousand dollar appropriation for the committee. A teller vote of 123 to 119 defeated the amendment of Representative Malcolm Tarver (D.-Ga.) which would have eliminated all funds for FEPC, after the amendment had passed in an earlier vote by 141 to 103.

Only the leadership of Congressman William L. Dawson (D.-Ill.) and Vito Marcantonio (ALP-N.Y.) saved FEPC from a parliamentary lynching-bee attempted by Southern Democrats and reactionary Republicans.

DIXIE SOLONS ISSUE THREATS 6-3-44

In a two-day debate packed with tense drama the fate of the committee teetered up and down through a maze of tricky parliamentary maneuvers, which left half a hundred FEPC staff members whose jobs depended on the outcome, breathless with excitement.

Final passage of the National

War Agencies Bill, containing the FEPC appropriation, was by a vote of 247 to 58, with Southern Congressmen refusing to vote for its passage solely because it included funds for FEPC. The bill now goes to the Senate where it is headed for bitter opposition from Southern Senators.

In the course of bitter debate Representative Gibson of Georgia declared that if the South could poll taxers again, of which only five hundred thousand dollars, or one-fifth of the FEPC's share was only sand.

Declared Marcantonio, in a biting reply to the Southerners: "The real reason you will not support FEPC is because you want to perpetuate Hitlerite concept of race supremacy in this country."

On the first vote upon the Tarver amendment a number of Republicans, knowing that there would be no individual record of how they voted, supported the

6-3-44

FEPC CREATED AS WAR MEASURE

In a moving defense of the record of FEPC, Congressman Dawson declared: "The FEPC was created as a war measure. The Fair Employment Practices Committee has had thousands of cases before it . . . they have settled thousands of cases successfully."

amendment. Later, however, under the prodding of Representative Hughe Scott of Pennsylvania, George Bender of Ohio, and other Republicans, many who voted for the Tarver amendment reversed themselves. 6-3-44

After failing to secure an "aye and nay" record vote on the Tarver amendment, Marcantonio moved for a teller vote which resulted in the four vote victory for FEPC. Earlier he had objected to unanimous consent to withdraw a waiver of points of order against the measure, thus blocking efforts of the poll-taxers to kill the bill by merely raising a point of order without a vote.

FEPC "Trouble-Shooter" Halts Strike in Smoky City Mill

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

5-6-44 (By NNPA)

Settlement of a work stoppage in the Pittsburgh plant of the Jones-Laughlin Corporation by the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) was cited this week by that agency as further evidence of the fallacy in the arguments of Congressman Gibson, Georgia Democrat, who recently charged that the FEPC was disrupting the war effort.

Fifty-three Negro workers in a by-products plant of the company refused to work when the company officials failed to carry out an agreement for up-grading the colored employees to vacancies occurring in the plant. A new white worker was brought in when a white pusher became ill and a vacancy occurred.

The men refused even to discuss the matter until the FEPC sent a representative. The industrial relations manager of the corporation, W. H. Harvey, and the commissioner of the U.S. Conciliation Service for the Pittsburgh area appealed to the FEPC to send a representative.

Ask for "Trouble-Shooter"

They asked for Milo Manley, a Negro attached to the regional office in Philadelphia, who had been so useful in settling the Carnegie Steel Strike in Pittsburgh in February. He has become known as a valuable "trouble-shooter." 5-6-44

As soon as the workers were assured Mr. Manley was en route, they sent enough workers into the plant to keep the coke ovens burning. Immediately upon his arrival, the strike was called off. Manley is now negotiating with the union and the company to straighten out the details of the up-grading agreement. Ten miles of steel works, which would have shut down if the men at Jones-Laughlin had remained away from work, are operating now in full war production.

Discrimination Called Unprofitable

PM New York N.Y. 12-7-44

Discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed or national origin is unprofitable to the business which practices it, a spokesman for the trustees of the Associated Gas & Electric Corp. testified yesterday at the closing hearing of the New York State Commission Against Discrimination.

The Commission held three hearings in New York City and four upstate on proposals to establish a State FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Commission). After the two proposed measures have been revised, they will be introduced in the Legislature.

Associated Gas & Electric is in reorganization in Federal Court with Denis J. Driscoll and Willard L. Throp as trustees. The firm and subsidiaries employ about 5700 persons in New York State. Clarice F. Brows, AG&E counsel on industrial relations, said in a statement:

"As men of long and varied experience in business, the (AG&E) trustees are convinced that discrimination in employment is unprofitable to business. They believe it is economically unsound because ultimately it raises the cost of production." 12-7-44

Production costs go up, Miss Brows explained, because discrimination limits the field from which workers can be chosen.

"The capacity of the employe to do the job becomes secondary," she pointed out.

Rabbi J. X. Cohen, chairman of the Commission on Economic Discrimination of the American Jewish Congress, told of the 15 years of work of his group on the job discrimination problem. Special Sessions Judge Nathan D. Perlman, chairman of the Congress's Commission on Law and Legislation, made an analysis of the proposed measures and suggested revisions.

Legislation, such as that proposed, Cohen said, would aid private voluntary organizations working for tolerance. General knowledge that there is a law against job discrimination will, he said, reduce actual instances of discrimination.

The American Jewish Congress, he emphasized, gave "wholehearted" approval to that section of the proposed law which would aid educational efforts. He also commended the Commission for recommending that labor unions be forbidden to discriminate in admitting workers to membership. PM

In support of his contention that legislation is needed in addition to education, Cohen said his group had studied 13,000 ads for workers in New York papers and found 30 percent of them discriminatory. Efforts to get the newspapers to bar such ads were fruitless. But, he said, in 1942, after municipal legislation was enacted barring employment agencies from calling for information on race, creed or color, such discriminatory ads disappeared.

In contrast to the stand of the almost all other witnesses was the testimony of Merwin K. Hart, president of the reactionary and private National Economic Council, Inc. Hart drew sharp rebukes from Irving M. Ives, Commission Chairman and Assembly Majority Leader, and laughter from the audience of about 200. Hart said he opposed the legislation "both in principle and in most of its details."

He described it variously as "Communist-inspired" and "in Hitler's best style." He testified that enactment would bring "turmoil and probably bloodshed." Charles H. Tuttle, Commission counsel, smiled and told Hart the Commission had spent two weeks traveling about the state holding hearings and failed to see any signs of impending revolution, bloodshed or turmoil. At another point, Ives said:

"I'm trying to follow your reasoning, if that's possible."

About 200 witnesses were heard by the Commission during the seven days of hearings. Tuttle and some lawyer members of the Commission will now draft revisions of the two bills on which the hearings were held and the Commission will meet later this month to consider the revisions and agree on the language in measures to be introduced in the Assembly.

FEPC To Hear Shell Case At Houston, Texas

Daily Worker — Atlanta

12-23-44

A Bruce Hunt To Be Trial Head Dec. 27

WASHINGTON —(ANP)— The FEPC will hear evidence in a discrimination case involving the Sheell Oil company of Houston, Local 367 of the Oil Workers International union (CIO) and curtain Latin-American workers on Dec. 27 at Houston, it was announced here Wednesday. A Bruce formerly regional director at Atlanta, will represent the committee.

The stagement of charges served on the company and the union alleges that the labor agreement at the plant confines Latin-American and Negro workers to common labor jobs and "dead-ends," their upgrading to jobs as janitors and gardeners, despite individual qualifications for jobs of higher skill. 12-23-44

The union was joined as a party to the proceedings because it is a party to an agreement with the company which sets out the discriminatory upgrading procedures. The complaint insists the practice hinders the war effort by restricting the full use of manpower.

FEPC Orders St. Louis Firm To Cease Race Discrimination

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — The Mc-racial discrimination against Negro men and women. The FEPC findings, announced by Chairman Malcolm Ross in Washington, were easily last August. Norris does not discriminate against colored men and women," said A. J. Mummert, McQuay-Norris Manufacturing company has been found guilty of

How to Defend FEPC

Daily Worker-
New York, N.Y.

By Doxey Wilkerson

The best defense of FEPC is an offensive against the wreckers who would destroy its valuable wartime service to the nation.

Let labor and the Negro people hasten to the support of FEPC in the present crisis. But let them do more. Let them demand legislative action for a permanent FEPC — through passage of H.R. 1732. 1-20-44

The reactionary Smith Committee's smear "investigation" of FEPC is—and is intended to be—an attack upon the progressive policies of the Roosevelt Administration, an attempt to block the growing trend toward equal employment opportunities for the Negro people, and a direct blow at the war effort. The flaunting of FEPC's directive in the southern railroads case has much the same effect.

Both are serious threats to the wartime interests of the country. They must be met through vigorous counter-offensive by the progressive forces of the nation. Congressman Vito Marcantonio's proposed "Fair Employment Practices Act" is a sound and attainable objective around which the democratic win-the-war coalition can rally.

H.R. 1732 declares it to be "the policy of the United States to repudiate and prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, or citizenship by employers" providing goods or services for any agency of the Federal Government.

The bill not only "prohibits" such discrimination. It requires that every Federal contract include certain specified "fair employment practices provisions." It sets stiff penalties for violations. And it vests FEPC with investigatory authority similar to that of the National Labor Relations Board, and with effective powers of enforcement.

Discharge Petition No. 18 has been filed to dislodge H.R. 1732 from the House Judiciary Committee. It has already gained quite a number of signatures. With a vigorous and unified campaign by labor and the Negro people, this bill can be brought to the floor of the House and passed. 1-20-44

But let there be unity in the campaign for a permanent FEPC. H.R. 1732 is a good bill around which the entire win-the-war camp should now rally. Let there be no division within the ranks of the progressives through the proposal of "rival" bills.

House passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill was once jeopardized through petty conflicts by groups eager to press their "own" separate bills. Keep the campaign for a permanent FEPC free from this menace. Let none "pull a Baldwin" on H.R. 1732.

It is well for patriotic Americans to appreciate fully the tremendous stakes at issue in the current attacks upon FEPC. President Roosevelt's creation and continued support of this federal agency is unparalleled by any action of a Chief Executive since Lincoln. Although immediately concerned with assuring democratic wartime employment rights for Negro and other minority peoples, FEPC poses issues of fundamental and continuing importance for the nation as a whole.

At a time when maximum war production is imperative to support the coming Anglo-American invasion of Western Europe, a strong and effective FEPC is absolutely necessary to clear away traditional employment discriminations which now seriously impede the war effort. 1-20-44

At a time when the firm unity of organized labor, the Negro people, and all other patriotic Americans is an urgent necessity to implement the democratic perspectives of Tehran, to rout the defeatists and win a people's victory and a people's peace, FEPC stands as a vital rallying point around which to weld democratic coalition unity.

Let labor and the Negro people move quickly to the defense of FEPC in its present crisis. Let them move also to the offensive—in unified support of Discharge Petition No. 18, for passage of H.R. 1732. Upon this issue the lives of our fighting men abroad and defeat of our pro-fascists here at home largely depend.

Examiner And Stenographer Join F.E.P.C.

Daily World-
Atlanta, Ga.
1-18-44

Graduate of Morris Brown College Is Added to Staff

An additional Fair Practice Examiner has been added to the staff of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in Atlanta, it was announced today by A. Bruce Hunt, Regional Director. The new Examiner is James H. Tipton, Jr., who until recently was principal of Rabun County High School at Clayton, Georgia.

Mr. Tipton was born in Slyvester, Worth County, Georgia, and is the son of the late James H. Tipton, Sr., attorney-at-law and former representative in the Georgia State Legislature. The new Examiner was educated in the public schools of Sylvester, and at South Georgia A. and M. College and Georgia School of Technology, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science in Commerce from the latter institution in 1931.

Subsequent to his graduation, Mr. Tipton was employed variously by the Atlanta City Board of Education, Georgia School of Technology, Georgia Tech National Alumni Association, and Georgia Tech College Inn. He served as Assistant Treasurer of Georgia Tech, where he was an instructor in accounting and manager of the Georgia Tech Radio Program. In the latter capacity he had charge of all school radio programs and was chairman of the round table discussions. 1-18-44

In December 1942 Mr. Tipton entered the Army and was attached to the Finance Department. He was honorably discharged during August 1943, by which time he had obtained the rank of sergeant. He became principal of Rabun County High School, and held that position until his appointment by the Committee.

Announcement was given several days ago relative to the appointment to the staff of John Hope, Atlantan, who has one of the key positions in the FEPC setup here. He has already begun the duties of his office.

It is also announced by Director Hunt that Miss Thelma Horton, native Georgian, and a graduate of Morris Brown College, has been added to the stenographic staff, effective today. She is former student-employee at the college and finished with the class of 1943. She is a native of Athens, where her elementary and high school education was obtained, and also saw employment in the office of USO Director, William Y. Ball, Jr.

Mr. Hunt stated Monday that with the appointment of Miss Horton and Mr. Tipton, permanent positions on the local staff were complete. Of course, he stated, there will be several minor appointments made later on.

Firing Of Negroes Begins, FEPC Hears

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF ATLANTA DAILY WORLD NNPA

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—A preview of the post war employment problems facing Negroes in both industry and government was given Saturday by the Regional Directors of the Fair Employment Practice Committee who have been meeting in Washington for the past three days. 2-13-44

At a press conference it was apparent from the brief analysis of the problems of discrimination in their regions that a definite trend already has started to fire Negro workers in disportionately large numbers whenever there is a contraction in activity. According to Elmer Henderson, Director of Regions Six and Eight. In a recent over all cut back in Chicago sixty percent of the persons laid off were Negroes. Other Regions indicated similar experiences. 2-13-44

A charge that some government agencies in the Pennsylvania, New Jersey Delaware area are resorting to trickery and under hand methods to fire Negro workers when personnel is reduced was made by G. James Fleming, Director of that Region. He declared that Negroes are given lowered efficiency ratings whenever personnel cuts are imminent in order to justify releasing them.

Evidence that unfavorable entries have been made in the personnel records of Negro workers after they have been terminated has been discovered he said.

Frank E. Hook, Regional Director of the Area which includes the District of Columbia, Fountain head of government employment. Said there is a suspicion that similar practices are used here but no evidence of it had come to light.

The problems of discrimination in all the Regions are now concerned mostly with up grading workers to use their full capacities and skill and in training rather than in initial hirings the Directors agreed.

A Bruce Hunt, Regional Director for Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, and Mississipi said complaints have been slow coming to his office. He attributed this to a probable inarticulateness of the workers and the lack of publicity given to the Agency in the White Press. He said

Virginia, of the special house committee investigating executive agencies, said the hearings would be confined solely to the issue of FEPC's legal authority. He declared spokesmen for minority groups would not be permitted to use them as a forum for social theories.

Specific case to be taken up by the committee today is that of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, which on November 15, 1943, was ordered by the FEPC

tice Committee. Young is editor of Norfolk's Journal and Guide. Houston, who is now 48, got his education at Amherst, Harvard and University of Madrid.

FEPC Probe

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Congress set out today to find out what legal backing the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee has for its directives forbidding racial discrimination in the hiring of workers.

Chairman Smith, Democrat,

Smith Starts

Constitution-Atlanta, Ga.

LAWYER HUSTON NAMED TO FEPC

Washington, D. C. (C)—Charles

The FEPC Must Not Be Crucified

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 3-12-44

The recent, sustained attacks upon the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice by the Old Guards in the Senate, indicate most clearly their determination to divest the Negro worker of every vestige of economic security and to subject him to the tender mercies of unscrupulous labor employers. The baneful assault upon the work of the Committee by Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia and Congressman Smith of Virginia is a case in point.

The establishment of the FEPC is one of the most important actions a representative of the federal government has taken toward getting for us our basic rights as American citizens since the Civil War. Of course President Roosevelt named this Committee only after a representative group of our leaders threatened to "March on Washington" in an effort to get our share of the war jobs. But regardless of circumstances, the main fact remains that President Roosevelt took this unprecedented action in an effort to recognize our legitimate and basic rights. 3-12-44

Deploring the recent attack made upon the work of the Committee, the Washington Post, liberal white daily, said editorially: "Not long ago it (FEPC) called a number of the country's railroads and certain labor unions to account for their flagrantly discriminatory practices. No doubt this is what has brought down upon the agency the wrath of some southern Congressmen. From the point of view of the national welfare, indeed from any democratic point of view, it is a wholly misguided wrath. The FEPC is simply trying to bring about a fuller mobilization of the nation's manpower for war and a fuller realization of the principle of human equality on which the nation is founded."

The Post states further: "It would be genuinely tragic if race prejudice caused the liquidation of this agency. To American Negroes whose loyalty to the United States and devotion to democracy has remained steadfast in the face of bitter deprivations, the FEPC is a vital symbol. To renounce it would be to slam a door upon the legitimate hopes which our own American litany has engendered and encouraged."

"As of today," states Sidney Hillman, "there are 1,500,000 American Negroes directly engaged in war production, for anyone to spread the virus of racial discrimination is tantamount to making a direct effort to drive a million and a half workers out of our war plants. Those men and women, in office and out, who seek to destroy or circumvent the Fair Employment Practices Committee, give direct aid and comfort to enemy forces which seek to foment civil strife and discord by setting one race against another, whipping up hatred against minority groups and encouraging discrimination." 3-12-44

Moreover, we admonish the masses of people, especially our leaders, to go on record now and let both the supporters and opposers know how vital we feel the FEPC is, not only to our welfare but to democracy itself.

It behooves all liberal minded Americans to come to the rescue of the Committee and to seek legislation which would make it a permanent agency of the Federal government. Certainly the committee is needed now and it will be more vital to Negroes in the Post war readjustment than it is today.

The FEPC must not be crucified on the cross of racial prejudice.

Investigation To What End?

Atlanta, Ga. - Daily World 1-11-44

Announcement of the pending investigation of the activities of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice by a Congressional Committee, headed by Representative Howard D. Smith of Virginia, will deceive no one. It is a clear and determined effort on the part of the big railroad interests, in cahoot with the railroad brotherhoods and the big business interests to discredit the work of the Committee.

In response to the Committee's recent directive to bring their hiring policies into conformity with the spirit and frame-work of the Committee's principles, the nearly sixteen railroads arrogantly announced that such an order was impracticable and impossible.

"The successful prosecution of the war," said President Roosevelt, "demands the maximum employment of all workers regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin." In further clarification, Mr. Roosevelt stated "it is the policy of the United States to encourage full participation in the war effort by all persons in the United States regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders." 1-11-44

Not only do the railroads and unions, as one editor points out, show an arrogance and contempt for the committee's purposes and authority, but they likewise fail to evince a desire to cooperate." The pending investigation by Congressional Committee goes even further. In effect, they signify that they intend to test the President's authority in issuing such an order. They indicate a desire to defeat the ends of justice to a certain minority in American life. And by their actions, they admit that fairness must not be administered to all groups no matter what the circumstances of the times.

"As a democracy," says the Washington Post editorially, "we cannot, at anytime, permit racial intolerance to govern our economic opportunities. The FEPC has come to grips courageously with a tough problem. It should have the full support against the obstructionalism it has encontered, of the whole Federal Government and the American public." 1-11-44

We believe it will get this support.

Permanent FEPC Is Urged

World-Telegram-Howard

Congress was urged last night to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee to fight racial and religious discrimination in industry at a meeting in Town Hall, sponsored by the National Council for a Permanent FEPC. 2-8-44

A permanent committee would replace the present committee set up by executive order of President Roosevelt. Representative Thomas E. Scanlon, of Pennsylvania, bill's sponsor, warned that postwar unemployment would increase the danger of racial discrimination.

The Rev. John La Farge, editor of the Catholic publication America, decried what he called the alarming outcrop of racial and religious hatreds and declared the time has come to reverse this course.

FEPC in War and Peace

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 1-27-44

THE Fair Employment Practice Committee ought to be made permanent and it ought to be given power to enforce its decrees. The FEPC ought to be made permanent so that at the proper time it could check the tendency of employers to slide back into the usual and "normal" habit of discriminating against Negro, Jewish and foreign-born job-seekers after the war. It ought to be given powers to enforce its decrees so that, as is now true with respect to the National Labor Relations Board, the FEPC could speak with statutory authority to such an undemocratic demagogue as Virginia's poll-tax Congressman, Howard Smith.

New York's progressive Vito Marcantonio has introduced into the House of Representatives a bill "to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, or citizenship." The bill is titled H.R. 1732. As a law it would make the FEPC both permanent and statutorily authoritative. It was first introduced into the House on Feb. 5, 1943. It might have been passed long since had it been given the full support of progressive labor and of Negro, Jewish, foreign-born and other anti-fascist, progressive organizations.

One reason why it did not get this support was that most of the people it is designed to help do not realize its significance. Too many persons imagine, for example, that the FEPC is intended only to procure jobs for Negroes. As a matter of fact, it is not intended at all to be a job-procurement agency or a placement bureau. Procuring and placing workers is the function of the United States Employment Service only. The FEPC is intended, now and after the war, to see that discrimination against ALL workers (at present, war workers), because of race, creed, color, religion, or national origin, is not practiced by any employer.

Pressure should be increased on Congressmen to sign the petition which would force H.R. 1732 upon the floor of the House for debate and action. A few Congressmen have already signed, among them being William L. Dawson, Illinois, the House's lone Negro member. Two hundred eighteen signatures are needed. 1-27-44

Everybody who is interested in hastening and preserving the fruits of victory over fascism must, at once, urge his Congressman to add his signature to House Discharge Petition No. 18.

FEPC IS A YEAR BEHIND

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

The most striking fact about the race problem, says Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, great New York pastor, is not that there are injustices, resentments, and occasional violence, but on the whole that we are making a go at it.

Is it enough to make a stab at solving racial equalities? Dean William Stuart Nelson of Howard's School of Religion would say "no." Speaking in Boston last week he added, "An attitude of doing the best under the circumstances is inadequate and cowardly. We should push on to live on the frontiers of what is possible." 2-26-44

Take for example the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, which concerns itself with racial discrimination in war industries.

According to its chairman, Malcolm Ross, FEPC settles 165 cases a month, gets in 300 new ones at the same time and has on file 1957 cases.

It is a year behind its docket and, therefore, has to reject cases like the one against the Boilermakers' Union, because publicity alone will not bring compliance and it has no other legal sanction.

If the members of Dr. Fosdick's church were a year behind in their payment of dues, he wouldn't be as complacent about that as he is about the solution of racial problems.

P. B. Young Quits FEPC; 2nd Resignation in Month

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.
2-26-44

ZeMurray, Out Also, Denies Leaving Because of Criticism of His Company's Labor Policy

By MARGARET LEWIS

Official announcement of the resignation of P. B. Young, Sr., publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, from the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee on Monday brought to two the number of FEPC members who have resigned within the past month.

Although the announcement of the resignation of Samuel ZeMurray, president of the United Fruit Company, has not yet come officially from the committee, it is a well known fact in the capital that he severed his connections with the group more than four weeks ago.

Sources in the capital contend that Malcolm Ross, FEPC head, has attempted to soft-pedal the resignations until he can find replacements due to the continuous crises that have faced the FEPC from its inception.

Pressure of Criticism Denied

Rumors that Mr. ZeMurray attempted to resign several months ago, in the face of criticism of his company's employment policies, were denied by both Mr. ZeMurray and the committee.

Mr. Young, in his resignation, said that "contrary to my wishes and very much to my regret," it was necessary for him to sever his relaionship with the committee.

In informing the committee that he had sent his resignation to the President, Mr. Young stated that the demands of the armed forces and the war effort had drown so heavily upon irreplacable members of his staff that he would no longer be able to find time and energy to devote to the committee. 2-26-44

Ross Lauds Publisher

Mr. Young was appointed to the committee on July 1, 1943, serving for seven months, as did Mr. ZeMurray.

In a letter to Mr. Young, Chairman Malcolm Ross replied:

"The committee at its last meeting learned with deep regret that your added responsibilities make it necessary for to you to resign.

"Knowing the difficulties of running a newspaper during wartime, we are deeply appreciative of the thoroughness and care with which you have devoted yourself to the problems of the committee. Your offer of continued help to the committee is readily accepted."

The resignations mean that the committee will not have a quorum at its next meeting unless all members are present.

FDR Responds To McAlpin's Query On FEPC

World-
Memphis Tenn
6-9-44

Two Viewpoints On Statement By Chief Executive

By HARRY S. McALPIN
(Washington Bureau of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON — President Roosevelt at his press conference Friday said he would like to have some suggestions as to how he could give more active support to FEPC.

The statemtnt was made in response to a question by this correspondent, representing the Atlanta Daily World and the National Negro Publishers Association, who stated in asking the President for comment that there have been reports and advice on the issue which it deserves.

MANY INTERPRETATIONS

Others have interpreted his statement as an open invitation for suggestions. They said it indicates that he feels he has done all he knows how.

Still another viewpoint expressed is that the President believes he has done everything possible and feels no more could be asked of him.

The National Committee for a Permanent FEPC assumes that the President has invited suggestions, and despite their having sent some already, they plan to take him at his word and send more.

A. Philip Randolph, co-chairman of the committee, was one of the men responsible for considerable discussion of the FEPC both on and off Capitol Hill, and also some charges that the Administration has not given the agency's appropriation request its active support.

CHARGES MADE 6-9-44

Such charges have been made as a result, among other things, of the failure of Representative McCormick, Majority Leader of the House, to be present when the FEPC appropriation squeezed through the House by a breath taking four vote margin.

Some observers, insisting the support of the Administration has not been apparent among Congressional leaders, have interpreted the President's statement as indicating he has not been getting the kind of aid for the President's decision to issue Executive Order 8802 which first created the original FEPC in July, 1941.

Fair Practices

Post-Washington, D.C.

There is a simple yet very vital issue involved in the current fight over funds for the Fair Employment Practices Committee. The issue is this: shall economic opportunity in America be limited on grounds of race, creed, color or nation origin? There can be no doubt as to how the American people, or their representatives in Congress, would settle this issue if it were stated in these real terms. Unfortunately, however, the issue has been distorted and obscured—imbued with wholly irrelevant emotional overtones and linked with complex questions of interracial relations. Some of this confusion has stemmed from misunderstanding. Some of it has been intentionally obscurantist in purpose. 6-13-44

The FEPC has as its sole function the elimination of unwarranted discriminatory practices in the employment of American workers. It is not concerned with abstract questions of social equality between races. It is not attempting—and has never attemped—suddenly to make over the mores of any section of the United States. It is not trying to do away with segregation or any of the manifestations of Jim Crowism—however repugnant these may be to democratic principles. As the committee chairman, Malcolm Ross, phrased it in testimony before the House Labor Committee the other day, "The mass of the American people can do as they please in their private lives but when it comes to earning a living, someone else with the hire and fire power offers the terms and conditions under which a man can earn his bread."

Race prejudice is an ugly factor in American life. Nevertheless it is a real factor and needs to be faced. The FEPC did not create race prejudice—as some of its critics have irresponsibly suggested. It is simply a mechanism for counteracting the effects of race prejudice in the economic sphere. As such, it performs a service which is indispensable to the freedom of minority groups and invaluable to the welfare of the American economy as a whole.

During the progress of the war, the FEPC has done much to integrate the skills and energies of minority elements into our production program. We should have had fewer tanks and planes and landing ships for D-Day if workers had been barred from industry through discrimination. In the course of the past 10 months, the FEPC has ended 26 work stoppages in vital production fields which had their origin in unfair employment practices; three of them were serious strikes in the steel industry. Its orderly, understanding approach to labor problems of this nature will be needed more than ever when we encounter the problems of demobilization and reconversion. For in this period discrimination can create chaos. If whole classes of men are denied an opportunity to earn a living because of the color of their skin, they will become desperate and dangerous. 6-13-44

The House has voted an appropriation of half a million dollars to carry on the FEPC's work. The Senate Appropriations Committee, despite an unfavorable subcommittee report, has recommended the approval of this sum. Today the Senate as a whole will begin discussion of it. We hope that the discussion will be concerned with the real issue—not with bugbears conjured up to obfuscate it. We cannot deny to citizens of the United States equality of economic opportunity.

Texas' Leonard Brin Resigns From FEPC

News-Birmingham, Ala
6-11-44

DALLAS, Tex.—(AP)—Leonard M. Brin has resigned as regional director the president's Comittee on Fair Employment Practices, and is en route to Washington.

Brin, who said here that his resignation—for "personal reasons"—would be effective June 30, declared that policy questions raised by Texas Gov. Coker R. Stevenson on FEPC operations "must be referred to the committee in Washington."

In a letter to Brin, Stevenson had asked by what authority FEPC conducted activities in Texas; what was the scope of its operations and the objective sought; whether the purpose of the activities included violation of any of the segregation laws of the state and whether it was the purpose to "establish policies which are in violation of state laws." 6-11-44

In Washington, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, said, "The committee neither in its purpose nor in its activities does violation to any valid laws of any state nor has it established any policies contrary to such laws."

Brin said he had decided to resign two or three months ago, before a statewide discussion arose over activities of his office in directing employers engaged in essential work not to specify Negro and white in advertising for help.

Heartening signs

Senatorial refusal this week to kill the Fair Employment Practices committee evidenced in the 39 to 21 roll call vote for the $500,000 appropriation, certainly more than compensated for all the ugly things said in the nation's capital, and duly reported in the press, by the southern demogogues and race baiters, headed by the spectacular wickedly witty old war horse, Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi. Desipte Bilbo and his "Back to Africa" projects: despite the witch hunting of Senator George of Georgia and the strident echoes of their rebel colleagues on the senatorial

floor, the Negro and those who love democracy might well take comfort in some aspects of the FEPC affair over and beyond the victory. Tribune-Los Angeles, Calif.

Encouraging was the position of Senator Pepper of Florida, who occupied the singular position of a Democrat from the Deep South voting with the forces for democracy. Senator Pepper is only one man, it is true, but day by day we become convinced that the South has an increasing number like him who will lead the region into mental, spiritual and social revolt someday, just as Denmark Vesey, Nat Turner, John Brown and the others led physically enslaved Negroes in the many insurrections prior to the Civil War. 6-26-44

In addition to Senator Pepper's courageous stand, the attitude of the better element of the nation's press was also heartening. Reported with due ridicule and a not too subtle show of impatience with such horse play were the harangues of the Dixie legislators. It can be taken as a good sign that the American publie at large is waking up when the popular press comes finally to almost common agreement; the intellectuals, the leadership, is never very far in front of the people.

IN SPITE OF HYSTERICAL OPPOSITION FROM the White Supremacy bloc in Congress, the Fair Employment Practices Committee has been granted $500,000 to carry on its fight for racial equality in employment. Meager though the amount may be for the vast responsibility that has been imposed upon the agency, the provision of even this sum must be considered a major political victory for the advocates of racial justice. In the Senate particularly, the racial bigots left no stone unturned to discredit the FEPC and withhold its appropriation. The agency was charged with creating racial trouble, with seeking to communize America, and, in the words of Senator Bilbo, with furthering the Negro's "dream of social equality and intermarriage." Under pressure from the Southern bloc the Senate adopted an amendment which will prevent the government from seizing and operating plants to enforce the rulings of the FEPC against discrimination. The agency will still have the power to enforce its orders through cancelation of government contracts. A second Senate amendment providing that no decision by the FEPC could modify any act of Congress is regarded as an attempt to undermine its cancelation powers. The practical effect of these amendments is not clear as we go to press; but since the agency has achieved remarkable results in the past without adequate authority for cracking down on offenders, now, armed with a clear-cut Congressional mandate, it should make an even better record.

The Nation-New York N.Y. 7-1-44

More 'Discrimination'

Post-Birmingham, Ala.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices has nosed its way into the headlines again. This time it is in Texas in a dictum to a Dallas newspaper. 6-5-44

The paper advertised in its own columns for a paper handler to work in its pressroom, specifying that he be a Negro. Promptly, the publisher was notified by the regional director of the CFEP that the ad was discriminatory that it violated Executive Order No. 9346. The violation, it seems, consisted in "automatically limiting applicants to the narrow field described in the advertisement and barring persons of other race or color even though the latter may also possess skill needed by your establishment."

Now all the aims of the CFEP may be laudable ones. Its members may be inspired by the loftiest of motives. It may have only the best interests of the people at heart. But it seems that its stand in matters like this one simply is silly, to put it charitably.

Who should be more competent to choose the type of man he wants for a job than the employer, out of whose pocket the wage for that man comes and whose interests are affected by the fitness or unfitness of the person he hires? If he thinks a Negro is better qualified for the job, who is a better judge than he? If he wants a white man, who is more competent to decide than he?

If it so happens that he prefers a Jew to a Gentile, or vice versa, or if he happens to want an atheist, a Baptist, a Roman Catholic, a Buddhist, or a disciple of Aimee Semple McPherson, why does he not have the right to that preference? 6-5-44

The employer is the winner or the loser by the choice. He is very unlikely to step out and hire a bunch of incompetents just because they are of a certain race or color or creed or political belief which he may happen to favor personally. He is not going to practice discrimination to his own damage.

Time must be hanging heavy indeed on the hands of the CFEP if it is worrying about the fairness or unfairness of hiring one paper handler at a wage of probably $20 a week. It certainly has strained its imagination to find discrimination in a case like this.

If this is the type of benefit with which we are being blessed by the workings of the committee, it seems that many of our congressmen were right when they fought against granting it a further appropriation from the Federal Treasury. 6-5-44

The Practical Point To Be Remembered

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. 6-13-44

One great point about the Fair Employment Practices Committee might be pressed upon members of the United States Senate whose appropriations subcommittee proposed to knock out the $500,000 proposed for another year's operation of the anti-discrimination agency.

This is the idea that the F.E.P.C. is a highly practical device for helping make best use of manpower for war production and that it is a means of bringing about total mobilization of workers in the nation's interest. In the extremity of war, it is patently a disservice to stifle the operation of an agency designed to prevent the elimination of workers from the productive scheme of things because they belong to minorities of race, creed or color.

Irrespective of any social implications in the F.E.P.C. program, which many besides Southern Democrats seem exclusively to see, there is this element to be considered—that the thing involves a matter of labor utilization at a time when there is never enough of strength and skill, when working as well as fighting with every available resource of the land is demanded. 6-13-44

The subcommittee's action was overridden yesterday by the full committee, and we hope the Senate will sustain the latter decision, which coincides with the decision of the House of Representatives. In the lower body, the purpose of F.E.P.C. has been vindicated, though it was only by the narrow margin of four votes that the members there defeated the TARVER amendment which would have struck the funds from the War Agencies Appropriation Bill.

E en in the House, however, politics induced the members to move gingerly. The vote of 123 to 119 by which the Georgia Congressman's amendment was defeated was recorded by teller, with almost ostentatious avoidance of roll call. Obviously, the main point needs pressing, particularly now in the Senate. We are at war. The great necessity is to win, in the accomplishment of which all Americans must work together. Our fate is a common one, and as there can be no distinction as to it, so there can be no discrimination as to the service required properly to shape it.

George Hits FEPC Result

Constitution-Atlanta, Ga. 6-16-44

WASHINGTON, June 15.—(AP)—Senator George, Democrat, Georgia, contended today that the President's Fair Employment Practices Commission, chief item of controversy in a billion-dollar war agencies appropriation bill before the senate, is "a step toward national socialism."

George told reporters:

"The vital objection to it is that it takes away from the owner and manager of a business the right of control over that business—not in the interest of any legitimate social reform, but to placate and palliate the prejudices of a racial group which may feel itself discriminated against."

The announced purpose of the FEPC is to prevent racial discrimination in war industries and government employment. Some southern lawmakers contend it has fomented racial disorders rather than reduced them. 6-16-44

A majority of the southern group, while all-out against approval of the $500,000 FEPC budget, appeared unwilling to risk a filibuster on a bill carrying funds for important war agencies. Nevertheless they were determined to put their opposition firmly on record in the senate before the item goes to a vote. Its chance for approval was conceded to be good.

The $500,000 appropriation for its work next year, already approved by the House, is now before the Senate. Few senators outside of those from the polltax states would dare vote against it. So the polltaxers and some of their GOP pals are trying to kill it through trickery.

They have apparently dropped their first plan to filibuster the measure to death because any such action would hold up appropriations for many other war agencies and would rouse a terrific storm of public protest.

Their plan now seems to be to postpone action until the weekend when FEPC supporters will be absent.

This can, and must be, prevented by the people. Every senator should be reached at once and urged to be present during the debate and the vote on FEPC. Its defeat would be a dangerous blow to the war effort, to national unity and to American democracy. 6-13-44

Save FEPC

Daily Worker-New York N.Y.

IF THE vital Fair Employment Practices Committee is to remain in existence after June 30 it will be only because the people come to its rescue. 6-15-44

Only 26 Pct. of 'Race' Cases Before FEPC Came From South

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia
8-4-44

BY JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—(AP)—Southerners have shouted loudest about "white supremacy" over Negroes but there is plenty of evidence to show that doctrine is practiced widely in the rest of the country.

The strike of Philadelphia transit workers against the hiring of Negro drivers by the transportation company there followed bitter complaints of outright discrimination in that northern city.

This tells some of the story:

The Fair Employment Practice Committee has pending about 2,111 complaints of racial discrimination.

The FEPC was created to prevent discrimination on racial or religious grounds in war industries and thus, its advocates argued, make the best use of the nation's manpower.

1,550 CASES ELSEWHERE

Of the total of 2,111 complaints, 561 are in the south. The remaining 1,550 complaints have been made from the rest of the country.

8-4-44

FEPC officials say:

"Those figures don't mean that those are all the cases of discrimination occurring either in the south or the rest of the country.

"Actual discrimination may be far greater but we report only the complaints received.

"In the north, particularly, complaints of discrimination against Negroes are apt to be more numerous for two reasons:

"First, there are more Negro organizations in the north and they are active against discrimination. Second, there are more war industries in the north and the FEPC handles only cases of discrimination in war jobs."

Philadelphia is not the only city where there have been protests against proposals to promote Negroes to jobs as bus drivers or as street car motormen and conductors.

There have been complaints of discrimination in Washington, D. C., Baltimore and Los Angeles. The Los Angeles case will be heard Aug. 8 and 9. 8-4-44

There have been complaints of discrimination in the shipbuilding and aircraft industries, public utilities, southern textile mills, machinery manufacture and railroads.

The heaviest load of complaints has come from New York, Philadelphia, Detroit, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Detroit and St. Louis.

THE PULSE OF THE PUBLIC

Constitution—Atlanta, Ga.

(The Constitution welcomes letters from its readers. They must be signed, should not exceed 200 words.) 8-17-44

The FEPC Case

Editor, Constitution: I read with dimmed hopes the editorial of August 7, 1944, on "The State of the Nation." Whereas I agree with you that there are two obvious diseases that if unchecked will do permament damage to the heart of the nation. I certainly do not agree with your diagnosis. Your analysis of class legislation is partially true, but certainly by no stretch of the imagination could the FEPC be named as the second virus. The FEPC is only one remedy aimed at checkmating a malignant disease. It is very difficult for Negroes in Atlanta to understand how a paper with such professed liberalism as yours could so blindly ignore the true virus. 8-17-44

The real and potent virus is the dogged determination of the white American to perpetuate racial prejudice and economic discrimination in face of a world conflagration set by a Fascist racial theory. Everyone who has taken the time to study the testimony secured by congress on the FEPC, knows that Senators George and Russell stretched minor points to kill the FEPC. They did not speak of the overwhelming instances of amicable and noteworthy achievements of the FEPC in aiding the war effort. Nor did they propose how the thirteenth and fourteenth amendments to the Constitution could be enforced in face of flagrant denials of work opportunities to a minority race who is dying on the battle fronts of the world every day to protect the self-safe companies that would deny members of their own families work opportunities.

J. R. HENDERSON.

Atlanta.

One More FEPC Mess

Birmingham Post 9-12-44

No good citizen favors strikes that hamper war production. Many of the hundreds of walkouts which have hampered our fighting program have been for reasons that seem senseless to the average observer. Many people will take that view of the transportation strike in Philadelphia, but it certainly is unfair in the extreme to heap all the blame on the traction workers who quit their jobs.

When the members of Mr. Roosevelt's so-called Fair Employment Practices Committee decided that they would force 5000 transit line employes to work with eight upgraded Negroes, they could not help knowing that they were setting the stage for trouble—and deliberately.

There was trouble. The Army moved in. The strike was ended. And the FEPC probably is sitting back and tossing bouquets at itself for a job well done.

There may be a little question about this well-done job. Is this victory of "principle" worth what it cost?

Is the upgrading of eight Negroes worth the loss of a million or more man-hours of work on vital war equipment?

Is it worth intensifying racial tension, which has been high in Philadelphia for several years? 8-12-44

Is it worth all the expense of moving troops into the city to take over the traction lines?

Is it worth the material damage, the property loss, the physical injuries that were sustained?

We doubt it. This looks like one more on the debit side of the FEPC, which, incidentally, hasn't any items on the credit side that we can recall right now.

Senator Russell and the FEPC

Sen. Richard B. Russell, of Georgia, has again spoken before the senate of the United States, asking that deliberative body to curb the "ruthless . . . distorted views" of the Fair Employment Practices Committee and its members.

Sen. Russell has said also he has no quarrel with the FEPC as created. Constitution—Atlanta, Ga.

What he does quarrel with, and what every thoughtful person must quarrel with, is the apparent determination, of at least a majority of its members, to extend the power and the field of operations designated for the committee far beyond anything ever conceived for it.

The problem outlined for the Fair Employment Practices Committee was large enough. It was set up to prevent discrimination in employment practices in the war plants of the nation supported by the taxpayers' money. In this field the original FEPC did an excellent job. It ended many discriminations and set up a new pattern of employment. 8-11-44

The FEPC then went into a period of inactivity because of resignations. These resignations were brought about, in some if not in all instances, by the determination of some of those connected with the FEPC, and some of those influential ones interested in it, to make of the FEPC, not a fair employment practices committee, but an agency which would solve, with a club the racial problem of the nation The FEPC, as finally reorganized, seems to have forgotten its original purpose. It has made war plants a secondary consideration. Only by a great stretching of imagination could it have ruled the railroads of the nation to be war plants within the meaning of the decree setting up FEPC. By no stretching of the point or imagination can it be said the FEPC had any business whatsoever dealing with the street railway business in Philadelphia.

We commend Sen. Russell and urge that he keep this before the senate of the United States until the FEPC is abolished or forced to do only the job it was created to do. It does stand convicted in the public eye as the most fanatical and authority-be-damned committee yet created. The good it has done—and it has done good—is completely overshadowed by its arrogant and harmful acts which cause ten dragons of prejudice and hate to spring up for every one slain.

Ministers Pray Before Senate FEPC Committee For Permanent Life

Daily Worker, New York 9-1-44

S. S. Washington Purser Writes Of Leader's Reaction

WASHINGTON—(SNS—A large delegation of Negro ministers stood in prayer Thursday at a Senate subcommittee meeting for consideration of a bill to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission.

The ministers, from churches in Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington, were presented to the sub-committee by Dr. William H. Jernigan, spokesman for the National Council of Negro Churches.

Exclusion of Negroes from equal opportunities threatens the democracy of this nation, Dr. Jernagin told the senators.

"Our democratic institutions cannot endure," he said, "if we continue to want and insecurity in the midst of plenty."

There is no hatred or strife more bitter than that which can come when people of different races compete for too little and too few jobs.

The Right Rev. John W. Ryan, spokesman for the New York, National Catholic Welfare Conference, told the committee that employers who practice discrimination against Negroes are committing an act "as definitely immoral as if they committed theft or murder."

The theory that the Negro must be "kept in his place" was condemned by Monsignor Ryan as based on "an evil tradition" which belongs of Negro slaves. Employers are "entirely illogical," when they refuse to employ them in their stores but in their own kitchens and dining rooms.

Coast Bows to FEPC

People's Voice—New York, N.Y.

LOS ANGELES—In a closed conference with FEPC officials Wednesday of last week, representatives of the Los Angeles Railway agreed to hire and upgrade Negroes to platform positions on street cars and buses. This agreement followed a directive of the FEPC after its hearings on the matter recently, in which it ordered the company to desist its practices of refusing to hire colored persons as motormen, conductors and bus drivers. The company promised to take immediate steps to comply with its new hiring policies, working in cooperation with the regional director of the FEPC.

8-26-44

The FEPC subsequently agreed to recommend to the War Manpower Commission that the firm's labor priority rights, which were taken away in March, be restored.

Navy Yard Discrimination Case Sent To Washington For Action

Age—New York, N.Y.

4-8-44

The Citizens' Anti-Discrimination Committee has just been informed by Edward Lawson, FEPC Regional Director, that its brief alleging racial and employment discrimination against Negro and Jewish workers by the Brooklyn Navy Yard has been referred to Washington officials for action. Mr. Lawson promised the committee a detailed statement later this week.

The FEPC's decision to send the case to Washington was the result of Navy Yard Command Kelly's failure to act on the charges.

4-9-44

The critical stage of this campaign to bring about fair employment practices for thousands of Negroes and minorities in one of the nation's largest Navy Yards is at hand!

The Citizens' Committee and the United Federal Workers of America Local 137 (CIO) will seek the support of all progressive organizations in New York to carry this fight on to Washington with increased vigor until substantial action is taken to eliminate the rampant employment discrimination charged to the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

AID TO SECURITY NEGROES' APPEAL

The Herald—Birmingham Ala.

9-1-44

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9-1-44

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NEGRO GROUP PRAYS BEFORE SENATORS

Times—New York, N.Y.

Ministers Attend Hearing on Bill to Make FEPC Permanent

—Post-War Peril Stressed

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31 (AP)—A large delegation of Negro ministers stood in silent prayer today at a Senate subcommittee meeting for consideration of a bill to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission.

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The Senators hearing testimony on employment problems of minority groups were told of an incident of "racial discrimination" in the United States Capitol.

Miss Milly Brandt of the American Jewish Congress, New York, testified before the Chavez subcommittee that to her and several others was denied admission to the Senate Office Building cafeteria and the Senate restaurant in the Capitol because one of the group was a Negro woman.

Only at the Supreme Court Building, whose motto, she quoted, is "Equal justice under law," was the party admitted to a cafeteria.

The subcommittee, considering a bill to establish a permanent fair employment practices commission, heard also Arnold Aronson, spokesman for the Chicago Council against Racial and Religious Discrimination, assert that race riots which followed the first World war might be repeated in this post-war period if employment dropped and no anti-discrimination stand was taken by the Government.

Saying that minority groups were "last to be hired and first to be fired," Aronson declared that idle workers might start "pulling down the social order in which they live."

The firing of minority group workmen, he said, to make way for soldiers and discharged war workers might create in this country a situation similar to "the ladder of race hatred, fanned in the crucible of unemployment," by which Adolf Hitler climbed to power in Germany.

Senator Dennis Chavez of New Mexico, chairman of the subcommittee, said the bill might be brought before the Senate education and labor committee next week. No witnesses, he said, had asked so far to testify against the proposed legislation.

Other witnesses included Mrs. Myrta P. Ross of New York City, executive secretary of the United Council of Churchwomen; Miss Helen Raebeck of New York, National Council of Jewish Women; Miss Charlotte May of Washington, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses; Dr. Emily Hickman of New York, general secretary of the Y. W. C. A.; George Weaver of Washington, director of the national CIO committee to abolish racial discrimination; Kermit Eby, assistant director of research and education of the CIO.

One Opponent Appears At Hearings on FEPC

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

9-15-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Only one person appeared during the six days of senate hearings on legislation for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee in opposition to such a measure. She was Mrs. Agnes Waters, who claims to represent the Mothers of America, and to be a candidate for President of the United States—the only woman running for that honor.

She appeared at the hearings last week and after sitting through a session, arose and asked "what is this—legislation in favor of Negroes and Jews. I'm opposed to it and demand to be heard." She was extended the opportunity of appearing the next day.

Her testimony brought boos and hisses from the audience, which caused her to appeal to the chairman of the sub-committee, Sen. Dennis Chavez (D. N. M.) for order and courtesy, but he could not control "human reactions."

9-10-44

A highlight of her appearance came when she began to cough from her own ravings and a tall, handsome Negro—Grant Reynolds of the Washington Bureau of the N.A.A.C.P. —courteously carried her a glass of water. The irony in the situation escaped no one present.

The hearings ended last Friday with the appearance of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Broadus Mitchell, Ann Arnold Hedgeman and several others in favor of the bill.

Sen. Chavez indicated he would make every effort to get a favorable report before the full Senate Committee on Education and Labor "as quickly as possible."

FEPC AND CIO SIGN PACT TO ELIMINATE RACE DISCRIMINATION

Daily Tribune—Chicago, Ill.

9-4-44

Washington, D. C., Sept. 3 (AP).—The President's committee on fair employment practices and the war policy division of the CIO United Automobile, Aircraft, and Agricultural Implement Workers have signed a working agreement designed to speed the "elimination of un-American discrimination."

The agreement, announced today by FEPC Chairman Ross and R. J. Thomas, UAW president, is the first negotiated between the committee and any union. Under the agreement, the union will coöperate in the settlement of complaints of discrimination involving any UAW officer or a plant in which the union has a local.

9-4-44

Ross called the agreement "a great step forward in the trade union movement, which shows an ever growing realization that preservation of the right to work for all men regardless of race, creed color, or national origin is the key stone to its future healthy existence."

FEPC Awaits Two Major Decisions

Daily World Atlanta Ga.

2-9-44

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—The Fair Employment Practice committee was waiting with baited breath last week for the announcement of momentous decisions both in Washington and in Kansas City. At the same time, what preparation that could be made was going ahead in anticipation of a two-day meeting of the full committee on Friday and Saturday

Monday week ago President Roosevelt convenced his special three-man committee on the railroad cases and told them exactly what he wanted them to do. Meeting with the group also was Jonathan Daniels, assistant to the President chiefly responsible for problems arising regarding minority groups. 2-9-44

The remainder of the week the men met in an office at the state department building and worked out procedures.

ROSS TESTIFIES

They called in FEPC Chairman Ross on Wednesday and got from him a picture of the picture to date. Others whom they might have talked with could not be determined. It is understood, however that the committee planned to hear representatives of the carriers and the brotherhoods before reaching their decision. 2-9-44

The members of this committee are Judge Walter P. Stacy of N C., chairman, Judge William H. Holly of the U. S. District Court, Chicago; and Mayor Frank J. Lausche of Cleveland. Ross was not present.

Out in Kansas the boilermakers union was holding its convention and was expected to discuss the entire question of Negro memberships. Several sources have indicated that the action taken by the boilmakers 'might' have far reaching effect upon other problems confronting the FEPC. It is known that Chairman Ross had been out there seeking to prevail upon the union, but no indication was available as to what he said or, did or the success he might have met.

HELD IN ABEYANCE

Meanwhile, all cases pending before the Smith investigating committee and representing complaints against the FEPC are being held in abeyance until the outcome of the Kansas convention is known.

The committee disclosed this week that a woman who had been hired last September by the Capital Transit Company as operator was fired on January 24 when it was learned she is a Negro. She is Mrs. Sara Grayson.

Mrs. Grayson was hired on September 6, received 21 days of training operating a car without passengers but under supervision She was later assigned to a route This year she was called to the office of the personnel directoir who said "young lady, we shall have to ask you to turn in.' 2-9-44

Peterson Hits FEPC Ruling

Constitution Atlanta, Ga. 3-10-44

WASHINGTON, March 9.—(AP) The war effort is being delayed, believes Representative Hugh Peterson by "attempts to force social equality on merchant seamen."

Peterson, member of the special house committee investigating executive agencies, sharply criticized in an interview the Fair Employment Practices Committee for issuing a ruling which he said resulted in such action.

The Georgian also criticized Craig Vincent, War Shipping Administration regional administrator, who obtains crews for ships sailing from Jacksonville, Savannah and other points along the Atlantic seaboard.

"He declared that he believed unhesitatingly that the FEPC ruling should be enforced, even if it meant social equality," Peterson declared. 3-10-44

"Now I believe he has a right to have his opinions, but the men who sail the ships have a right to their beliefs, too.

"And when they don't want social equality, as they have indicated they do not, then it is not right for Vincent or anyone else to force it upon them.

"That is one of the things that we are fighting for—to guarantee men such as the merchant seamen the right to live as they see fit.

"It is a terrible situation and not right to take advantage of an emergency situation and force on them something to which they are opposed."

Ask Special FEPC Committee To Block Railroad, Union Bias

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

1-22-44

WASHINGTON — (A N P)— Members of the special committee appointed by President Roosevelt to adjust complaints against the railroad companies and unions which have defied the findings and directives of the FEPC were asked to take all appropriate steps this week to abolish discriminatory practices against Negroes in a letter from the National Lawyers guild.

The letter, carrying the signatures of Robert W. Kenny, guild president and Martin Pepper, executive secretary, delcared that there is not the slightest evidence that the public would object if Negroes were employed on the railroads in the south, and that in fact, both the southern public and southern white labor have long accepted the Negro in these jobs.

"We sincerely hope," the lawyers said, "that your committee will not allow this flagrant interference with the war effort to succeed," while charging that the railroads and unions are in the position of trying to impose on the south an employment pattern in the railroads that has never heretofore existed there. 1-23-44

The three-man committee, which includes Judge Walter P. Stacy, chairman Mayor Frank Lausche and Judge William H. Holly, was told that no provisions in the Railroad Labor act protected the railroads in the practice of racial discrimination, and that supreme court decisions supported the view that discriminatory clauses in the contracts between the railroad companies and unions are made invalid by the presidential executive orders creating the FEPC.

Pointing out the acute manpower shortage at a time when the final push is about to be made against the fortress of fascism, the lawyers analyzed the contentions made by the railroads and stressed the national danger of a probable breakdown in transportation.

Boilermakers Blast F.E.P.C.

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Claim "We Treat Negroes Right"

1-15-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(A N P) —Insinuations that the Fair Employment Practice committee might be communisticallly influenced and that what's Negro shipyard workers on the west coast are asking for is but a fore-runner to mixed housing, mixed schools and integrated social activity, are contained in the letter of Complaint which the Boliermaker's Union (AFL) have filed with the Smith investigating committee whose chairman, Howard W. Smith (D) of Virginia has announced that a probe would be made of FEPC.

Contents of the letter were obtained from a reliable source, and for the first time reveals the arguments which the boilermakers are making in answer to the directives of the FEPC to them to stop discriminating against Negro workers through the medium of Jim-crow auxiliary lodges 1-15-44

Meanwhile, in New York, George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, in a letter to the speaker of the house, Sam Rayburn, urged that the Smith committee be immediatelv terminated because of its "irresponsible investigations which disrupt the work of important war agencies."

Monday a week ago, a representative of the committee seized the records of the FEPC in both the boilermakers' and the railroad's cases preliminary to undertaking a probe of the anti-discrimination agency. The seizure was made allegedly on the basis of the complaint of the boilermakers. The complaint was signed by W. A. Calvin, international vice-president of the union.

New Peril to FEPC

Daily Worker-Newyork, N.y.

GUNNING for the life of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee is again under way in Washington 3-1-44

Through the amendment to proposed appropriations offered by Senator Russell of Georgia, the FEPC would be killed in a shrewd and subtle way. The President would merely be prevented from transferring funds to any federal agency which had been in existence for twelve months or more. That spells "FEPC" all over. It would apparently end that agency by May 28.

This proposal has been actually endorsed, at least tentatively, by a sub-committee of the Senate Appropriations Committee. That this should happen is not necessarily surprising. That same coterie of Republicans and rightist Democrats which has tried to halt the soldiers vote, suppress subsidies and bring out an inadequate tax bill would not scruple at killing off the work which the FEPC has been doing against discrimination in war employment. 3-1-44

Among the members of the sub-committee which temporarily OK'd this Russell amendment are Senators Truman, Mead and Green —men who have frequently stood by the administration and who are generally on the democratic side of vital issues before Congress. Their attitude toward this measure has not been made clear, since it seems they were not present at the sub-committee meeting at which this undesirable move was made. But we want to take this occasion to urge them—and to ask our readers to urge them—to work actively against this proposal, in the committee and on the Senate floor.

It is unthinkable that America can, on the eve of the mighty military offensive, take any step so disturbing to our nation's unity as the snuffing out of the FEPC would prove to be.

GOP South Rallying Votes To Kill FEPC

PM - New York, N.y.

3-21-44

Trade Calls for

Help in Cutting Funds For FCC

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21.—A Republican-Southern Democratic coalition in the Senate is rallying votes with clock-like precision to kill the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee).

An amendment wiping out the FEPC—the agency designed to prevent or eliminate racial discrimination in war industries—is tacked on to the Independent Offices Appropriations Bill now under consideration in the Senate.

A number of the bill's provisions carrying funds for other agencies were voted on yesterday. The roll calls disclosed that the Southern Democrats who are out to get FEPC have swapped votes with GOP Senators, who in turn insisted that funds for other Government departments be curtailed.

Teamwork Evident

This teamwork between the two groups was clearly evident as the Southerners meekly followed the Republican leadership's fight against giving sufficient money to the FCC (Federal Communications Commission).

On two separate roll-calls, Southern Democratic Senators—Bankhead, Byrd, Eastland, McClellan, Overton, Russell, Stewart and others—concurred in slashing the FCC funds for radio propaganda analysis. 3-21-44

The FCC's funds clearly were not a major issue with the Southerners. They apparently acceded to Republican demands in the hope of winning GOP support when the FEPC issue hits the floor within a day or two.

The amendment abolishing FEPC is disguised in language which would prevent the President from using his emergency funds for any agency which after one year does not have Congressional approval.

Aimed at FEPC

The amendment, sponsored by Sen. Richard Russell (D., Ga.), is frankly aimed at FEPC, although a number of other agencies would be affected.

The FEPC, created by Presidential directive, has been supported from FDR's special fund, and until recently has not requested money from Congress.

After the introduction of the Russell amendment, the FEPC submitted a request for $585,000.

Actually, however, the fate of FEPC may be decided on the action taken by Congress on the Russell amendment. If both Houses vote to curb the use FDR makes of special money given him by Congress, this action will be construed as the death-knell of FEPC. There is slim chance that the FEPC's funds request would then be granted.

Permanent FEPC Council Ideal Hits A Snag

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
4-18-44

Support Drops Amidst Confusion As To Policy

WASHINGTON — (ANP)— The work of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, to all intents and purposes, has been snagged on the rock of policy. Sources both in and out of government whose sympathies all along have been and still are in support of the idea espoused by the council, are agreed upon this point.

To begin with, the council was born of the imagination of A. Philip Randolph and his March on Washington Movement, early in 1943. According to a strong supporter of the MCWM here in Washington, it was not the intent of the organization to dominate the council in any way but rather to get it moving and to leave it to its own devices.

The chairmanship of the council however, was shared by Randolph and Dr. Allen Knight Chalmers, pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle church in New York. A large national committee was created and then a smaller executive committee. The larger number of appointments to this smaller group were and are held by Negroes.

Because of his multiplicity of duties, Randolph quite naturally left much responsibility with B. F. McLaurin, a field representative for his Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. McLaurin, it might be said, has always been available to "second St. Philip's motion," as one individual has described him.

The council met here for two days in February and impressed a considerable number of people with its desire to do a job. Since that time the organization has been fumbling along without adequate direction. 4-18-44

At least two important matters involving policy have not yet been settled, if present indications are to be believed. The first involves actual minority representation in the council; the other, the position to be taken regarding the present struggle of FEPC for a budget.

Observers here have long felt if a permanent FEPC is ever to be realized, the effort is going to require the concerted efforts of all minority groups who can be convinced that they have a stake in the fight. These individuals maintain that FEPC is held by many to represent nothing more than an instrument for handling Negro grievances only. They point out that the committee itself has said or done nothing to demonstrate other wise, either in its make-up or in its selicitation of space in newspapers. 4-18-44

Say Agency Is Powerless To Enforce Edicts

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
3-5-44

Counsel Witness Before Hostile House Probers

WASHINGTON—(S N S) — Attorney Charles H. Houston, who represented the Fair Employment Practice Committee in its hearings on railroad discrimination, conceded before the hostile Smith Investigation Committee of the House Thursday that the agency was powerless to enforce its celebrated directives against Negro job bias.

General concensus of opinion was that the FEPC campaign against discrimination in the employment of Negroes is bogging down.

DIRECTIVES NOT 'ORDERS'

Attorney Houston conceded that FEPC directives were not orders and "nothing but recommendations." Voicing the viewpoint of FEPC officials, he made this admission after the Smith Committee had provided a forum for an all-day attack on the FEPC directives, against discrimination by railroads and unions.

Attorneys for the railroads and the rail unions had joined in charging the FEPC with exceeding its authority in the issuance of the directives. Contending that the President's Commitee had no authority to ban discrimination were Sidney Alderman, (for the roads, and Frank Mulholland, for the Brotherhoods.

Alderman contended the railroads were powerless to employ more Negroes because of their agreements with the unions. He quoted Brotherhood officials as saying that if more jobs were given to the Negroes they could not "control their men" and disorder would follow. 3-5-44

DIGGING A GRAVE

Mulholland said the unions were sympathetic to the Negroes, but "couldn't progress more rapidly than public opinion." He admitted both the unions and the railroads had refused to comply with the FEPC directives.

Houston, replying to Mulholland's expression of sympathy for the movement to eliminate racial discrimination, said the Brotherhoods were "trying to solve the problem by elimination of the Negro from the industry." Warning that the issue involved the things we are fighting for in this war, Houston said:

"If you permit the authority of the United States to be flouted and say you will not permit employment to citizens of the United States, then you are digging the grave for thousands in the next generation."

CHALLENGE PRESENTED

Houston said the real function of the President's Committee was to bring the problem of racial discrimination to the attention of the public! He said it was the first agency to "deal with a problem like slavery that isn't going to be put off." 3-5-44

"To say that Negroes can't work on the railroads," Houston said, "puts a challenge up to every American that must be met."

Most of the Smith Committee members sat through a long day of testimony by Alderman and Mulholland attacking the FEPC, but when Houston took the stand to speak for the Negro unions they began to leave. First to go were three of the men who have been most hostile to the FEPC program—Representatives Clare Hoffman (Republican, Michigan), John Jennings, Jr., (Republican, Tennessee) and Hugh Peterson (Democrat, Georgia.)

Chairman Howard W. Smith, (Democrat, Virginia) suggested that if the unions really wanted to eliminate improper conditions they ought to do something about the Negro employes they represent but don't permit to belong to the unions. He said that "doesn't square with our American way of life."

Smith was careful to add that he was not "talking about race equality," because "I come from a part of the country where they don't believe in it."

'Real Story' Of FEPC Promised At Hearing By House Labor Head

News-Examiner
5-16-44

WASHINGTON—(AP) —Chairman Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.), of the House labor committee, asserted Tuesday she would "bring out the real story" of the oft-criticized fair employment practices committee at a hearing opening May 29 on legislation which would create a permanent federal agency similar to FEPC.

"It's time people knew about FEPC," Mrs. Norton told a reporter. "There has been so much misinformation about it that it's pitiful."

Three Southern members of her committee voiced sharp exceptions to the New Jersey congresswoman's action in calling the group to consider the proposed legislation.

* * *

REP. FISHER (D., Tex.) asserted the hearing "would only promote disunity" and Rep. Ramspeck (D., Ga.) commented, "The hearing will do more harm than good. The racial problem is a delicate one which can best be solved by a lot of patience and effort on the part of both races. It can't be solved by force or passing a law."

Rep. Abernethy (D., Miss.) in a statement published in The Congressional Record called the FEPC "the rottenest, vilest, most communistic-infested agency of this regulated government."

* * *

"THE SOUTHERNERS," observed Mrs. Norton, "think the FEPC deals just with their racial problem, but it doesn't. It concerns all minority groups throughout the country." 5-16-44

The proposed legislation, introduced by Reps. Scanlon (D., Pa.), Dawson (D., Ill.) and La Follette (R., Ind.), would create a fair employment practice commission of seven members, each of whom would be paid $10,000 yearly. The commission would be charged with preventing "discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry."

Funds for FEPC Stir House Fight

World-Telegram
New York, N.Y.
5-25-44

By the United Press.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The House, receiving a bill to appropriate $1,033,358,367 for fiscal 1945 operations of 17 war agencies, immediately became embroiled today in a drive by some members to eliminate $500,000 for the President's fair employment practices committee. The bill was approved by the Appropriations Committee.

The drive against the FEPC was led by Representative Francis Case (R., S. D.) and was supported by Southern Democrats. The FEPC endeavors to prevent discrimination on account of color and race. Mr. Case sought to upset a unanimous consent agreement reached two days ago that legislative provisions of the bill could not be eliminated on parliamentary objections, but lost on a 175-to-54 vote.

Representative Clifton A. Woodrum (D., Va.) joined in seeking elimination of FEPC funds. He contended that since the agency never had been authorized by Congress (it was created by executive order), Congress should not vote funds for it.

Opponents of the agency planned to strike from the bill amendment to strike the FEPC funds.

Atty. Houston Succeeds Young As Member Of FEPC Committee

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
3-7-44

Chas. Horn Succeeds Samuel Zemurray; Chicago N'western Upgrades Laborers

By HARRY S. McALPIN
(Washington Bureau of the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

The President on Monday announced official acceptance of the resignation of P. B. Young, Sr., as a member of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and the appointment of Attorney Charles H. Houston of Washington to fill the vacancy.

He announced also the resignation of Samuel Zemurray of New Orleans, as a member of the committee, and the appointment of Charles Horn, president of the Federal Catridge Company, of Minneapolis, Minn., as a new member of the FEPC.

The FEPC announced agreement of the Chicago Northwestern Railroad to upgrade Negro car cleaners to helpers, and dining car waiters to stewards. Five Negroes have been employed as stewards with retroactive seniority rights of six months to a year. 3-7-44

Although the Chicago Northwestern was involved in the FEPC hearings last September, the complaint of the waiters was not included because of late submission The matter was negotiated by the Chicago office of the FEPC.

Sen. Russell Offers Action To Limit Agencies

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
2-29-44

Bill Would Take Funds Away From Pres. Roosevelt

WASHINGTON — (S N S)—A Senate Appropriations Subcommittee voted solidly Monday to abolish President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee and bring other executive agencies under closer scrutiny of Congress.

Offering the legislation was Senator Richard B. Russell, Democrat of Georgia. It was a amendment to the $8,500,090,000 independent offices appropriation bill. Effective July 1, it would prohibit the transfer of funds to agencies a year or more old which had not been authorized directly by Congress.

Indications were that the subcommittee would not complete consideration of the entire bill before Tuesday or Wednesday.

FEPC was established by executive order, designed to prevent racial discrimination in the hiring of war workers.

ACTION PREDICTED

Eealier Monday Senator Russell had said that his committee so far had been unable to obtain from the budget bureau a list of agencies which fell in this category, and added that he was informed that the FEPC, which had been investigated by a special house committee, would be included. Later, Senator Russell is quoted as having said "I guess that we'll get rid of FEPC."

FEPC KILLED 2-29-44

However, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, issued a statement saying that reports that the Senate sub-committee had voted to abolish the agency were, "completely without foundation. "He pointed out that agencies which had been established by executive order and which were more than a year old should obtain funds directly from Congress instead of through the emergency funds of the President.

Two months ago, Ross declared, the FEPC submitted a request for a legislature appropriation for the gscal year, beginning July 1, 1944 to the bureau of the budget. "It is expected that congressional committees will act upon that request within a month or so," he added.

The FEPC budget is still pending before the budget bureau.

Senate Again Wields Ax On FEPC

PM-New York, N.Y.

Subcommittee OKs Bill Which Would Kill Agency

2-29-44
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—A new threat to the existence of FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) developed today as a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee approved a measure calling for its elimination.

Sen. Richard Russell (D., Ga.) sponsored the legislation which, in the form of an amendment to the Independent Office Appropriation bill, prohibits transfer of funds to agencies a year or more old unless they have been specifically authorized by Congress.

Russell, virtually admitting that the amendment is aimed at the FEPC, declared yesterday that he "hoped it wiped out" the agency.

The FEPC was created by President Roosevelt to combat race discrimination in employment. It has no legislative authorization.

Another Senator from a poll tax state—Burnet R. Maybank (D., S. C.)—declared that "organizations that are set up without the specific direction of Congress should be abolished or confirmed by the Senate." 2-29-44

FDR recently reinforced the FEPC with a special order issued to the Comptroller General forbidding him to make war contracts with firms which practiced racial discriminations.

The FEPC is also under fire in the House, where a committee headed by Rep. Howard Smith (D., Va.) is conducting an investigation.

The amendment killing the FEPC has been approved by a subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, but it must get approval from the full committee before it reaches the Senate. The subcommittee is completing work on the bill today.

Smith Urges FEPC to Cancel Order for Employment of Negroes

PM-New York, N.Y.
1-12-44

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Rep. Howard W. Smith, author of the Smith-Connally anti-strike law, is urging today a major change in Government policy to satisfy employes of the Philadelphia Transit Co. who are threatening to strike if they don't have their way.

The Virginia Congressman has proposed that the Fair Employment Practice Committee cancel an order directing the Philadelphia street car company to promote 24 experienced Negro employes in positions as conductors and motormen.

The Virginia Congressman was caught in this peculiar spot when, as chairman of a special House Investigating Committee, he was presented with a petition of protest signed by 1776 employes of the company.

The employes, most of whom are members of an independent union, insisted they would refuse to work with Negroes if the FEPC order is enforced.

Four employes were paraded before the Committee to back up the protest against the FEPC order that was filed by the independent union. They rang the changes from the superstition about venereal disease to the charge that the FEPC order would force the company to violate its contract with the union. 1-12-44

"Since when has syphllis become any respecter of persons?" asked Rep. Jerry Voorhis (D., Calif.). "I understand it afflicts whites and Negroes alike."

The only company witness was Frederick L. Ballard, counsel for the Philadelphia Transit Co. who admitted that the company had greed to the FEPC order. However, Ballard added:

"I can safely say that the company will not take any strong-arm action to enforce the directive against the wishes of the union."

FEPC Gets a Looking-Over

Post-Birmingham, Ala.

Congress at last is taking a good, searching look at President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee. And a thorough investigation of this agency won't do any harm. 3-17-44

There may have been instances in which this committee has done good work in bringing about more fairness in employment in the nation's industrial plants and in other lines of work. But a greater part of its ukases have done nothing but stir dissension. Especial source of trouble has been its idea that merely by issuing directive, to take effect within 30 or 60 days, it could change customs that have prevailed for decades.

The President has asked that $585,000 be set aside for the work of FEPC. To date, it has been financed from unexpended balances of other agencies. An amendment to the independent offices appropriation bill would place it under a status of direct appropriation from Congress.

Certainly some check should be put on the FEPC. Its bull in a china shop course up to now has not endeared it to industry, railroads, unions, or business men in general. 3-17-44

Smith Probe Against FEPC Seen Seeking Anti-Negro Strikes

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
1-12-44

By Eva Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The ductors served as the signal for amazing spectacle of a congressional stirring up racial antagonism. body steaming up workers to a strike Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, situation unfolded today as the revealed that in November both the Smith Committee began its witch- company and the union showed in- hunt against the Fair Employment Practices mittee.

As em es of the Philadelphia Transit Company testified, it became apparent that the Smith investigation of the FEPC directive to put the blame on the other foot and charge directive and that "no visible agonism to Negroes" existed.

FEPC
Aaron Ford, former Mississippi
man who is acting as counsel for the committee, asked Wilson Fagg, a company employee for 18 years, what the sentiment of the workers was. 1-12-44

"I definitely believe there will be a strike in PRT if the FEPC order is enforced. That is my own opinion and that of the men who have signed the petitions," Fagg stated.

Ford directed a similar question at two other company union members, who innocently claimed they came down on their own behalf, as to whether they would work if the FEPC order was enforced and the answer was no in each case. 1-12-44

Not one congressman of the six present, including labor-baiter Clare Hoffman of Michigan, attacked the unpatriotic attitude of these workers. Only from John Delaney, New York Democrat, and Jerry Voorhis, California Democrat, came any criticism of these company union stooges. 1-13-44

From the testimony of FEPC Chairman Ross, who was constantly heckled by Congressmen Hoffman and Hugh Peterson of Georgia, it was apparent that the situation would have gone along smoothly if the Smith Committee hadn't stepped into the picture.

Now the company, which on Nov. 5, indicated its willingness to abide by the FEPC directive to upgrade Negroes, is hiding behind the skirts of the company union.

After the War Manpower Commission tried for eight months to get the Philadelphia Transit to employ Negroes, the FEPC finally stepped into the case.

The company at first seemed willing to abide by the order to relieve the manpower shortage and the company union, although claiming a certain clause in its contract with the company referring to unwritten customs prevented upgrading of Negroes, admitted that the "present manpower situation might well require a re-interpretation of this custom clause." 1-12-44

Counsel Ford constantly challenged Ross on the legal authority of FEPC to issue an order to a transit company, but the FEPC chairman made it plain that the committee has power to tackle any war industry, even in the absence of a government contract.

PREDICT STRIKE IF FEPC RACIAL EDICT IS OBEYED

Daily Tribune - Chicago, Ill
1-12-44

Transit Workers Oppose Rule on Negroes.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 11 (AP).—An employe of the Philadelphia transportation company predicted today that a strike among white employes would occur if the company complied with a government directive to employ Negroes as conductors, motormen, and cashiers.

William S. Fogg, who said he was a company storekeeper and a member of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employers' union, presented the Smith house committee investigating executive agencies with two petitions opposing the directive which was issued by the President's fair employment practice committee. He contended that compliance with it would interefer with the war effort by causing discord among the transit employes.

Fogg said the signers would refuse to work with Negro motormen and conductors, and that 1,776 persons had affixed their names to the petitions in two days.

Union Bargaining Agent.

Frank P. Carney, president, and Frank N. Cobourn, secretary treasurer, of the Transit Employes union, and C. C. Hodgson, union council, appearing as witnesses, said the union has been certified by the Pennsylvania state labor board as bargaining agent for the company's 10,000 street car, bus, and elevated train employes, of whom approximately 600 are Negroes. 1-13-44

They told the committee the union has refused to abide by the FEPC directive because the legality of the directive had not been established, and because it would violate a contract with the company, which states, they said, that existing practices of employment cannot be changed unless agreed to by the management and the union. The exclusive employment of white workers as motormen, conductors, and cashiers was one of these existing practices, they testified.

The committee is attempting to find out what legal backing FEPC has for its directives forbidding racial discrimination in the handling of workers. 1-12-44

Limit Scope of Hearings.

Chairman Howard W. Smith [D., Va.] of the special house committee investigating executive agencies, said the hearings would be confined solely to the issue of the FEPC's legal authority. He declared that spokesmen for minority groups would not be permitted to use them as a forum for social reform theories.

The Philadelphia company on Nov. 15, 1943, was ordered by the FEPC to cease discriminating against Negroes. The directive was made retroactive requiring the company to consider all applications for upgrading and hiring which has been filed by Negroes since June 25, 1941.

FEPC Faces Life-and-Death Fight as Rep. Smith Opens Drive to Kill It

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y. 1-1-44

(By Federated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31. — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, which has weathered more attacks than almost any other government agency, is sailing into the worst storm of its life.

Polltaxer Howard Smith's (D., Va.) long promised investigation of FEPC got off to a well-publicized start Dec. 27 with seizure by Smith committee lawyers of FEFC files on the southeastern railroad and west coast shipyard discrimination cases. Grandiosely known as the Smith committee of the house investigating the acts of executive agencies, the committee has been used by the wing-collared reactionary from the south in endless fishing expeditions against OPA, National War Labor Board and other key war agencies.

Hearings will begin immediately after the Congressional recess, chief counsel Aaron Ford informed FP. Alleged purpose will be to determine whether FEPC is assuming powers which can only be conferred by special act of Congress, but observers, well-acquainted with the circus ring atmosphere of Smith committee hearings, expect a vicious assault on FEPC, with 5,000,000 Negro workers as the main victims in the end.

Smith's witchhunt came as FEPC, through its chairman, Malcolm Ross, called on President Roosevelt to enforce its orders for 16 southeastern railroads and seven unions to halt discrimination in the employment and promotion of Negroes. All of the railroads and three of the unions have challenged FEPB's authority to issue such directives.

WEAK POSITION

With the railroads now under government operation, Roosevelt can enforce any decision he may make in the railroad discrimination case. However, this purely accidental circumstances does not change the essentially toothless position of FEPC.

A bill introduced by Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.), which is gaining fresh support daily among unions and Negro organizations, would do three things:

1. Make FEPC a permanent organization with full statutory powers, such as are held by NLRB with power to subpoena witnesses.

2. Arm FEPC chairman with authority to fix penalties for those who fail to comply with FEPC directives.

3. Provide criminal penalties for anyone who interferes with the work of FEPC. Offenders would be subject to $5000 fine, a year in prison, or both. 1-1-44

At present, the bill is buried in the judiciary committee, but Marcantonio has launched a campaign to get 218 signatures on house discharge petition No. 18, forcing consideration of the measure.

FEDERATION ASKS SMITH PROBE ENDED

Immediate termination of the House Smith Committee "investigating activities of executive agencies to see whether they are exceeding their authority," was urged yesterday by George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, in a letter to the Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn. Mr. Marshall pointed that the Smith Committee's action yesterday in seizing records of the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), notably all the records of the FEPC's recent Southern Railroads and the West Coast Shipyards cases is the latest example "of the Smith Committee's irresponsible investigations which disrupt the work of important war agencies."

Backers of FEPC Bills United -- Marcantonio

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y. 2-14-44

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Representative Vito Marcantonio, (ALP-N.Y.) yesterday issued a statement declaring that "No good purpose can be served by dividing the forces who seek a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee through a debate as to the relative merits of the several bills on the subject now pending in the House."

His statement was an answer to a wire from Dr. C. B. Powell, editor of the New York Amsterdam News, asking for his views on a comparative analysis of the various Congressional measures for a permanent FEPC.

He said that Representatives Dr. Thomas Scanlon, of Pennsylvania, and William L. Dawson, of Illinois, were supporting H.R. 1732, the Marcantonio bill, by signing House Discharge Petition No. 18. Efforts are being made to get 218 signatures on that petition. H.R. 1732 would then be forced on the House floor for consideration.

"There is no contradiction whatsoever between urging a member of Congress to support the demand for my full support to all such bills."

MARCANTONIO

While Mr. Marcantonio was issuing his statement, regional directors of the FEPC were meeting elsewhere here to report on their work.

Mr. Marcantonio's statement said:

"Good common sense requires that all persons sincerely wishing the passage of such legislation give their fullest support to each of the bills now pending at each stage of their legislative development. I am giving my full support to all such bills."

Cases of discrimination against Negro workers lead, with Jewish workers following in second place. Regional directors said that failure to utilize Negro manpower to its fullest skills and discrimination in the employment of Negro women were still common in some places.

There seemed to be general agreement that employment practices show improvement in regions where the FEPC has offices. As a result of opening one in Chicago, Negroes were employed on the transit lines. An office is planned for Cleveland, where there has been considerable resistance to FEPC directives.

Employment Practice Committee said: "If so happens that the quickest way to get legislation for a permanent FEPC is by securing 218 signatures to discharge petition. Already a great many Congressmen have signed and others are pledged to do so."

If that is done, Mr. Marcantonio will call a simple matter to bring his bill to the best of the other. He concluded: "We defeat ourselves by debating what is good and what is bad in each bill at a time, when our whole strength should be mustered to secure swift action in Congress on this vital subject." 2-14-44

Fair Employment Practice Committee regional directors expressed the unanimous opinion, in their meeting with Malcolm Ross, national chairman of the agency, that their chief problem is that of upgrading Negro workers.

47d-1944

Stacy Committee Considers FEPC And Railroads

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
2-26-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The Stacy committee reviewing the findings and directives of the FEPC against the 16 railroad carriers and seven railway unions, were scheduled to convene here for another session. The expectation is that they will call in representatives for the carriers and the unions to hear their points of view.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, appeared before the three-man group nearly three weeks ago and answered a number of questions and provided the committee with various papers and records. Earlier indications had been given that the Stacy committee does not intend to begin at the beginning but rather to take up the problem where FEPC left off.

The other important development in FEPC quarters is the consideration being given to a successor to Samuel Zemurray president, United Fruit company who resigned a month ago because of ill health.

TWO BEING CONSIDERED

At least two names are known to be under consideration, and possibly four. Charles E. Horn, president, Twin Cities Ordnance Plant, St. Paul, Minn., is one and the other is Randall Irvin, vice president for industrial relations, Lockheed Vega Anircraft corporation, Burbank, Calif .

Both men have acceptable employment records regarding Negroes to which they may point. Horn, according to persons who know him, has done an "excellent job" of integrating Negroes into his plant, and in various categories. In this work he was aided by Cecil Newman, energetic publisher of St. Paul.

Last October Horn addressed a session of management and labor during the annual conference of the National Urban league in Chicago, and delivered what was considered "a far reaching and significant" philosophy on the matter of industrial opportunities for Negroes, not only as a wartime necessity but as a postwar imperative. 2-26-44

FAVORABLE RECORDS

Irvin is credited with having brought his company around to the employment of Negroes early in the defense preparations period. Lockheed-Vega was the first west coast aircraft plant to hire Negroes. Last year during the "Hold Your Job" campaign he issued a statement supporting the objectives of the sponsoring committee.

A report lacking confirmation is the one that Smith investigating committee may hear evidence in connection with the charges filed by the Sailors' union (AFL) against FEPC and the War Shipping administration charging that these two agencies are "forcing" Negroes and whites to sleep and eat together aboard ships of the merchant fleet.

GROUP TO PROBE RACIAL QUESTION

Age-Herald-Birmingham, Ala.
1-4-44

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3—(AP)—President Roosevelt named a three-man committee Monday to investigate a dispute involving the Fair Employment Practices Committee, railway labor organizations and 16 Southern carriers over the question of racial discrimination.

The members are: Judge Walter P. Stacy, Raleigh, N. C., chairman; Judge William H. Holl, of the U. S. District Court, Chicago, and Mayor Frank J. Lausche, of Cleveland.

The railroads involved had declined to abide by an order of the FEPC for greater employment of Negroes and the agency referred the dispute to the president. White House Secretary Stephen Early said the committee of three did not supercede the FEPC but merely would explore and investigate the situation for the chief executive.

Mr. Roosevelt in identical letters of appointment told the committee members he planned to ask the committee to meet in Washington "in the very near future" with representatives of carriers and labor organizations. 1-4-44

"Obviously," Mr. Roosevelt wrote, "in such a complicated structure as the transportation industry we cannot immediately attain perfect justice in terms of equal employment opportunities for all people.

"I am sure, however, that you agree with me that all Americans at this time should be anxious to see to it that no discriminations prevent the fullest use of our manpower in providing the strength essential to the major military offensives now planned. Indeed, hardly anything in America now seems so important as such a unity based upon justice as will make possible national effort."

The president said he was sure that "agreements shaped in good sense and good will can be reached."

Midwest Railroad Boosts Negroes

PM - New York, N.Y.
3-7-44

Chairman Malcolm Ross of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) announced that the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad is promoting Negro car cleaners to positions as carmen's helpers and that Negro dining car waiters have been employed as dining car stewards.

The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, meanwhile, has denied a charge by car cleaners that it opposes upgrading of Negroes, Ross added. 3-7-44

The FEPC has accused several railroads and railroad brotherhoods of discriminating against Negroes.

FDR Acts to Enforce FEPC Railroad Order

PM - New York, N.Y. 1-4-44

Names 3 to Probe 'Impasse' On Anti-Bias Decision

By Gordon H. Cole
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—President Roosevelt has taken preliminary steps forward enforcing the anti-discrimination order of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) against 14 Southern railroad corporations and seven labor organizations.

A special committee of three has been named by the President to "investigate the impasse" between the FEPC and the roads and unions.

The Southern railroads have been robbed of their favorite objection to the FEPC order by the President's instructions to the special committee limiting their investigation to questions relating only to discrimination against Negroes for jobs of locomotive firemen, trainmen, switchmen, dining car and shop employes.

The corporations had charged in a letter to Congress that the FEPC was attempting to force the roads to hire Negroes as conductors and locomotive engineers—jobs traditionally reserved for whites in the South.

The members of the special committee are: 1-4-44

Judge Walter P. Stacy, Raleigh, N. C., chairman. Judge Stacy is a member of the North Carolina Supreme Court, and has served as chairman of a number of emergency boards appointed by the President under the Railway Labor Act to settle wage disputes between the roads and the unions.

Judge William H. Holly, of the Federal District Court, Chicago, Ill., formerly an attorney for the National Women's Trade Union League, the American Federation of Teachers, and the Public Ownership League.

Mayor Frank J. Lausche, of Cleveland, O., who has worked successfully as mayor to aid Negroes in obtaining war jobs in Cleveland.

The President sent the three committeemen identical letters saying that "hardly anything in America now seems so important as a unity based upon justice as will make possible the best use of all our human resources in this year of supreme national effort." 1-4-44

"Obviously," he continued, "in such a complicated structure as the transportation industry we cannot immediately attain perfect justice in terms of equal employment opportunities for all people. I am sure, however, that you agree with me that all Americans at this time should be anxious to see to it that no discriminations prevent the fullest use of our manpower in providing the strength essential to the major military offensive now planned."

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, immediately welcomed the appointment of the special committee.

JOB BIAS DECLARED TO BE INCREASING

Times-New York, N.Y.
2-11-44

Religion Is Barrier to Work at Highest Skill, Regional Head of FFPC Says

Edward Lawson, regional director of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, said last night that its records indicated that "the tendency to deny persons employment at their highest skill because of their religion is mounting rather than disappearing, even in the face of the acknowledged need for all-out war production."

Mr. Lawson spoke at a symposium under the auspices of the Jewish Forum Association and the story of a veteran of the carries seven bullanese rifles in his , as told by Elmer the local FEPC at this veteran had s a telegrapher but color has not been employment in this FEPC, its program, have been arranged conferred with colorthe Alpha house in gathering where he- the face of the ons employment at their highest because of their religion is mounting rather than disappearing, even in the face of the acknowledged need for all-out war production."

Mr. Lawson spoke at a symposium under the auspices of the Jewish Forum Association and the

1-13-44

Industrial Bias Hit By FEPC Head

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-12-44

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Denouncing the wide-spread practice of racial discrimination in war industries, Malcolm H. Ross, made his first public address as chairman of the FEPC last week before the annual convention of the Chicago Civil Liberties committee at Hotel Sherman.

In viewing the current attitudeed the utilization of several hundand policy of industry regarding thousand war workers. the employment of Negro labor, he Probably referring to the recent said America is at a point where clash with 14 railroads and seven ed leaders at the A it must decide whether it wishes to labor unions that still cling to an informal gathertackle directly the minority em- their discriminatory policies, the discussed the FEPC ployment. Ross pointed out that FEPC head said that out of the policies and experiendustrial policies that sanctioned 14 million war workers WMC re- ing is said to have racial discrimination had prevent- ports that around one million by Elmer Henderson.

National Conference of Christians and Jews in the Jewish Center, 131 West Eighty-sixth Street. He declared that the trend has got to be halted, and the FEPC is the agency charged with that responsibility; it needs the whole-hearted support of every Jewish person if it is to continue successfully."

The executive said Jews, Negroes and all other minority groups must unite to work for elimination of discriminatory employment practices in industry. He added that "only through the coordinated strength of all minority group workers can discrimination be ended."

The Rev. Willard Johnson, assistant to the president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, praised the Catholic Church for distributing in its parochial schools a collection of "Faith and Freedom Readers" and called them "pioneering landmarks in the building of understanding and cooperation." He remarked that a series titled "The Church and America's People," in use in most Protestant churches of the nation, constituted "a significant venture in the field of religious education, and we may expect great good to derive from it."

George Hunton, secretary of the Catholic Interracial Council and editor of The Catholic Approach, said: 2-17-44

"Every effort is being made by the council and its magazine, Interracial Review, to impress upon Catholics the social principles of the great papal encyclicals, with particular emphasis upon the economic and vocational problems of the Negro; again and again the encyclicals emphasize that all men are equal in the sight of God, that all have the same dignity and the same natural rights, and that the right to work—the right to be employed at a living wage—is basic and fundamental."

Dr. J. X. Cohen, chairman of the national commission on economic discrimination of the American Jewish Congress, asserted that the "Jewish people view happily the rise in the standards of fair employment practice toward Negro workers."

Jacob J. Rosenblum was chairman of the evening. Isaac Rosengarten, editor of The Jewish Forum, arranged the program.

Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company Defies FEPC Order

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 1-8-44

WASHINGTON (A N P)—The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company added itself to the growing list of employer and employee groups which have flaunted the authority of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee when it informed Chairman Malcolm Ross Thursday that the company would obey the directives until the legality of the committee has been established.

RAMSPECK THINKS FEPC WRONG IN EQUALITY FIGHT

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 1-8-44

WASHINGTON,—(A N P)—The wisdom of the administration's effort through the FEPC to obtain equality for Negro workers was questioned this week by Rep. Robert Ramspeck (D., Ga.) while President Roosevelt urged steady progress in the fight to suppress racial discrimination and segregation.

Contending that race prejudice can not be wiped out over night, Ramspeck expressed a belief that the policy of the FEPC is wrong in pushing racial equality, stating that neither the government nor anyone else could tear down in a brief period of time the "prejudices and discriminations that have existed for centuries."

While President Roosevelt declared that he wanted steady progress in the fight against racial discrimination, he said that he did not think the "millennium" could be brought away. 1-8-44

FEPC's recent fight to curb and suppress racial discrimination in war plants has resulted in concerted efforts to abolish the federal agency and has aroused considerable comments from anti-Negro quarters.

CONGRESSMAN WANTS ALL TO VOTE BUT DODGES FEPC ISSUE

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—(A N P)—Congressman John J. Jennings declared himself favorable to having everybody vote, soldiers and civilians, but evaded answer on the FEPC in an address before the Triads and Cansler Branch YMCA here this week. 1-8-44

He stated he felt a national law to grant the vote to soldiers in the coming election would be unconstitutional, but", added, "I will do all I can to give the soldier the vote to get rid of the poll tax. I am in favor of everybody voting and I have waged a consistent fight to have everybody's vote count as he casts his ballot."

Rep. Jenings stated on questioning that he was not familiar with the FEPC and intimated that progress could only be brought by a "change in men's hearts." In answer toa question of change in hearts of men like Rep. Rankin of Mississippi, he was of the opinion that "Rankin does not represent the average congressman."

ROOSEVELT ACTS IN RAIL RACE CASE

Times-New York, N.Y.

Names Justice Stacy, Mayor Lausche, Judge Holly for Discrimination Study

1-7-44

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3—President Roosevelt today appointed Chief Justice Walter P. Stacy of the Supreme Court of North Carolina as chairman of a three-man special committee to study the racial discrimination case in which an order of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices has been challenged by sixteen Southern railroads and three labor unions.

The other members are Mayor Frank J. Lausche of Cleveland, and Judge William H. Holly of the United States District Court in Chicago. 1-4-44

In establishing the committee the President acted on a certification received by him a week ago from Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, who stated that his committee had reached an impasse with the railroads involved and a group of labor unions in the matter of giving Negroes equal employment opportunities with white persons.

Sixteen Southern railroads had refused to carry out the FEPC order, issued Nov. 30, against discrimination, and the three unions had also challenged the authority of the Ross committee to issue such an order, it was stated.

Urges Full Manpower Use

In his letters of appointment the President told Justice Stacy, Mayor Lausche and Judge Holly that he did not expect in such a "complicated structure as the transportation industry to immediately attain perfect justice in terms of equal employment opportunities for all people." But he emphasized that no discriminations should prevent "the fullest use of our manpower in providing the strength essential to the major military offensives now planned."

"Indeed, hardly anything in America now seems so important as such a unity based upon justice as will make possible the best use of all our human resources in this year of supreme national effort," he added.

The President pointed out that the specific problems placed before him by the FEPC related only to "discriminations against certain classes of Negro railroad employes." These employes are locomotive firemen, trainmen, switchmen, dining car and shop employes.

Looks to Good-Will Agreements

"I believe it to be highly important in connection with this situation that a small committee of disinterested and distinguished citizens be appointed to discuss this matter as my representatives with the railroads and labor organizations," added Mr. Roosevelt.

"I am sure that agreements shaped in good sense and good will can be reached." 1-4-44

The President said he planned a meeting of this committee with representatives of carriers and labor organiaztions in Washington soon.

White House spokesmen made clear that this special committee was not intended to supplant the FEPC, a view shared by Mr. Ross.

"I welcome the appointment by the President of Judge Stacy, Mayor Lausche and Judge Holly as his personal representatives in the railroad case," said Chairman Ross. "It is my understanding that this group of three eminently qualified citizens will in no way take the place of the FEPC but will deal with the railroad question for the President. I have every hope that ways will be found by which discrimination may be removed." 1-4-44

Tonight Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, in a telegram to President Roosevelt, said:

"We urge you to also call upon your special committee to assure decency and protection of the rights of the Negro traveling public once and for all by ordering a full report on this mortifying practice of subjecting 13,000,000 loyal and patriotic colored Americans to 'Jim Crow' on Southern carriers."

FEPC Seeks New And Larger Appropriation

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 3-12-44

By HARRY S. McALPIN

(Washington Bureau of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

A request for a legislative appropriation of $585,000 for the Fair Employment Practice Committee was sent to the Congress by the President Saturday. The amount requested is about $100,000 more than the FEPC used last year and about $70,000 less than it asked the Budget Bureau to approve.

The President sent the appropriations request to Congress for the FEPC appropriation. Some predict that Republican members of the appropriations committee will get Bureau. The request for a legislative appropriation means the amount approved by the Budget Bureau of the appropriations FEPC is putting its fate and its future in the hands of the Congress. It means also that it is extricating itself from the toil set by the amendment adopted by the Negro vote. the appropriations committee this week prohibiting the President transferring any funds from the independent offices appropriation to any agency created by executive order which is more than 12 months old. 3-12-44

Some members of the committee are urging an "economy argument," that the amount be cut to the bone or rejected in an attempt to take from the Roosevelt administration one of its best appeals for support.

To be effective the Republicans would have to seek another alliance with anti-administration and anti-Negro Democratic forces. These observers believe such a ruse would not be a sufficient blind to avoid responsibility to the Negro electorate in the coming elections, if tried.

The amendment is reported to have been aimed at killing FEPC. There is considerable speculation by political observers in Washington as to what will be the fate of

Senate Group Okays Destruction of FEPC

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 3-10-44

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8.—Senator Kenneth McKellar, acting chairman of the Appropriations Committee, said that no votes were cast against the Russell amendment. 3-10-44

The Senate Appropriations Committee today approved the amendment to kill the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee upon this issue will take place next week when the Russell amendment to the $8,500,000,000 independent offices appropriation bill is reached by the Senate.

Senator Richard Russell, Democratic of Georgia, sponsored by Senator Russell has stated that approval for all Federal employes This amendment specifies that no funds shall be transferred by the President to any which has been inattached to the appropriation bill for a year or more with would throw open the whole Federal existence for a year or more Congressional ap- out receiving Congressional proval.

Senator Russell has stated that approval for all Federal employes would hamstring and cripple the vital Tennessee Valley authority against which McKellar has long conducted a personal feud.

Senator Russell has stated that his amendment is aimed primarilyearning more than $4,500 a year and

A PERMANENT FEPC

Age New York City 1-5-44

SPEAKING before the annual meeting of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee recently, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, stated that America is at a point where it must decide whether or not it wishes to tackle directly the problem of minority employment. That, in very few words, sums up what Negroes have been fighting for ever since the FEPC was first created by the President.

"There comes times when men must face decisions," said Mr. Ross, "and I think this is one of them. The task of the committee is concise. If the committee had never existed, some other agency would have arisen in answer to that yeasty discontent which any man must feel whose twin impulses of earning his living and serving his country are frustrated. Equality of opportunity is the very substance of the American dream, now approaching maturity after 168 years of national life, and now under the critical eyes of hundreds of millions in Europe and in Asia who want to know whether to follow that dream or embrace another." 2-5-44

Concluding his speech, Mr. Ross said:

"The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice is a young agency, operating in a difficult field, and it needs public understanding. Our Latin American neighbors, the races of Asia, Africa and the victims of Nazism are watching to see what patterns for the post-war world we, here and now, are weaving. But is it, as some say, bad judgment to admit in the midst of a war that we have national imperfections? Hitler and Goebbels would consider it so. Americans who are jealous of their country's good name will, I believe, freely confess the flaw as a necessary step in welding a more perfect democracy into one nation, indivisible."

Much has already been written, both here and elsewhere, as to the necessity for a strong FEPC since there are still too many in this country who must be told what to do rather than do it voluntarily. Many will give lip service and subscribe to the theory that it is the right of every man to make a decent living and yet they are the first to deny him the opportunity to do so. The solution lies, then, in a permanent FEPC set up by law and with specific authority to do the job. The solution, we believe, lies in adoption by Congress of the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill, H. R. 3986 for a permanent FEPC.

The impasse reached by defiance of the FEPC directive in the case of the Southern railway and labor unions and the challenge to the authority of the FEPC make it mandatory that the bill for a permanent FEPC be passed and become law. Moreover, FEPC has had distinct handicaps in clearly establishing its status and in obtaining the means necessary to discharge its duties and responsibilities. It has been hamstrung by government agencies itself and presently is being made the target of an investigation by a Congressional committee. 2-5-44

It was only after two years of earnest, yet oftimes futile work, that the FEPC began to function as it should. Now, when it has reached a point where it might become most effective, its authority is challenged. Referral of the defy to its authority in the railroad case to President Roosevelt, himself, has meant little more than the usual buck-passing usually engaged in when an office-holder is given a "hot potato".

The only answer, we repeat, lies in adopting by Congress of the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill for a permanent FEPC. It is going to take all the energies and all the activities of every individual who believes in the right of all qualified men and women to work at their highest skill.

The New York Age wishes every success to the National Committee for a Permanent FEPC in its campaign to arouse and muster public sentiment behind the bill. Readers of The New York Age can help by writing, and having their friends write, to their Senators and Representatives urging adoption of this bill. 2-5-44

If ever there was a time when the United States must take decisive action, this is it. Let's have that Permanent FEPC!

The FEPC Must Be Permanent

CALL Kansas City, Missouri

When the war is over, the FEPC will be just as greatly needed—if not more so—as it is now. 2-4-44 In war-time, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice is playing an important role in getting Negro workers jobs and upgrading in war plants and membership in unions. When peace returns, many of these industrial gains will be lost unless some agency like the FEPC is on the job to guard against discrimination based on race and color.

The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-La Follette bill (H. R. 3986) introduced in the house of representatives to make the FEPC a permanent agency is most important to minority groups. CALL Kansas City, Missouri 2-4-44 Since the Negro and other minorities are the ones most essentially concerned about securing federal legislation to eliminate discrimination in industry, unions and the government, it is up to those groups to push the passage of the bill.

We cannot afford to be silent and indifferent about the bill now when the FEPC is an active agency because if we are, the day will come when there is no more FEPC. And if such a day should come, the very persons who are too busy now to write to their congressmen urging passage of H. R. 3986 would be the first to cry, "Why doesn't somebody do something to keep the FEPC going?"

The time to act is now, not tomorrow. The bill introduced by Representatives Scanlon, Dawson, Coffee and La Follette will give the FEPC a permanent place in our government setup. Write your congressmen, urge your friends to do likewise and encourage your white friends to push the bill by sending telegrams and letters and by having their organizations send resolutions to Congress. 2-4-44

The movement for a permanent FEPC is as important as anything before Negro citizens today. Let's get busy.

Toward a Permanent FEPC

New Masses N.Y. N.Y. 6-13-44

A BIG lift to the movement to prevent FEPC from being legislated out of business was given late last week by the President. Correspondent McAlpin, who now represents the Negro press at the White House press conference, commenting that there was considerable discussion of the FEPC in and out of Congress, asked the President: "There have been some charges too that the administration has not given the agency appropriation request its active support. Would you care to comment?" 6-13-44

The President did care to, definitely scotching defeatist, anti-administration rumors that the White House was letting FEPC down. He said in no uncertain tones that he would like to have some suggestions on how he could give it more active support.

This was the day after the House passed the Senate-approved blitz against twenty-six agencies created by executive order, which will go out of existence by Jan. 1, 1945, if Congress does not appropriate funds to the specific agencies. Most crucial is the FEPC, which has become to millions all over the country a symbol of the administration's recognition of the Negro's essential role in this people's war against the Axis. New Masses N.Y. N.Y. 6-13-44

The House has approved appropriations of $500,000 for the FEPC. Immediate pressure to commit Senators to vote for the measure and to restore $85,000 lopped off in the House is in order. The measure may be rushed out of committee and to a vote on the Senate floor this week. No time can be lost in urging its passage.

Hearings have begun before the House Labor Committee on HR 3986, Representative Scanlon's bill creating a permanent FEPC. Representative Marcantonio of New York, author of a similar bill, is also backing the Scanlon and Dawson bills. A petition is being circulated to force the Marcantonio measure, HR 1732, out of the House Judiciary Committee, where it is now bottled up. 6-13-44

Both parties recognize the importance of the Negro vote to some extent, but, as we go to press, no single Senator has agreed to lead the fight for the FEPC on the floor. Actually the Negro people hold the balance of power as potential voters in ten states. This is indicated by the following figures taken from the 1940 census, showing the total number of citizens over twenty-one years old in these states, and the total number of Negroes of voting age:

New York, 8,327,563; 393,056. New Jersey, 2,592,978; 143,661. Pennsylvania, 6,031,192; 299,998. Ohio, 4,404,423; 220,164. Indiana, 2,198,935; 80,451. Illinois, 5,119,854; 263,426. Michigan, 3,131,722; 138,116. Maryland, 1,153,510; 183,719. Kentucky, 1,630,772; 138,001. California, 4,445,677; 90,407. Totals are 1,950,999 Negroes in these states, compared to 39,046,626 whites and Negroes. 6-13-44

Since these figures were obtained by the Census Bureau, some 700,000 Negroes have migrated to industrial centers. A total of 1,500,000 Negroes now are engaged in war industries. With the Supreme Court decision invalidating the Texas white primary, new political stirrings are being felt throughout the South among Negroes, and with the CIO Political Action Committee making a strong appeal to Negro voters, they are likely in various states and communities to prove a decisive factor in November.

The FEPC New Republic N.Y. N.Y. June 12, 1944
The Fair Employment Practice Committee has escaped another ax gang—but there is another, even stronger, one, just around the corner. Despite the

Southern bloc in the House of Representatives and their Republican collaborators, the House approved the recommendation of the Appropriations Committee that the FEPC be granted $500,000 with which to carry on its work during the next year. That is $85,000 less than the sum which the President requested for the agency. A long string of parliamentary tricks were attempted to kill the appropriation. Representative Vito Marcantonio deserves a major share of the credit for blocking the move to throw out the FEPC on a point of order. Now the Senate's Unholy Alliance of Southern Democrats and Republicans is preparing for the coming battle there. The FEPC will have harder sledding in the Senate. It needs more support from its friends now than ever before.

Los Angeles Railway Accepts FEPC Edict

World Telegram
By United Press 8-10-44

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 10.—The Los Angeles Railway announced today that it had accepted an order of President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee to cease racial discrimination in hiring. 8-10-44

WARNS OF RACE TENSIONS

Times-Herald, Wash. D.C.
Ross Asks Plans Now to Avoid Such Post-War Troubles
6-10-44

WASHINGTON, June 9 (AP)—Recalling a wave of Southern lynchings and Northern race riots after the last war, which he attributed to racial contests for jobs, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Committee of Fair Employment Practice, said today that steps should be taken now to prevent similar post-war disturbances.

Appearing before the House Labor Committee in support of a bill to establish a permanent fair employment practices commission, Mr. Ross declared: 6-10-44

"I do not say the stage is set for economic dislocations which may prepare the way for similar outbreaks after this war. I do say that we ought, out of experience, fear the worst and to anticipate it."

Mr. Ross estimated that in the post-war adjustment period more than a million Negro veterans plus Mexican-Americans would be returned to civilian life and that 1,500,000 Negro workers would be shifting to peacetime jobs.

Agency Dies On June 30 Unless Action Is Taken

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga
Agreement On Railroad Case

The street car and bus concern's representatives had testified at a public hearing that Negroes were not hired as motormen or conductors because of objections by white employees.

Has Been Reached

5-25-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The FEPC's "D-Day" appeared near this week and activity developed among both supporters and opponents of the agency. The appropriations bill which would provide funds to finance the Committee's operations for another year was slated to be reported out of committee to the House of Representatives this Thursday, it was learned over the week-end.

The Stacy Committee, appointed last January to seek settlement of the situation between FEPC and 14 Southern railroads, announced last Thursday that it had come to agreement with representatives of the railroads and unions involved and with officials of the FEPC on the procedure which would be used to attempt adjustment.

Inquiries by NNPA of the Smith Committee which has been probing the source of FEPC's powers brought out the information this week that the congressional body's report on FEPC has been completed, but its releast is being held up so that each member of the Smith Committee may have a chance to go over it.

On the campaign for a permenent FEPC, Rep. Mary Norton (D. of N. J.) asserted last week that in the hearings on proposed legislation which her Labor Committee opens next week, she plans to "bring out the real story of FEPC." Her statement that "It is time the people knew about FEPC. There has been so much misinformation about it, it is pitiful,"

brought sharp disagreement from the three Southerners on the Labor Committee, Democratic Reps. Ramspeck (Ga.) Fisher (Tex.), and Abernathy (Miss.) who denounced the agency as a "troublemaker" and "breeder" of national disunity." 5-25-44

The Stacy Committee announcement revealed plans for the considering of each railroad case individually. The roads and unions, according to Judge Stacy, the committee chairman, have agreed to get together, try to work out a means of complying with the FEPC directives "within the natural framework of their schedules fo wages and working conditions," and report back at an early date to the Stacy Committee.

Inquires the FEPC office brought the declaration that no comment would be made on the Stacy report. The class being handled by the Stacy Commitee, it was explained, were turned over to the President at which time the FEPC's official responsibility for them ended. The cooperation of FEPC with the Stacy Committee wherever it might be helpful in bringing about a satisfactory settlement, was, of course, assured.

Concerning the Smith Committee report on FEPC, AAron Ford, general counsel for the Smith Committee explained the delay in release by saying: "It is just a question of time when the Committee will be able to get to it. The Committee hasn't been able to go over it yet as some of the members have been out of town with the primaries and other business."

Asked what was the trend of the report, Ford declared he could not say because the Committee has the right to change it. It is generally believed, however, that the report will be unfavorable to FEPC and veteran observers in the capital feel there is a strong likelihood that its release is being timed to coincide with the report of the FEPC budget to the floor of the House so that it may be available for use against the appropriations bill.

FEPC Saved By 4 Votes In The House

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Solons First Vote To Tear Committee Out; Next Vote Gives It New Life

Funds Approved

5-29-44

Southern Democrats Are Bitterly Hostile To Unit Set Up By The President

WASHINGTON, May 26.—(AP)—A four-vote margin saved one of President Roosevelt's most controversial agencies, the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), tonight as the House passed the $1,033,358,867 war agencies appropriation bill.

Less than an hour before a roll-call vote of 247 to 58 sent to the Senate the omnibus measure financing almost a score of home front war agencies for the year starting July 1, the House tentatively had refused to include in the bill a $500,000 fund for FEPC and then reversed itself to restore the item.

FEPC was set up by the President with instructions to assist in ending job discrimination because of race, color, or creed.

The original action, in committee of the whole where record votes are not possible, came on adoption of an amendment to eliminate the fund, the teller vote being 141 to 103 with a large bloc of Republicans joining a solid southern delegation in opposition to the FEPC.

Marcantonio Rebuffed

In the House proper, however, the amendment was defeated by a 123 to 119 teller vote after Representative Marcantonio (Amn.-Lab.), New York, had failed to force a record vote. Marcantonio was one of the leaders in the fight to save the FEPC.

Aside from the FEPC fight, only two other amendments were offered and both were voted down. One, by Representative Dworshak (R), Idaho, would have cut $5,500,000 from the $58,625,367 OWI fund. The other, by Representative Keefe (R), Wisconsin, would have trimmed $660,700 from the War Production Board's allotment. 5-27-44

Final passage of the bill found many southerners opposed to the last to the FEPC item, voting against the entire measure.

Two days of debate on the omnibus bill had been devoted almost entirely to the FEPC. The fight against it, led by Representative Tarver (D), Georgia, was based on contentions of southerners that the agency, not specifically authorized by Congress, was more interested in advocating social racial equality than in preventing discrimination against negroes.

The bitter debate brought warnings of grave racial problems in the future and a remark from Representative Gibson (D), Georgia, that "there are only two things that are going to save this Nation: One is ballots and the other is bullets."

Busybodies Assailed

Tarver said there would be no racial problems in the South if it were not for the activities of "pettifogging and trouble-making busybodies in other sections of our country....."

"Among this type of trouble-makers," he added, "the FEPC is entitled to high rank."

The FEPC, he said, "is engaged ...in an effort to foist certain ideas of social, not economic, equality, which have long been entertained in communistic quarters in this country, upon the white people of the country who feel a certain pride in their race ....and who, while they are willing and anxious that the negro shall have his economic rights, are not willing, and never will submit, to his being forced upon them as a social equal and bedfellow."

Representative Hobbs (D), Alabama, charged that white workers were being ousted from their jobs in favor of negroes, while Representative Rankin (D), Mississippi, assailed FEPC as a "communistic bunch."

Only a few members rose to defend the FEPC and in the main they based their argument on the contention the President was authorized by Congress to create such an agency when it enacted war powers legislation.

Negro Member Heard

Representative Dawson (D), Illinois, only negro member of Congress, won applause from both sides of the aisle when he defended the agency as one interested solely in preventing discrimination. 5-27-44

"I too am an American," Dawson told the House. "Every rule that you may measure men, apply to me and see if I measure up."

He cited his World War record and pointed to a scar on his forehead inflicted by mustard gas burns. Negroes, he said, "were called to the colors" when the present war broke out "but they were not called to work," and the FEPC was set up to remedy that condition.

Claims of opponents that FEPC was dictatorial, he said, were without foundation because the agency "cannot make anybody do anything."

Hearings Open on Bill for Perament Agency Like FEPC

Post-Washington, D.C.

Some war plants have refused to hire Negroes although they urgently needed more workers, Representatives Scanlon (D., Pa.) and Dawson (D., Ill.) declared yesterday in urging adoption of legislation to set up a permanent Federal agency "with authority to prevent such discrimination." June 2, 1944

The two made the statement before the House Labor Committee, which is considering their bills to establish a seven-member commission patterned after the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

"At the height of the war effort, Negro job-seekers—solely because of the color of their skin—were turned away from war firms desperately seeking manpower," Dawson, the only Negro member of Congress, declared.

Chairman Norton (D., N. J.) replied that we guarantee called the current controversy over ...ability is his ...FEPC, as she opened the hear...ings, but declared "na problem ...ever was solved by ignoring it."

...Scanlon said a million Negroes and Abernethy (D., Miss.) have op... racial or social were in the Armed Forces, and ...has noth... ...ply says that all legislation should be adopted now they "will promote disunity in wa... ...e an equal oppor- prohibiting "discrimination" by ...or their living re- employers and unions when they ..., color, creed or return.

...D.C. 6-2-44

...ntil we work for the ...gardless of race, col... ...America.

...with South and Central ...tion to maintain friendly relations unity

...ployment Practices Committee.

"At the height of the war effort, "where there is no discrimination ancestry."

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turned away from war firms des- dulging."

perately seeking manpower," Dawson, the only Negro member of Congress, declared.

—also sponsored by Representative racy," he declared.

He questioned ability of this Na-La Follette (R., Ind.) who will ap-

...including Representatives Ramspeck (D., Ga.) Fisher (D., Tex.)

17d-1944 FEPC

New Members Assume Posts With FEPC

Attorney Charles A. Houston and Charles L. Horn (seated at left,) are shown attending their FEPC new members recently appointed by meeting in Washington on March President Roosevelt to the Commit- 18. Other members of the Com- tee on Fair Employment Practice mittee shown left to right are Miss Sara Southall, Malcolm Ross, chairman; George Johnson, Deputy Chairman; Boris Shishkin and John Brophy. Milton P. Webster, another member of the Committee, is not shown in the picture.

(Official OWI Photo)

Rep. Norton Promises "Real Story" At Hearing On FEPC

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.

Legislation To Form Permanent Body In Congress

Southern Solons Outvoted; May 29 Date For Hearings

5-17-44

By HARRY S. McALPIN

(Wahsington Bureau of the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON — Chairman Mary T. Norton (D. N. J.), of the House Labor Committee asserted Tuesday that she would "bring out the real story" of the FEPC at the hearing opening May 29 on legislation to create a permanent FEPC.

"It is time the people knew about FEPC," she declared. "There has been so much misinformation about it, it is pitiful. The Southerners think the FEPC deals just with their racial problems but it does not. It concerns all minority groups through out the country."

Three of her committee members, however, disagreed with Representative Norton. Representative Fisher of Texas stated, "The hearing will only promote disunity." Representative Abernathy of Mississippi, declared, "The FEPC is the rottenest, viles, most communistic agency of the Federal Government. I believe it to be a waste of the committee's valuable time even to consider hearings on this subject." 5-17-44

These three Congressmen were the only ones to vote against holding the hearings which action was taken by the committee on a vote of 14 to 3.

Georgia Congressman Rends FEPC

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

Vicious Attack On The FEPC

Gibson Contends Agency Violates Own Aim Of Non-Discrimination

4-19-44

WASHINGTON— (SNS)—The Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC)—whose fate shortly may be decided by Congress, is termed by Representative Gibson, (D-Ga.) a slight diversity of color."

The Senate has approved legislation requiring the FEPC and other executive agencies to obtain congressional approval for continuation, and this will be considered by the House soon. President Roosevelt recently asked funds for continuing operation of the agency next year.

SALARY COMPARISONS

Representative Gibson asserted that FEPC had a total of 61 Negro employes, drawing $173,560 annually, compared with 45 white employes paid $143,000 annually.

In a breakdown of FEPC per-

tors in the entire United States, one Negro at $5,600 per year. You will note in every instance the Negro has the controlling voice and the higher salary with the same classification."

Georgia Gentleman's Opinion Thinks FEPC Wrong In Fighting Bias

Courier- Pittsburgh, Pa.

1-8-44

WASHINGTON —(ANP)— The wisdom of the administration's effort through the FEPC to obtain equality for Negro workers was questioned this week by Rep. Robert Ramspeck (D. Ga.) while the policy of the FEPC is wrong in the pushing racial equality, stating that neither the government nor any personnel of whom are Negroes anyone else could tear down in a single generation the deep seated prejudice against Negroes by whites. Contending that race prejudice can not be wiped out over night, Ramspeck expressed a belief that the FEPC is wrong in its attempt to force the white personnel.

"In New York, however, the regional office has a personnel of whom are Negroes and six whites. The big boss, a white man, has been in charge of the office with the classified and discriminations that have existed for centuries." 1-8-44

The regional director, is a FEPC's recent fight to curb and $5,600 per year, and the suppress racial discrimination in said white in the office is war plants has resulted in concert- 'associate field exam- ed efforts to abolish the federal agency and has aroused considerable $3,200.' He white lady comments from anti-Negro clerk stenographer gets quarters.

While her Negro boss approximately three and times this amount.

"There are four regional direc-

WORLD VIEW

Defender-Chicago, Ill.
1-1-44

By JOHN ROBERT BADGER

Salute To The FEPC

THE STUFF it'll take to carry out on the battlefield those agreements at Cairo and Teheran won't come without full utilization of the nation's manpower resources. And it's going to take plenty of stuff.

That's what Stalin meant when he figuratively reached his hand across the ocean with that toast to American "production" helping to win the war. Without it, he said, the United Nations could not have won the war. He was talking about American labor, the plain ordinary men and women who make that time day after day to keep the planes and guns and tanks rolling off the production line.

That handshake came across for the more than one million Negroes in war industry, too. And if anybody's got a right to pat themselves on the back and crow over what they're doing to win the war, it's the guy who has to fight for the right to work for victory.

But there's a lot more fighting for that right ahead. Because the stuff we've already produced is a mere iota of what we've got to produce for the big push this coming January and thereafter. The boys in the know say it's coming next month sometime. They're talking about five million men closing in on the Nazis from the East, the West and the South.

What that will mean in terms of tanks and planes and guns will run into figures that seem impossible. But they've got to be turned out if we're going to win. And that's where President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices committee comes in.

Key Problem of Production

THE FEPC has done yeoman work, and don't let anybody tell you anything different. You can list what it's done in terms of progress that seems almost revolutionary.

It cracked the solid Jim Crow of the solid South and almost gave the boys in Alabama the secession blues. In point of fact, old man Wilkinson and Governor Dixon got so scared they started a brand new "White Supremacy" movement. And when the FEPC tackled the Southern Bell Telephone company, one of the country's biggest monopolies, the Dixie patrioteers got Comptroller General Warren to try extracting its teeth. It might have been too bad, too, if President Roosevelt had not slapped Warren's store teeth back in his throat with a notice that his executive order was mandatory.

Then the FEPC moved on the railroads, and it has already forced the railroad retirement board, which handles the recruitment of labor for the transportation industry, to instruct the United States Employment Service to accept applications from Negroes. Furthermore, it gave the railroad companies a fixed time to comply with its order.

Then it tackled a trade union bottleneck in the form of that minority of AFL unions which discriminate or practice Jim Crow, centering its fire on the Boilermakers' International. And it got the support of another leading Administration agency, the National Labor Relations board, which warned Boilermakers' officials that they stand in danger of losing exclusive bargaining rights unless they stop discrimination.

In all of these cases, the FEPC was attempting to solve the key problem of war production, the problem of manpower. For not until this nation's great manpower resources are fully and efficiently utilized will the apparatus of production work smoothly. This means, not until all available Negro labor is employed, and employed and upgraded in accordance with its skill and qualifications, can the required stream of tanks and planes and guns flow off the production line.

FEPC Needs Our Support 1-1-44

YOU AND I KNOW it was an uphill fight for the FEPC. Time after time some gang of conspirators tried to throttle it. And we're kidding ourselves if we think the committee has already slid over the home plate. At this point, as never before, the Jim Crow boys are out to get it.

The big railroad companies are not going to give in without a fight. That's in the cards. They have already announced their intention of contesting the decision.

The gang of Congressional cut-throats who've been systematically scuttling the President's anti-inflation program and otherwise helping Mister Adolph Hitler, will try to kill the FEPC, if for no other purpose than to head off the Negro's pro-Roosevelt vote in 1944. By stirring up trouble, killing the FEPC, and encouring discrimination, they calculate on getting a few Negro mis-leaders to blame Roosevelt for it all, so as to garner in the Negro vote for an anti-Roosevelt presidential candidate.

So there's tough going in the offing for the FEPC. And now's the time Negro-America should do a little hollering in behalf of the committee. We were quick to scream bloody murder when we thought the FEPC was stalling. But now that it's really standing up to Mister Wilkinson and Governor Dixon and the Ku Klux-spirited big industrialists and trade union officials, we aren't doing enough yelling.

It's time to salute the FEPC. More, it's time to back it up to the hilt and help it carry on the work that means more Negroes in war industry, more tanks and planes and guns for the boys

PRT Union And PTC Must Obey FEPC Order Or Hamper War Effort

Tribune—
Philadelphia, Pa. 1-1-44

AS THE NEW YEAR dawns over a bloody war-torn world, the prediction of victory for the United Nations over Germany during the year should inspire the American people to grander and more noble achievements.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied second front armies, announced to the world: "We will win the European war in 1944." Then he added:

"The only thing needed for us to win the European war in 1944 is for every man and woman, all the way from the front line to the remotest hamlet of our two countries, TO DO HIS OR HER FULL DUTY."

In the light of that heartening prediction, made by a great military authority, every man and every woman in every town and every city who love America will do their FULL DUTY.

No one does his full duty who permits his prejudices to prevent others from doing their full duty.

It is well and fitting to point out that General Eisenhower's prediction came on the same day that the FEPC ordered the Philadelphia Transportation Company and the P. R. T. Employees' Union to abolish all barriers to the employment and promotion of Negroes by the PTC.

The P. R. T. Employees' Union's duty is to obey the mandate from its Government. Especially is this true since the announced objective of the FEPC is to secure the full use of all available manpower for the successful prosecution of the war effort.

The full duty of the PTC necessitates the immediate employment of colored workers in compliance with the FEPC order. Not to do so will cause, perhaps, many soldiers to lose their lives and delay victory.

One's full duty in the present global struggle for freedom demands the giving up of special privileges by those who employ them while denying basic human rights to others. 1-1-44

The cold fact is that it is more important than ever before to destroy the false concept of a master race. The refusal to permit colored men and women to operate buses and trolley cars is predicated on the belief that white people are the master race.

Those who control the employment policies of PTC must decide whether they prefer to hold tight to their prejudices or do **their full duty** so that our nation will certainly defeat Germany in 1944.

The Railroads, The President And The Negro

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
1-8-44

The seizure and operation of the nation's railroads by the U. S. Army by order of President Roosevelt brings sharply to a head the controversy between the Fair Employment Practices Committee, the rail unions and the railroad companies.

The FEPC ordered the railroads and the railroad unions to end discriminatory practices against Negro workers, only to be met with evasion, buck-passing and downright refusal, especially by the Southeastern railroads and the Big Four Brotherhoods.

The FEPC then certified the whole question to President Roosevelt for personal negotiations between him and the disputants.

In the meantime the railroads were taken over to avert threatened stoppage of work by the unions seeking pay increases.

The United States Government thus displaces the railroad companies and the rail labor unions as the supreme authority, and assumes the responsibility of settling the whole question of discrimination against Negroes.

Since the Fair Employment Practices Committee is also a government agency, it would appear that the whole controversy over color discrimination can now be easily solved. 1-8-44

The President has only to order the U. S. Army railroad administration to obey the dictate of the FEPC to end color discrimination against Negro workers and presumably it will be ended, as in all government agencies.

What will be done remains to be seen, but there are some who attach ominous significance to the fact that Representative Howard W. Smith of Virginia, head of a House committee investigating activities of executive agencies to see whether they are exceeding their authority, has ordered the seizure of the records of the FEPC in the case against the railroads and rail unions.

What is the meaning of this latest move?

Is the stage being set for another run-around?

Or does it indicate much-needed and long-discussed play for Negro railroad workers?

The next few days or weeks should tell the story.

Drive for Permanent FEPC Unites Both Races; Meeting Nets $295

Tribune - Washington, D.C.
1-29-44

The National Council for a permanent FEPC, headed by A. Phillip Randolph and the Rev. Allan Knight Chalmers, co-chairmen, brought before Washingtonians an array of nationally-known leaders in a public meeting at New Bethel Baptist Church, Ninth and S Streets, Northwest, Thursday, which launched a mammoth nation-wide membership drive.

Each speaker made a strong appeal for unified action in this fight for a Permanent FEPC. The church was filled and evidently the speakers' plea for everyone to do his share made some headway as a total of $295.95 was raised in support of the effort.

Thurman L. Dodson, master of ceremonies, began the evening of oratorical eloquence by stating that "America today stands on trial." "The purpose of this meeting and the purpose for a permanent FEPC is to combat the power of the twenty-four Southern Railroads specifically, and other industries which have defied the ruling of the President and the U.S. Constitution.

The objectives of the National Council are:

To promote in every possible way the establishment of equal opportunity for employment, to obtain hiring with due regard to the already existing skills and experience of the applicant, equality of wages for the same work, and the full right of upgrading employees within industries regardless of race, creed or orgin;

To bring about the establishment of a permanent Federal Employment Practice Committee, to carry on an educational campaign, nationally and locally, to further the Council's objectives. 1-29-44

Monsignor Ryan Speaks

Monsignor John A. Ryan, formerly chairman of the FEPC, stressed the need for legislation so that the rights of the Negro as well as minority groups in general may not be hindered by unfair means, so that they may not be hindered from getting jobs of their choice the same as anybody else.

"Discrimination," he continued, "is a violation to the moral right of mankind."

Monsignor Ryan opined that discrimination by the local street car and bus company is unfair stated, "I will not be bought but will fight to the end so that the courts can decide the status of the Negro regarding interstate traveling on railroads." 1-29-44

Speaking in behalf of the Council of Negro Churches, the eminent churchman said, "the church is out to fight discrimination and segregation in any form. The church is building a movement for unified action among Negroes for this purpose and the church is girded for action in this fight for a permanent FEPC.

Bill Sponsored

Representative Thomas D. Scanlon of Pennsylvania, who introduced HR 3986 on January 14, asking for a Permanent FEPC, re-emphasized his determination for continuing this committee.

Senator Langer

Senator William E. Langer of and that the place for women, who in many cases have been used to circumvent the hiring of Negro men operators, is not on streetcar platforms.

Pleads for Women

Mrs. Thomasina Johnson of the AKA Sorority Legislative Council, made a strong plea for the rights of women in employment. Mrs. Johnson related that women are much in favor of a permanent FEPC so that the idea in this country that Negro women are only fit as domestics may be erased in peace time as well as in war time.

Mrs. Allan Knight Chalmers, speaking in behalf of her husband who could not attend, reemphasized the contentions set forth by Mrs. Johnson. She revealed that through the YWCA, with which she works in New York, and other local groups, Negro salespeople have been placed in two of the largest stores in New York and the country. 1-29-44

War's Stumbling Block

Perhaps the most stimulating speech of the evening was made by Sidney Hollander of Baltimore. Mr. Hollander was loud in his denunciation of discrimination and called it "the stumbling block of the War Effort." The speaker stated that this country is beset with Quislings who want to set race against race, faith against faith, and religion against religion.

The job of erasing racial discrimination from this country has left for the Negro to do by himself far too long and it's time that the rest of us take a hand in helping to fight this battle, the Marylander stated.

Dr. Jernagin

Rev. W. H. Jernagin related his recent discriminatory experience and the present case which he has against the railroad and South Dakota, who has been foremost in the fight for minority groups, revealed that three Republicans and three Democrats have already introduced similar bills to that of Representative Scanlon in the Senate. 1-29-44

Randolph Concludes

A. Phillip Randolph concluded the speaking and impressed upon the audience the fact that "the Negro must be transformed from the status of a second class citizen to that of a first class citizen." He asserted that this meeting in the nation's capital was the actual launching of a nation-wide membership drive for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Boilermakers' Head Sees FEPC Chief Today, Jimcrow Is Issue

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
5-22-44

WASHINGTON, May 21.—A possibility that the AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers may modify or abandon its long-time jimcrow policy loomed today as Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, announced a conference tomorrow with Charles A. McGowan, union president.

Ross said the meeting with McGowan was aimed at reaching agreement on adjustment of complaints made by Negro boilermakers on the West Coast. 5-22-44

NAVY YARD VICTORY

The complaints, which come from thousands of workers in Portland, Ore., Los Angeles, San Francisco and other West Coast areas, demand elimination of so-called "auxiliary" lodges in which Negroes are segregated in the Boilermakers. They pay dues in the auxiliaries but are denied ordinary union rights. FEPC hearings on the complaints were held in Portland Nov. 15 and 16 and in Los Angeles Nov. 19 and 20 and in December the committee directed the union and the shipbuilding companies involved to eliminate discrimination.

Meanwhile in New York, FEPC officials announced that racial designations will be removed from the badges of workers in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

For several years, workers had been compelled to wear badges containing among other things, the letter "W" for white or "C" for colored, a regulation long protested as discriminatory.

First FEPC efforts to win a change were met with Yard officials' insistence that designations had been ordered "for security reasons" by Washington but investigation showed that other Navy Yards didn't use them and after a series of conferences Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph A. Bard informed Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, that badges would be changed where workers desired it. 5-22-44

Progress has been made on adjustment of more than 50 complaints of discriminatory practice at the yard in the past two months, Edward Lawson, FEPC regional director, disclosed.

As a result, several Negro workers who claimed promotion had been denied because of race, were advanced in their ratings.

Herald Tribune Sheds Tears, But Snaps Jaws at the FEPC

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. June 1, 1944

By EUGENE GORDON

The Fair Employment Practice Committee, barely escaping alive last week when it asked the House for $500,000 to do a fourth year of splendid work, was condemned yesterday by the Herald Tribune as "bureaucratic."

June 1, 1944

Oh, no, the H. T. doesn't oppose employment of Jewish and Negro workers in war industries. It is "deeply concerned about discrimination" and believes "steps to correct unfair employment practices were, and still are, needed." The H. T. is simply against "a bureau whose existence depends solely on vague executive powers." FEPC's existence should depend, instead, on congress (whose hands are still wet from the murder of the anti-polltax bill). Daily Worker, N.Y.

The Dewey mouthpiece opposed H. R. 7 on one pretext. It opposes appropriations for the FEPC on another pretext. It is for fair voting and fair employment only in the abstract, never in the specific.

This sly but none-too-clever trick is intended to injure the administration's good works in the eyes of the people. But the people, by demanding that their senators vote for the $500,000 appropriation, will show the Herald Tribune and the Republican Party who the fools really are.

Hearings On FEPC Bills Open

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. 6-2-44

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 1.—The fight to save the President's committee on Fair Employment Practices approached a climax on Capitol Hill today.

The House Labor Committee opened hearings on the Scanlon-LaFollette-Dawson bills to give FEPC statutory basis, with power to crack down on employers who discriminate against Negroes and other minority groups.

Malcolm Ross, chairman of FEPC, prepared to appear Monday before the Deficiency Subcommittee of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee on the $500,000 appropriation for the agency which the House approved last week.

This 15-man subcommittee is headed by Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee and is packed with southern senators, including John Overton of Louisiana, Richard Russell of Georgia and John Bankhead of Alabama.

A number of Republicans on the subcommittee, including Senators Senators Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota and Rufus Holman of Oregon, are understood to be equally unsympathetic to FEPC.

Sponsors of the bills to create a permanent FEPC point out the agency will have greater authority if set up in basic law rather than simply by executive authority.

W. A. Hughes, Director of Industrial Personnel in the Army Service forces, read at the labor committee hearing a letter from Secretary of War Stimson which stated: "The War Department is in accord with the general purpose of prohibiting discriminatory practises." 6-2-44

Hughes, however urged that there be stricken from the bill a provision requiring that violators of the anti-discrimination ban be barred from receiving government contracts for three years.

Other penalties in the bill would punish violations by a year in jail a $5,000 fine or both.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York is sponsor of a similar bill which was referred to the House Judiciary Committee. Marcantonio is circulating a discharge petition to bring the bill to the floor.

Senate Riddles FEPC Bill; Race Baiting Marks Debate

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. 6-21-44

By ADAM LAPIN

WASHINGTON, June 20.—In a session marked only by thinly disguised appeals to lynch Negroes, the Senate today rejected the Russell amendment to kill a $500,000 appropriation for the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee by a vote of 39 to 21. But the polltax senators, who held forth all day in anti-Negro and anti-Semitic tirades which reached a new low for congressional debate, did succeed in passing three amendments designed to weaken FEPC.

The most important of these, approved by a voice vote, bars FEPC from taking any action which would have the effect of repealing or modifying existing congressional enactments.

This is a booby trap enactment which has the purpose of blocking action by the President requiring government agencies to insist that contractors write anti-discrimination clauses into their contracts.

TIES UP FEPC

In an amendment passed 27 to 25, the Senate enjoined FEPC from undertaking any action or investigation which might lead to presidential seizure of plants.

While no plants have been taken over in connection with FEPC directives, the effect of this amendment is to tie the hands of FEPC.

Still another amendment gives employers charged with discrimination whose cases have been referred to the White House the opportunity to make appeals to the President.

All three of these amendments, which were offered by Senator Richard Russell of Georgia, were able to win approval because many Republicans who had voted against killing FEPC subsequently voted for amendments which have the same effect by indirection.

Defeated by a 31 to 21 vote was another Russell amendment to deprive FEPC of authority to modify discriminatory contracts between unions and employers.

Friends of FEPC now expect to urge conferees on the War Agencies Appropriations Bill to knock out the restrictive amendments which were adopted. 6-21-44

Voting for the major Russell amendment were 14 Democrats, mostly polltax senators and seven Republicans. Against the Russell amendment were 25 Democrats and 16 Republicans.

PEPPER BACKS BILL

Senator Claude Pepper of Florida was the only southern senator to support FEPC. Senator Lister Hill of Alabama, administration whip, was active in fighting FEPC.

Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi in effect advised white citizens of Washington in sections where Negroes are said to be buying homes to use violence.

"There is no way for those people to get any relief that I know of except to take the law into their own hands and give the matter their personal attention," he said.

In an anti-Semitic passage of his speech, he said that Jews virtually control the government and that they have "received more consideration at the hands of the present Administration than any other nationality in the United States.

DEPORTATION SCHEME

Bilbo advocated his pet scheme for deporting all Negroes to West Africa, and suggested that Mrs. Roosevelt be made "queen of that greater Liberia."

Senator James E. Eastland of Mississippi said that we have "a government of minority groups who control this country" and discriminate against any "white person, a member of the Caucasian race."

Eastland said that white girls in the government service are "forced to work and take dictation from a group of burly headed n - - - - s and n - - - - r supervisors in the departments."

The vicious anti-Semitic and anti-Negro speeches were not challenged in a single speech from the floor.

Southerners' Plea

6-21-44

SEN. PEPPER VOTES WITH REPUBLICANS

Joint Committee Clears Way For Extending Price Control

WASHINGTON, June 20—(AP)—Disregarding embittered Southern assertions that the United States is being pushed into Communism or National Socialism, the Senate declined on a 39 to 21 roll call Tuesday to kill the president's fair employment practices committee.

The vote was on a $500,000 appropriation for the FEPC in a $1,030,000,000 war agencies supply bill.

Thirteen Southern senators who oposed the fund were supported by seven Republicans and one Western Democrat, Johnson of Colorado, but 16 Republicans joined with 23 Democrats to override their objections. Sen. Pepper of Florida was the only Democrat from the Deep South who voted with the majority.

The FEPC was set by President Roosevelt's executive order and was instructed to combat racial and religious discrimination in industry.

The Southerners salvaged only a few minor concessions—war contractors whose contracts were threatened with cancellation because of alleged discrimination would have the right to appeal to the president, and a prohibition was directed against government seizure of any plant for its refusal to conform to rules set up by FEPC. 6-21-44

Southerner after Southerner took the floor to castigate the agency as tending to stir up trouble rather than to alleviate friction between the races. White-haired Sen. George (D., Ga.), faced flushed, thundered that by approving the FEPC fund, the nation would be taking "a long step toward converting our economic system into a Communistic or National Socialistic system."

George Warns Senators

Turning toward the Republican side of the chamber, George declared "this may get you votes in 1944, but it won't in 1946, or 1948, or thereafter." The final aim of the persons backing FEPC, he declared, is taking away the control of private property from the owners.

Before a crowded gallery, the debate was unrestrained.

Sen. McClellan (D., Ark.) declared:

"When white and Negro women are compelled to sit side by side at their work, use the same toilet facilities, eat at the same table, it is an encroachment on the constitutional rights of both races, if either wants to be segreated from the other!"

At that point Sen. Eastland (D., Miss.) arose to shout:

"Isn't it even worse for decent white girls to have to take dictation from a lot of burr-headed Niggers in the departments?"

The debate even brought a suggestion that Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt become "queen of that Greater Liberia." 6-21-44

Bilbo Advocates Colony

Sen. Bilbo (D., Miss.), for years an advocate of resettling American Negroes in West Africa, said two and a half million Negroes had seconded his idea and added "I do not see why Mrs. Roosevelt or anyone else should object to it."

In fact, Bilbo said, if his resettlement plan ever succeeded, "I might entertain the proposition of making her queen of that Greater Liberia."

The main argument of the Southerners was that FEPC was aiming for social equality rather than against economic discrimination.

Supporting the FEPC, Sen. Lucas (D., Ill.) said:

"Job discrimination is indefensible when manpower bottlenecks are impeding the war effort."

With the White House intervening to break a deadlock, Senate and House conferees reached a compromise late Tuesday on the Bankhead amendment to adjust cotton textile ceilings in the price control extension bill.

The administration agreed to a requirement that ceilings on "major" textile items be revised to reflect a parity price for raw cotton. Eliminated from the original Bankhead proposal was a requirement that the ceilings guarantee manufacturing costs plus a profit to millers. 6-21-44

Byrnes Takes Lead

James F. Byrnes, war mobilization director, was said by members of the conference committee to have taken the lead in the move that brought about the compromise. The conference committee bill representing a merger of conflicting measures passed by Senate and House, is scheduled to go to the Senate first and then the House for concurrence Wednesday.

Henry M. Hart, associate general counsel for the OPA, said the effect of the compromise cotton amendment might be to raise ceilings on some textile items but that "we don't think the increases will be serious." He said any possible inflationary effect had been removed.

Rep. Wolcott (R., Mich.) said the parity price guarantee likely would mean increases in textiles that go into low-priced clothing.

The White House intervention obviously was aimed to preventing a congressional stalemate over the extension bill. President Roosevelt had called the original Bankhead proposal inflationary and administration congressmen had predicted a veto if it appeared in the bill as finally passed.

FEPC FUND IS VOTED BY SENATE

Age-Herald, Birmingham, Ala.

Upper House Declines To Kill Bureau Despite

Randolph Says Dawson FEPC Bill Is Better

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. 2-12-44

Porters' Chief Cites Strong Points, Sees Brighter Prospect

MARCANTONIO BILL HAS SAME INTENT

But Latter Measure Would Not Punish Lily-White Unions

NEW YORK — Congressman William L. Dawson's bill for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission is not only the stronger of two such measures now before Congress, but has better prospects for passage, according to A. Philip Randolph, co-chairman of the National Council for a permanent FEPC.

Mr. Randolph, who is president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, along with other members of the council, has just completed a comparative study of the two bills.

Congressman Dawson (Dem., Ill.) is co-sponsor of the preferred measure with Reps. Thomas E. Scanlon (Dem., Pa.) and Charles M. LaFollette (Rep., Ind.), while the other was introduced by Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.).

Party Strength Needed

Relative power of the respective backers' party affiliations was cited as a basis for the contention that the former has brighter prospects in the face of certain opposition from the Southern bloc in Congress and such biased unions as the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen and the International Association of Machinists.

Emphasizing the Dawson Bill's advantages in "structure, policy, and scope," Mr. Randolph made the following comparisons:

Scope Broader

"The Dawson Bill declares the policy of the United States to eliminate discrimination in all employment relations subject to the control of the government, while No. 1732 (the Marcantonio Bill) limits the policy of employers who contract with the government.

"Freedom from discrimination is declared by the Dawson Bill to be a privilege and immunity of U.S. citizens which shall not be abridged by the United States, a State or instrumentality thereof. This is not in No. 1732.

"No. 1732 does not include labor unions, while the Dawson Bill does. The latter also makes it an

"The provisions of No. 1732 are weak and the board established non-existent. The Dawson Bill abolishes the old committee but transfers its employees, books and records to a new committee."

Dawson Won't Drop His Permanent FEPC Bill

WASHINGTON

Congressman William L. Dawson, of Chicago, has not dropped his bill for a permanent FEPC.

The Illinois representative made it clear this week that his fair employment practice bill of 1732 does not touch that phase.

who files a charge or opposes unfair practice for an employer signature on the discharge petition to bring the Marcantonio measure, also designed to create a permanent FEPC, out of committee but abandoned hope of passing his own legislation.

"I have no quarrel with Marcantonio," declared.

"His bill is just not fully drawn. I think mine is."

Southern Senators Threaten Filibuster to Kill FEPC

PM-New York, N.Y.

Polltaxers Ruffled by Committee's Action OKing Agency Appropriations

6-13-44

By Nathan Robertson

PM Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 13.—Southern Senators were threatening today to filibuster the vital $1,000,000,000 war agencies appropriation bill in an effort to kill the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee).

Arrangements for the filibuster were quickly organized by the poll tax Senators after their attempt to kill the FEPC by refusing to appropriate any money for it had been defeated 14-6 yesterday in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Senate leaders were trying desperately to avert the filibuster fearful of the feeling that would be stirred up by such a legislative maneuver against the FEPC in the midst of war. They also were worried that a filibuster at this time would throw the legislative program into chaos.

Backstage efforts to prevent the filibuster failed yesterday. The Southerners were planning to meet today to complete their arrangements and work out their strategy.

Object of Filibuster

The object of the filibuster is to block a $500,000 appropriation to finance FEPC's activities during the coming year. This fund, already approved in the House by a narrow margin, was the subject of a bitter struggle in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The Southerners succeeded in subcommittee in eliminating it. Yesterday the full committee restored the appropriation, and the Southerners, realizing they have no chance of beating it in an open vote in the Senate, decided to filibuster. 6-13-44

A filibuster against the war agencies bill would block action on appropriations for such vital agencies as the WPB (War Production Board); OWI (Office of War Information); PAW (Petroleum Administration for War); Office of Strategic Services; National War Labor Board; Office of Defense Transportation, and many other agencies directing the war program.

Amendment Voted

While they failed to block the FEPC appropriation in the Committee yesterday, the Southerners managed to get in an amendment cutting the salary of Chairman Malcolm Ross from $10,000 a year to $8000.

They also came close to winning on an unprecedented proposal to limit the number of employes the FEPC could hire from minority groups. This proposal, by Sen. Richard Russell (D., Ga.), was beaten on a tie vote 7-7. It is expected to be revived in the Senate.

Russell's amendment would prohibit the FEPC from using more than 25 per cent of its appropriation to pay the salaries of persons "who are members of any race or minority group composing less than 15 per cent of the total population of the United States," according to the 1940 census.

Russell indicated the amendment was aimed at Negroes. He said the hearings showed the FEPC staff included 68 Negroes and 48 whites. But critics of the amendment pointed out that under its wording, it would apply also to Jews, and many other minority groups perhaps including Catholics. Many religious minorities would be included.

90 Per Cent in North

The Southerners fought the FEPC in Committee, despite testimony by Chairman Ross that the agency is devoting most of its time to employment conditions in the North.

The 14 Senators who voted to restore the FEPC appropriation were: 6-13-44

¶ Democrats: Carl Hayden of Arizona; Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma; Millard Tydings of Maryland; Pat McCarran, Nevada; Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming; Theodore Green, Rhode Island; Francis Maloney, Connecticut; Dennis Chavez, New Mexico; and James M. Mead, New York.

¶ Republicans: Chan Gurney, South Dakota; C. Wayland Brooks, Illinois; Clyde M. Reed, Kansas; Harold Burton, Ohio; and Joseph Ball, Minnesota.

Five Southerners and lame duck Republican Rufus C. Holman of Oregon voted against the appropriation. The Southerners were: Chairman Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee; Russell; John H. Overton of Louisiana; John Bankhead of Alabama, and Burnet Maybank of South Carolina.

Other Agencies Cut

Other war agencies didn't fare as well as the FEPC in the Committee. A cut of $2,000,000 was made in the fund for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs; $1,000,000 was cut from the money appropriated by the House for the Office of Defense Transportation.

The National War Labor Board, which urged the Committee to increase the House appropriation by $596,000 was, instead, cut another $562,700.

Meanwhile, on another bill, the Appropriations Committee voted to repair the damage done by the House to the appropriations for UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration).

The House eliminated authorization for $350,000,000 of the $800,000,000 which UNRRA officials said was the minimum on which the international agency could operate. The Senate Committee voted to approve an amendment restoring the money. Under the rules, however, if any Senator objects it will take a two-thirds vote to approve the additional authorization.

THE BATTLE OF WASHINGTON, II

Southern Bloc Maps Strategy Against FEPC

PM-New York, N.Y.

May Drop Plan To Filibuster Because of Backfire Danger

6-14-44

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 14.—Southern Senators were using the threat of a filibuster today to try to work out some kind of a deal hamstringing the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee).

It was difficult to tell just what the Southerners were up to. They were working behind the scenes, conferring among themselves on strategy, but refusing to talk.

Faced with threats of a filibuster, the Senate recessed over today, hoping that by tomorrow something could be worked out. Meanwhile, the Southerners were planning a meeting today on strategy.

Doesn't Make Sense

Despite the bluster of the Southerners, a filibuster on the bill appropriating money for the war agencies doesn't make much sense and apparently they are beginning to realize it. Nothing would be more likely to arouse a public backfire than a filibuster at this time, in the midst of the invasion, against vital appropriations for the agencies directing the war.

The item the Southerners oppose is a $500,000 appropriation to finance the FEPC during the next fiscal year. In order to block that, the Southerners would have to block $1,000,000,000 of appropriations for the major war agencies such as WPB (War Production Board). 6-14-44

Meanwhile, Sen. Richard Russell (D., Ga.) offered in the Senate his amendment which was beaten in the Appropriations Committee to limit the amount of the FEPC appropriation that could be used for hiring members of minority groups. No more than 25 per cent of the appropriations could be used for employing persons "who are members of any race or minority group comprising less than 15 per cent of the total population of the United States" in the 1940 census.

House Hearings

As the Appropriation Bill was stalled in the Senate, a House committee continued hearings on a permanent FEPC. Yesterday's witnesses included Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, and Walter White, secretary of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People.

Wise told the House Labor Committee the problems of postwar would be "grave enough" without allowing discrimination to continue employment of workers. Rep. A. L. Miller (R., Neb.), the man who killed off Gen. Douglas MacArthur's presidential boom by too much publicity, asked Dr. Wise if a permanent FEPC would not bring about a situation in America like in Germany, where, he said, Jewish domination of industry stimulated the rise of Hitler.

Dr. Wise replied that Hitler's rise was due to his promise to "so-called Christians" of the loot of confiscated Jewish property.

AGENCY BILL VOTED WITH FEPC FUNDS

Times-Herald N.Y.

Tally of 39 to 21 on Move to End Employment Body Lets It Continue Instead

6-21-44

SOUTHERN ATTACKS SHARP

Three Curbing Amendments Passed—Conference With House to Get Measure

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, June 20—The Senate, afte ar third day for explosive debate over the Fair Employment Practice Committee, which President Roosevelt established by executive order, passed the $1,03[illegible],000 War Agencies Appropriation Bill this evening, allowing $500,000 for continuing that agency but setting up restrictions which FEPC spokesmen said might materially limit its functions and authority.

The measure went to conference for adjustment of differences with the House.

In the fact of bitter and plain-talking denunciation of the FEPC and opposition to its continuance by Southern members, the Senate voted 39 to 21 to let it have the $500,000 in operating funds for the fiscal year, thus following the example of the House and giving first formal recognition to the controversial agency.

President Roosevelt asked for the money after the Senate, before passing the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill several weeks ago, stipulated that no agency formed by executive order which had been operating a year without going to Congress for its funds could exist after Jan. 1.

Russell Move Is Defeated

The FEPC got its directly appropriated operating funds (formerly supplied from the President's emergency fund) through the defeat by a vote of 39 to 21 of an amendment offered by Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia, which would have stricken the item from the bill which the Approriations Committee reported to the Senate. 6-21-44

With this vote, Senator Russell asserted, the Senate had attempted to "give legality" to the FEPC. He proposed that Congress prescribe limitations for its operations against employment discrimination

York appealed to his colleagues to reserve further decisions regarding FEPC operations for consideration of pending legislation which would give that agency a statutory standing.

Mr. Russell proposed that FEPC decisions be not permitted to modify the terms of existing contracts between employers and labor unions, a provision which drew the fire of Senators who contended that many unions violate supply and war contracts

6-21-44

Mead Tells of Pending Bill

Senator James M. Mead of New

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ng by Lindsay C. Warren, House, which allowed the $500,000

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Restriction is Provided

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FEPC representatives as the most

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Controller Gene

appeal to the President would be

ives to involve discriminations.

refuse to admit Negroes to membership. The amendment was defeated, 31 to 22.

Following up charges that the FEPC "discriminates against white people in its own hiring" and that more than two-thirds of Russell proposed that not more than 25 per cent of the part of the appropriation for compensation for personal services be used to pay "members of any race" comprising less than 15 per cent of the country's population. This was defeated, 36 to 15.

Senator Maybank offered an amendment which would prevent the FEPC from allowing volunteers, such as have been aiding in its program, to do anything more for the committee, and it was voted down, viva voce, after a brief debate. 6-21-44

Wage Differential Plea Lost

A 34 to 17 vote killed his proposal that the FEPC be assigned to investigate the wage differentials in government-operated war plants in the North and South.

Debate began with Senator Russell expressing resentment over material inserted in the Congressional Record yesterday by Senator Mead which, the Georgian contended, challenged the sincerity of his constitutional arguments against the powers given to the FEPC by the President's Executive roder. Mr. Mead promptly offered to strike out the offending parts of this insertion from the permanent record, explaining that he had not read it with sufficient care to note the objectionable matter.

FEPC Life Extended Despite Polltax Bigots

PM-New York, N.Y. 6-21-44

Senate Gallery Shocked by Southerners' Violent Racial Tirade

By NATHAN ROBERTSON
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON June 21.—The FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) was assured today of another year of life, but its effectiveness was threatened by amendments added yesterday in the Senate after one of the worst exhibitions of racial and religious intolerance ever seen in Congress.

Friends of FEPC said the restrictions sponsored by the Southerners were destroying the agency.

One of the amendments—offered by Sen. Richard Russell (D., Ga.), leader of the fight against the FEPC—was frankly designed to prevent inclusion of anti-discrimination clauses in war contracts. It was adopted with a record vote.

Gallery Shocked

The showdown on the agency designed to help racial and religious minorities get a fair break in employment came after Sens. Theodore Bilbo and George O. Eastland, Mississippi Democrats, reached a new low in the display of intolerance.

While many in the galleries listened in shocked silence, Bilbo said the FEPC would force Senators' to hire "mulatto" secretaries; that they would never be able to get the "odiferous" smell out of their offices; and that the Negroes should be resettled in Africa with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt as their "queen."

Roaming far afield, Bilbo protested that Negroes were buying homes in white sections in Washington, and actually suggested that the white people should "take the law in their own hands" to stop it. He even included some anti-Semitic remarks about the number and influence of Jews in Government departments. 6-21-44

Eastland contributed to the intellectual level of the debate by asserting:

"I have no prejudice in my heart, but the white race is a superior race and the Negro race an inferior race, and the races must be kept separate by law."

No Protest

There was no protest from other Senators as the Southerners ranted against the minorities that make up America. Bilbo started the day off by a rambling speech in which he gave his prejudices on various subjects an airing. Charging that the move for the FEPC was political, he said he was not interested in the Negro vote, adding:

"The Negro doesn't vote in my state and he's not going to. Pass all the anti-poll tax bills you want to, he's not going to vote. If he wants to vote, let him vote in New York."

Claiming that the FEPC was designed to bring racial equality, Bilbo said, "In the heart of every Negro is the dream of social equality and intermarriage between the whites and the blacks." He added that the Negro "gets an economic square deal—as much as could be expected."

Forecasts Trouble

Citing recent racial disturbances, Bilbo blamed them on the FEPC and forecast that "here in Washington, we are headed for trouble." He condemned what he said was a drive by real estate people to put Negroes into white residential aras.

Bilbo said that as chairman of the Senate District Committee he was frequently asked to do something about Negroes moving into white areas, but couldn't. He pointed out, reluctantly, that there was no law to stop it, but added "of course, if this was down South I would know how to handle it." It was then that the Senator virtually invited mob rule in the District, saying: 6-21-44

"There is no way for these people (the white people) to get relief except to take the law into their own hands and give it their personal attention."

He added that he was sure the people of Washington were in favor of segregation and forecast that there was "going to be an end to these conditions in Washington."

Attacks Rabbi Wise

Bilbo then repeated the charge of other Senators that the FEPC was discriminating against the whites by employing so many Negroes, but said it did not employ a single Jew and was "the only organization in Washington that hasn't any Jews."

Noting that Rabbi Stephen S. Wise has testified recently for a permanent FEPC, Bilbo said he was "the last man who ought to

That 'Man' Bilbo

complain" about discrimination. He added:

"Mr. Morgenthau operates the financial part of the Government. A very splendid Jew, Barney Baruch, is shaping all of the policies of the Administration, particularly post-war planning. Go down in the departments and there is no lack of Jews. This nationality has received more consideration under the New Deal than any nationality."

Sen. Walter George (D., Ga.) complained that the FEPC was creating racial trouble. Asserting recent legislation was increasing racial and class prejudices, George said "call a halt or we will register a rapid downfall of free government in America."

George charged that the FEPC was communizing America, by taking over management, and was contributing "a long step in the liquidation of private property."

Sen. John L. McClellan (D., Ark.) condemned the FEPC as a "public nuisance." Sen. Eastland interrupted to charge that all Government agencies were "discriminating against white people." McClellan agreed that in any agency where white and Negro women were compelled to work side by side it was "an encroachment on the constitutional liberties of both races." 6-21-44

"Isn't it worse that white women have to take dictation from burr-headed niggers?" Eastland shouted. Even McClellan seemed a little startled by the language, and mildly agreed that he didn't want his daughter to be put in that position.

FEPC Probes Biased Union

PM-New York, N.Y. 6-25-44

PM Exclusive

The Jim Crow policy of the International Seafarers Union, AFL, is again before the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) in the case of Chief Carpenter John M. Stevens, who has been under enemy fire at Naples, Sicily and the Anzio beachheads.

J. M. Stevens

Stevens, a soft-spoken immaculately groomed man who holds a card in the AFL carpenters' union, has been pulled off two ships by the SIU since June 1 because of his color, although he was a member in good standing.

Before filing his complaint with the FEPC, which, an official said, is planning to hold public hearings on at least a half-dozen complaints against the discriminatory practices of the union, Stevens took his complaint before the SIU membership meeting.

He was told from the floor by a union executive, he said, that the union was not a "social group" nor one interested in social reforms and that neither the President nor the FEPC can compel white men to sleep in the same room with Negroes. 6-25-44

Stevens, who was educated in South Carolina and attended Boston College has resigned from the SIU and joined the National Maritime Union, CIO, which has a no-discrimination policy, in his effort to get back to sea.

3-2 COMMITTEE VOTE SUSTAINS UNION COLOR BAR

Defender Chicago, Ill. 2-19-44

Refuse To Certify Case Of Boilermakers' Defi To President

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The Fair Employment Practices Committee split wide open this week on the controversial AFL Boilermakers Union case.

By a vote of 3 to 2, the committee voted not to certify the case of West Coast shipyard discrimination to President Roosevelt although the Kansas Cit. convention of the union had refused to meet the FEPC's demand to allow full representation to Negro workers.

The convention voted instead to maintain its Jim Crow locals for Negro workers and to give these locals representation at the union convention which is four years off.

The obvious face-saving device of the union was used by AFL representative Boris Shishkin on the FEPC to quash efforts to crack down on the union through presidential intervention.

It was learned that Shishkin promised FEPC members that he would take further steps to secure integration of Negroes in the Boilermakers Union but labor experts pointed out that this is impossible since the union's convention is the top authority in these matters.

The refusal to take the union case that charges of job discrimination against the union was used by the FEPC and virtually means that hereafter the committee will consider that Jim Crow locals meet the requirements of the President Roosevelt's executive order in its plants and come under the terms of the President's order.

The action came despite the fact that the FEPC have increased. At a conference Ross introduced the regional directors with that the "public will have to force the issue in large cases as the latter half of 1943.

Backward Step

On A Permanent FEPC

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

Why Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill Should Be Supported, Outlined by Randolph

2-5-44

By A. Philip Randolph

Two bills on FEPC are now before the Congress. One is the Marcantonio Bill which is known as H. R. 1732, and the other is the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill, H. R. 3986.

Now, the minority groups, of which the Negro people are by far the largest, are essentially concerned about securing federal legislation which will be effective in eliminating discriminations in industry and the Government. Naturally, it is to the interest of the minorities to support the bill which will more nearly achieve this objective. The only way by which it is possible to determine which is the more desirable Bill is by an analysis of both.

Findings and Policies

The Marcantonio Bill classifies discrimination in employment as the denial of civil rights and liberties and a waste of man-power.

Whereas, the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill terms discrimination as a waste of man-power, an obstruction to, and burden upon interstate commerce.

The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill also declares the policy of the United States to eliminate discrimination in all employment relations subject to the control of the Government, while the Marcantonio Bill limits the policy to employers who contract with the Government, which is a far different thing. The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill is far broader and more comprehensive in this relation.

Freedom from discrimination is declared by the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill to be a privilege and immunity of United States citizens which shall not be abridged by the United States, a State or instrumentality thereof. This provision is not in the Marcantonio Bill, but it is obvious to anyone that this is vital and imperative for the protection of Negro citizens and other minority groups from discrimination by the Government itself.

Unfair Employment Practice

The Marcantonio Bill does not include labor unions, while the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee -LaFollette Bill does. The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill also makes it an unfair practice for an employer or union to discharge or expel or discriminate against any person who files a charge or opposes unfair employment practices.

The Marcantonio Bill does not touch this phase. Only a casual examination of conditions involving discrimination against the Negro and other minority groups will show the value of this provision. Many a person is the victim of a discharge who opposes unfair practices of the employer. You have the Levy Case in the army who supported and championed the cause of Negro soldiers and was court-martialed for same. While these Bills do not refer to the armed forces, this is simply an example in point.

Scope of Act

The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill precisely defines its scope and includes employers in interstate and foreign commerce, while the Marcantonio Bill by its "definitions" attempts to achieve somewhat the same result but falls far short.

The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill sets up a seven member Committee appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate for seven year terms at an annual salary of $10,000. The Marcantonio Bill considers the Committee that body set up by the President pursuant to executive Order 8802. The provisions of the Marcantonio Bill are weak and the Board established non-existent.

The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill provides for yearly reports to the President and to Congress. The Marcantonio Bill is silent on this point. 2-5-44

Enforcement and Prohibition

Section 5 of the Marcantonio and Section 10 of the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bills have somewhat similar provisions, except that the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill is more explicit and not so loosely drawn. The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill establishes ten days as the minimum, while the Marcantonio Bill sets up seven days.

One of the most important considerations to be given the question of securing the enactment of a Bill, is the possibility of it receiving wide support in the Congress. All persons who are realistic at all about the question, know that a Bill which starts off with the support of groups of Congressmen of the two major parties stands a much brighter chance of support and enactment than does a Bill sponsored by a representative of a party which exists in only one state, namely New York, and which has been able to send only one Congressman from that State to Congress. It does not require any tremendous stretch of the imagination to understand that the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill, which is being supported by Congressman Scanlon of Pennsylvania, Dawson of Illinois, Coffee of Washington and LaFollette of Indiana, will make much more effective headway than the Marcantonio Bill which is sponsored by Marcantonio of New York, alone. Moreover, the Marcantonio Bill has been before the Congress for about a year and there has been little or no action taken on it. 2-5-44

The Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill, moreover, is backed by the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, which represents a cross-section of prominent liberals, labor leaders and churchmen throughout the Country. Two secretaries have been employed for the pushing of this Bill alone and the mobilizing of nation-wide sentiment back of the Scanlon-Dawson-Coffee-LaFollette Bill. For the foregoing reasons, I, in the name of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, call upon a minority group to back the Scanlon-Coffee-LaFollette Bill, to put an end to bias in industry and the Government, on account of race, color, religion or national origin.

FEPC Money Center Of Big Controversy On Appropriations Bill

News

Birmingham Ala.

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Racial, sectional and political angles combined Friday to make a $500,000 item for the president's Fair Employment Practices Committee the center of the biggest fight in a House appropriations bill of $1,033,358,367. 5-26-44

The committee was created a year ago Saturday for the announced purpose of preventing discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed or national origin. Its activities have met strong resistance in the South on the contention that it is a political attempt from outside to force changes in traditional customs.

Southern House members, aided by a handful of Republicans, lost the first round of their fight Thursday when they sought to invoke parliamentary procedure by which the FEPC fund could be stricken on a point of order from the cover-all measure appropriating funds for 18 home front agencies.

Their remaining chance is to strike the fund by amendment from the floor; Southern leaders admitted privately they lack the votes to do that.

Rep. Colmer (D., Miss.) contended the effect of FEPC's activities was to "discriminate against the whites."

Rep. Rankin (D., Miss.) called the FEPC "a monstrosity," while a Northern Republican, Taber, of New York, asserted the agency had sought to compel war manufacturers to employ alien Germans.

The CIO entered the fight by importuning members of the appropriations committee to insist on restoration of an $85,000 cut applied to FEPC by the committee Thursday morning. 5-26-44

Few of the other items in the bill are expected to be subjected to much criticism before House passage, tentatively scheduled for Saturday.

Atlanta FEPC Defender Grows-Ignores Chicago, Ill City Councilmen

1-27-44

ATLANTA—(ANP)— Continuing to ignore the Atlanta city council resolution asking Georgia congressmen to seek its removal, the southeastern regional office of the FEPC Wednesday through its director, A. Brice Hunt, announced the appointment of two more staff members, James H. Tipton, Jr., white, as an examiner and Miss Thelma Horton, as a stenographic-secretary.

Mr. Tipton, a native of Worth county, Ga., was serving as principal of the Rayburn county high school, Clayton, Ga., at the time of his appointment. Previously he had been assistant treasurer of the Georgia school of Technology and manager of the Georgia Tech radio program. He is widely known for his liberal attitude toward Negro citizens.

Miss Horton, a native of Athens, is a graduate of Morris Brown college, and until the time of her appointment had served as secretary to W. Y. Bell, Jr., USO regional director.

Previously Mr. Hunt had announced the appointment of John Hope II, son of the late Atlanta university president, as an examiner. 1-29-44

The regional FEPC office is located in one of the largest buildings in downtown Atlanta, a fact which irritated prejudiced white Atlantans, who resented the sight of Negroes and whites working harmoniously in the same office on the basis of equality.

FEPC Appropriation Gets By Opposition

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

5-27-44

(Washington Bureau of the Atlanta Daily WORLD and NNPA)

WASHINGTON — The FEPC on Friday survived a determined effort to kill it through striking its appropriations from the war agencies appropriation bill by a solid bloc of Southern Democrats, and a surprisingly large number of Republicans. Its fate is now in the hand of the Senate which must next consider and pass on the measure.

After several hours of debate on the bill 90 percent of which was aimed at the FEPC, the House, sitting in committee of the whole, adopted an amendment striking out the entire FEPC appropriations by a vote of 141 to 103. The agency was seeking less than one percent of the total amount in the bill. Representative Dawson, (D. Ill.) made an impassioned plea for the agency. When the measure was reported back to the house for passage in legislative session, however, the heroic efforts of Rep. Dawson and Rep. Marcantonio of New York to save the FEPC were rewarded. 5-27-44

The amendment to strike out the agency's request as recommended by the committee of the whole was defeated by four votes 123 to 119. The session lasted until after 7 p. m.

THE PRESIDENT'S SUPER BOARD

Defender Chicago, Ill.

The appointment of a three-man committee to resolve the impasse between the Fair Employment Practice Committee and the Southern railroads, seems to us both unnecessary and unwise. The real point at issue is whether or not the employment policy of the Southern railroads violates the President's Executive Order which forbids discrimination in the industries. After a careful examination of the facts, the FEPC found the Southern railroads guilty of racial discrimination and ordered them to change their policy. This they have refused to do, thereupon the case was certified to the White House.

It is our opinion that President Roosevelt should have ordered the Southern railroads to comply with the directives of the FEPC. Such a step would have strengthened the hands of the committee while serving as an incontrovertible deterrent to other industries inclined to defy its authority. The appointment of a three-man committee to arbitrate to believe that another committee of the issue weakens the FEPC's power two or three or five men may be appointed to the new board. We believe that the creation of such a board establishes a precedent that does not augur well for the future of the FEPC. Moreover the feeling is widely shared in some quarters that political expediency dictated that course. True or not the fact remains that no decision in the dispute will be reached soon. In the meantime the findings of one committee are reviewing the findings of another may go on ad infinitum. But it is time wasting, and doubtless money wasting also. The committee of committees may find itself superseded by committees A, B, C, D, etc., until the emergency out of which the original committee was created no longer exists. 1-15-44

We do not for a moment question the integrity and reputation of the men appointed to the new board. We believe them to be men of ability and character. But we believe that the creation of such a board establishes a precedent that does not augur well for the future of the FEPC. Moreover the feeling is widely shared in some quarters that political expediency dictated that course. True or not the fact remains that no decision in the dispute will be reached soon. In the meantime the findings of one committee are reviewing the findings of another may go on ad infinitum. But it is time wasting, and doubtless money wasting also. The committee of committees may find itself superseded by committees A, B, C, D, etc., until the emergency out of which the original committee was created no longer exists. 1-15-44

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The Movement For A Permanent FEPC

Journal and Guide - Norfolk, Virginia
2-12-44

A BILL proposing to make the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee a permanent organization, supported further by statutory authority and assurances of finances to do its needed work, is before the House of Representatives.

The measure was introduced by Representatives Scanlon of Pennsylvania, Dawson of Illinois, and La Follette of Indiana, and in the upper house of Congress by Senators Ferguson of Michigan, Langer of North Dakota, Capper of Kansas, and Downey of California.

This sponsorship of the bill is drawn from a group of well known and influential legislators, and it is to be hoped that sufficient strength can be mobilized behind them from the major parties to insure the passage of the bill.

A similar bill has been introduced by Representative Marcantonio of New York, but Washington observers believe that the Scanlon-Ferguson bill has more likelihood of favorable action in Congress. The Marcantonio bill is regarded by them as not as suitable from the point of view of structure, scope, and policy. Journal and Guide

Furthermore, Representative Marcantonio is affiliated with a party with its major strength in New York City, whereas the other bill is sponsored by members of major parties. This alone has a vital political significance, and it would be the part of political acumen for those seeking to strengthen FEPC to muster their support behind the bill with the greater chance of passage, especially if it meets adquately the problems of discrimination that plague us in the economic field.

Obviously, the southern bloc and other isolated anti-Negro members of Congress will probably oppose any bill designed to improve the economic lot of the disadvantaged Negro group, by such pressure groups as the southeastern railroads and railway brotherhoods (unions), and by such other industrial and labor union groups as are now denying employment opportunities to the Negro and other minority groups. Norfolk, Virginia

Already there is forming a powerful and interested body of opinion behind the passage of the Scanlon-Ferguson bill. Only those blind to the dangers of the present economic plight of minority groups because of race, creed, and national origin will fail to do everything in their power to make known to members of Congress their deep interest in the passage of the bill. 2-12-44

Fair Employment Practices

Courier-Journal-Louisville, Ky. 6-19-44

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal:

A measure which is very important for the morale of our Negro fellow citizens is the appropriation of $500,000 for the Fair Employment Practices Committee, the government agency set up by President Roosevelt to prevent discrimination on the grounds of race, color or religion in the employment policies of war industries.

The measure is now before the Senate Appropriations Committee. If the efforts to knock it out of the appropriations bill now before that committee prove successful, the morale of the Negro people will suffer a very severe blow. 6-19-44

A bi-partisan measure is under consideration by the House Labor Committee for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee to stop discrimination in job opportunities as a permanent peace-time policy. Such a measure is necessary unless we are willing to continue giving the lie to our boast that our country is a land of equal opportunity.

ALFRED BAKER LEWIS.

New York City.

SENATORS OF SOUTH OPEN FIGHT ON FEPC

Times-Herald, N.Y.

Some Republicans Abet Attack on Executive Agency—Vote on Fund Bill Deferred

6-17-44

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, June 16—Passage by the Senate of the $1,027,618,000 War Agencies Appropriation Bill was postponed today until next week as Southern members began their fight against a $500,000 item for maintenance of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia charged that President Roosevelt overruled a decision of Lindsay C. Warren, Controller General, which would have withheld funds from the agency.

"Records show," Mr. Russell said, "that the Controller General ruled that the FEPC, having no authority in law, could not receive Government funds. President Roosevelt then overruled him and kept the agency alive."

Debate indicated that the Southern group was gaining some support from Republicans, not so much because of the issues of racial discrimination but because the FEPC was created by Presidential Executive Order and supplied with funds without requests for Congressional appropriations.

The first request made by the President for an appropriation for the FEPC's support came, it was pointed out, after the Senate had adopted a Russell amendment to the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill, which would discontinue agencies which did not receive statutory recognition or appropriation by July 1. 6-17-44

Senator Russell alleged that the FEPC "discriminated against white people in its own employment practices," contending that more than two-thirds of its employes here and in the field were Negroes. Further, he argued, only 44 out of 1,000 cases taken to the board for action were sent to Washington headquarters for determination, the action being taken by field representatives.

Among the personnel of the FEPC, Mr. Russell said, were persons who had been associated "with groups branded as subversive by the Attorney General of the United States."

President's Way Upheld; FEPC Saved

Advertiser - Montgomery
Alabama 6-21-44

39 Senators Support His Fair Employment Plan; 21 Vote In Opposition

South Is Bitter

6-21-44

George And Bilbo Score Plan As Disturber Of Race Relations In U. S.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Alabama
6-21-44

WASHINGTON, June 20.—(AP)—Disregarding embittered Southern assertions that the United States is being pushed into communism or national socialism, the Senate declined on a 39 to 21 roll-call today to kill the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The vote was on a $500,000 appropriation for the FEPC in a $1,030,000,000 war agencies supply bill.

Thirteen Southern senators who opposed the fund were supported by seven Republicans and one Western Democrat, Johnson of Colorado, but 16 Republicans joined with 23 Democrats to override their objections. Senator Pepper, of Florida, was the only Democrat from the deep South who voted with the majority.

The FEPC was set up by President Roosevelt's executive order and was instructed to combat racial and religious discriminations in industry.

The Southerners salvaged only a few minor concessions — war contractors whose contracts were threatened with cancellation because of alleged discrimination would have the right of appeal to the President, and a prohibition was erected against government seizure of any plant for its refusal to conform to rules set up by FEPC.

Agency Castigated

Southerner after Southerner took the floor to castigate the agency as tending to stir up trouble rather than to alleviate friction between the races. White-haired Senator George (D), Georgia, face flushed, thundered that by approving the FEPC fund, the nation would be taking "a long step toward converting our economic system into a communistic or national socialistic system."

Speaking to the Senate in support of an amendment to delete the $500,000 allowance, George said the agency had done nothing but "create disturbances."

"There is no more certain way to destroy this republic than by dividing the American people into classes," he asserted. "Within the last five or ten years a deeper schism has been driven into American life than ever before, a deeper racial prejudice, a deeper class prejudice."

George, saying the FEPC's purpose is not to obtain equal salaries for negroes doing similar work to that performed by whites, added: "I'd be entirely ashamed of myself if I were willing to deny to any man, regardless of his race, color or creed, full, fair and equal compensation."

Seeking Social Equality

The "main purpose" of the FEPC, he continued, "is to establish something like social equality." 6-21-'44

Turning toward the Republican side of the chamber, George declared "this may get you votes in 1944, but it won't in 1946, or 1948, or thereafter." The final aim of the persons backing FEPC, he declared, is taking away the control of private property from the owners.

Before a crowded gallery, the debate was unrestrained.

Senator McClellan (D), Arkansas, declared: 6-21-'44

"When white and negro women are compelled to sit side by side at their work, use the same toilet facilities, eat at the same table, it is an encroachment on the Constitutional rights of both races, if either wants to be segregated from the other!"

At that point Senator Eastland (D), Mississippi, arose to shout:

"Isn't it even worse for decent white girls to have to take dictation from a lot of burr-headed niggers in the departments?"

The debate even brought a suggestion that Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt become "Queen of that Greater Liberia."

Senator Bilbo (D), Mississippi, for years an advocate of resettling American negroes in West Africa, said two and a half million negroes had seconded his idea and added "I do not see why Mrs. Roosevelt or anyone else should object to it."

Declaring that two and a half million negroes want to return to Africa, Bilbo asserted:

"I do not claim any credit for the campaign to resettle the negroes in West Africa," he said. "President Monroe started it, Jefferson encouraged it, Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and President Grant were for it. When such a respectable party of two and one half million persons request the congress to give them this relief, this opportunity, and this break, I do not see why Mrs. Roosevelt or anyone else should object to it. Advertiser, Montgome

"Perhaps, she did not understand my ultimate plan. If I can succeed eventually in resettling the great majority of the negroes in West Africa, I might entertain the proposition of making her Queen of that Greater Liberia."

In fact, Bilbo said, if his resettlement plan ever succeeded, "I might entertain the proposition of making her Queen of that Greater Liberia."

The main argument of the Southerners was that FEPC was aiming for social equality rather than against economic discrimination.

Supporting the FEPC, Senator Lucas (D), Illinois, said:

"Job discrimination is indefensible when manpower bottlenecks are impeding the war effort."

Senator Hill of Alabama, the Democratic whip and usually one of President Roosevelt's strongest supporters, told the Senate the President "had no powers to set up this committee."

Its establishment, he said, "was never authorized by Congress" nor did Congress ever intend that funds appropriated by it should be "used for such an agency."

Walter White And Rabbi Wise Speak For U. S. FEPC

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
6-14-44

By HARRY McALPIN

(Washington Bureau of the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON — The Senate recessed Tuesday until Thursday without considering the FEPC appropriation reinstated to the War Agencies bill Monday by a 14 to 6 committee vote.

In the morning, the House Labor Committee, continuing hearings on bills for a permanent FEPC, heard Walter White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Rabbi Stephen Wise as witnesses who made strong statements on the need for establishing such an agency.

White told the committee it has been a privilege during recent months to visit various war fronts where Negro combat and service troops are stationed. He said the most frequently asked question by these soldiers is "whether or not Negroes on returning home will continue to be confined to black jobs."

Negro American fighting men on battle fronts around the world are not fighting in vain. They are asked the committee and that Congress to send word to 700,000 boot 6-14-44

FEPC Gets Charges Against U. S. Air Force

PM - New York, N.Y. 3-3-44

Fired Negro Civilian Instructor Tells of Being Pushed Around

By EDMUND SCOTT

PM Exclusive

A graduate civilian instructor of the Army Air Force Technical School for Instructors, Chanute Field, Ill., who was fired for alleged inefficiency after being shuttled from one airport to another for almost a year, has filed charges of discrimination against the Air Force with the (Fair Employment Practice Committee) FEPC.

The instructor, Henry N. Conyers, father of two young children who lives at 70 E. 119th St., says he was prepared to teach enlisted Army personnel "the theory of electricity as applied to aircraft power systems," but charges that because he is a Negro, he was shifted from Chanute Field to Mississippi, then to Lincoln, Neb., and finally on June 1, 1943, to Sacramento Air Depot, Cal. There, he says, "not for one minute during my first four months was I officially assigned to a class although I received my salary regularly."

Conyers, a mild mannered, soft spoken man who attended the New York Institute of Commerce and Accountancy for three years before entering Civil Service in 1940 with the New York Port of Embarkation, in his complaint to the FEPC, which has been forwarded to the agency's San Francisco office for action, charges that at the Sacramento Air Depot: 3-3-44

¶ "I was obliged to just sit . . . for eight hours a day for a period of approximately 120 days, dangling aimlessly around."

¶ "On one occasion, our department had a class and no instructor for the class—but rather than utilize my service, the class was held up . . . while . . . the chief instructor drafted an instructor from another department to come to our department to instruct the class."

¶ "After three months, my chief instructor turned in an unfavorable 'employees' rating' on me, although never once was I assigned to the duties commensurate with my classification."

¶ "The supervisor, subsequently removed me from the electrical department for which I am trained, to another department for which I had no instructor training, and replaced me with a mechanic."

¶ "Because I refused to take an examination to remain a qualified instructor, which is not the procedure of any Army school, I was dismissed."

¶ "I also refused to take this test because the board of about eight chief instructors . . . chosen to give me this test, consisted of two of my accusers." 3-3-44

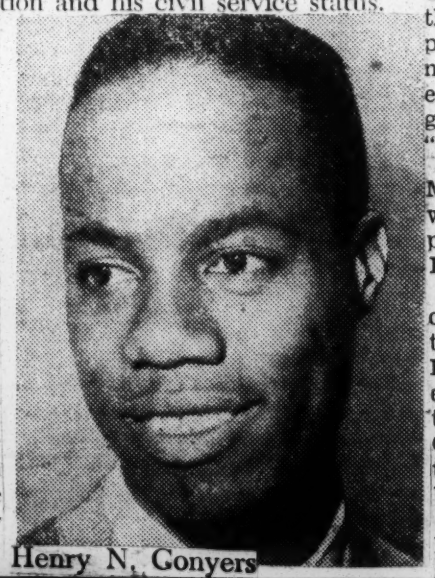
Conyers, who attended the Air Force School eight hours a day for 110 days to get his diploma as a junior instructor, said:

"Everywhere I go I have to produce my papers. They show I was dismissed for inefficiency and I can't get a job.

"I wish, therefore, to appeal this miscarriage of justice on the basis that for the good of the Army Air Forces I was shipped 3000 miles from my family 'for the convenience of the Government,' demoted and finally my refusal to accept a drastic reduction in salary resulted in my being discharged for inefficiency.

"I have suffered the loss of four years seniority in civil service, part of which was secured at the N. Y. Port of Embarkation, 43 days sick leave and certain pension rights."

Conyers says that all he wants is to be cleared of the stigma placed on him by his dismissal by the Army, restoration of his classification and his civil service status.



Henry N. Conyers

SENATORS PROMISE FAIR HEARING ON FEPC BUDGET

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 3-19-44

NAACP Writes Every Solon Asking Views

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(S N S)—Leading members of the Senate have promised the NAACP to give fair and impartial consideration to the application of the Fair Employment Practice Committee for its $585,000 budget.

Following the introduction of an amendment to the Independent Offices Bill by Senator Russell of Georgia, which he announced to the press as an attempt to "wipe out the Fair Employment Practice Committee," the NAACP wrote letters to every Senator asking his views on the continuation of the FEPC.

Senator Guy M. Gillettee of Iowa writes that while he is in full accord with the principle (of prohibiting the transfer of funds appropriated for one purpose to another) "I am strongly in favor of the purpose and objectives of the FEPC." 3-19-44

LaFOLLETTE FAVORABLE

Senator Robert M. LaFollette, Jr., of Wisconsin, writes, "if it becomes necessary for the FEPC to come to Congress for an appropriation, I would certainly be in favor of granting the appropriation sufficiently large for the committee to carry on its good work."

Senator Francis Maloney of Connecticut pledges that when the FEPC comes before the appropriations committee "it will have my careful attention and consideration." Senator Harley M. Kilgore, of West Virginia also pledges "careful consideration."

Senator James E. Murray of Montana writes, "I do not agree with Senator Russell in his quoted purpose of destroying the Fair Employment Practice Committee."

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan says, "I favor a continuation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. I agree, however, that all of these instrumentalists should be responsible to Congress for the justifications of their appropriations."

WAGNER IN LINE

Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York writes, "As you probably know, I applauded the establishment of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice and am thoroughly in accord with its objectives. To my mind, discrimination in employment because of race, color or creed makes a mockery of the ideals we are fighting to defend. You may be assured that I will not only vote for the continuance of the work of the FEPC but will do everything possible to strengthen it in the performance of its important function." 3-19-44

Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley pleaded that he had not had an opportunity to study the amendment of Senator Russell but declared, "my own inclination is to keep most, if not all, of these agencies in existence, including the one mentioned in your letter, and I shall certainly give earnest consideration to the recommendations and suggestions concerning it."

Dr. Alva Taylor Appointed To Staff Of FEPC

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 3-3-44

Dr. Alva W. Taylor of Nashville, Tenn., a Public Panel Member of the Fourth Regional War Labor Board and a Public member of Industry Panels in the Wage and Hour Division of Department of Labor, has been appointed to the staff of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice as Consultant, it was announced at the local office today. This appointment brings to four the number of professional appointees in the local office, the other three being Messrs John Hope II and James H. Tipton, Fair Practice Examiners, and A. Bruce Hunt, Regional Director.

DRAKE GRADUATE

Dr. Taylor, a graduate of Drake University and the University of Chicago, for many years has been active in religious, educational, and interracial fields in the South. He is at present Executive Secretary of the Southern Mountain Workers Conference. Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and a member of the Social Service Commission of the Federal Council of Churches. He was formerly Professor of Social Ethics in the Schools of Religion at the University of Missouri and Vanderbilt University, and Chairman of the Nashville Interracial Committee.

Dr. Taylor is the author of numerous books and pamphlets on religious, interracial. and industrial subjects, including "Social Work of Christian Missions," "Christianity in Industry in the United States," and "Social Progress and Christian Ideals." 3-3-44

The FEPC receives an investigates complaints of discriminatory employment practices in war industries and the Government service where such discrimination is based upon race, creed, color, national origin, or alienage, and takes appropriate steps to elimiate such discriminatory practices. Since the opening of the Regional FEPC Office during last November, a total of 71 new cases have been docketed, 10 of which had been previously filed with the Committee in Washington. During the same period, a total of 35 cases have been closed. These include cases where satisfactory adjustments have been obtained and employers have agreed to comply with Executive Order No. 9346, cases which were dismissed as being without merit or because of insufficient evidence, cases in which the Committee did not have jurisdiction, and, finally, cases withdrawn by the complainants. 3-3-44

The number of active cases on the docket in the Regional Office is now 156. Included are cases in which it is alleged that complainants have been discriminated against in employment in war industries and the Government service because they are Negroes, Jews, Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Aliens, or of foreign birth.

Six Companies Would Put End To Jim Crow

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

One Southern Road Finds Way To Adjustment

4-1-44

WASHINGTON — (AP)—Dis- filed with the house special inves- ir Negro employm
closure that six of the defendants tigating committee by FEPC in an- tial numbers of
in the railroad hearings conducted by the Southern Carriers' confer- gories not inclu
by the FEPC last September are ence. plaints against
currently negotiating solutions, heard at the Sep
"with substantial gains in Negro "In both the case of the Penn- ing th
employment" being made in two sylvania and the New York Central committee stated.
instances, was made in the brief there have been substantial gains

The other lines in negotiation are the Baltimore and Ohio, the Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal, the Union Pacific, and the Missouri - Kansas-Texas railroads. The B. and O. is checking individual complaints with an eye to

ward adjustment. The Chicago Terminal matter is now being handled between management and the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, the union involved. The M. K. and T. has renewed its "pledge of cooperation with the committee", is striving for "tangible progress" and is confident that a solution will be reached. The U. P. is still in negotiation.

On the basis of this record, FEPC has made four observations, namely: 1. the issuance and publication of directives did not prove a bar to negotiations; 2. at least one southern railroad found it not impracticable to reach solutions; 3. at least one railroad workers union expressed a willingness to attempt compliance and is achieving results; 4. negotiations in each case have proved to be complex and lengthy.

In the conclusions, the committee declared that FEPC intervention ended in the 14 railroads cases when they were certified to the President, except insofar as its services may be requested. "With its own responsibilities discharged and the cases no longer before it," the statement concludes: "FEPC believes that practical and peaceful solutions of the issues raised can be handled, and it subscribes to the expressed hopes of both the President and the Stacy committee that this may be the final result."

Senate Acts To Kill FEPC

PM-New York, N. Y.
3-26-44

The $8,000,000,000 Independent Offices Supply bill has been returned to the House after the Senate approved it by voice vote and added a series of amendments aimed at curbing the TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority) and killing the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) 3-26-44

Two of the amendments, introduced by Sen. Kenneth McKellar (D., Tenn.), bitter foe of the huge power project, require the TVA to depend on direct Congressional appropriations for future financing and require reappointment and Senate confirmation of all Federal employees earning $4500 or more a year. A third amendment, which would hit the FEPC, bars use of any funds for Federal agencies created by the President unless specific authorizations are made by Congress.

The House, meanwhile, passed and sent to the Senate a $567,995,779 agricultural appropriation bill with a Republican-sponsored amendment aimed at preventing field officers of the Agriculture Adjustment Administration from "coercing" farmers to participate.

Dewey Backers Jittery On His FEPC Sabotage

Daily Worker - New York, N. Y.
3-31-44

"The Challenge of the Minority Question" seemed to be too challenging to Dewey supporters at Wednesday's annual meeting of the New York State Conference on Social Work, Islip State Hospital, L. I.

A Negro expert, speaking on that subject, declared the Governor had not helped New York state minorities "by abandoning the Fair Employment Practice Act" in an attempt to get into White House.

The speaker was Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary of the New York Urban League. Dewey's defenders were Richard Gilmartin, Commissioner of Public Welfare of Suffolk County, chairman of the meeting and Edwin Wallace, Commissioner of Public Welfare of Nassau County. Mrs. Ethel Roosevelt Derby, daughter of the late President Theodore Roosevelt, in the uniform of a Red Cross nurse, also showed annoyance.

Gilmartin regretted that "politics" had been mentioned in a discussion on social work and the plight of Negro, Jewish and other minorities. Wallace insisted that Dewey was "the greatest governor" in the history of this state. Mrs. Derby, noting Mr. Lewis' criticism of the segregated blood bank, absolved the Red Cross of responsibility, getting the immediate retort from the Urban League secretary that she was making an alibi for prejudice.

To Wallace, 3-31-44 Lewis said that Dewey was "great" all right—"a great politician," adding that the people, in a not distant future would see "just how great."

Mayor Kelly Sets June 25 Fair Employment Day

Daily Tribune-Chicago
5-16-44

A proclamation issued yesterday Mayor Kelly designated Sunday, June 25, as Fair Employment day in Chicago and asked that management, labor and all other segments of the population strive to establish in factories and other places of business the principle of equality of opportunity to all races and creeds in respect to members of the American fighting forces.

FEPC Says Job Finished On Rail, Union Hearing

Daily World
Responsibilities At Atlanta, Ga. Fully Discharged,

Smith Unit Told

5-17-44

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—The responsibilities of the FEPC in adjusting complaints against 14 of the original 22 railroads charged with discriminatory hiring policies have been fully discharged to the limit of the authority granted the committee by Executive Order 9346, and the cases are no longer before it.

This is the status explained in FEPC's statement to the Smith committee last week in answer to counter charges filed by the group of southern carriers which have already balked at compliance with "cease and desist" directives issued against him. Chairman Malsolm Ross originally was to have appeared for questioning but was granted permission instead to file an answer.

DENIES 3 CHARGES

The 35-page brief denied the three charges levelled, namely, that directives against northern railroads were kept secret, that in all, 20 cases had been certified to the President by the old FEPC, and that FEPC had changed its procedure after the appointment of a new chairman.

As regards authority, the committee held "that its issuance of directives was an appropriate step toward obtaining compliance with a national policy formulated by the commander-in-chief under his wartime powers." 5-17-44

Further it maintained that the committee does not hold that it has the power to enforce its directives by the imposition of penalties or subjection of the parties to judicial action.

DIRECTIVES "INSTRUCTIVE"

On the other hand, "the directives are held to instruct the parties on the methods of bringing their employment policies into line with Executive Order 9346:" and that "the directives, if certified, also comprise a report to the President on violations . . . so that he may evaluate what steps should be taken to clear the parties of offense against the national policy." 3-26-44

In the conclusions, the committee declared that FEPC intervention ended in the 14 railroad cases when they were certified to the President, except insofar as its services may be requested. "With its own responsibilities discharged and the cases no longer before it," the statement concludes, "FEPC believes that practical and peaceful solutions of the issues raised can be had, and it subscribes to the expressed hopes of both the President and the Stacy committee that this may be the final result.

Hunt Replies To Attack On FEPC

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
4-19-44

In answer to an attack made on the Fair Employment Practice Committee, A. Bruce Hunt, Regional Director of the Agency here in Atlanta, makes a reply.

Mr. Hunt stated that three of the employees are male, and that they are employed on a full-time basis.

This is his statement:

"I am classified as a Senior Fair Practice Examiner and act as Regional Director, John Hope II is classified as a Fair Practice Examiner, and James H. Tipton is classified as an Associate Fair Practice Examiner. The different salaries which we earn are explained by the different titles of our positions. The fourth and part-time male employee is Dr. Alva W. Taylor of Nashville, Tennessee, who has the title of "Consultant," and who is also on the staffs of other Government agencies. Dr. Taylor earns the same annual rate of salary as does Mr. Hope.

"We have two female employees. Miss Myra L. Bunting acts as secretary to the Senior Fair Practice Examiner at a salary of $1,800 per annum. Miss Thelma E. Horton acts as secretary to both the Fair Practice Examiner and the Associate Fair Practice Examiner. From the time of her appointment in January, 1944, until April 1, Miss Horton was compensated at the rate of $1,620 per annum. On April 1, her salary was increased to $1,800. 4-19-44

"On Saturday, April 15, Chairman Malcolm Ross issued in Washington a statement which is of interest in connection with the personnel of FEPC and their work. A copy is attached. As pointed out in Mr. Ross' statement, the FEPC is to aid in securing a maximum utilization of manpower so that the goods of war may be produced in the shortest possible time, thereby hastening the day of victory and saving the lives of American soldiers. Here in the South, where war plants advertise daily for workers, the only reservoir of unemployed labor is the Negro. In view of the large number of complaints which have been filed with the FEPC alleging discrimination in employment against Negroes, it is not surprising, as Mr. Ross says, that members of this group should be useful workers in this field.

FEPC

Post - Washington, D.C.

The House Appropriations Committee showed a wise tolerance, we think, in recommending the allotment of half a million dollars for continuation of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee. If the recommendation is approved by both houses of Congress, as we very much hope it will be, the FEPC will cease to be merely a presidential agency and will have independent status under congressional authorization. This is as it should be. The Post has expressed indorsement, in principle, of Senator Russell's proposal requiring all Federal agencies set up by executive order to secure an appropriation from Congress after they have been in existence for a year. We should regret very much indeed, however, to see this sound general requirement employed, as some intended, to end the FEPC's useful career. 5-27-44

By gradual, patient, constructive effort the areas of discrimination are being reduced. The effort must not be abandoned now if we are to keep faith with the democratic principles we profess.

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nt time. To Negroes, the minority ties of the FEPC, war employment otherwise
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has been opened up to Negroes. The war
mbolizes the Government's recog- effort of the Nation has been accelerated by
agency symbol

SAVE THE FEPC

Argus, St. Louis, Mo. 1-7-44

If we were to name the first and foremost thing which may be done for the benefit of the Negroes in this country during this year we would say: it is THE CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE. We make this statement because the Congress of the United States is today again maneuvering to sabotage the FEPC which is giving the Negro a man's chance to work and earn a living based upon ability rather than color or race. We know of nothing that has been mentioned in the present United States Congress affecting Negroes that will set us so far back for years—or maybe, generations to come — as the killing of the FEPC. Congress alone can destroy his committee or make it impotent. Despite the fact that the President of the United States is backing the committee one hundred percent, the congress still has the power to harrass the President, befuddle the people, and finally override the president's executive orders.

THERE IS GREAT DANGER, however, that the colored people themselves will fail to see what an economic loss they as a group will sustain, if congress carries out its threat.

If we do not get integrated in industry now, with the aid of the FEPC using Executive Order 8802 and 9346—both war measures—our future in the industrial life of the nation is too dismal to think about. Of course,, it does not take a prophet to see and realize that, if these gains are not made NOW while Roosevelt is President of the United States, and the war is still on, there is little hope for the future.

Apparently, there is a "Congress crowd" who would rather see prolonged war and millions of lives sacrificed, than to see the Negroes enjoy the same opportunity to work as other Americans. 1-7-44

Do not think the gains we have made in employment during the past two years, particularly in the industrial field, have been "dropped" in our laps because of the manpower shortage alone. It took fighting by somebody; and the fight is still being waged and discrimination in employment on account of race is still being challenged at every turn. Despite the President's order, we see daily in the papers want ads begging for help of all kinds, but "Negroes need not apply." The Congress of the United States, led by the bourbon South, and aided by a group of northern Republicans, is threatening to destroy the FEPC, so that discrimination against the Negroes may continue, not only for the present, but on through the postwar period.

In order to speed up the work of the FEPC and to make its directives more effective, nearly a half million dollars has been set aside for its use. Over one hundred and fifty persons are devoting their time in trying to break up discrimination against Negro workers—and your Congress is trying to kill this committee because it is carrying out the President's orders.

The President has seen fit to create this agency and to give it the power and see that it was provided with the means of presenting a solid front of all Americans against the enemies of our country, and to put into practice his doctrine of "freedom from want" for the people regardless of race, color or creed. The right to work and earn a living is a God-given right which needs neither constitutions nor laws to give it sanction, but it has been declared in the Constitution of the United States to be the purpose of government to guarantee this right to all Americans, black and white, on equal terms. 1-7-44

SHAME on the Congress of the United States. Shame on every man who is trying to deny this right to the Negroes. Shame on every man who would sabotage the war efforts and jeapordize the lives of millions in order to keep these rights and opportunities from one of the most loyal segments of the nation's population.

Let every true American rally and save the FEPC, and help the Negro to remain loyal and be proud of his government.

FEPC Saved in House By Vote of 123 to 119

Constitution-Atlanta, Ga. 5-27-44

WASHINGTON, May 26.—(AP)—A four-vote margin saved one of President Roosevelt's most controversial agencies, the Fair Employment Practices Committee, tonight as the house passed the $1,033,358,367 war agencies appropriation bill.

Less than an hour before a roll-call vote of 247 to 58 sent to the Senate the omnibus measure financing almost a score of home front war agencies for the year starting July 1, the House tentatively had refused to include in the bill a $500,000 fund for FEPC and then reversed itself to restore the item.

FEPC was set up by the President with instructions to assist in ending job discrimination because of race, color, or creed.

The original action, in committee of the whole where record votes are not possible, came on adoption of an amendment to eliminate the fund, the teller vote being 141 to 103 with a large bloc of Republicans joining a solid southern delegation in opposition to the FEPC.

NO RECORD VOTE

In the House proper, however, the amendment was defeated by a 123-to-119 teller vote after Representative Marcantonio, American Labor, New York, had failed to force a record vote. Marcantonio was one of the leaders in the fight to save the FEPC.

Aside from the FEPC fight, only two other amendments were offered and both were voted down. One, by Representative Dworshak, Republican, Idaho, would have cut $5,500,000 from the $58,625,367 OWI fund. The other, by Representative Keefe, Republican, Wisconsin, would have trimmed $660,700 from the War Labor Board's allotment.

Final passage of the bill found many southerners, opposed to the last to the FEPC tiem, voting against the entire measure.

Two days of debate on the omnibus bill had been devoted almost entirely to the FEPC. The fight against it, led by Representative Tarver, Democrat, Georgia, was based on contentions of southerners that the agency, not specifically authorized by congress, was more interested in advocating social racial equality than in preventing discrimination against Negroes.

GEORGIAN'S WARNING

The bitter debate brought warnings of grave racial problems in the future and a ermark from Representative Gibson, Democrat, Georgia, that "there are only two things that are going to save this nation: One is ballots and the other is bullets."

Tarver said there would be no racial problems in the south if it were not for the activities of "pettifogging and troublemaking busybodies in other sections of our country. 5-27-44

"Among this type of troublemakers," he added, "the FEPC is entitled to high rank."

The FEPC, he said, "is engaged . . . in an effort to foist certain ideas of social, not economic, equality, which have long been entertained in Communistic quarters in this country, upon the white people of the country who feel a certain pride in their race . . . and who, while they are willing and anxious that the Negro shall have his economic rights, are not willing, and never will submit, to his being forced upon them as a social equal and bedfellow."

ALABAMAN'S CHARGE

Representative Hobbs, Democrat, Alabama, charged that white workers were being ousted from their jobs in favor of Negroes, while Representative Rankin, Democrat, Mississippi, assailed FEPC as a "Communistic bunch."

Only a few members rose to defend the FEPC and in the main they based their argument on the contention the President was authorized by congress to create such an agency when it enacted war powers legislation.

Representative Dawson, Democrat, Illinois, only Negro member of congress, won applause from both sides of the aisle when he defended the agency as one interested solely in preventing discrimination.

"I too am an American," Dawson told the house. "Every rule that you may use to measure men, apply to me and see if I measure up."

NEGRO SHOWS WAR SCAR

He cited his world war record and pointed to a scar on his forehead inflicted by mustard gas burns. Negroes, he said, "were called to the colors" when the present war broke out, "but they were not called to work," and the FEC was set up to remedy that condition.

Claims of opponents that FEPC was dictatorial, he said, were without foundation because the agency "cannot make anybody do anything."

Representative Marcantonio, American Labor, New York, also defended the FEPC, asserting its sole objective was to prevent discrimination. 5-27-44

The New Yorker criticized Gibson's reference to the use of bullets, asserting such language was "extremely revolutionary." The agency, he added, "is a continuation of the emancipation proclamation."

Army-Navy To Testify At Permanent FEPC Hearings

Daily Worker: Atlanta, Ga. 5-28-44

Hearings Before House Labor Committee Get Started Thursday

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Spokesman for the war and navy departments are scheduled to be the first witnesses heard when the house labor committee opens its hearings on legislation to establish a permanent FEPC, Thursday morning.

Corrington Gill, executive secretary of the Congested Areas committee, has been asked to appear on assistant navy secretary Will appear for his department. He is understood to have more intimate knowledge of the situation than anyone else in his department. The navy is considered the largest single employer in the world.

The labor committee, in its second week of hearings, hopes to have top figures in the department of justice, War Production board, U. S. Maritime commission, War Shipping administration labor and the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs to round out the week.

The hope was expressed by a spokeman for the committee that a good deal more testimony might be taken before the recess for the political conventions, but would not hazard a guess as to what the possibilities would be for house action further in extending the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, which met in New York

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, is scheduled to present his case on Friday, June 9. The labor committee would be for house action to round out the week.

last Wednesday and Thursday to discuss the approaching hearings and a meeting between Ann Arnold Hedgemau, executive secretary, and Mrs. Norton was set for Friday morning in Washington.

BACKING FEPC

Courier-Pittsburgh

1-8-44

Roosevelt Has Chance to Solve Race and Labor Relations Problems

By HORACE R. CAYTON

THE Government has taken over the railroads. Now President Roosevelt is face to face with the responsibility of enforcing his own edict against racial discrimination in war industries. Malcolm Ross, chairman of FEPC, has stated that the railroads must comply with the directive from his committee to cease and desist their prejudicial policies toward Negroes. As the railroads have refused to do this, the committee's duty is to certify the case to the President. This action has taken place. He will have to take some action. On one hand, he is the final authority for enforcing FEPC directives. On the other, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army, he is responsible for the operation of the railroads. After some debate internal, as Gilbert and Sullivan would put it, he will have to make a decision which he, in turn, must enforce.

Mr. Cayton

To further complicate an already complex situation, the question of jim crowism on the railroads has been raised and it has been stated that it should be abolished by the President.

MANPOWER NEEDS SHOULD GOVERN

The Army, for its part, following its usual procedure, has stated that it had no intentions of involving itself in the problems of race relations and that it considered the existing race relations frozen for the duration; that is, as far as the railroads are concerned. This all adds up to a big mess and a terribly difficult spot for the President.

OF COURSE, if approached from any logical point of view, the President would automatically do both of these things. He would enforce the directives of his committee concerning the hiring of Negroes in all brackets of the industries because the railroads are operating under a terrific strain, and manpower shortage is one of its most crucial questions. To tap the only available labor pool of Negroes and women is the only way in which this much needed manpower can be obtained.

GOOD TIME TO END JIM CROW TRAVEL

1-8-44

As far as the abolition of jim crowism for Negro travelers is concerned now would also seem a most opportune time for that action. The antiquated system of jim crow cars has impeded the economical use of railroad facilities, has caused needless and endless friction between Negro and white travelers, and has contributed to the low morale of Negro soldiers, sailors, and civilians in the general war effort. Any logical approach to the problem would call for the immediate abolition of discriminatory employment practices and the jim crow customs surrounding Negro travelers. Why then one might ask does not the President seize this opportunity to do just that?

IT IS pretty hard to speculate about the motives of the Chief Executive for taking or not taking any particular action. Several things are present, however, which might indicate why, in my opinion, at least, the President will not act. In the first place, he will be opposed by the Army which is laboring under the assumption that so-called race relations can be frozen for the duration and that we can mobilize all of our economic strength without in any way changing the traditional pattern of race relations. President Roosevelt hasn't had very good luck in changing the Army's jim crow pattern, and it is doubtful that even as Commander-in-Chief, he will be able to influence the "brasshats" who are operating the railroads.

ONLY ONE SOLUTION

In the second place, Mr. Roosevelt apparently does not want to completely estrange himself from Congress. He has a peace treaty to sign sometime in the near future and he doesn't want to be caught out on the same limb that President Wilson was at the conclusion of the last World War. A congressional committee is already making plans for a frontal attack on the FEPC and would certainly oppose any action to enforce its directives at this time.

1-8-44

IF THE President took this issue of race relations seriously enough and could realize its world wide implications, now would be a time when he could go to the bat and demand a re-alignment of political forces of the country. Either the President will in some way muddle through, losing a golden opportunity for the extension of democracy, or he will take some of these issues directly by demanding a new political realignment. This is the only solution to the problem of race relations and the problem of labor relations and the problem of international peace.

Sen. Eastland Hits FEPC as Dictatorship

World-Telegram Newyork, N.Y. 6-19-44

By the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, June 19. — Senator James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) declared today that Congressional ratification of the creation of the Fair Employment Practices Committee would mean that "we no longer have a constitutional government but a dictatorship in name and in fact."

Efforts of Southern Senators to kill the agency, which President Roosevelt created by executive order to handle racial discrimination disputes, threatened Congressional hopes of wading through a heap of major legislation by Friday night and recessing through the political conventions. Substantial Republican support lining up with Southern Democrats on the FEPC issue was the complicating factor.

FEPC Fund Hurdles Pitfalls; Vote Today

Daily Worker Newyork, N.Y.

By ADAM LAPIN

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Over the strenuous objection of polltax Democrats and some Republicans, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices was well on the road today to winning House approval for a $500,000 appropriation.

5-26-44

A final vote is expected tomorrow, but thanks to majority leader John McCormack and Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York, two tricky parliamentary moves designed to scuttle the small but vital war agency have been effectively blocked.

The House Appropriations Committee approved the appropriation for FEPC this morning, which was $85,000 less than the $585,000 asked by the President.

The President made the request in order to meet the requirements of the Russell amendment, aimed specifically at FEPC, which prevents him from allocating any of his funds to agencies in existence for more than a year which have not been authorized by Congress.

In approving FEPC, the appropriations committee declared that the testimony of Chairman Malcolm Ross was "a clear, fair, dispassionate discussion of a democratic policy of national importance that deserves the earnest perusal and consideration of the House."

TECHNICAL HURDLES

FEPC, like many ather war agencies, is not set up in basic law and thus is technically liable to a point of order when provided for in an appropriation bill.

To take care of this situation, Rep. Clarence Cannon of Illinois, chairman of the appropriations committee, asked on Tuesday and promptly received unanimous consent of the House to waive points of order against the war agencies bill containing the FEPC appropriation.

But today, Rep. Malcolm Tarver of Georgia objected to this agreement on the ground that the full committee had not yet acted when it was reached.

When Speaker Sam Rayburn said the unanimous consent agreement still held, Rep. Francis Case, South Dakota Republican, appealed the ruling on a high-sounding parliamentary basis without mentioning FEPC.

5-26-44

Majority leader McCormick promptly moved to table Case's appeal, and this motion was carried 175 to 54. Polltax Democrats and Republicans who supported Case were decisvely beaten.

But Rep. Cannon in a surprise move asked "in fairness to everyone" that the agreement be vacated and that points of order be allowed specifically and solely against FEPC.

Rep. Marcantonio balked this move by objecting.

"All this parliamentary maneuvering is aimed at FEPC," he declared. "So is this unanimous consent request."

Cannon assured Marcantonio that FEPC would be safe and would not be subject to a point of order.

"I'm taking no chance," Marcantonio retorted. "I object."

From CIO President Philip Murray came full support for the full appropriation asked by the President in a letter to all members of the Appropriations Committee.

OWI And FEPC

Administration critics, particularly in Congress and in some political campaigns, have directed especially heavy attack against the Office of War Information and the president's Fair Employment Practice Committee. Much of the adverse comment on the FEPC centered around the fact that it operated on funds from the president's emergency fund and had never had the approval of Congress. It is consequently interesting and significant that the House appropriation committee, in recommending funds for the OWI for the next fiscal year, commended that agency for "making a valuable contribution to the war effort . . . and in direct aid of the military operations." And the FEPC won implied endorsement from the committee in its recommendation that $500,000 of a requested $585,000 operating fund be granted.

Age-Herald

How account for this explicit and implicit attitude toward the two agencies in view of the extensive criticism to which they have been subjected?

* * *

The first thing to bear in mind, perhaps, is that while this criticism was very strong and persistent, it represented only certain segments of opinion in this country. All along there have been strong supporters of the

As for the FEPC, this newspaper has never considered that agency the

ne form or another, of co- terrible menace some have represent- the business of presenting ed it as being. There have been and to the people. are, unquestionably, problems of dis- criticism, still it acknowl- cult. That the federal government that this work is "fulfilling should strive to mitigate such prob- the appropriations com- crimination against minorities in this ply assailed the domestic country. This discrimination obvious- OWI and although credit is ly can make the nation's acute war- e committee for the effect time manpower problem more diffi- ways has the FEPC acted wisely. But the general purpose underlying it is sound.

5-26-44

As for the OWI, it clearly has been an essential and conduct

Another Laurel For The FEPC

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

In its strident march toward victorious and triumphant democracy for all American citizens, the Fair Employment Practice Committee emerged with another laurel to its long chain last week, when an attempt to discharge 35 Negro women employes by the Pinaud Cosmetic Company was foiled by the Cosmetic, Soap and Perfumery Workers Union. 7-14-44

Benjamin Pross, Business Manager of the local A. F. of L., said of the attempted walk-out: "All workers, whether they be Jew or Gentile, Negro or white, receive the same protection from the Union. As far as the union is concerned, said Mr. Pross, a union member is a union member and will be treated on an equal basis." The white and colored women returned willingly to their jobs and all things are now satisfactorily settled.

The proud record of FEPC in this story can be duplicated throughout the country. In the western area over the past three months it has handled with reasonable success 193 cases growing out of discrimination. Two important railroads, the Pennsylvania and the Chicago and Northwestern have agreed to upgrade Negro employes from waiter to steward, thus flicking another scale from the long preserved occupational caste-wall in Philadelphia, the Office of War Manpower Commission announced that 68,436 Negro men and women were employed in the local Camden Market. This figure is considerably higher than the 17,602 Negroes employed during the entire 6-month period from July to December, 1943. The Chicago and Northwestern Railway has promoted Negro car cleaners to carmen's helpers and dining car waiters to steward. Thus the barriers against the employment of Negro workers, male and female, are breaking down rapidly under the double impact of a severe manpower crisis and the FEPC.

Despite this impressive record, the fight from certain quarters continues. Senator Russell of Georgia, together with Senator George, Congressman Ramspect and Gibson have pledged and actually are, fighting it in any "way they can". The recent hearing before the Senate saved the agency by the narrowest possible margin, due to the bitter and prolonged opposition from some southern Democrats are reactionary Republicans. Occasionally, a southern newspaper takes an editorial stand against the work and existence of FEPC, which turn out to be both shameful and shocking. 7-14-44

But to quote from the opening statement of Bartley C. Crum before the Railroads Hearings: "I submit, that in the emergency of the war, it is imperative that Negroes be allowed full and equal participation in all phases of the war program. We cannot measure the detrimental effect of race discrimation on the war program merely in terms of man-hours lost but by our own failure to use the loyalty and skills of Negro workers. This loss is compounded by an active undercurrent of bitterness among Negroes and other minorities."

We believe that the work of the FEPC will be continued. We believe that there will be a permanent FEPC. For as great as may be the impact of the war, the stress and strain of unemployment after the war will be more disastrous to Negro workers unless there is a government agency such as FEPC. This agency must not be killed or rendered impotent and Negroes north and south must look with suspicion on those who would rob them of this economic protection. 7-14-44

The Watchtower

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

—By ROY WILKINS

Declares War on FEPC

War has been waged against the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) throughout its career, but on February 28 a public declaration of hostilities was made. From now on, FEPC is fighting for its life in a wide-open battle.

Mr. Wilkins

On February 28, a subcommittee of the Senate appropriations committee voted unanimously, in the language of the Associated Press, "to abolish President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee." 3-11-44

The legislation was offered by Senator Russell (D., Ga.) as an amendment to the Independent Offices appropriation bill amounting to $8,500,000,000. Russell told reporters, "I hope it wipes out the Fair Employment Practice Committee."

That is plain talk that anyone can understand. The proposal is general in nature and is designed to prevent the transfer of funds to agencies a year or more old which have not been authorized directly by Congress. FEPC and about thirty other agencies are affected, but only FEPC was mentioned by name as the agency to be wiped out.

What Do They Mean?

Joining Senator Russell in condemning FEPC was, as might have been expected, Senator Maybank (D., S. C.) However, the serious aspect of the action is that the sub-committee was unanimous in adopting the Russell proposal. Here are the men who voted for it: Democrats, Carter Glass, (Va.), Kenneth McKellar, (Tenn.), John H. Bankhead, Ala.), Harry S. Truman, Miss.), Theodore F. Green, (R. I.), James M. Mead, (N. Y.), Russell and Maybank; Republicans, Gerald P. Nye, (N. D.), Styles Bridges, (N. Ham.), Wallace H. White, Mr. (Ma.), C. Wayland Brooks, (Ill.), and Clyde M. Reed, (Kans.) 3-11-44

Does Senator Mead of New York want his vote here interpreted as a desire to abolish FEPC? How about Truman of Missouri and Green of Rhode Island? Both of these men have thousands of Negro voters in their states. Also, the Republicans in Illinois, Kansas and Maine. Is this what the Negro voters may expect from Republican leadership?

Needless to say, the war on the FEPC is a war on Negroes.

We need FEPC or something like it or we will be completely at the mercy of prejudiced employers as of old—back in marginal economic slavery.

Ickes Warns Against FEPC Demobilization

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

8-6-44

CHICAGO—(SNS)— Equal wages and job rights for minority races—opened as a war time necessity—must continue throughout post-war America, Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of Interior, states in the August issue of NEGRO DIGEST published here.

In a candid article entitled, 'Will Fair Employment' be Demobilized?' Ickes cautions against allowing military demobilization to mean the demobilization of opportunity for any group of Americans to earn a decent living.

With veiled reference to opponents of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, he warns that the idea of fair employment for all races must not be confused with "social equality," "segregation," or "Intermarriage."

"I have little patience with those who, in order to retain and justify their narrow and bigoted view, mix into this question of economic opportunity everything that they can think of in order to befog the issue....." Ickes remarked.

"If a man is good enough to carry our flag thro the shriek of shells and machine-gun fire of the battlefield." he continues;" if a man is competent to operate a machine producing essential goods in time of war, then he and others like him are entitled not by tolerance or by suffrance, but by right to equal opportunity to secure work."

8-6-44

ing sole responsibility.

It is an acknowledged fact that one-sided presentation of news does not make for national unity nor community good will. We believe that newspapers should be instruments for the public good. We further believe that partial presentation of news is grossly unfair to the total community. By and large the southern press has failed to tell the public the truth, the whole truth, about the FEPC. Such practice does not contribute to the development of sound community relationships.

The executive order establishing the FEPC states that, among other things, there shall be no discrimination in employment in war industries. The Atlanta Constitution states that Senator Russell "has no quarrel with the FEPC as created" and urges Mr. Russell to "keep this before the senate of the United States until the FEPC is abolished or forced to do only the job it was created to do." The Constitution's principal concern seems to be one of jurisdiction and authority. It states that "By no stretching of the point or imagination can it be said the FEPC had any business whatsoever dealing with the street railway business in Philadelphia."

In its necessary working relationship with the War Manpower Commission, the FEPC has accepted the War Manpower Commission's list of essential war industries as an operating definition. Included on that list are railroads and local street railway systems. We believe that "by no stretching of the point or imagination" can this war be won without the essential services of these two industries, and therefore agree with the War Manpower Commission in their inclusion on the list. We further believe that any law or order must be interpreted in order to be put into action. The FEPC, like all other organizations, must establish a basis for operation. What better definition of "war industries" can be had than that set forth by the War Manpower Commission, which is the agency responsible for the mobilization and utilization of the nation's manpower to win a war?

Therefore, it is our considered opinion that the FEPC is attempting to do "only the job it was created to do." And in this particular instance, we respectfully submit to the Atlanta Constitution that its position is not warranted by the facts.

Equal economic opportunity is one of the most important problems facing the American Negro today. Indeed, it is a major problem facing the nation and the world. Regardless of its critics, the FEPC represents the most tangible evidence on the part of our government to secure economic justice for those who face racial, religious, and national barriers. The test of any civilization is the degree to which it protects the rights of those who are unable to protect their own. The FEPC has done much to protect the rights of all minorities.

We believe that the majority of southern white people know that there must be equal economic opportunity for all if the problems of our region are to be solved. We believe that the majority of southern white people would support any effort to bring about economic justice, including that of the FEPC, if given an opportunity through a full and impartial presentation of facts. We believe that the southern white press has an obligation to all citizens to make such a presentation.

In the interests of a fair presentation of the facts, we request that this letter be published in full, and that it be placed as prominently in your paper as have been your criticisms.

C. L. HARPER
J. H. CALHOUN
T. M. ALEXANDER
C. R. YATES
J. C. WRIGHT
E. M. MARTIN
A. G. MORON
J. L. WHEELER
C. N. ELLIS
J. A. BATTS
A. T. WALDEN
C. A. SCOTT
W. H. BORDERS
M. L. KING
H. S. MURPHY
WILLIS J. KING
MRS. J. W. NICHOLSON
J. B. BLAYTON
L. M. TERRILL

THE PULSE OF THE PUBLIC

Constitution 8-14-44

(The Constitution welcomes letters from its readers. They must be signed, should not exceed 200 words.)

Atlanta, Georgia

THE F. E. P. C.

Editor, Constitution: In spite of the fact that the majority of the nation's newspapers have long supported the efforts of the FEPC, the southern white press has continually attacked this agency. It has been gratifying that until recently, the Atlanta Constitution has taken little part in the majority of these attacks. However, on August 7 and August 11 it added its voice to other southern critics, attempting to place upon FEPC the blame for the Philadelphia strike. Instead of waiting for the facts in the case to be revealed by the federal grand jury, and instead of recognizing that this strike has been condemned by many of the nation's leading papers as an undemocratic demonstration with many underlying causes, these southern critics have chosen to indict the FEPC as having sole responsibility.

America At War

Post
Washington, D.C.
By Selden Menefee

8-3-44

Permanent FEPC

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY has put itself neatly on the spot on the racial question by adopting a plank which sidesteps every hot issue in this field.

Faced with the alternative of antagonizing already hostile Southern Democrats or offending the Negro voters, who have been predominantly Democratic since Mr. Roosevelt took office, the Administration's strategy was to take a chance on Negro loyalty based on the record of the last 12 years rather than risk a further split in the party.

An examination of the Negro press since the convention shows considerable bitterness over this turn of events. Last week's Afro-American, a paper with a large colored readership in both Washington and Baltimore, lined up in three parallel columns the racial plank of the Democrats in 1940, the highly generalized "postcard" version of 1944, and this year's Republican plank. The Republican position is obviously a strong one, promising as it does abolition of the poll tax, antilynching legislation, elimination of discrimination in the armed forces, and the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission.

"This 1944 Democratic convention plank," says the Afro-American, "is not only disappointing to colored Democrats, it is unsatisfactory to colored people. Certain it is that the great Democratic Party which bid openly for the colored vote in 1940 has withdrawn the glad hand in just four years."

Strategic Importance

The Negro vote is not of great strategic importance in Democratic Maryland, and is nonexistent in the District of Columbia. But this sort of reaction is typical also of such places as New York, Chicago and Detroit, where a large bloc of Negro votes may help to swing the election one way or the other. Michigan went Republican by only a fraction of 1 per cent in 1940.

8-3-44

Harry McAlpin, Washington correspondent of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association, in a syndicated story takes the view that the Republicans have a wide lead in the race for Negro votes. The only way the Democrats can catch up will be to back antidiscrimination legislation such as the bill for a permanent FEPC. "Negroes want such legislation," he says. "To rebuff them twice in a row wouldn't be too smart."

Congressional hearings on legislation to establish a permanent FEPC are scheduled to take this month. The House Committee on Labor and Education, chaired by liberal Representative Mary Norton, will see that the question gets a fair hearing. The corresponding committee of the Senate, chaired by Senator Thomas of Utah, has designated a subcommittee headed by Senator Dennis Chavez of New Mexico—an outstanding defender of our Mexican and Spanish-American minority—to hold hearings. Thus committee reports favorable to a permanent FEPC may be expected.

Whatever the form taken by the legislation, it will have a good chance of passage. The Republicans are committed to support such a bill, although many of them may have had in mind purely advisory or otherwise watered-down powers for the FEPC. Democrats from outside the South will find it difficult to oppose the bill.

The present FEPC has done its job with fairness and restraint. In the first 18 months of its existence it handled nearly 10,000 complaints of discrimination in employment and has recently been adjusting about 250 cases per month.

The FEPC deals mainly with Negro cases, but it handles many others. About 9 per cent of all complaints involve religious discrimination against Jews and other minor sects, 6 per cent involve national origin, and 5 per cent discrimination against aliens.

In October the FEPC is scheduled to hold hearings in the Southwest on cases of alleged discrimination against Mexicans, our second largest minority group. At present 172 cases involving Mexicans are pending, or 8 per cent of the entire case load.

Insure Order

A permanent FEPC will help to insure the orderly solution of racial difficulties in the dangerous period of demobilization ahead. What happened after the last war should be sufficient warning. As the Swedish scientist, Gunnar Myrdal, says in his "American Dilemma:" "The homecoming Negro soldier met the suspicion and fears of the Southern whites. In the North, their new footholds in industry were contested by anxious white jobholders in the postwar depression. A wave of lynchings swept the South and even more bloody race riots swept the North . . . There were riots in 26 American cities in 1919."

History may repeat itself unless we prepare to deal with racial disputes over jobs through the orderly processes of government. The FEPC has become a symbol of fair treatment to our various minorities. Quite apart from political considerations, we owe the fighting men of these groups a guarantee that they will not encounter unfair discrimination when they come home. Any sidestepping of this responsibility can only lead to bitterness.

STRIKE LAID TO FEPC BY SOUTHERN GROUP

Times—New York City
8-4-44

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3 (AP)—A bitter fight over the Fair Employment Practices Committee was revived today as Southern Congressmen blamed the Philadelphia transit strike on that agency and Representative Manaco, Democrat, of Georgia, led off the attack on the FEPC—if this committee is not disbanded there is no way to prevent violence there forecrat, Alabama, said "the bloodshed and lost man-hours in defense industries in Philadelphia is the direct result of the operations of the FEPC." He said the Philadelphia racial disturbances were the opposite of a possible return to race riots like that in the first World War.

Senator Chavez, Democrat, of New Mexico, responded that just declaring there is no violations, the Philadelphia incidents would have happened."

Representative Gibson, Democrat, of Georgia, said the agency and "agitators" for the strike, and said racial problems cannot be solved by legislation, an FEPC or Federal orders.

Representative Gibson said. "this trouble-Government edicts and "the Northern-we Southern-that you can't people until on racial relations." He blamed

Representative Gibson said. "I look for a recurrence of the car operators.

Negro transit workers

8-4-44

Representative Larcade, Democrat, of Louisiana, added "the South will never surrender its principles"

47d-1944

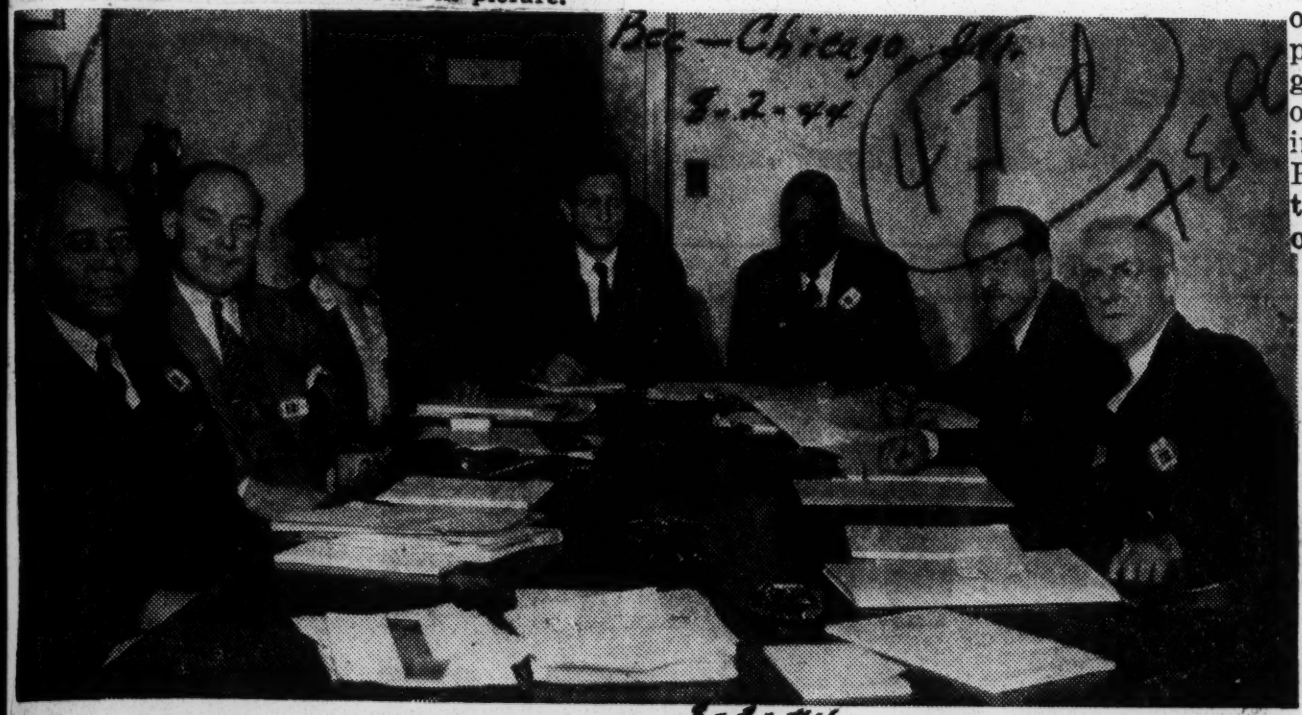
FEPC

NEW MEMBERS ASSUME POSTS WITH FEPC

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 4-1-44

Attorney Charles A. Houston and Charles L. Horn, seated at left, new members recently appointed by President Roosevelt to the Committee On Fair Employment Practice attending their first meeting in Washington March 18.

Other members are, left to right: Miss Sara Southall, Malcolm Ross, chairman; George Johnson, deputy chairman; Boris Shishkin and John Brophy. Milton Webster, another member of committee, is not shown in picture.



NEW MEMBERS ASSUME POSTS WITH FEPC. Attorney Charles A. Houston and Charles I. Horn (seated at left) new members recently appointed by President Roosevelt to the Committee on Fair Employment Practice are shown attending their first FEPC meeting in Washington on March 18, 1944. Other members of the Committee shown left to right are Miss Sara Southall, Malcolm Ross, chairman; George Johnson, deputy chairman; Boris Shishkin and John Brophy. Milton P. Webster, another member of the Committee is not shown in the picture.

WE MADE ROOSEVELT CREATE FEPC

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

Franklin D. Roosevelt is entitled to credit for the new places we have under his administration, not for the new jobs in industry. His only part in our getting them was the executive order which put the Fair Employment Practices Committee to work. **But we Negroes made him do that!** Ours was the arm wielding the hammer. **Our insistence, not F.D. R's voluntary action, broke the government's practics which made empty words of talk about equality.** 9-15-44

Right here in Kansas City the move originated that stopped the federal education and employment bureaus from passing the buck whereby Negroes were refused training "because they would not be employed" and refused work "because they were not trained." Now that we are offered party pledges for our support, we dare anybody to take from us credit for what we did! We are a real power and we insist upon being respected as such! The white man who would cheapen us is our enemy! The Negro who does it is both fool and knave!

Through the 12 years Negroes were a strong factor in Roosevelt's triumphs, he never once was the outspoken champion of our equal rights which Wendell Willkie was in 1940 or Henry Wallace was in July, 1944. Give his acts full value, but no encroaching on credit which is the Negro's!

9-15-44

We call attention to this matter with no hope of stopping politicians from following their usual practices of claiming everything. But let no Negro belittle his own. These 1944 platform bids for our vote will never be repeated if we are weaklings instead of a sturdy self-reliant group that told the President that we insist on our share of work with the same insistance that the government insisted on our sharing of the fighting.

White Supremacy Urged During Debate on FEPC

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

7-1-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Declaring themselves to be free of prejudice against colored people, six Southern Senators last week argued for white supremacy during the debate on the appropriation for the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Leaders in the fight against the bill were Senators Theodore G. Bilbo and James O. Eastland, of Mississippi; Richard B. Russell and Walter F. George, of Georgia; Lister Hill of Alabama, and John L. McClellan, of Arkansas, all Democrats.

Warning the body that they might be forced to select colored girls as stenographers, Bilbo declared, "When they get one, all the B.O. powders on earth will not dissipate the odoriferous aromo permeating their offices."

Government Agencies Hit

McClellan, who with Bilbo declared social equality and intermarriage to be the dream of every colored person, deplored the practice in government agencies of permitting colored and white girls to work, eat and use the same rest rooms together. 7-1-44

Following his outburst, Eastland jumped to his feet to say, "Is it not worse that white girls should be forced to take dictation from a group of burr-headed 'n----rs' and 'n----r' supervisors in the departments?"

Despite efforts by Russell and Hill to prolong the debate until time for the Republican Senators to leave for the GOP convention, the bill was passed, twenty-three Democrats and sixteen Republicans voting against twenty-one opponents.

DR. J. W. JERNAGIN

The Union — Cincinnati, Ohio

Represented Negro Churches Fighting for FEPC

By special invitation of Senator Chavez, chairman of the Senate Sub-Committee on Education and Labor, Rev. Dr. Jernagin appeared for the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in America for support of S.2045 for a Permanent F. E. P. C.

He was accompanied by a large and impressive delegation of Negro clergymen of all denominations from Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washing-

9-14-44

ton. These all stood in silent prayer for the passage of the Bill, as soon as he presented testimony. This demonstration was especially effective not only Congressionally but nationally.

Southern daily speaks out for permanent FEPC

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
9-25-44

DURHAM, N.C.—A strong editorial in the Durham Morning Herald, Sept. 11, pulled no punches in striking at the social equality argument against the creation of a permanent FEPC. Declaring such theories unfair, undemocratic, and un-American, the editorial pointed out that "Equal opportunity has nothing whatever to do with 'social equality' — whatever those words mean. Equal opportunity means just what it says — a chance for every one according to his character and abilities, plus equal pay for equal work. This, and no more, is what the Fair Employment Practices Committee has stood for and does stand for.

"Now a strong fight is ahead if a permanent FEPC is not to be blocked. Hearings in the House and Senate committee rooms show that the Negro is still being discriminated against. He still does not get the same pay the white man gets for the same work. He is still the first to go when there are cutbacks. And the Philadelphia transit strike showed that the blame isn't entirely management's. It goes deep into the ranks of union men and women who ought to know better.

9-25-44

"There are no new arguments against discrimination. There are just the old ones. It is unfair. It is undemocratic. It is un-American. Or, if such an appeal falls on deaf ears, we may add that it breaks down wage levels by creating a sub-marginal class. It creates racial strife in which the white man suffers just as much as the Negro—maybe more. It hurts us among our friends abroad. Wise, civilized and patriotic Americans will take their stand against it."

Louisiana Solon Defends Strikers

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

Twisted Logic Heard in D. C.

8-11-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(NNPA)—In the neatest bit of twisted logic heard on the floor of Congress since Bilbo, Eastland and McClelland made their tirades against the FEPC in June, Rep. Henry Larcade (D. of La.) made a plea for unity in America by attacking those who urge democracy for all and defending the Philadelphia strikers.

The first 72 words of his "diatribe" sounded like the argument of any believer in human decency and democracy. Those 72 words would have been worthy of a Lincoln.

They were: "Mr. Speaker, at a time when this country is engaged in the greatest war of all time, and has been and is fighting for its very survival and existence, and at a time when unity should be the watchword of every citizen so that this country can put forth its every effort in the war effort, we are confronted with the sad spectacle of those who. . . ."

At this point, any one listening or reading his speech would have thought Larcade was going to lambast the strikers in Philadelphia for crippling the war production of the second most critical area in the nation because they objected to eight Negroes being hired as bus operators and street-car operators. But such persons don't know Congressman Larcade. He said instead:

8-11-44

"We are confronted with the sad spectacle of those who are taking advantage of the situation to foster their ideals, misguided though they be, with a view of agitating certain reforms and social evolutions which are disrupting and disorganizing our present life and customs, not only in the South but also in the North."

He then accuses government agencies and the administration for fomenting the agitation and creating situations such as the Philadelphia transit employees' strike. "There is in progress a strike in the City of Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love," he says, "which threatens to have dire consequences, and which may result in bloodshed."

So far as the South is concerned, said Larcade, all that we ask is that we be let alone to handle and solve this problem in our own way. We have done it in the past and we will do so in the future."

Then he delivers the inevitable threat which usually pours forth in such rantings—"Mr. Speaker, this is a serious matter, and I am frank to say that I am taking this opportunity to warn all of those who are fomenting this matter that they are doing their country a great disservice. And so far as the South is concerned we will never surrender our principles on this question, no matter what the consequence.

8-11-44

He warned all who "are agitating this racial question" that they must be responsible for "blood on their hands from the innocent and misguided who they are inflaming in an impossible effort."

Jim Crowism Brings Union Before FEPC

PM — New York, N.Y.
10-5-44

Hearings Will Start Oct. 10 on Charges Against Seafarers International

Charges of anti-Negro discrimination against the Seafarers International Union, AFL, the FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) next Tuesday.

Edward Lawson, Regional FEPC Director said yesterday that complaints against the union have been received during the past two years, and that, although the Committee has tried for more than six months to settle the matter with union officials, "they have remained obdurate and will not change their policy without going through a hearing."

10-5-44

Ross to Attend

Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, will be one of three sitting at the hearing in the Bar Assn. Bldg. The others are Boris Shishkin of the AFL and Charles H. Houston, attorney.

In one case, Lawson said, segregation of Negroes resulted in a ship missing a convoy and being tied up for several days at Norfolk, Va. The ship in question employed Negro stewards. At the last minute, two were dropped. The only qualified men at the time were white stewards. The STU refused to approve them because they would not mix steward staffs.

Lawson said discrimination had resulted only in not the delay of cargo ships, but also in ships sailing short-handed, "thus endangering the lives of every man aboard."

Charges Against SIU

The SIU will be charged with:

¶ Discriminatory specifications to the Manning and Recruiting Organization of the War Shipping Administration when requesting men.

¶ Signing of contracts barring Negroes from specific jobs. (Lawson said Negroes were hired mainly for jobs as stewards and messboys.)

10-6-44

¶ Acquiesence by the operators of the ships in following discrimination set by the union, No company, however, will be involved at the hearing.

Although the SIU has been notified by the FEPC of the hearing, union officials have not replied as yet.

The union, which claims 30,000 members, 25,000 of whom work on the East Coast, says it has about 2000 Negro members.

Sessions Held in Secret

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

Believe House Committee in Favor of Agency

8-31-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. (ANP) —The Fair Employment Practice committee was attacked, defended and justified in various official quarters here over the week-end as the struggle to keep this agency in business took on serious proportions. Among the outstanding developments in this respect were these:

Outstanding Developments

1. The house appropriations subcommittee began formal hearings on the agency's request for $585,000 on Thursday, and by Saturday morning had completed the hearings, having listened to all the top officials of the anti-bias committee.

Although the sessions were executive, it was learned and later confirmed by an attache of the house group that Rep. William L. Dawson (D) of Chicago had appeared and entered a strong statement in behalf of FEPC.

Others testifying were Chairman Malcolm Ross, Deputy Chairman George M. Johnson, Will Maslow, director of field operations; Theodore Jones, administrative assistant; John A. Davis, chief, reveiw and analysis.

3-31-44

2. Senate Republicans, flinching at the derisive remarks of Sen. Russell (D) of Georgia, reversed their earlier position and defeated the Buck amendment which would have excluded FEPC from the bill designed to compel independent agencies a year or more old to come before congress for an appropriation.

Sen. Buck (R) of Delaware, at the request of Edgar G. Brown, had entered the amendment to the Russell measure and called it up on Friday. On a record vote it was upheld 36 to 22. Eleven Democrats and 24 Republicans supported while 19 Democrats and 3 Republicans opposed.

On the vote to reverse, the score was 33 to 25 with 24 Democrats joining with nine Republicans to switch, and eight Democrats and 16 Rep[illegible]ns holding fast.

Adopt McKel[illegible]endment

3. The senate adopted the McKellar amendment to the" independent offices supply bill which would call for senate confirmation of all jobs paying $4500 or more in salary. FEPC has bauot 25 jobs subject to this requirement.

3-31-44

Reports are that the house subcommittee did not show an unfriendly attitude to those who testified. Competent and informed sources say that Majority Leader John J. McCormack (D) of Massachusetts and Minority Leader Joseph Martin (R) of Massachusetts both had given the nod to the appropriation bill, accounting for this attitude.

Lashing out at the Republicans who had voted in favor of the Buck amendment, Russell declared that "the interest and votes of the great body of colored folks in many states has had considerable to do with the action the senate has just taken." He added that "the influence of these voters is such that in a case in which a constitutional principle is involved, principle can fall and be crushed into the earth, so long as the votes of senators are cast in accordance with the wishes" of the group.

3-31-44

Senator Bennet Clark (D) of Missouri could not see that the Buck amendment was necessary since the FEPC, by virtue of having submitted a budget, had eliminated itself from the effects of the Russell proposal. Russell, however, still clung to the possibility that the appropriations committee might deny the agency funds.

10-12-44

This poll tax business is a tempest in a teapot and I think the south [illegible]ould maintain its guard [illegible] the storm blows over and [illegible] the two races can agree [illegible] among themselves."

Discussing racial relations, the governer asserted that "much of the difficulty we encounter comes from misguided preachers and pseudo-up[illegible] writers, politicians and [illegible] seekers," has resulted in a spirit of suspicion on the part of Negroes.

On the poll tax question, Sparks asserted that "one point of attack which is often made by the [illegible] is that the poll tax disenfranchising poll tax is what is particularly called the south. . . Our northern administration laws, not poll taxes, are the real barriers to Negro voters.

Gov. Sparks Hits F.E.P.C. Again

Daily World — Atlanta
10-12-44

AUBURN, Ala. (SNS) — Predicting a "monopolistic trend" after the war, Governor Chauncey Sparks said here Tuesday that the south must "guard" the small industries which it has and "provide others through reconversion and throught our own personal and natural resources."

Speaking before the twenty-sixth annual convention of Alabama Kiwanians the governor also discussed the question of racial segregation the poll tax issue and the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

He described the FEPC as "a thing as hostile to the genius of American government as anything

Southerners Defeated In Fight to Kill F.E.P.C.

Courier-Journal-Louisville, Ky.
6-21-44

Washington, June 20 (AP) —Disregarding embittered Southern assertions that the United States is being pushed into communism or national socialism, the Senate declined on a 39-to-21 roll-call today to kill the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The vote was on a $500,000 appropriation for the F.E.P.C. in a $1,030,000,000 war agencies supply bill.

Thirteen Southern Senators who opposed the fund were supported by seven Republicans and one western Democrat, Johnson of Colorado, but sixteen Republicans joined with twenty-three Democrats to override their objections. Senator Pepper of Florida was the only Democrat from the deep South who voted with the majority.

Minor Concessions Salvaged.

The F.E.P.C. was set up by President Roosevelt's executive order and was instructed to combat racial and religious discrimination in industry.

The Southerners salvaged only a few minor concessions — war contractors whose contracts were threatened with cancellation because of alleged discrimination would have the right to appeal to the President, and a prohibition was erected against Government seizure of any plant for its refusal to conform to rules set up by F.E.P.C.

Southerner after Southerner took the floor to castigate the agency as tending to stir up trouble rather than to alleviate friction between the races. White-haired Senator George (D., Ga.), face flushed, thundered that by approving the F.E.P.C. fund, the nation would be taking "a long step toward converting our economic system into a Communistic or National Socialistic system."

George Warns G.O.P.

Turning toward the Republican side of the chamber, George declared, "This may get you votes in 1944, but it won't in 1946, or 1948, or thereafter." The final aim of the persons backing F.E.P.C., he declared, is taking away the control of private property from the owners.
6-21-44

Senator McClellan (D., Ark.) declared:

"When white and Negro women are compelled to sit side by side at their work, use the same toilet facilities, eat at the same table, it is an encroachment on the Constitutional rights of both races, if either wants to be segregated from the other!"

Negro "Dictation" Resented.

At that point Senator Eastland (D., Miss.) arose to shout:

"Isn't it even worse for decent white girls to have to take dictation from a lot of burr-headed niggers in the departments?"

The debate even brought a suggestion that Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt become "Queen of that Greater Liberia."

Senator Bilbo (D., Miss.), for years an advocate of resettling American Negroes in West Africa, said 2,500,000 Negroes had seconded his idea and added, "I do not see why Mrs. Roosevelt or anyone else should object to it."

In fact, Bilbo said, if his resettlement plan ever succeeded, "I might entertain the proposition of making her Queen of that Greater Liberia."
6-21-44

Lucas Supports F.E.P.C.

The main argument of the Southerners was that F.E.P.C. was aiming for social equality rather than against economic discrimination.

Supporting the F.E.P.C. Senator Lucas (D., Ill.) said:

"Job discrimination is indefensible when manpower obttlenecks are impeding the war effort."

Senators Barkley of Kentucky and Willis of Indiana voted against striking out the fund. Senator Jackson of Indiana was paired against, while Senator Chandler of Kentucky was not listed in the vote.

Wrangle In Congress Over FEPC Renewed As Hearings Opened

Herald-Tribune, N.Y.
6-1-44

WASHINGTON— (AP) —The congressional controversy over the Fair Employment Practices Committee was renewed Thursday as the House labor committee opened hearings on legislation to set up a permanent federal agency patterned after FEPC.

Three Southern members of the labor committee, Reps. Ramspeck (D., Ga.), Fisher (D., Tex.) and Abernethy (D., Miss.), predicted consideration of the measure would "only promote disunity in wartime."

Chairman Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.) disagreed, declaring, "I regret this emotional disturbance created over the FEPC" and adding "We hope to conduct these hearings on a high plane without all the bitter shouting and hurrahing which occurred in the House last week.

"This issue does not deal just with the Negro, as some of the Southerners seem to believe," she told a reporter. "It vitally concerns every minority group in the country and we are determined to hold fair hearings and develop all the facts."
6-1-44

A. Philip Randolph and Dr. Allan Knight Chalmers, co-chairmen of the national council for a permanent FEPC, sided with her, asserting in a statement, "We think it essential that the question of discrimination be faced now to insure that the causes for which our boys are fighting overseas shall also be won at home."

Initial witnesses included authors of two bills to set up the permanent FEPC, Reps. Scanlon (D., Pa.) and Dawson (D., Ill.).

Their measures, along with one by Rep. Lafollette (R., Ind.), would provide for establishment of a seven-member Fair Employment Practices Commission with power to prevent discrimination in employment because of race, color or creed.

F.E.P.C. Gets Senate Praise And Blame

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.
6-20-44

Washington, June 19 (AP)—The President's Fair Employment Practices Committee was alternately condemned and praised in Senate debate today.

Southern Democrats, led by Senator Eastland of Mississippi, pictured the agency set up by President Roosevelt to handle racial discrimination disputes as a vehicle of communism, while Senator Chavez (D., N. M.) called it a valuable link in the chain of good will the Nation is seeking to forge with Latin-American neighbors.

Appropriation At Stake.

Hours of speechmaking eliminated all possibility of a vote before tomorrow afternoon on an amendment by Senator Russell (D., Ga.) to strike from the $1,030,000,000 war agencies appropriations bill a $500,000 allowance to finance F.E.P.C. activities beginning July 1.

Asserting Chairman Sidney Hillman of the C.I.O. Political Action Committee is the "driving force" behind the F.E.P.C., Senator Eastland described Hillman as "just as much a Communist as Stalin himself," and added that if given the appropriation, the agency would use it to "deprive management of control of business" by a course of "intimidation and coercion."
6-20-44

Chavez Defends Agency.

Chavez, asserting that opposition to the agency is based upon "a misunderstanding of its fine work," declared its activities have done more to bring about actual good will from Latin America "than the many millions spent by the co-ordinator's office, by Lend-Lease agencies, or by the former Board of Economic Warfare combined."

He declared he had witnessed commendable progress by the F.E.P.C. in ending racial discriminations against citizens of Mexican and Latin-American extraction, particularly in the Southwest.

THE BATTLE OF WASHINGTON, II

PM N.Y. N.Y.

Southerners Drop Filibuster But Prepare to Fight FEPC

6-15-44

By NATHAN ROBERTSON
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Southern Senators prepared today to debate the appropriation for the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) for at least two days, but denied they were going to filibuster against the appropriation.

Talk of filibuster against the FEPC appropriation subsided yesterday after a strategy meeting of the Southern poll taxers at which cooler heads apparently prevailed. Spokesmen for the group said they realized they could not afford to filibuster at this time against a bill carrying appropriations for the war agencies.

But the Southern Senators said they were planning two days of debate to protest against continuation of the agency for the prevention of discrimination in the employment of war workers.

Target for Today

Sen. Richard Russell (D., Ga.) said the debate would be aimed at the use of executive orders to create agencies, which he called "a new technique in government."

"This will be a clear-cut test," Russell said, "of whether Senators are sincerely for orderly procedure in government or for bureaucracy created by executive order. I don't believe the President has the constitutional right to create an agency. That should be done by Congress."

Friends of the FEPC pointed out that the same objection Russell was raising against the FEPC could be made against 13 of the 17 agencies for which appropriations are carried in the War Agencies bill. The FEPC is one of the smallest of these agencies with an appropriation of only $500,000.

No Volunteers

At their strategy meeting, the Southerners agreed not only to fight against continuation of the FEPC but also to support two hamstringing amendments. One by Sen. Burnet Maybank (D., S. C.) would prevent the use of volunteer workers by the FEPC. The other by Russell would limit the hiring of members of minority groups.

The Maybank amendment is aimed at the use of social workers. The Southerners say many volunteer social workers have been used by the FEPC to investigate complaints.

Russell's amendment would prohibit the use of more than 25 per cent of the FEPC appropriation for the employment of members of any race or other minority group comprising less than 15 per cent of the national population.

Hill, Bankhead, Other Southern News-Bham, Ala. Senators Lose Fight Over FEPC

6-21-44

BY FRED TAYLOR
Washington Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Sens. Lister Hill and John H. Bankhead were joined by a few other senators, in the forefront of Southern senators who waged a losing fight Tuesday against the president's Fair Employment Practices Committee, with Hill taking the floor in the afternoon to denounce the FEPC as hindering the war effort.

The scrap by the Southerners, including seven Republicans, was made in an attempt to lop off the $500,000 House-approved appropriation for the FEPC, which was voted by the Senate 39 to 21

"Congress never authorized the FEPC and never intended that any money appropriated should go for such an agency," Sen. Hill remind ed his colleagues, in denouncing its powers never having been de- fined and no limits placed thereon.

"It was set up under the guise of helping the war effort. Instead it by executive order un- for appeal from its decisions. The committee, not having been by an act of Congress and violation of and contrary to our war powers

"The commi created by ar its powers

"Congress FEPC as hinder money appro such an agen ed his colle

"FROM THE TESTIMONY be- fore the appropriations committees of the House and Senate, this committee, in the way it is set up and in the way it operates, is in violation of and contrary to our American system of government. should not have the ap- ceitainly should not

of helping the war effort, it has proved definitely harmful, caused irritation, created resentment, brought about bitterness that divided our people and been inimical to the wholehearted and all-out effort for war production.

"Our first thought today should be to turn out as speedily and as efficiently as possible planes, tanks, guns and material which our soldiers and sailors and airmen overseas need and must have for the winning of the war in the shortest possible time. The committee makes no contribution whatever to this end, but on the contrary, impairs it."

* * *

FLORIDA'S SEN. CLAUDE PEPPER was the only Southern senator voting to continue the FEPC. 6-21-44

But the Southern battlers, some of whom contended before the Senate that continuation of the FEPC would be another step toward plunging the nation into communism, won a few points in getting last-minute amendments adopted. One provided that war contractors, who might be faced with cancellation of contracts because of any alleged discrimination, would have the right to appeal to the president. Another set up a prohibition against government seizure of any plant for its refusal to conform to rules established by the agency.

Sen. Bankhead, who had been tied up several days with House-Senate conferees over highly controversial OPA legislation, was unable to join Sens. Hill, George, Bilbo, Eastland and others in speaking against the FEPC appropriation, but he took time out from the committee deliberations to vote against it. 6-21-44

* * *

BANKHEAD EMPHASIZED HIS OPPOSITION to the agency and expressed regret funds were appropriated to continue its operation.

Senate Votes FEPC Budget

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, June 20.—(AP) Overriding the impassioned protests of southern senators, the senate refused by a vote of 39 to 21 today to strike from a catch-all appropriation bill a $500,000 fund for the President's fair employment practices committee.

Shortly before the vote, Senator George, Democrat, Georgia, told his colleagues grimly that approval of the FEPC found would be "a long step toward converting our economic system into a Communistic or national socialistic system." 6-21-44

George said his conclusion was based on his conviction that the committee intended to take away from businessmen the right to control their own businesses by telling them whom they could hire, fire or promote.

The committee was set up last year to prevent racial discrimination in war plants and government agencies.

RUSSELL AMENDMENT

The senate later adopted an amendment requested by Russell to prohibit government seizure of any plant for its refusal to conform to rules set up by the FEPC. The vote was 27 to 25.

Russell said among other things it would prohibit seizure of railroads which failed to conform to regulations of the FEPC.

"It ought to be enough to take government business away, without taking over industrial plants or other properties," he said.

Denouncing what he said were efforts to "divide the American people into classes," Senator George called for the abolishment of the President's fair employment practices committee. George said the agency had done nothing but "create disturbances."

GEORGE'S DENUNCIATION

"There is no more certain way to destroy this republic than by dividing the American people into classes," he asserted. "Within the last five or 10 years a deeper schism has been driven into American life than ever before, a deeper racial prejudice, a deeper class prejudice." 6-21-44

George, saying the FEPC's purpose is not to obtain equal salaries for Negroes doing similar work to that performed by whites, added: "I'd be entirely ashamed of myself if I were willing to deny to any man, regardless of his race, color or creed, full, fair and equal compensation."

The "main purpose" of the FEPC, he continued, "is to establish something like social equality."

Here is the vote:

For striking the fund—(21)

Democrats for (14): Bankhead, Bilbo, Byrd, Connally, Eastland, George, Hill, Johnson (Colo.), Maybank, McClellan, McKellar, Overton, Russell, Stewart.

Republicans for (7): Brewster, Rushfield, Gurney, Holman, Millikin, Robertson, White.

Against striking the fund—(39)

Democrats against (23): Barkley, Chavez, Gerry, Gillette, Guffey, Hatch, Kilgore, Lucas, Maloney, McFarland, Meade, Murdock, Murray, O'Mahoney, Pepper, Radcliffe, Thomas (Okla.), Thomas (Utah), Tunnell, Wagner, Wallgren, Walsh (Mass.), Walsh (N. J.).

Republicans against (15): Aiken, Burton, Butler, Capper, Cordon, David, Ferguson, Reed, Revercomb, Shipstead, Taft, Vandenberg, Weeks, Wherry, Willis.

The following pairs were announced: Bailey, Democrat, for striking the FEPC fund and Clark (Mo.), Democrat, against. Caraway, Democrat, for and Truman, Democrat, against. Smith, Democrat, for and Jackson, Democrat, against. Andrews, Democrat, for and McCarran, Democrat, against. O'Daniel, Democrat, for and Buck, Republican, against. Ellender, Democrat, for and Tydings, Democrat, against.

Not voting but announced as opposed to striking out the fund:

Brooks, Langer, Tobey, Wiley and Danaher, Republicans; Green, Downey and Wheeler, Democrats, and La Follette, Progressive.

FEPC Due to Get Senate OK Despite Polltaxers

PM. New York, N.Y. 6-20-44

Both Sides Anxious to Reach Decision to Speed Adjournment

By NATHAN ROBERTSON
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 20—The FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) is expected to win another year of life in the Senate today despite the bitter opposition of Southern polltax Senators.

The Southerners have been tossing the wildest kind of charges against the FEPC for the past few days, but there is little sign that they have picked up many votes outside of their own ranks.

Only two or three Republicans to whom the Southerners are appealing for help stayed to listen yesterday as Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) charged that the FEPC was part of a communist plot to take over the management of business. He tried to paint all of the leading officials of the agency as communist.

The FEPC was defended by Sen. James A. Mead (D., N. Y.), Arthur Capper (R., Kan.) and Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.). Mead warned the Senate that to destroy the FEPC now in the midst of war for the Four Freedoms would "leave America the laughing stock of the world."

Adjournment Sought

Although Southern opposition has held up the vote now for a week, both sides claimed they wanted a decision today so the Senate could get on to other business and adjourn for the conventions this week end. Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.) was the only remaining Southerner scheduled to speak. But an attempt to fix a time for a vote was blocked yesterday ml Sen. Kenneth McKellar (D., Tenn.). 6-20-44

Friends of the FEPC were confident of the outcome of the vote in view of the withdrawal by Sen. John Danaher (R., Conn.), of his amendment for a permanent FEPC. Danaher, a strong supporter of the agency, who has been working in close collaboration with Chairman Malcolm Ross, withdrew the amendment at the agency's request, so that the issue would come on the FEPC appropriation.

Eastland reached a new high in demogoguery in his speech against the FEPC. He charged that the FEPC was created in violation of law and was being used to "coerce and intimidate business interests." He said if the Senate approved the appropriation for the agency it would be "placing our stamp of approval on a dictatorship."

"If Congress cannot stop that procedure," Eastland said, referring to the activities of the FEPC, "our Republic is dead."

Uses Red Bogey

Contending that virtually all of the members of the FEPC and its high officials were Communists, Eastland said "these Communists, if given this appropriation will use it to displace management and control over American industry." Eastland added that "my job as a Senator is to protect the business of this country from Communism."

The vaguest kind of "evidence" was used by Eastland to link members of the FEPC, and its officials, with Communism. Most of it came from a statement placed in the *Congressional Record* by Rep. John Rankin (D., Miss.), which tried to paint Boris Shiskin, of the American Federation of Labor, a member of the FEPC, as Communist because he once belonged to the Washington Book Shop. John Brophy, of the CIO, was condemned because he once wrote an article for *Equal Justice*, the organ of the International Labor Defense, and once "sent greetings" to the National Negro Congress.

Sen. James Mead

Eastland charged that Sidney Hillman, head of the CIO Political Action Committee, would have "great influence" over the FEPC and denounced him as "just as much a Communist as Stalin himself." 6-20-44

Defends Appropriation

Chavez, in the first defense of the FEPC, said the $500,000 appropriation for the agency would do more good than the millions of dollars spent by other agencies to better relations with Latin America.

Protesting discrimination against Mexicans and others of Spanish ancestry, Chavez cited a war hero named Martinez who was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor for his valor at Attu.

"You will give Martinez a medal of honor for dying," Chavez said, "but refuse to give his brother or his father a job, and then refuse to appropriate for the FEPC which is trying to do something about it."

Sen. Mead said the FEPC was created to see that every man, woman and child could "make his contribution to the war effort." He said a survey had shown that 51 per cent of the corporations had policies discriminating against Negroes at a time when their services were desperately needed for the war.

Fair Employment Group Called Illegal By Russell

Courier-Journal-Louisville, Ky. 6-17-44

Washington, June 16 (AP)—President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee was accused in the Senate today of attempting to impose "government by blackjack" by withholding war contracts from employers who do not comply with its antiracial discrimination orders.

Chairman's Pay Is Cut.

Senator Russell (D., Ga.), leading a fight to cut off the F.E.P.C.'s $500,000 appropriation, made a bid for Republican support by referring to the agency as "approval. clear-cut example of government by executive decree" and, then, amendment to cut the F.E.P.C. facing the G.O.P. side of the priation bill, the Senate voted to chamber declaring:

"The vote on this appropriation will test the sincerity of members of the Senate who have con- to $8,000 a year.
demned bureaucracy, and gov- Senator Danaher (D., Conn.) ernment by men without the au- commended Ross, however, for thority of law."

Ross today told the H... agency is... quality but "We all know," he said, "that obtaining the right to deny a Government contract in these days is the effort by eliminating racial discrimination in employment p... tices. 6-17-44

Says Firms Got Threat.

Russell declared that lac... what he termed a "manful struggle" to prevent both racial and legal authority, the F.E.P.C. en... crimination in employers merely by letting their forced its orders in the House didn't follow them their Government contracts would be cut off. "We all know," he said, "that the war contract in these days is the are in the position of having to accept the F.E.P.C. dictates or go out of business. It amounts to government by blackjack."

Chairman Ross Is Slated To Be First Witness

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga
3-23-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Hearings on the budget of the Fair Employment Practice committee will begin today, it is learned, and Chairman Malcolm Ross will be the first to appear before the house appropriations committee.

Thus far opponents of FEPC have been the more outspoken among those members of the congress who have ventured comments at all. Comments solicited from various members of the sub committee handling the supply bill, however elicited the general opinion that there are some who will maintain an open mind.

TABER OPPONENT

Reps. Starnes of Alabama and Taber of New York, the latter a Republican, have already identified themselves with the opposition, as well as has Sen. Russell in the upper chamber.

Viewed with concern also is the resolution which has been placed in the hopper by Sen. McCarran, Democrat of Nevada, which would establish a commitee to investigate 'all executive orders of the President, and directives, rules and regulations issued by or under authority of any department or independent agency of the executive branch." Particular regard would be paid to the "source of constitutional or legislative authority" upon which directives and rules are based, 'their validity and the effect and manner of their enforcement."

Sen. Russell has already declared that he intends to eliminate FEPC "any way I can." Rep. Taber said the FEPC "hasn't made a very good reputation for itself,' and expressed his "suspicion of it'

STARNES BITTER

Starnes said the agency has "no warrant in either law or logic." He contended that "no government, federal or state, has any right to tell any sort of private business what persons it shall hire or fire. It's known that colored charwomen have been forced into government positions as clerks and secretaries," he added. 3-23-44

Rep. Ludlow (D) of Indiana said he is "very much opposed to discrimination in government and in industry." He added that he is "certainly in favor" of the work of the committee and will maintain an "open mind."

Another open mind was that of Rep. Woodrum of Virginia. "If I had to pass on it. (FEPC) now on the basis of what I know now I wouldn't think it much good." He said he got his knowledge from reading recent comments in the newspapers. He prefers to hear the committee first before judging. Woodrum said he expects to be a conferee on the Russell amendment if it gets to a deadlock with the house, and offered that as further reason for keeping an open mind.

FAMILIAR WITH WORK 3-23-44

Rep. Jed Johnson of Oklahoma said he is "very familiar with the committee," and didn't care to discuss it. Rabaut of Michigan referred to his record and assured that his action now would be no different than the record would show. He promised "fair and just cosideration," and said he believes FEPC has done some good.'

Other members of the sub-committee could not be reached. Two of them were out of town.

FEPC

Post - Washington, D.C. 3-7-44

The President's Fair Employment Practices Committee was created by executive order and financed out of presidential funds. Congress has never given it either an authorization or an appropriation. Presumably, it would cease to exist, therefore, if Congress enacts the Russell amendment forbidding executive transfer of funds to agencies a year or more old unless they have been specifically authorized by Congress. Indeed, this consequence appears to be one of Senator Russell's purposes. We have already expressed editorial approval of the general reform proposed by the Senator. But elimination of the FEPC seems to us an exceedingly unfortunate by-product.

The FEPC was established in the summer of 1941 at a time when Negroes felt keenly resentful of discrimination against their race in war industries. Some of them had projected a "march on Washington" as a form of protest. This explosive demonstration was called off when the President set up the FEPC, which was generally accepted by Negroes as evidence that the Federal Government recognized the justice of their grievances and would take effective steps to remedy them. It cannot be said that the FEPC has been more than moderately effective. Working in an area of deeply entrenched prejudices, it sought patiently to open job opportunities for Negroes. Our manpower shortage and the need for all-out production strengthened the clear logic of its efforts. It did not solve the problem of employment discrimination in the United States; but at least it satisfied Negroes that a solution was being sought. 3-7-44

A year ago the FEPC was rejuvenated and given additional powers. Under the chairmanship of Malcolm Ross it has pressed, still patiently but with fresh vigor, to utilize the skills and energies of Negroes in the war effort. Not long ago it called a number of the country's railroads and certain labor unions to account for their flagrantly discriminatory practices. No doubt this is what has brought down upon the agency the wrath of some Soutnern Congressmen. From the point of view of the national welfare, indeed from any democratic point of view, it is a wholly misguided wrath. The FEPC is simply trying to bring about a fuller mobilization of the Nation's manpower for war and a fuller realization of the principle of human equality on which the Nation is founded.

It would be genuinely tragic if race prejudice caused the liquidation of this agency. To American Negroes whose loyalty to the United States and devotion to democracy has remained steadfast in the face of bitter deprivations, the FEPC is a vital symbol. To renounce it would be to slam a door upon the legitimate hopes which our own American litany has engendered and encouraged. 3-7-44

Republicans Join Poll-Tax Group Against FEPC

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
3-3-44

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Republicans in Congress are ganging up with die-hard poll taxers from the south in a double-barrelled drive against the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

On the Senate side of Capitol Hill, Republicans led by Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, supported in an appropriations subcommittee the amendment offered by Senator Richard Russell of Georgia to kill FEPC.

On the House side, Republican Congressmen are actively cooperating with the smear investigation of FEPC being conducted by Rep Howard Smith of Virginia.

This clear-cut record is expected to have important political reverberations among the Negro people despite Republican claims to increased Negro support in New York and other parts of the country.

GOP GANGS UP

Several weeks ago the three Republican members of the Smith committee, Reps. Fred A. Hartley of New Jersey, John Jennings of Tennessee and Clare Hoffman of Michigan, signed a Smith committee report challenging the authority of FEPC.

Now the Smith committee has under way a full-fledged investigation of FEPC in which all three Republican members are playing an active role.

After winding up an attack at the War Shipping Administration for giving equal job opportunities to Negro seamen, the Smith committee today tackled FEPC's order requiring the employment of Negroes on 16 Southern railroads.

Principal witness during the day was Sidney Alderman, counsel for the Southern Railway Company and spokesman for other railroads which have defied FEPC.

Before Alderman could even complete his lengthy statement which took several nours, Rep. Jennings interjected to express the view that "a general strike and tie-up" would result if the FEPC's order were enforced. 3-3-44

NEGRO ATTORNEY TESTIFIES

Late in the afternoon Charles Houston, noted Negro attorney, appeared on behalf of two groups of Negro railroad workers. He answered Alderman and testimony by Frank L. Mulholland, attorney for the Railway Labor Executives Association, defending discrimination on the railroads.

Hoffman walked out soon after Houston began presenting the facts about discrimination against Negroes.

Jennings snorted angrily once at the Negro attorney, and then followed Hoffman out of the room.

Hartley remained and asked Houston a series of questions which indicated he didn't think FEPC had authority to do anything.

During the WSA hearing yesterday, Jennings said:

"I feel like the colored man ought to have the right to work but let us be frank about it." 3-3-44

Addressing himself to Marshall E. Dimock, head of WSA's Recruitment and Manning organizaaion who had explained the rotating hiring system whereby all seamen are given work regardless of race, Jennings continued: "Don't you think for the time of the war we ought not have a rigid rule that would slow up the war effort in order to arbitrarily force two races to sleep together when they do not want to sleep together?"

HOFFMAN NEGRO-BAITING

Rep. Hoffman, long notorious as a labor-baiter, assumed the new role of a Negro-baiter.

When Craig Vincent, East Coast representative of the Recruitment and Manning Organization, said he believed in the social equality for

Negroes, Hoffman demanded to know if this included "social intermingling" and "intermarriage."

Objecting to WSA's policy of non-discrimination which is in accord with FEPC directives, Hoffman asked: 3-3-44

"Do you think sending them that colored man helped in the war effort? Did you not realize that was going to make discord on the ship?"

The Republican congressmen showed as much zest in going after FEPC as the two poll taxers on the committee, Chairman Smith and Rep. Hugh Peterson of Georgia.

Frederick N. Myers, of the National Maritime Union and Nathan Jacobson of the Marine, Cooks and Stewards Union of the Pacific, were given a prefunctory hearing late yesterday to state anti-discrimination policies of their union.

Rep. Smith passed a note around among committee members not to ask any questions.

But Rep. Hoffman said he wanted Myers to come back this morning so he could ask about strikes allegedly called by the NMU on the West Coast.

Myers promptly showed up today, but he wasn't asked any questions.

Hoffman had been tipped off in the meantime that the NMU hasn't called any strikes on the West Coast or anywhere else.

FEPC Settles 157 Complaints

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

A total of 308 complaints of racial or religious discrimination in war employment was disposed of by the New York Regional Office of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee between Jan. 1 and May 31, according to Edward Lawson, regional director. 6-5-44

Of these, 157 were satisfactorily adjusted, Lawson announced, while 119 were dismissed as without merit following careful investigation. Twelve were withdrawn by complainants; 12 dropped because of insufficient evidence, and eight dismissed because the committee lacked jurisdiction.

During the same period, Lawson added, 412 new complaints were received. Of these, 305 were against war industries, 8 against government agencies, 27 against unions. The largest number of complaints, 332 came from Negroes charging discrimination. Seventy-one alleged discrimination for religion, and the remainder charged their national origin was a bar to wartime employment opportunities.

Unity on Bills Vital For Permanent FEPC

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

2-3-44

By Eugene Gordon

The Negro and the Jewish people, and the foreign born—not to mention other interested parties, including the progressive allies of these groups—have been saying for a long time that there ought to be a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee and that it ought to have statutory authority.

Congressman Vito Marcantonio, on Feb. 5, 1942—just about a year ago—introduced into the House of Representatives a bill "to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, or citizenship." This was the kind of bill the people had been saying they ought to have.

This bill was named H. R. 1732. It was turned over to the Committee on Judiciary.

Congressman Thomas Scanlon of Pennsylvania, some time later, introduced into the House H. R. 3986, aimed at doing the same things the Marcantonio bill wanted to do. Congressman William L. Dawson, the House's lone Negro member, got together, later still, with Congressman Scanlon. Dawson explained that he had some ideas for a bill. The two men agreed to combine their ideas in Scanlon's H. R. 3989.

SCANLON DAWSON BILL

Scanlon and Dawson, when they finished, had a new bill. It is now commonly called Dawson's. It is properly called the Scanlon-Dawson bill and is named H. R. 4004. It went by mistake to the Committee on Labor and is still there.

So this is the way matters stand now with respect to bills aiming at making FEPC permanent: 2-3-44

H. R. 1732, Marcantonio's bill, is still in the Committee on Judiciary; H. R. 4004, the Scanlon-Dawson bill, is still in the Committee on Labor. The Marcantonio bill is on the way out of the Committee on Judiciary, several Congressmen's signatures having been signed to Discharge Petition No. 18. Discharge Petition No. 18—when it gets 218 Congressmen's signatures—will force H. R. 1732, the Marcantonio bill, upon the floor of the House to be discussed and voted on. Both Scanlon and Dawson have signed Discharge Petition No. 18. Now, H. R. 4004, the Scanlon-Dawson bill, has no discharge petition in its favor, so far.

There seems to be two different groups in the country fighting for two different bills. That is not really the case, however. The group which has been rooting for support of Marcantonio's H. R. 1732 and the group which is behind the Scanlon-Dawson H. R. 4004 want precisely the same thing, and that is a permanent FEPC with power to speak with legal authority to employers who incline to discriminate because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, or citizenship.

Marcantonio is said to have agreed to support an amendment to his bill, if that amendment would improve it. People who have seen both the Marcantonio and the Scanlon-Dawson bills say that H. R. 4004 (Scanlon-Dawson) is better in some ways than Marcantonio's. They ask why these good points can't become a part of Marcantonio's, in the form of an amendment. They say that this might be the best thing to do, after all, since H. R. 1732 is already on the way out of the Committee on Judiciary.

Unity behind one of these bills must be brought about soon, because certain elements which hate unity are now slinking in and taking advantage of the seeming discord.

2-3-44

Quiz Senators On Anti-FEPC Vote

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 3-5-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.(S N S)—Members of the Senate sub-committee on appropriations were asked this week whether their unanimous vote supporting an amendment of Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia meant that they favored the wiping out of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

After his amendment to the Independent Offices appropriation bill had been supported unanimously, Senator Russell told reporters: "I hope it wipes out the Fair Employment Practice Committee." 3-5-44

The Senators who voted for the Russell amendment are Carter Glass, Va., Kenneth McKellar, Tenn., John H. Bankhead, Ala., Harry S. Truman, Mo., Theodore F. Green, R. I., James M. Mead, N. Y., B. R. Maybank, S. C., and Senator Russell, Democrats; Gerald P. Nye, N. D., Styles Bridges, N. H., Wallace H. White, Jr., Me., C. Wayland Brooks, III, and Clyde M. Reed, Kan., Republicans.

The NAACP letter of inquiry said: "It was a shock to read that you voted to abolish the Fair Employment Practice Committee. We are, therefore, asking you to give us your comment on the action taken by the sub-committee. We would appreciate also if you would indicate your position on the work of the FEPC and more specifically whether you favor an adequate appropriation to continue this vital work."

SKILLS OF EDUCATORS NOT WANTED BY ARMY
World-Telegram
1-14-44

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(ANP)—Discrimination in the army based upon a concerted policy that denies recognition to qualified colored service men, was brought to light again this week when Dr. Clinton E. Knox, a Harvard Ph. D., and Louis Jones, who holds an M. A., were transferred to the quartermaster division at camp Polk, La. 1-14-44

Dr. Knox received a Ph. D. in history at Harvard and taught at Morgan college prior to his induction. Proficient in French, German and Egyptian, while Louis Jones, former assistant of Dr. Charles Johnson at Fisk university, received no better consideration.

While both Knox and Jones have been given new assignments, it is said to be questionable whether either will be given ratings and assignments in accordance with their academic training in the army.

"What the FEPC means to the railroads," was the subject of an address delivered Sunday afternoon at a mass meeting in Zion Hill Baptist Church, by A. Bruce Hunt, regional director for the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) in offices in Atlanta.

The meeting, which was largely attended in spite of the inclement weather conditions, was held under the sponsorship of the Ladies' Auxiliary Local No. 20, of the International Association of Railway Employees. It began at 8:30 o'clock.

In the course of his address which was helpful to those whose duties and functions come under the jurisdiction of FEPC in the matter of wages, hiring, firing and upgrading, Mr. Hunt said, "Negro labor on the railroads can help to see justice done Negroes in every department of industry, particularly the railroads." 3-22-44

Hunt Says Negroes Must Get Behind FEPC Efforts

Atlanta, Ga. World 3-22-44

47d-1944

FEPC

TOWARD FREEDOM

Defending the FEPC

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. 4-8-44

By Doxey Wilkerson

President Roosevelt continues to fight for FEPC. Let labor and all other people's organizations rally to his support in this struggle. The threatened destruction of FEPC would be a disastrous blow to war production and to the growing anti-fascist unity of the American people.

The Committee on Fair Employment Practice was first authorized in June, 1941, by Executive Order 8802, and was later reorganized and strengthened in May, 1943, by Executive Order 9346. It now consists of a chairman and six members, representing labor and management in equal numbers. The committee maintains central offices in Washington, D. C., and nine regional offices. It employs a staff of 113 workers, more than half of whom are in the field.

At a time when the nation faces a critical shortage of manpow[er] to back the coming invasion of E[u]rope, when the home-fron[t] con-flict between the political for[ces] of democracy and fascism grow increasingly acute, it is well to [re]call the purpose, accomplishments, and still undone tasks of FEPC. They serve to highlight the urgent need for real mass struggle to protect this vital war agency from the three-pronged attack it now faces.

In Executive Order 9346, President Roosevelt declared that "the **successful prosecution of the war demands the maximum employment of all available workers regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin.**" He established "a new Committee on Fair Employment Practice, to promote the fullest utilization of all available manpower, and to eliminate discriminatory employment practices." To the four categories of discrimination listed in the Order, he later added unwarranted discrimination against non-citizens.

JURISDICTION

The committee has jurisdiction over complaints of employment discrimination on the part of all agencies of the Federal Government, all employers holding government contracts, all other employers engaged in essential war production, and the unions of workers in such agencies and establishments. 4-8-44

FEPC receives and handles a tremendous volume of complaints of employment discrimination. There were 1,016 cases pending on July 1, 1943. An additional 1,930 cases were docketed during the following six months. During this same period, 989 cases were satisfactorily closed, leaving a case load of 1,957 pending complaints on Jan. 1, 1944.

Over three-fourths of the 1,930 cases docketed during the last half of 1943 concerned employment discriminations based on race or color, directed chiefly against Negroes. It is notable, however, that there were 189 cases (10 per cent) of discrimination against religious groups, chiefly Jews; 132 cases (7 per cent) involving non-citizens, and 99 cases (5 per cent) involving foreign-born citizens. Some 1,264 of the complaints were against private employers; 584 were against government agencies; and 82 were against labor unions, almost entirely AFL.

Despite its limited staff and the magnitude of its job, **FEPC gets results.** That is why it is fought so bitterly by southern "white supremacy" Democrats and defeatist-led Republicans. That is also why the democratic, win-the-war forces of our country must fight back with all the vigor they can command. FEPC is an indispensable instrument of victory for the Negro and other minority peoples, for organized labor, and for our embattled nation as a whole.

In every major crisis the President has fought for FEPC. Last spring, when the committee was disintegrating following WMC Commissioner Paul McNutt's suspension of the railroad hearings, the President reorganized and strengthened the committee, removed it from WMC jurisdiction, and authorized the railroad hearings to proceed. Last fall, when Comptrollor-General Lindsay Warren ruled that FEPC directives did not have the force of "orders," the President promptly reversed the ruling and declared that FEPC directives must be obeyed.

GREATEST THREAT

Now, FEPC faces the greatest threat in its history. The reactionary Howard Smith Committee is pushing forward its smear "investigation," and thereby tying up top FEPC officials to prevent the effective conduct of their work. The Senate recently passed the Richard Russell amendment which would kill FEPC unless it receives a Congressional appropriation for its work after June 30, 1944.

But the President continues to fight for FEPC. Probably anticipating the Senate's action, he asked Congress for an appropriation of $585,000 to enlarge the field staff and carry on the essential war functions of FEPC. It is against this appropriation that the reactionaries now turn their fire. It is to the support of this appropriation that the progressive forces of the country now must throw their political power. 4-8-44

Send thousands of letters telegrams to the House Appropriations Committee, demanding approval of the $585,000 FEPC appropriation. Send copies and letters of support to President Roosevelt.

This is the way to preserve and strengthen FEPC's much-needed services in providing the manpower necessary to back up the coming Allied invasion of Europe.

This is also the way to strengthen the political unity of organized labor, the Negro people and all other democratic forces for victory in the 1944 elections, for victory in the war, and for victory in the peace which will follow.

Gibson Flays Racial Group

Constitution-Atlanta, Ga. 4-15-44

WASHINGTON, April 14.—(AP) Bitterly attacking the fair employment practices committee (FEPC), Representative Gibson, Democrat, Georgia, told congress today the agency "most flagrantly violates its own reputed functions of non-discrimination" by hiring more Negroes than whites as employes.

He termed FEPC "a totally useless, vicious bureau that breeds disunity," and declared it has a total of 61 Negro employes drawing $173,560 yearly, compared to only 45 white employes drawing $143,600 yearly.

"Compare that with the percentage of Negroes against the percentage of whites in this country," Gibson declared in a statement which he obtained unanimous house consent to publish in the Congressional Record. 4-15-44

He declared the 106 FEPC employes are the highest paid, on a per capita basis, of any bureau or department of the government.

Ramspeck Pledges To Abolish FEPC

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 5-3-44

In their regular session Monday, Atlanat's city councilmen heard a letter from Congressman Robert Ramspeck of the Fifth Georgia District.

The representative of the United States Congress informed council through the letter that he had urged President Roosevelt to abolish or to move away from Atlanta the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices to which council had objected shortly after offices were established here in the 10 Forsyth building, headed by A. Bruce Hunt as chief examiner. At that council was passed a resolution which was sent to all representatives of Congress in Washington asking that they use their influence in ridding Atlanta of the agency ,which council stated at that time "may cause trouble between the races in this city."

Shortly after council made the protest of FEPC here, Senator Richard Russell, Georgia's junior member of the upper house of Congress, took a leading role in the nation's capitol in movements to abolish the President's Committee, set up through executive order mainly for the purpose of aiding Negroes and other minority groups in employment matters in all sections of the country, especially in industry. 5-3-44

Although Senator Walter F. George, Georgia's senior Senator, to whom the council also sent representations objecting to the office setup here, was out of his office in Washington Monday, his secretary, it was learned, informed council it would be brought to his attention on his return. There has been no statement from other Georgia Congressional representative recently, but is was learned that the majority are for abolishing FEPC, at least the Georgia regional office here.

Negroes in Plea To Save FEPC

PM-New York, N.Y. 5-18-44

Twenty-seven prominent Negroes last night wired members of the Senate urging them to approve full appropriations for the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee), emphasizing that the agency was helping to insure 100 per cent production efficiency in backing the invasion. 5-18-44

Signers of the telegram included Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP (National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People), Paul Robeson, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Dr. Channing Tobias, secretary, YMCA; Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, and New York Councilman Benjamin Davis.

PERMANENT FEPC URGED BY WAGNER

Times-New York, N.Y.

Senator Speaks at Ceremonies in Honor of A. P. Randolph, Porters' Leader

5-3-44

Congressional authorization of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee was advocated last night by Senator Robert F. Wagner during ceremonies at Carnegie Hall honoring A. Philip Randolph, Negro union leader.

Senator Wagner compared the problems faced in the campaign for Negro rights with those that had to be overcome in his drive for labor legislation. He pledged his personal efforts to obtain a permanent committee.

The Senator recalled arguments raised in the debate preceding enactment of the National Labor Relations Act that such things had to be done "gradually" and would be solved "in their own way" rather than through premature efforts "to turn the world upside down."

'Same Words Being Used'

"Exactly the same words are being used," he declared, "with regard to the problems of the United States aging Negroes in the present war. They, too, are being told that the same words are being used by the perpetrators of the wrong." He offered his own experience as "an encouragement to labor's black army, it becomes more people who are in control shouldsary to improve the lot of the Negroes, Senator Wagner commended Mr. Randolph, who, as in be allowed to settle the problem greatest contradiction and scandal in their own way.'

"I tell you from the depth of my of all times."

own experience that no greaterhood of Sleeping Car Porters, wrong was ever righted in thatsucceeded in achieving considera-the Negro race of all times."

fashion. No great wrong was everble improvement in the working Randolph said: "Outlining the issues for which ology of our own country with

Scandal of All Times 5-3-44

known" and that American Negroes wanted "first-class citizenship in our times."

"They are through with jim-crow," he added. "They reject and denounce anti-Semitism. They condemn anti-Catholicism. They demand equal treatment for Japanese-Americans with Germans and Italians. Yes, the most humble and oppressed of all minorities are ready to sacrifice and suffer for the salvation of their spirits."

Asserting that German prisoners of war received better treatment than American Negro troops, he asked for the elimination of "discrimination and segregation in the armed forces."

Peace Conference Bid

Mr. Randolph also asked for a permanent committee on fair employment practices, urged that Negroes and labor be represented at the peace conference and that the President or Congress create a national commission to study all racial and minority problems here and abroad.

He announced that the "March on Washington Movement," which campaigned for the FEPC, would hold a conference June 25-26 in Chicago, at which an attempt would be made to assess the present status of the Negro.

Other speakers at the meeting included Laurence T. Hosie, who made the presentation of the Clendenin award to Mr. Randolph in behalf of the Workers Defense League; Prof. Maynard Krueger, of the University of Chicago, and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women. Newbold Morris, president of thhe City Council, presided.

The presentation ceremonies were followed by a concert of artists headed by Duke Ellington and Maurice Rocco.

HOUSE VOTES BILL WITH FEPC FUNDS

Times-Newyork N.Y. 5-27-44

After 2 Defeats of $500,000 for Agency, It Is Finally Left in Measure by 123 to 119

By C. P. TRUSSELL

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 26—By a four-margin vote of 123 to 119 the House gave the first Congressional recognition this evening to the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee by allowing it $500,000 for maintenance in the $1,033,358,367 War Agencies Appropriation Bill.

Then it passed the measure, 247 to 58, and sent it to the Senate for another contest over the agency which Mr. Roosevelt set up last year to prevent discrimination in war hiring because of race, creed or color.

On two preliminary tests, made with the House in committee status, the FEPC, which was denounced by Southern Democrats as "a trouble maker," and "creator of racial prejudice and dissension," and by Republicans as "another creature of executive order rather than of law," appeared to have been put out of business.

In the Independent Offices Appripriation bill, now in conference, agreement has been reached on an amendment which would permit agencies created by executive order and not having attained Congressional authorization to continue until Jan. 1 only unless appropriations are made for their maintenance. The amendment, sponsored by Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia, concededly had the FEPC as a principal target.

Exemption of FEPC in Prospect

The appropriation voted by the House, if it gets through the Senate, will exempt the FEPC from the provisions of the Russell amendment and perhaps pave the way for it to receive a statutory rank, as is provided in bills now pending. 5-27-44

Voting tests on the FEPC followed bitter fighting for much of two days in the House, after the appropriations measure, covering the 1945 supply accounts of eighteen war agencies had been taken to the floor under a unanimous consent agreement that points of order would be waived. It was not until this consent had been given that foes of the FEPC learned that the bill included the agency's operating fund, which would have been subject to a point of order as it has not been authorized by Congress.

Representative Vito Marcantonio, American Labor Party, New York, took the leadership in getting the appropriation through, as Southern Democrats opposed the continuation of the agency. The FEPC has previously been supported by funds allocated by the President from funds under his control.

Role of Agency is Told

Mr. Marcantonio contended that the FEPC had only one mission, the prevention of discrimination in employment because of race, creed or color. Representative Sam Hobbs of Alabama declared:

"Under this infamous, nefarious FEPC, the majority of the American people, the bulk of the taxpayers, are being discriminated against every day. The FEPC is denying white people the right to work or is ousting them from employment."

Representative Robert Ramspeck of Georgia, Democratic whip and chairman of the Civil Service Committee which has investigated the operations of Federal agencies, said that the FEPC "has done more harm and created more race prejudice than anything in my memory."

Representative Malcolm C. Tarver of Georgia offered an amendment which would strike the FEPC appropriation from the bill.

On a standing vote, taken in committee status, the Tarver amendment was adopted tentatively by 139 to 95, with Republican members giving it unexpectedly strong support. Mr. Marcantonio demanded tellers. Again about half of the Republicans supported the Tarver proposal and it again was adopetd tentatively by 141 to 103. 5-27-44

Southerners Against Measure

When the roll was called for final passage there was recorded perhaps the largest vote against a war appropriation measure since Pearl Harbor. Of the fifty-eight who voted against the bill, all but seven were from Southern States.

The measure went to the Senate without change from the amounts approved by the Appropriations Committee. An attempt by Representative Henry C. Dworshak, Republican of Idaho, to cut $5,500,000 from the $58,265,357 appropriation of the Office of War Information to eliminate a contingency fund for its Overseas Branch, was defeated, 121 to 69.

Representative Frank B. Keefe, Republican of Wisconsin, failed in an attempt to deny funds to maintain the labor production office in the War Production Board, which he contended was duplicating functions of a similar agency in the Labor Department.

A Large Bloc Of Republicans

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. 5-28-44

A $500,000 appropriation to continue the Fair Employment Practises Committee got through the House by the skin of its teeth last week. This narrow escape of the committee from extinction brings to mind the following facts: The continuance of the committee is a matter of special and immediate concern to American Negroes, since the committee's function is to proceed against employment discrimination because of race, color or creed. The Republicans in Congress, stimulated by a lively hope of winning back to the Republican fold this year Negro votes lost since 1932, have been making loud professions of interest in Negro welfare. The Republicans in the House are almost as numerous as the Democrats. Democratic opposition in the House to the F.E.P.C. is limited to the Southern bloc. Solid Republican support of the F.E.P.C. in the House could count on enough Democrats loyal to President ROOSEVELT to put the committee out of any danger.

These are the facts. Why, then, the committee's close call? We read in *The Associated Press'* report: "The original action in committee of the whole, where record votes are not possible, came on adoption of an amendment to eliminate the fund (for the F.E.P.C.), the teller vote being 141 to 103, *with a large bloc of Republicans joining a solid Southern delegation in opposition to the F.E.P.C.*" (The italics are ours.) In other words, the House at first decided actually to kill the F.E.P.C., and this decision was made possible by "a large bloc of Republicans." 5-28-44

However, under the House's procedure, reconsideration was possible later and this time the appropriation squeaked through by 128 votes to 119. Neither time did the House permit a roll call vote, so that it is not possible to report the exact line-up between parties. But certainly there was no sign of a Republican fight for the bill at any stage, and, when it was in committee of the whole as we have seen, the reporters in the House press gallery noted "a large bloc of Republicans" banding with the Southern Democrats.

It is the same old alliance that helped to kill poll tax repeal in the Senate. It is also an alliance which the Republicans are going to have to try to explain to the Negro in the coming campaign.

Marcantonio and FEPC

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 5-29-44

CONGRESSIONAL enemies of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee were set back on their heels last week after flooding the House with oratory throughout the day in an attempt to wipe this vital war-time legislation off the books. 5-29-44

It took a People's Congressman—Rep. Vito Marcantonio—to lead the battle against the combined efforts of the southern polltaxers and northern Republicans. A veteran in the struggle against this un-American clique in the House, Rep. Marcantonio managed through brilliant strategy to save the President's FEPC by a hair-line vote—123 to 119. That narrow margin of four votes must sound the alarm to labor and the public generally.

The measure next goes to the Senate. Here everyone must be on his toes, for the nation recently learned a bitter lesson in the polltax fight. It is not enough merely to appreciate the invaluable role being played by Rep. Marcantonio in defending and maintaining the FEPC. The future of this measure is in your hands. Wishful thinking won't preserve it. Mass support will.

FEPC FORCES CAPTAIN TO REHIRE 7 SEAMEN

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa. 1-1-44

NEW YORK (ANP)—Quick intervention on the part of the New York regional office of the FEPC last week corrected discrimination against six Negro and one Chinese seamen, who had been discharged by the master of a United States Lines ship for no apparent reason other than their race.

The seven men were signed on the S.S. Calobre, in Baltimore recently, presumably for an ocean voyage. However, when the vessel arrived in New York City a few days later, all were discharged, on orders of the captain, and only the white members of the crew were retained. Because they had been given no adequate explanation of their discharge, the seamen charged that they had been discriminated against by the captain,

Name Father Roche Examiner For FEPC

5-11-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Appointment of the Rev. Richard Joseph Roche as an associate examiner of the Fair Employment Practice Committee was announced immediately. All today by Chairman Malcolm Ross. In order that the qualifications of the non-white workers appeared to be settled immediately, a clear case of discrimination. Conferences with officers of the ship could be settled immediately and of the United States Lines concluded with an agreement that seven of the men would be interviewed again and if found to be qualified, all seven men would be reinstated. The reinterviews were conducted at the request of the U. S. Navy in the presence of a representative of the FEPC investigation because of their race, in violation of Executive Order 9346, and requested an FEPC investigation through their union.

SEVEN REHIRED

Samuel Risk, FEPC examiner, accompanied by a patrolman from the National Maritime union, boarded the ship immediately and rehired.

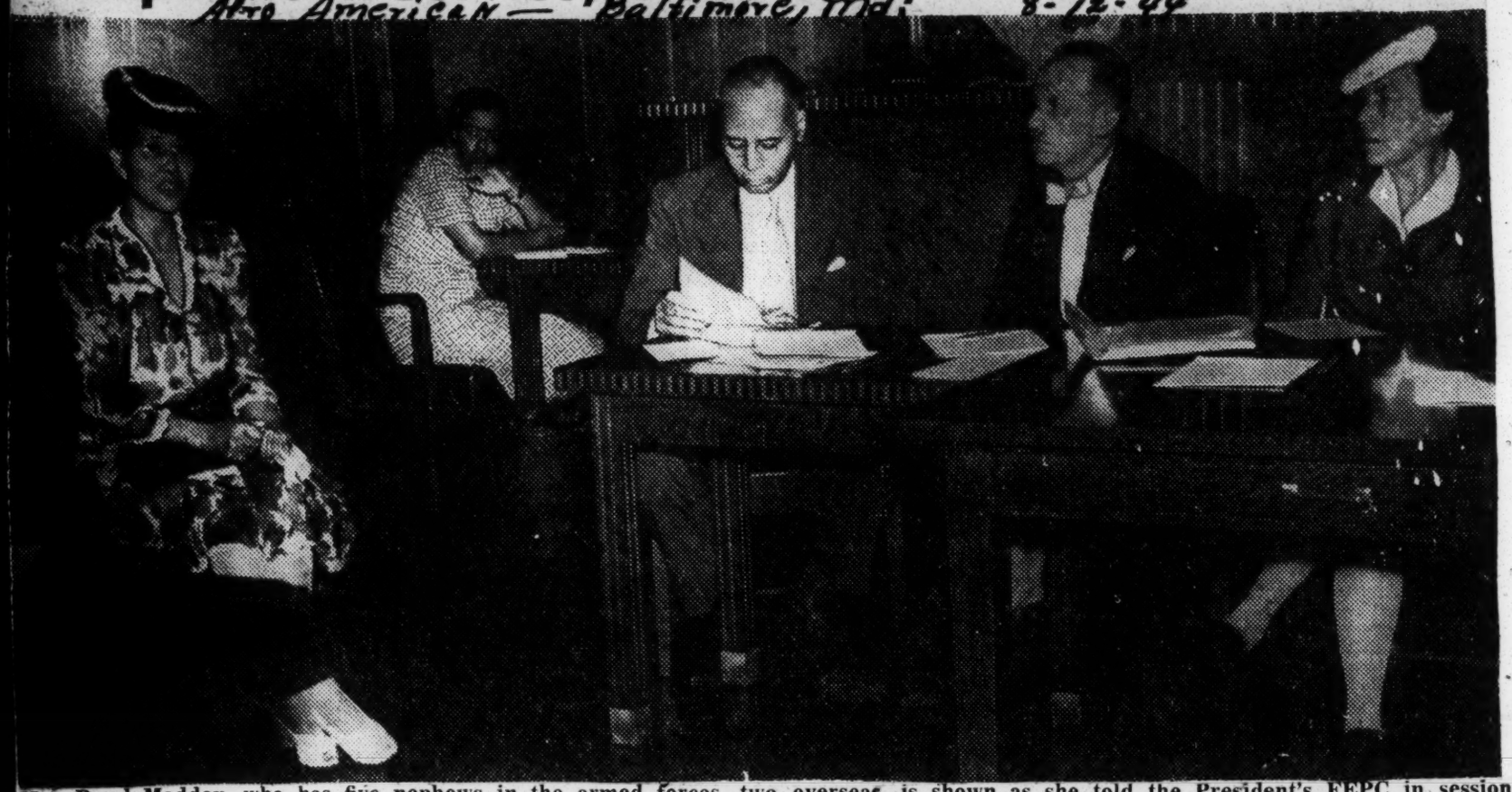
Father Roche was born in Haverhill, Mass. His home is at Haverhill, Mass. Oblate College, Newburgh, N. Y. attended Boston University and also received his M. A. degree from that institution.

Mr. Ross said that Father Roche would be assigned to the central office staff, where he will review and analyze cases handled in the field.

47d-1944 FEPC

5 Nephews in Service, 2 Overseas, but She Can't Work

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 8-12-44



Mrs. Pearl Maddox, who has five nephews in the armed forces, two overseas, is shown as she told the President's FEPC in session at St. Louis last week that she answered ad for women workers at the Amertorp Corp, subsidiary of the American Can Company, makers of torpedoes for for the Navy, and was turned down on account of color. "I was willing to do anything, even clean toilets, to help the war effort," she said. The Amertorp was one of eight firms against whom charges were aired. Charles Houston, Boris Shishkin and Miss Sara Southall, committee members, are seated at the table.

Lack of Federal Authority to Compel Race Hating Management to Keep Contracts Features 2-Day Hearing

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

WHAT—FEPC (President's Fair Employment Practice Committee) hearings.

WHERE—St. Louis, Mo., Customs House Building.

WHEN—August 1 and 2.

RESULTS: Three plants — including Amertorp Corp., Bussman Mfg. Co., Wagner Electric Co.—cited for refusing to hire colored women, remained defiant. Four other plants, St. Louis Shipbuilding, Carter Carburetor, McQuay-Norris and McDonnell Aircraft, were charged with refusing to hire colored women or upgrade colored men workers. Three promised to conform, one remained defiant. U.S. Cartridge Co., said it could not end jim crow building and status of colored workers.

FEPC has no power, save publicity, to compel war plants to obey the President's executive orders outlawing discrimination in employment. Every war plant with government orders has a signed contract with the government that it will hire qualified people regardless of race, color and creed.

But when race-hating plant managements refuse to keep their word, the government doesn't stop payments on the contracts. It permits the race haters to keep right on breaking their government contracts with impunity.

The FEPC, as the agency of a powerful, hypocritical government, is so weak it is pathetic. 8-12-44

The following are excerpts from testimony as recorded by the AFRO's B. M. Phillips.

Stewards Already On Trains

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va.

FEPC Gets Terms From Chicago And Northwestern

3-11-44

By HARRY McALPIN
White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An agreement to upgrade Negro car cleaners to helpers and dining car waiters to stewards has been reached with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice announced on Monday.

It was further revealed that five Negroes have been employed as stewards with retroactive seniority rights of six months to a year.

Although the Chicago and Northwestern company was involved in the FEPC hearings last September, the complaint of the waiters was not included because of late submission. The matter was negotiated by the Chicago office of the FEPC. 3-11-44

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

The President on Monday announced official acceptance of the resignation of P. B. Young Sr., as a member of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and the appointment of Attorney Charles H. Houston of Washington to fill the vacancy. He also announced the resignation of Samuel Zemurray of New Orleans, La., as a member of the Committee and the appointment of Charles Horn, president of the Federal Cartridge Company of Minneapolis, Minn., as a member of FEPC. 3-11-44

Mr. Houston threw a light upon the controversial subject of the meaning of FEPC "directives" last Thursday when he conceded to the Smith committee investigating FEPC for Congress that FEPC had no authority to issue directives to war contractors adjudged guilty of violating the executive order.

Representing the Association of Railway Employees and the International Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Enginemen, Mr. Houston testified that the directives being attacked by the railroads are, in view of the nature of the FEPC set-up, nothing more than recommendations.

MUST PERMIT EMPLOYMENT

He told the committee that "if you permit the authority of the United States to be flouted and say you will not permit employment to citizens of the United States, then you are digging the grave for thousands in the next generation." 3-11-44

The real function of the FEPC, Houston declared, is to bring the problem of racial discrimination to the attention of the public. "Like slavery," he said, "it is a problem that must be faced sooner or later, and isn't going to be put off."

Chairman Smith suggested that if the unions really wanted to eliminate improper conditions they ought to do something about the Negro employes they represent but don't permit to belong to the unions. He said that "doesn't square with our American way of life."

He was quick to add, however, that he was not "talking about race equality," because "I come from a part of the country where they don't believe in it."

Reps. Clare Hoffman (R) of Michigan, Jennings (D) of Tennessee, and Peterson (D) of Georgia, sat through a long day listening to Alderman and Frank Mulholland, counsel for the railroad brotherhoods, attack the FEPC; but began to leave when Houston began to speak for the Negro unions and on behalf of the FEPC.

In the meantime, the hostile attitudes expressed by Counsel Sydney Alderman for the railroads and Mulholland for the brotherhoods have raised considerable speculation concerning the statement made early last week by Judge Walter P. Stacy, chairman of a special railroad employment committee appointed by President Roosevelt to study the impasse between the FEPC and the railroads. Judge Stacy had said: "The course being pursued after three days of conferences and discussions in Washington this week has the approval of the railroads, the unions and the chairman and counsel of the FEPC."

He declared further that "the committee is of the opinion that progress has been made up to the present time and is hopeful that a solution may be reached that will be acceptable to all the parties concerned."

It Stands Approve Bill as Ready to Go On the Floor

12-8-44 Measure Now Kansas City, Mo.

By HARRY McALPIN
WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) — The House Labor Committee has directed the Mc

FEPC Directive to St. Louis Plant

Afro-American 12-23-44 Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON
The Fair Employment Practice Committee has directed the McQuay-Norris Corporation to elim

inate discrimination against colored officers to be in
similar notification but simi
provided to all employ change, and notifi
ss with which the com- ment agencies with
nd to all labor unions ing "community customs and
the company has con- mores," as well as its request for
a quota system of employment
based on racial population.

Chairman Smith suggested that
committee further directed
to furnish it with
instructions and noti-
the record of all
for workers.
for individual com-
as also requested by

To Maintain Watch 1-2-45

public hearing in St. Louis on
August 2, ordered the firm to ig-
nore race, color, creed or nation-
al origin in using the available
supply of women workers and to
adjust its upgrading policies ac-
cordingly.

Redress for
Not only are all plant personnel plainants was al

mittee, through its chairman, Rep. Mary T. Norton (D. of N. J.) has announced a favorable report of the Scanlon bill for a permanent FEPC without amendments.

The bill, as reported, carries provisions making it posible for the FEPC to seek enforcement of its directives in the federal courts. It also includes provisions outlawing discriminations by labor unions, a part of the bill objected to by the American Federation of Labor.

12-8-44

Doubt Early Passage

Any employer having in his employ more than five persons who is (1) engaged in interstate or foreign commerce; (2) under contract with the United States or any agency thereof; or (3) performing work, under subcontract or otherwise, called for by a contract to which the United States or any agency thereof is a party, is subject to the Act. It applies likewise to any labor under which has five or more members in the employ of one or more employers covered.

The Scanlon bill (H R. 3986) favorably reported by the committee is identical with those introduced by Reps. William L. Dawson and Charles LaFollette.

The next move is for the Rules Committee of the House to give the bill the right of way in the House. Observers here believe such action is unlikely, and that a petition of 218 Congressmen will be necessary to get the measure on the floor. There is little likelihood that this will happen this session of Congress. The bill, however, will be reintroduced early in the 79th Congress, and action is expected early during the session.

Pleased With Action

A. Philip Randolph and Knight Chambers, co-chairmen of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, in a statement following favorable report of the bill, said: 'Recommendation of the bill for a permanent FEPC by the House Labor Committee soon after the election campaign is a reason for confidence in campaign pledges.

Both the Republican and Democratic leadership promised enactment of the bill after the election, and both Democrats and Republican supported the bill in committee. We look forward to early enactment of this fundamental measure for the implementation of basic American rights on the same broad, bipartisan basis as in the House Labor Committee."

"Go Ahead and Punish Us," Bussman Mfg. Tells FEPC

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-12-44

Makers of 50 per cent of the fuses used in this country, a subsidiary of the McGraw Electrical Co., has contract for electric fuses with the U.S. Army Air Forces, Signal Corps and the U.S. Navy. Has 1400 employees, 300 men and 1100 women. Employs 8 colored men, all janitors.

Company defense: Can not employ colored women because of the deep-seated and universal unwillingness of the people of St. Louis and Missouri to integrate the two races. Consistent segregation is the law in the city and State and the plant has no facilities for segregation and even the U.S. Employment Service maintains jim-crow offices. Further, there is ample white female labor to meet our needs.

MISS MODESTINE THORNTON

Who holds A.B. degree from Stowe Teachers' College, answered an ad for women workers.

MR. TRIMBLE—What happened when you applied?

MISS THORNTON — They said "we're all filled up."

G. B. PEARSON

Supervisor of U.S. Employment Service.

MR. TRIMBLE—What kind of orders for workers did you receive from his company?

A—They all specified "white workers only."

8-12-44

GEORGE B. HOGAN

Counsel for company.

MR. HOUSTON—The committee is as concerned with the war as is the Bussman Co. Our colored and white boys need fuses and we want you to continue to manufacture them. I can't believe that, as more Americans are killed, management can't go to these employees and show them the necessity for abandoning their prejudices.

Mr. Hogan

MR. HOGAN—You want us to hire 20 white and 10 colored instead of 30 white. Why?

Q—Because your contract has a no-discrimination clause in it.

A—We can't try it. If the Navy, Army and Signal Corps with which we have contracts want to do something about it, they'll have to. We believe on the basis of fifty years' experience that it can't work.

U.S. Cartridge Co.

Makers of bullets; employs thousands of workers and a few hundred colored who are confined to jim-crow Building No. 202, with the result that there is jim-crow status, seniority and privileges for colored workers, and their employment is limited. Company defense: The jim-crow setup was initiated only after it was agreed to by colored organizations including the Urban League and the March on Washington Committee. In jim-crow building, colored workers are employed in top skills and have colored foremen and supervisors.

MISS BEATRICE MARSHALL

Answered ad in paper calling for 2,000 women to make bullets; no experience needed.

8-12-44

MR. TRIMBLE—What happened when you applied?

MISS MARSHALL—I was told they weren't hiring for Building 202, the colored building.

MISS BERTHA BROWN

Employed by company for six months and when layoff came, she was dismissed.

MR. TRIMBLE—Is it your contention that, because the company operates a jim-crow building for colored workers, you would still be employed if seniority rules had been enforced on a plant-wide basis?

MISS BROWN — Yes, because some white girls who have less than six months' experience with the company are still working.

MISS MARGEY FOSTER and JOHN JOYNER

Testified to being laid off despite seniority.

THEODORE BROWN

FEPC examiner.

Q—Did you have a conference with company officials about the lay-off of colored workers?

MR. BROWN—Yes, I was told colored were laid off on a ratio basis, according to population, and that there was one seniority roll for white workers and another for colored.

WILLIAM SENTER

Vice-president, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UAW), CIO; testified that, back in 1942, the company began the policy of placing colored employees in a separate building, a plan it now admits is a mistake.

MR. TRIMBLE—What has been your experience with the situation?

8-12-44

MR. SENTER—The company is making every effort to solve its problems in the framework of a jim-crow setup and is failing.

It has followed the pattern set by the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce, which in July, 1942, issued a statement of policy to plants which would sooner or later have to utilize colored workers and recommended separate and jim-crow buildings, rest rooms, shifts, etc., despite contrary recommendations of our union and other groups. Because of jim crow, colored people suffer most when loyoffs come.

RAY SULLIVAN

General plant manager.

MR. TRIMBLE—Do all of your plants make the same kind of ammunition?

MR. SULLIVAN — No, but in 202, the colored building, the workers are employed in the highest skills, from foreman on down, and we initiated this setup only after a conference with colored groups. We now hire 10 per cent colored and 90 per cent white.

Q—What are your plans for long-range reconversion; will you try integration?

A—No, we'd do as we have done in the past — segregate colored workers first, then train them and then integrate.

Q—Wouldn't it be far better to start integration first?

A—No, the customs and community patterns influence what you can do.

8-12-44

Q—What organization agreed to the segregation plan?

A—I remember two, the Urban League and the March on Washington Committee.

TED McNEIL

Chairman of local March on Washington: The statement by company officials that the March on Washington Committee agreed to segregation is absolutely untrue. Our position has always been and will always be that segregation in itself is discrimination.

LARY Bows to FEPC; Will Hire Colored Operators

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-19-44

By J. ROBERT SMITH

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Representatives of the Los Angeles Railway Company, at a very late hour Wednesday night, agreed to bring its hiring policies into conformity with the President's Executive Order 8802, outlawing discrimination in employment.

The action followed the issuance of an order by the Fair Employment Practice Committee immediately after the close of its hearings here, directing the company to "cease and desist" from its refusal to hire colored persons and to promote those qualified to be motormen, conductors and bus drivers.

The agreement was reached in a closed conference held in the local FEPC offices between company officials, representatives of the union and members of the committee.

Under the agreement, the street railway company will take immediate steps leading to compliance with the order, working in co-operation with the FEPC regional director.

Labor Priority to be Restored

The FEPC agreed also to recommend to the War Manpower Commission that the company's labor priority rights, removed on March 24 last, be restored to it.

A statement issued by the committee following the conference said:

8-19-44

"It is understood that reasonable time will be necessary to eliminate the discriminatory practices found to exist, but if after a reasonable time the discriminatory practices have not been eliminated, the committee will take affirmative action to obtain compliance."

Following issuance of the statement, members of the committee entrained for San Francisco.

Hearings Opened Monday

The FEPC opened its three-day hearing in the State Building here Monday before an overflow crowd.

Under investigation were the alleged discriminatory hiring practices of the city's railway system (LARY) which has no colored motormen or conductors and four West Coast shipyards accused of being in collusion with the AFL Boilermakers' Union in denying full membership to colored workers.

8-19-44

Hubbard Fires Opening Gun

Opening gun in the railway case was fired by Maceo Hubbard, Philadelphia FEPC counsel, who drew from Mrs. Cortez Strange, senior U.S. Employment Service interviewer, the information that despite calls for workers, the company would hire colored men only as yardmen.

Mrs. Strange testified that she had frequently tried to get J. I. Finn, placement manager of LARY, to accept colored applicants.

Witnesses Support Charges

Supporting charges of discrimination against the transit company were the following who were denied jobs:

8-19-44

Mrs. Nora Sladen, 26, former conductor with the San Francisco Municipal Railway, who also instructed white and colored learners in that city and who testified she was told by Finn, "I am from the South and colored people are happier in domestic work;

James A. Herod, father of six children, who sought a job as motorman, but was told colored men were only acceptable as porters;

Job Bias Admitted

J. Stuart Neary, counsel for the company, who admitted that colored persons had been denied jobs as motormen and conductors, but contended that upgrading to these jobs would result in a work stoppage similar to last week's Philadelphia situation.

He said that if the company was required to end this discrimination, the government should assume responsibility.

Lockheed Gives Lie to Claim

Paul Wetcher, white, gave the lie to Los Angeles Railway Company's contention that a strike would follow the hiring or upgrading of colored persons to positions of street-car conductors or motormen shortly before the Fair Employment Practice Committee ended its hearings here Tuesday.

8-19-44

Mr. Wetcher, assistant personnel manager at Lockheed Aircraft, one of the plants cited before the FEPC three years ago, told the committee that today Lockheed hires more than 3,000 colored workers in all capacities such as clerks, stenographers and typists as well as in the skilled and semi-skilled field.

"We have no separate this or that in the plant," he added. "Everyone uses the same facilities and we have no racial problems. There have been no strikes, threats or work stoppages."

In an interview with this correspondent, Chairman Ross, at the close of the hearings, said:

templated by the Scanlon-Dawson-La Follette bill.

Imperative you urge community, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, labor, civic and other leaders to wire their Senators immediately urging favorable vote for appropriation.

throughout the country and to local FEPC committees A. Philip Randolph and Allan Knight Chalmer, co-chairmen of the National Committee for a Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee made the following appeal:

Appropriation for existing FEPC passed House Friday by only four votes. There is great danger that this may be defeated in the Senate this week. Loss of existing FEPC will not only be a great blow to national morale and to war effort, but will also greatly handicap our fight for the permanent FEPC con-

Seek Support For Defense — Chicago Permanent FEPC

6-3-44

WASHINGTON — In a wire to some 30 national organizations

FEPC Forces Company To Hire Negro Seamen

Peoples Voice—New York, N.Y.

Three Negro seamen who had been refused jobs by a southern steamship company were hired by that company last week following action by the FEPC Regional Office. According to Edward Lawson, FEPC Regional Director, the three men—Roy Jackson, a wiper, William Jackson, an able-bodied seaman; and Kenneth Mathias, a quartermaster—were referred to the vessel, a tanker, by the National Maritime Union on Tuesday, April 25.

When they reached the vessel they were advised that they could not be used because of their race. One of the engineers allegedly told Roy Jackson, "It would be better if you got another ship. This crew is from Texas. You know how Southern boys are." 5-13-44

Jackson replied, "I've sailed with them before. I don't mind."

"You can be stubborn if you want to," the engineer advised him, "but I wouldn't."

Jackson then called the NMU hiring hall and reported the incident. While he and the other colored seamen "stood by," an NMU patrolman attempted to straighten out the matter. Because technicalities in the union contract made an immediate settlement impossible, the FEPC Regional Office was advised of the incident and asked to intervene.

Samuel Risk, FEPC Examiner, boarded the vessel and after a lengthy conference with its Master, obtained an agreement that all three men would be hired immediately, with retroactive pay to the date on which they were first referred by the union hall.

A subsequent check-up indicated that all three men were so employed, and that they sailed as members of the ship's crew when it left port recently.

Evans Is Named FEP Director In 4th Regional Area

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The naming of Joseph H. B. Evans as acting regional director of region 4 of the FEPC this week followed close on the heels of the exposure of a reluctance on the part of the Director of Field Operations of the agency, Will Maslow, to name a Negro to the position vacated by Frank Hook who resigned to run again for Congress in Michigan. 4-29-44

Evans was associate director of the region and is in line for automatic promotion to the regional directorship. Mr. Maslow is reported to lean to the belief that a more effective job can be done in the region—covering Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia—by a white director with political connections.

In view of Evans' acquaintanceship with the problems of the region and the high efficiency rating given him by Hook, such a move would open the agency to a charge of discrimination which it is organized to combat.

White Southern Daily Speaks Out For FEPC

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

Equal Pay For Equal Work Is Termed Need

9-22-44

DURHAM, N. C.—(S N S)—A strong editorial in the Durham Morning Herald, Sept. 11, pulled no punches in striking at the favorite social equality argument against the creation of a permanent FEPC. Declaring such theories as this unfair, undemocratic and un-American, the editorial pointed out that "Equal opportunity has nothing whatever to do with 'social equality'—what ever those words mean. Equal opportunity means just what it says—a chance for every one according to his character and abilities, plus equal pay for equal work. This, and no more, is what the Fair Employment Practices Committee has stood for and does stand for.

9-22-44

"Now a strong fight is ahead if a permanent FEPC is not to be blocked. Hearings in the House and Senate committee rooms show that the Negro is still descriminated against. He still doesn't get the same pay the white man gets for the same work. He is still the first to go when there are cutbacks. And the Philadelphia transit strike showed that the blame isn't entirely management's. It goes deep into the ranks of union men and women who ought to know better.

"There are no new arguments against discrimination. There are just the old ones. It is unfair. It is undemocratic. It is unAmerican. Or, if such an appeal falls on deaf ears, we may find that it breaks down wage levels by creating a sub-marginal class. It creates racial strife in which the white man suffers just as much as the Negro—maybe more. It hurts us among our friends abroad. Wise, civilized and patriotic Americans will take their stand against it."

Warns Negro Problems In South Endangers The Jew

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

4-22-44

ATLANTA — (ANP) — Warning that the "Jew in the south cannot maintain his economic position while quietly and passively accepting discriminatory employment policies as applied to the Negro," A. Bruce Hunt, director of the southeastern regional office of the FEPC, told members of the Atlanta chapter, B'nai Brith, Wednesday that "your security and particularly that of your children depends upon the consummation of a national policy of non discrimination, supported by a strong, effective and articulate public opinion."

"This is so," Mr. Hunt continued, "because it is the pre-occupation of the white Gentile south with the submergence of the larger Negro minority group which has given you greater freedom here as compared with Jews in communities where they constitute the largest minority group." 4-22-44

The speaker, after reviewing the history of the FEPC and the reasons for its creation, warned that "discrimination in employment, as any Jew knows, may take many different forms, whether because of race, creed, color, national origin or alienage. The discrimination may be direct by an employer against an applicant for employment, such as refusal to hire, or through the protest of other workers.

"It may startle you to learn," asserted Mr. Hunt, "that only one out of every 10 Negroes is placed in war industries at better than common labor. A white worker has eight times as good a chance to start at a better than a common laborer job. Any newly employed woman worker has four times as good a chance as a Negro male. Surely in a war of jeeps, landing barges, planes, ships and transportation, this is a sorry sacrifice to prejudice."

Three Leaders In Conference Fifty Minutes

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

President Is Receptive To Racial Requests

10-1-44

By ERNEST E JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(A Roosevelt conferred for 50 minutes with three Negro leaders Friday and promised them he would support action in the present congress on permanent FEPC legislation, early adoption of a bill to protect Negroes in the armed forces against violence, and said that the war department would shortly announce a change in policy regarding the controversial redistribution centers.

Walter White, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and Dr. Channing H. Tobias were the individuals who called on the President and informed him of the current displeasures of Negro people. As spokesman for the group, White declared the conference as "interesting and pleasant." He added that it was "strictly non-political" but left it to reporters to interpret its bearing upon the elections.

10-1-44

Regarding FEPC White said the President "pledged his support by saying 'I invented it.' " The group urged that the coalition bill now in committees of both chambers be made "must" legislation when congress reconvenes on Nov. 1.

The bill dealing with violence against Negroes in the armed forces has already passed the senate and is locked in the house judiciary. White said this bill is of "particular concern" to Negroes because there have been numerous assaults and killings of Negro soldiers, especially in the south. He cited the Spicely case in Durham where a bus driver killed a soldier, was tried and an acquittal was returned in 28 minutes.

White said the expected war department statement would announce "considerable abandonment of the segregation policy," and he added that "we were pleased with the change." No further hint of its contents was given.

A plea for an end to exploitation of colonial peoples was laid before the President also, especially those in the Pacific area. The NAACP secretary said he planned to visit India soon.

10-1-44

This is the first conference the President has had with Negro leaders since July, 1941, in which there has been a free exchange of views. It was as a result of that conference that the present FEPC was born. Since then the President has met with a group of ministers who sought to send Bishop John A. Gregg on a tour of army camps, and again early this year he greeted a delegation of Negro publish-

Gains In Negro Jobs Related By Deputy Of FEP

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

10-7-44

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Increased use of Negroes and other minority group workers during the war effort is a major step forward in democracy, George M. Johnson, deputy chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, said here last week. The post-war period can either entrench or nullify that advance, Johnson added.

Addressing the annual meeting of the St. Paul Urban League, Deputy Chairman Johnson said:

"Our minorities in America must have the pledge that not only will they have jobs in the post-war period but also, in the same measure as other workers, they will have jobs in keeping with their skill and ability. It is not enough to promise this act of justice; we must also seal the pledge with the full faith of the United States Government in the form of affirmative Federal action."

made "must legislation" in his 78th Congress. 10-7-44

Will Support Action

The President, according to Mr. White, indicated his approval and said he would support such action.

This is the first public indication given by President Roosevelt, who created the Fair Employment Practice Committee by executive order in 1941, that he favors and will support making permanent the agency he set up as a war measure to combat discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin.

Action on the part of the House Labor Committee can be taken during the Congressional recess, and the legislation be ready for the calendar immediately upon return of Congress on November 14, White declared.

In Columbus, Ohio, at the National Urban League convention FEP Chairman Malcolm Ross told delegates that President Roosevelt favors early enactment of legislation for permanent FEPC.

Peace Problem

Ross said: "As chairman of the FEPC, I can assure you that President Roosevelt is deeply interested in these (post-war employment) issues, and I can assure you that he favors the early enactment of a permanent FEPC law so that the problem which we are now facing during the war may be effectively met in the days of peace." 10-7-44

The White House meeting also discussed pending legislation to make it a federal criminal offense to attack a person wearing the uniform of the American armed forces. The bill, S. 1127, is to amend an already existing law making it a federal offense to assault or kill certain federal officers. The present law, however, does not include members of the Army, Navy, or Marines. The amendment was proposed by the War Department and approved by the Department of Justice. It has passed the Senate, and is pending in the House Judiciary Committee.

The President was reported by the group to have pledged his support of this legislation.

Mr. White pointed out to reporters at the White House after the conference that this legislaion is of particular concern to Negroes because there have been numerous assaults upon Negro soldiers in the South: "The last killing of a soldier named Spicely in Durham, N. C.," he said, "who was shot and killed by a bus driver, was tried in a state court and the driver acquitted in 28 minutes."

Governor Defends Race Segregation

Defender — Chicago
10-21-44 911.

AUBURN, Ala.— (ANP) —The FEPC was attacked as "hostile to the genius of government" and segregation and the poll tax defended as necessary safeguards to southern economy by Gov. Chauncey M. Sparks speaking Tuesday before the 26th annual convention of Alabama Kiwanians.

He described the FEPC as a "thing as hostile to the genius of American government as any thing that has been brought up and put into practice within its whole history."

Racial segregation, he declared, is necessary to preserve the integrity of both the white and Negro races, and he said that "constant agitation, both through army regulations and through insistence of political preachers and vote seekers," has resulted in a spirit of suspension on the part of Negroes.

Dewey's Group Launches Drive On Intolerance

Call-Kansas City, Mo
6-16-44

ALBANY, N. Y.—Clothed with full legislative powers and a $25,000 fund with which to carry on its work, the New York State Temporary Commission on Discrimination will launch a state-wide probe of intolerance next Monday, June 19, it was revealed here this week.

Governor Thomas E. Dewey, whose action created the commission, is expected to appear in person or to send a special message to the commission at its initial meeting.

The commission, whose powers are the same as that of a legislative committee, has all the authority it needs to do a thorough job of investigating discrimination in the state and of developing necessary legislation to bring an end to this evil.

While the commission can establish a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) that is just one of the agencies it can create to provide greater opportunities to all the people of the state.

It is charged with responsibility with going even further than merely studying questions of discrimination in employment, but all other phases of life in which discrimination occurs, which "threatens not only the rights and proper privileges of inhabitants of the state, but menaces the institutions and foundation of a free democratic state."

6-16-44

Governor Dewey has expressed the hope that the commission would go to the heart of the problem and make recommendations for really comprehensive legistion. Members of the commission appear in the mood for just such a task. Their attitude is well summed up in statements by three of them, who spoke out boldly this week as to the commission's possibilities and their hopes for it.

Ready For Action

Mrs. Sidney Borg, vice president of the Federation for Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies, said "In accepting membership on the New York State Temporary Commission on Discrimination, I do so with the hope and confidence that something can be accomplished to increase mutual understanding and create wider opportunities for all groups."

Frank L. Weil, distinguished New York attorney, said that, "The commission will address itself to the very great problem of discrimination and as a member of that commission, I shall, of course, participate in its work to the end that the commission can make an important contribution in eliminating racial and religious discrimination in the state of New York."

6-16-44

Samuel Hausman, Brooklyn textile manufacturer, spoke bluntly. He said, "I am definitely against any form of discrimination based on race, creed, color or national origin, and am glad to have the opportunity to serve on the Temporary Commission specifically formed to consider this problem."

The Case of the FEPC Bill

Amsterdam News - New York, N. Y.

A Senate Sub-Committee on Education headed by Senator Chavez (D., of New Mexico), last week reported favorably a bill to set up a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee. It is believed that the entire Senate Education Committee will give immediate approval to the measure. Meantime, it is hoped that the House Labor Committee headed by Congresswoman Norton (D., of N. J.) will act favbrably on a similar House Bill so that both houses of Congress can have a chance to vote on it before this term ends. The House Labor Committee has been playing fast and loose with the bill and its members have been double-talking about it, though it is one of the most necessary pieces of legislation before Congress. 9-30-44

Now is not the time for anyone or any party to try to grab credit for passing a measure that would establish a permanent FEPC. The tremendous amount of job discrimination because of color and religion that has been aired during the war when every able-bodied man and woman is needed by industry is only a smattering of the amount that will obtain after the war, if something isn't done to prevent it. Inherent in this kind of discrimination is social and racial dynamite, the kind this country cannot afford at any time. There must be some sensible, fair and equitabe treatment of colored workers as well as white when the wheels of industry begin to turn at a peace-time speed.

That neither employers nor some of the unions will treat Negro workers fairly is a fact that has long since been proven. That the Federal Government can accomplish much to effect fair employment practices, regardless of color or religion, has been indicated by the fair amount of success hamstrung FEPC already in existence. Therefore, the only thing left to do is for Congress to pass the permanent FEPC bill now and not after the election when those who sorely want Negroes' votes will have no immediate use for them, or after the war ends when the possibility of the passabe of this kind of legislation will be lessened. 9-30-44

The Republicans came out boldly in favor of a permanent FEPC in their platform, thus squarely putting the Democrats on the spot. But the Democrats have a chance to prove that they, too, favor fair play in employment by leading the way in Congress for the enactment of the permanent FEPC bill now before it. The Republican congressmen, of course, should and must go along with the Democrats, if they really mean to put over the measure.

A bill that would outlaw job discrimination because of color or religion should be placed above mere politics. Now is the time for both parties to prove their honesty about wanting to set up a permanent government agency that would act to abolish job discrimination by joining in passing the FEPC bill immediately.

FEPC Acts On Lundeberg Defy

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

The Seafarers International Union, AFL, has been summoned by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee to answer 25 charges of violating Executive orders 8802 and 9346, Edward Lawson, FEPC regional director, announced yesterday. Hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. next Tuesday in the Bar Association Building, 42 W. 44 St.

Lawson said the FEPC for more than a year has been investigating complaints of anti-Negro practices, and for six months has been trying to persuade Harry Lundeberg, international president of the SIU, to bring the union's policy into conformity with that of the FEPC. 10-6-44

The SIU has a long and admitted record of Negro discrimination. Its 3,000 Negro members, with their jimcrow hiring halls, are assigned only to stewards' department on ships with which it has contracts.

The FEPC declares that this practice has resulted in delaying at least one ship scheduled to sail overseas with a convoy.

Discriminatory Practices

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga

By AFL Probed By FEPC

6-29-44

NEW YORK—(A N P) — The FEPC stepped in last week to investigate the case of Chief Carpenter John M. Stevens. Although a member of the AFL carpenters' union, and while his war activities took him to Naples, Sicily and the Anzio beacheads, Stevens was discriminated upon and ousted from two ships by the International Seafarers union, AFL, during the month of June.

According to a report, Stevens at first took his complaint before the SIU membership meeting where a union official, from the floor, advised that the union was not a "social group" nor one interested in social reforms and that neither the President nor the FEPC "can force white men to sleep in the same room with Negroes."

Stevens next move was to consult the FEPC; here an official said the agency plans to hold public hearings on at least a half-dozen complaints against the discriminatory practices of the union.

Chief Carpenter Stevens was educated in South Carolina and at Boston college.. He resigned as a member of the SIU, and according to an announcement, plans to join the National Maritime union, CIO, where he feels his chances of getting back to sea will be less difficult.

6-29-44

New Fight for FEPC

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

DURING the past few days the members of the United States Senate have received a petition from 100 prominent Americans. It asks the continuance of the Fair Employment Practices Committee and the quick passage of the $585,000 appropriation for its work this coming year. 6-10-44

This lead given by these outstanding citizens can spur us all into doing something effective for the FEPC. On May 26 the appropriation for this valuable agency passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 123 to 119. This slender margin in the lower house gives some measure of the bitter test the proposal faces in the Senate.

If the people assert themselves, however, they can make the Senate take the proper course. They can assure the continued life of the FEPC. While the proposal for a permanent FEPC may not injure the appropriation fight, it is important to concentrate on the latter for the moment.

Originally created by the President's executive order, the FEPC has done much in breaking ground for the employment of Negroes, Jews, Mexicans, and the foreign-born who would otherwise have been barred from the jobs which they obtained. This has aroused the enmity of powerful interests who want to keep the working forces of the nation divided, in order to assure a perpetual pool of cheap labor. Allied with them have been the polltaxers of the South. And in this alliance there is another member, the Republican Party's high command.

6-10-44

As strong as this alliance looks, the American people are stronger. The mobilization for the Negro Freedom Rally on June 26 in New York can serve as the mobilization for the passage of the FEPC appropriation. Let us all do everything we can to press for favorable action in the Senate, so that when we meet in the Freedom Rally it may be to celebrate a FEPC victory.

THE POINT IS THIS

By CLARENCE TOLIVER

(The opinions expressed by this columnist do not necessarily reflect the editorial opinion of the Washington Tribune.—The Editor.)

The FEPC and the CIO's Economic Objectives

Tribune - Washington, D.C.

CIO delegates to the tune of three hundred went to a conference at the Willard Hotel here last week-end and came out with among other things, a recommendation that the new Congress establish a National Planning Board as machinery to implement the economic Bill of Rights contained in President Roosevelt's message to Congress last January.

Of course, in the conference a number of other matters of paramount importance at this juncture of labor's political awareness were discussed.

However, for the purposes of this writing, I want to select one central significant fact which should be thought of in connection with the present FEPC controversy.

And that is this: The political actionists of the CIO resolved to make the wide implications of economic Bill of Rights the "basic objective of our national policy." 6-24-44

This puts emphasis on every one of the eight provisions of the new Bill of Rights, but particularly on the first one: "The right of every person to a job."

It seems to me that this was the answer Harry McAlpin should have given the President when the Chief Executive asked how he could give further support to the struggle the FEPC was making for survival.

* * *

For not only was the President's message to Congress in January a great social document on economic freedom, but it is also the creed by which reactionaries and tory Congressmen can be judged treasonable when they attempt to sabotage the rights of the American citizens.

Take the initial sentence of this document on the state of the Union:

"This Nation in the past two years has become an active partner in the world's war against human slavery.

"We have joined with like-minded peoples in order to defend ourselves in a world that has been gravely threatened with gangster rule.

"But I do not think that any of us Americans can be content with mere survival. Sacrifices that we and our Allies are making impose upon us all a sacred obligation to see to it that out of this war we and our children will gain something better than mere survival." 6-24-44

The President spoke of the guaranty of the original Bill of Rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The message goes on:

"As our Nation has grown in size and statue, however—as our industrial economy expanded—these political rights proved inadequate to assure us equality in the pursuit of happiness.

* * *

"We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. 'Necessitous men are not free men.' People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made."

Speaking of the new Bill of Rights the President told Congress: "America's own rightful place in the world depends in large part upon how fully these and similar rights have been carried out into practice for our citizens. For unless there is security here at home there can be no lasting peace in the world."

Here are what I believe to be salient references to the great message to Congress which enbodied the new Bill of Rights. It is the essence of such thoughts as this that has influenced the CIO's Political Action Committee to endorse F.D.R. and Vice-President Wallace for re-election.

In so doing the Committee has under-written the Fair Employment Practice Committee. For the FEPC stands for everything implied in the new Bill of Rights and the January message to Congress . . . "that out of this war we and our children will gain something better than mere survival."

This is why we can say that the fight must go on from the Normandy beachhead to the building of a lasting peace. 6-24-44

* * *

SECOND BILL OF RIGHTS

Points in what he termed "a second bill of rights" laid before Congress in his January message follow:

"The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the Nation;

"The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;

"The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;

"The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad; 6-24-44

"The right of every family to a decent home.

"The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;

"The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident, and unemployment;

"The right to a good education."

War News Camouflages Move to Knife FEPC

PM - New York, N.Y.

6-12-44

For Finish Fight In Senate But Lines Form

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 12.—The Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) today faced a new struggle for survival.

An unheralded meeting of a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee voted over the week-end 3 to 2 to deny any funds to the agency that

Led by Poll-taxers

But none of these ironies appeared to have any effect on the "pure-white" poll taxers who were directing the war against FEPC.

Up till this year the FEPC has been supported by funds directly provided by the White House. However, heads of the agency as well as other Government officials were not too disturbed by enactment of legislation requiring the

Russell to Blame

Leader of the crusade to put the FEPC is expected to break forth in the Senate within the next 48 hours.

Ironically, the Russell, Georgia Democrat and influential member of the Appropriations unit. In the closed-door causes of the Subcommittee Russell is understood to have played a key role in pressing for the decision that would doom the agency.

As on other sectors of the Washington front, the invasion news was behind which the camouflage were operating in foes of FEPC were fearful that the coup might be engineered this time because groups that have normally raised their voices in behalf of the agency shared the nation-wide preoccupation with military bulletins.

Supporters of FEPC were pleading for fullest production to support the fighting front and were entreating war workers to exert a supreme effort on the assembly lines. It came, too, at a time when men of all faiths and colors were battling shoulder-to-shoulder in the storming of Hitler's European Fortress.

The issue goes before the full membership of the Appropriations Committee today. Whatever the outcome of that session, a full-dress floor-fight over the future of the FEPC is expected to break forth in the Senate within the next 48 hours.

Committee to secure Congressional appropriations, feeling that this procedure would provide a stronger political foundation for the anti-discrimination fight.

But it looks now as if the Southern bloc has chosen this occasion for a final free-for-all on the whole issue of curbing racial bias at the factory gates. 6-12-44

The latest blow on FEPC occurred while the Committee and its supporters were pressing for legislation that would put the agency on a permanent basis. Malcolm Ross, Committee Chairman, testified Friday before the House Labor Committee and appealed for passage of the Scanlon-Dawson-LaFollette bill that would give the FEPC the same status as other full-fledged Government agencies.

In that hearing Ross pointed out that more than a million Negroes will be returning to civilian life from the armed forces at the war's end and that the problem of re-employment would assume new and grave proportions for the members of minority groups.

The action of the Senate Sub-committee, however, would not merely drive the FEPC from the post-war picture; it would halt its activitie immediately, permitting a resumption of prejudice-as-usual in key war plants throughout the country with resultant manpower losses. 6-12-44

From the time of its inception the FEPC has been under fire from Southern Democrats; each time it has narrowly escaped extinction. Observers believe, that this may be its toughest fight of all. Leaders of the anti-FEPC movement were reported to be offering a wide variety of "trades" to other legislators in an effort to sustain the Sub-committee's action.

Lasting FEPC Urged by Wise

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—(AP)—Telling the House Labor Committee there is a "real Fascist peril," in America, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, said today failure to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission would multiply postwar employment difficulties. 6-14-44

America's "Fascist peril," he said, takes the form of discrimination in employment and of the "bitterest and filthiest anti-Semitism."

Asserting that race discrimination in employment was one of Fascism's most effective weapons, Wise told the committee, considering a bill to establish a permanent FEPC:

"The postwar difficulties are going to be grave enough without being gratuitously multiplied by reason of the failure of congress to make the FEPC permanent.

"The FEPC," he added, "has done a most worthwhile work. It has made millions of Americans feel that our government is not only fighting for democracy in Yugo-Slavia 6-14-44 but is preparing to battle for democracy at home."

Replying to a question of Representative Fisher, Democrat, Texas, Wise said he would rather take from the employer the right to hire and fire, by establishing an agency like the proposed FEPC, than to take "from any man" the right to employment.

Racism Hits Jews, Too

Specific charges of discrimination against Jews, according to the American Jewish Congress, include: 2-14-44

Difficulty in obtaining employment, regardless of qualifications, until war began; inability at present to secure employment after passing civil service examination, many who pass never being called;

Problems encountered in attempting to secure upgrading or salary increases; frequent "hazing" of Jewish workers due to management's policy of permitting anti-Semitism among employees to go unchecked;

Penalties imposed upon Jewish workers who took off high holy days, even though permission was sought and clear-cut ruling was refused; and consistent unwillingness of Labor Board and personnel officers at the yard to co-operate with the American Jewish Congress.

FEPC Voted Half a Million

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, June 12.—(AP)—The latest move by southern Democrats to abolish President Roosevelt's fair employment practices committee failed today when the Senate Appropriations Committee voted, 14 to 6, to restore the committee's $500,000 appropriation for 1945. 6-13-44

The fund had been voted down by a senate subcommittee, after it was approved earlier by the house.

In addition, the appropriations group turned down, on a 7-to-7 tie vote, a motion by Senator Russell, Democrat, Georgia, to prohibit the use of more than 25 per cent of the FEPC appropriations for salaries of Negro employes.

Senator Thomas, Democrat, Oklahoma, offered the motion in committee to approve the FEPC appropriations. The vote by which it carried was announced as:

For the appropriation: Democrats, Hayden, Arizona; Thomas, Oklahoma; Tymings, Maryland; McCarran, Nevada; O'Mahoney, Wyoming; Green, Rhode Island; Maloney, Connecticut; Chavez, New Mexico; Mead, New York; Republicans, Gurney, South Dakota; Brooks, Illinois; Reed, Kansas; Burton, Ohio, and Ball, Minnesota.

Against the appropriation: Democrats, McKellar, Tennessee; Russell, Georgia; Overton, Louisiana; Bankhead, Alabama; Maybank, South Carolina, and Republican Idlman, Oregon. 6-13-44

Senator Russell, asserting that six FEPC regional directors are Negroes, declared that "the majority of cases coming before FEPC are decided by field officers who are Negroes." He added that the purpose of his amendment "is to prevent future discrimination of this nature against white people by the FEPC in employing its personnel."

The tie vote by which Russell's motion lost showed the following for the motion: McKellar, Russell, Overton, Bankhead, Maybank, Holman and Reed. Voting against it were: Thomas, Green, Chavez, Mead, Gurney, Burton and Ball.

FEPC Closes 989 Cases in 6 Mos.; 1,957 Pending

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.
2-19-44

War Plants Figure in 692 Complaints of Bias; Government, 288; Unions, 9

WASHINGTON

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice reported last week that during the last six months of 1943, the agency closed a total of 989 cases involving charges of employment discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin.

During the same period, however, a progressively mounting number of new cases, averaging more than 300 a month, left the committee with 1,957 cases at beginning of 1944, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, said.

Of the cases closed, 359 were adjustments in compliance with Executive Order 9346, banning employment discrimination. The remaining cases were dismissed by the committee or withdrawn by the complainant.

Colored Persons Hit Hardest

The 716 cases involving discrimination because of race (mostly colored) formed the largest category among the 989 cases. Discrimination because of creed (mostly Jewish) arose in 127, alienage was involved in 102, and national origin in 44 cases.

Among the cases closed, war industries accounted for a total of 692 complaints of discrimination, government, 288, and trade unions, 9.

208 Cases Dismissed

In addition to the 359 satisfactory adjustments, the closed cases consisted of 36 cases dismissed for lack of jurisdiction, 208 because of insufficient evidence, 256 on the merits, 123 withdrawn by the complainant, and 7 cases dismissed for other reasons.

"The 630 cases in those four categories," Chairman Ross said, "represented allegations of discrimination which would have remained as continuing disputes had they not been subjected to careful examination by a third party."

Summaries of Reports

Summaries of regional reports covering the Eastern area follow:

EDWARD H. LAWSON, acting regional director for Me., Vt., N.H., Mass., Conn., R.I., and director for New York: 2-19-44

1. Met failure to upgrade colored workers in numerous cases.

2. Most outstanding case is in New York area, where eight maritime unions are involved and eighty-five shipping companies are under investigation, for refusal to allow colored seaman to man ships.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Harry Lundborg of the lily-white Sailors' Union of the Pacific is alleged to have asked the Smith Committee for an investigation of the War Shipping Administration, because it observed the policy of sending seamen on vessels regardless of color.]

G. JAMES FLEMING, Penna., N.J., Del.:

1. Usually use colored workers at lowest skills and are reluctant to upgrade them.

2. Discrimination particularly against women.

3. Evidence of tampering with efficiency records to cause dismissal and demotion of colored.

FRANK E. HOOK, D.C., Md., W.Va., W.Va., N.C., and Va.:

1. Employment record fairly good, but upgrading poor.

2. Have suspicions that efficiency records have been tampered with to prevent upgrading or cause dismissal.

Stop Quibbling Over FEPC Bills, Marcantonio Pleads

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Unified support of all Congressional bills for a permanent FEPC, rather than division through debating the relative merits of such measures, was urged this week by Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.). 2-19-44

Marcantonio's own bill and one introduced jointly by Reps. William L. Dawson (Dem., Ill.), Thomas E. Scanlon (Dem., Pa.), and Charles M. LaFollette (Rep., Ind.), have been widely discussed from the angle of preference, and there have been inferences of a conflict between the respective sponsors.

Conflict Denied

In a statement clarifying his position, Marcantonio said in part:

"I am giving my full support to all such bills. Congressmen Dawson and Scanlon have likewise shown their support of my bill by their signing of my House Discharge Petition No. 18 to force consideration by the House of my bill.

"There is no contradiction whatsoever between urging a member of Congress to support the demand for immediate hearings on the Dawson-Scanlon bill and asking him at the same time to sign House Discharge Petition No. 18 to force early consideration of my bill. 2-19-44

Amendments Possible

"The quickest way to get House action on any legislation for a permanent FEPC is by securing 218 signatures to my discharge petition. If this is done, it will be a simple matter to amend my bill to contain features of the other bills, or any new features not now contained in any exisiting FEPC bill.

"We defeat ourselves by debating what is good and what is bad in each bill at a time when our whole strength should be mustered to secure swift action in Congress on this vital subject."

FEPC Probe of Racism at Brooklyn Navy Yard Asked

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.
2-19-44

Citizens' Committee, Jewish Congress Charge Discrimination Against Colored People, Jews

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—The Citizens' Anti-Discrimination Committee on the Brooklyn Navy Yard has asked the regional office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee for an "immediate investigation" of employment discrimination at the Navy Yard, Lorenzo Davis, chairman, announced last week.

Listing fourteen specific charges of discrimination against colored and Jewish workers, the committee asks a thorough probe of employment policies at the yard "to determine to what extent they are in violation of the President's Executive Orders 8802 and 9346.

The seven specific charges of discrimination against colored workers include:

Specific Charges Listed

Refusal to employ colored workers on labor boards or in employment offices; use of markings other than photos on identification badges to differentiate colored and white employees;

Refusal to upgrade colored employees, denial of salary increases, ignoring their seniority rights; excluding them from positions as instructors, supervisors or other positions of authority;

Discrimination against colored women in assignment to jobs; concentrating colored workers on night shifts—first shift to be affected by layoffs; intimidation of workers who report discrimination to authorities within the yard.

47d-1944

Foreign

Allies Bar Jim Crow Law In Germany

Defender — Chicago, Ill

LONDON.—There will be no Jim Crow in post-war Germany. 9-16-44

When Allied troops march onto German soil, American and British civil affairs officers are ready to immediately post a decree which will prohibit "any law which discriminates against persons on a basis of race, color or creed" and will stipulate punishment for failure to observe this order, it was learned here this week.

The plan for this directive which will be printed in large posters and placed in prominent spots in every German town occupied has been drafted by the Allied Military Government and wording of the orders agreed upon in advance of the march onto German soil.

In Chicago this week Edwin R. Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, lauded the Allied anti-discrimination plans for Germany and added:

"It is fine that we are insisting on equality and decency in human relations in Germany. But does America regard democracy as only an export commodity? Is it too precious to use at home?"

Embree, whose organization annually contributes thousands of dollars to improve race relations in America, continued: 9-16-44

"These democratic rules will have to be enforced by an army that has segregation and discrimination in its own ranks, many of whose officers have insisted that Americans be discriminated against on account of race and color in England and other friendly countries where our troops are stationed. These democratic rules will be forced on Germany by a country which still has segregation by law in seventeen of its states, and discriminaton by practice in every state."

"How ironic that we are instituting in enemy countries customs we are not willing to follow at home," Embree said.

MANY WHITE TROOPS TRY POISON MINDS OF ALLIES

8-31-44

Some Have Even Resorted To Physical Violence To

PREVENT ASSOCIATION OF NEGRO SOLDIERS WITH ALLIED POPULACE

New York — Racial friction between colored and white American soldiers overseas, although reflected to a marked degree [illegible] General Dwight Eisenhower's war effort and should be completely eliminated, said Walter White, NAACP secretary, in a nationwide radio talk over the Columbia Broadcasting System Sunday. 8-31-44

"The division in our ranks and the fomenting of racial and other antagonisms are postponing the day of victory," he declared. "They are creating doubt among our allies as to our sincerity when we assert that we are fighting a war for freedom for all peoples. Whoever causes the war to last one single day longer than necessary is as much a traitor to our country as one who sinks a troop ship or reveals military secrets to the enemy. If for no other reason than to win the war as soon as it is humanly possible and to save the lives of American men—perhaps among them the life of your son—it is imperative that any person, whatever his race, who causes trouble should be stopped. That will be done only if the people of America and their government stop evading or temporizing with this fundamental question whose solution is imperative if we are ever to have a world peace." 8-31-44

White, who spent 15 weeks in Great Britain, Ireland, North Africa and Italy, said he had traveled more than 20,000 miles and had talked with many officers, soldiers and civilians.

"The majority of American soldiers abroad have been decent Americans interested in but one objective —winning the war as speedily as possible and returning home. A surprisingly large percentage of them, both officers and enlisted personnel, are concerned over the bad name being given to the United States by the friction which some of their number have caused. A gratifyingly large percentage manifest deep concern about the world problem of race and the necessity of working out a solution to it. Many of these are from the South. But, unfortunately, a highly aggressive and vocal minority has sought to transplant patterns of racial behavior like that of the most backward states of the South to the countries where they have been sent as soldiers to fight a war against Nazi racial theories.

"Some of them have sought to poison the minds of the British, Italian, North African and other peoples against Negro Americans. They have told such stories as these: that Negroes are inferior, illiterate, diseased, and savages. Some of them have even used physical violence to prevent the association of Negro soldiers with British, Italian and other people. They have objected to the use of places of public accommodation such as pubs and restaurants by Negro soldiers. 8-31-44

"Such behavior has puzzled and antagonized many of the people of these countries. They have found it difficult to understand why some American soldiers should be so violent in their hatred of other American soldiers, especially when all of them are fighting in a common cause. They have resented the action of visitors presuming to dictate to them who they should or should not invite into their homes or associate with. Many of our allies are puzzled too by the American pattern of segregation. Repeatedly I was asked why the United States, fighting a war for freedom, should send abroad two armies—one white and one Negro. Generals Eisenhower and John C. H. Lee of the European theatre of operations were praised by Mr. White for issuing "unequivocal directives and taking other steps to eliminate the cause of trouble." 8-31-44

White scored the events of the past few months on the home front saying :"certain members of Congress have poured forth hate-filled tirades against the Commander in Chief of our nation and against racial and religious minorities, as vicious and intemperate in content and tone as any sent out by Goebbels from Berlin." He cited the politics in the soldiers' vote bill, the boasts of filibusters against the anti-poll tax bill, and the statements of defiance against the supreme court for its opinion in the Texas primary case. He also hit Congressman Andrew J. May of Kentucky for his threat against the War department which caused it to cancel its plan to distribute the pamphlet "The Races of Mankind." 8-31-44

White said, "as men approach actual combat and face the dangers of combat, they tend to discount many prejudices," and he praised the combat record of the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the work of Negro supply troops on the Anzio beachhead.

The radio talk inaugurated the nationwide membership campaign of the NAACP which opened May 1 and will close June 30.

Soldiers' Conduct Wins the British

By SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LONDON (ANP) — Good character and exemplary behavior of our soldiers in England have awakened the spirit of the British people to the democratic rights of colored people.

It has taken a horrible war to do it, but as a result, color prejudice in England is fast becoming an ancient institution.

In the big factories there is no suggestion of color discrimination, and newspaper reports of color prejudice are received with indignation.

When any local authority has endeavored to introduce a color bar at dances, this has usually resulted in a smaller attendance. It is reported that one band refused to play until the bar was lifted.

A letter to the Daily Worker gives an account of an elderly lady who was filled with apprehension when two colored soldiers were billeted to her home. She locker her bedroom door for the night.

These two soldiers served her tea in bed, prepared her breakfast, and tidied up the kitchen. "They are now the firmest of friends."

Thousands of colored Americans in the British underlend-lease. They are bright, well-situated and well-directed, but a recreation center, as good as the co-operation of the community allow.

No one can enjoy himself where he feels he is not wanted. Recently when I visited a delightful Red Cross club for coloured troops I wondered if that was the reason why so few soldiers were there.

Prejudice is a hardy plant and its seeds are easily scattered. Even States have accepted reactionary attitudes toward the colored people, held by some Americans, and if need be, die—have thus been slandered with no opportunity to reply, or find, as they some would in America, public and trans- voluble defenders to reply for over- them.

Subtly and gradually, through contact with

Britons Colder to Afro Americans — Baltimore, Md.
Our Boys; Blame JC

London Writer Tells of Separate Clubs; Mayor Ignored Troops; Pleads for Tolerance

By S. L. SOLON

(From London's News Chronicle)

Are the colored American troops as happy today as they were in 1942 as allies and guests of the British people? The blunt and simple answer is: no. 7-15-44

I have recently talked to these troops chartered about Britain. I have seen the facilities available for their recreation and heard community leaders discuss the changes that have taken place in the attitudes of some Britons towards them.

I was told by a colored woman employed by the American Red Cross: "I never felt discrimination until I tried to get housing for an English home."

Separate Clubs Opened

The American Red Cross has opened colored staffed clubs, supported by funds from the American people, and the facilities from

Prejudice Transferred

Inevitably, in their contact with the British population, some Americans have sought to transfer these attitudes to their overseas hosts.

no fault of their own—the records show they are remarkably well-behaved troops—they have felt the mood of a community turn gradually cooler until an icy wall has barred them entirely from community life. 7-15-44

Mayor Ignored Troops

I know one community where the mayor publicly welcomed the incoming American white troops while the colored troops were entirely ignored. Far from their homes, families, communites, they have had few of the consolations, little of the companionship and still less of the welcome which have served the whites.

Britian has a heritage of tolerance and liberalism which has contributed vastly to freedom over the earth. It would be a mistake for Britons to assume that now, in deference to reactionary attitudes, it is time to sell that heritage short.

No soldier's morale has suffered from being given a clearer understanding of the liberal purposes for which we are fighting this war. 7-16-44

The morale of many thousands of soldiers can be affected by the conviction that the slogans under which they march to battle are meaningless for them because their skins are brown.

FOUND STUDIED EFFORT IN ITALY TO POISON MINDS OF POPULACE 5-11-44

Try to Transplant Racial Hate Wherever U. S. Troops Stationed

The Associated Press is exclusively revealing for for the first time sections of the report prepared by Walter White, executive secretary for the NAACP, for the war department dealing with his visit to North Africa and Italy. These disclosures are being made in two parts, of which this is the first.

by Ernest E. Johnson

Washington, May 9—(ANP) Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, returned to the states on April 15 from a 20,000 mile tour of two important theatres of operation on the other side of the Atlantic ocean. 5-11-44

Seven days later he layed before war department officials have a nine page report plus four exhibits covering his observations in North Africa and the middle eastern theatre in which he declared that his "first and strangest impression was the difference in racial attitudes in active theatres of war as contrasted with those in theatres of preparation for action."

In his conclusions White said in part: "Continuation of separation and discrimination is in part responsible for a less determined spirit in the army than is necessary to meet the very crucial days which lie ahead before this war is won," and added his "conviction that dark though the picture may seem at times, there is much ground for hope." 5-44

An earlier report covering his visit to the European theatre of operations, England in particular, was forwarded to the department early in February. The entire trip consumed 15 weeks and provided the association's official with a first hand picture of the conduct and experiences of Negro soldiers abroad. 5-11-44

Not only did he concern himself with the matter of morale, utilization of troops, but also social patterns which are being transplanted by American officers and enlisted personnel, and the ways and means they are using to indoctrinate the English and the Italian peoples with their own type of thinking.

White, however, found, as others who have returned from fighting areas, that proximity to danger has been a great leveler. He reported: "As men approach actual combat and the dangers of death, the tendency becomes more manifest to ignore or to drp off pettiness such as racial prejudice. At the Anzio beachhead, for example, men eat, sleep and asentsociate together with apparent complete ignoring of race or color of their neighbors. Memories of dangers shared appear to leave a greater tolerance." 5-11-44

He learned though that "dangerous rumors" are beginning to be spread in England as compared to the situation in in Italy regarding the combat ability of Negro soldiers. He attributed much of this to the heavy preponderance of service units in England whereas the presence and prowess of the 99th Pursuit squadron and the 332nd Fighter group have done much to dispel this erroneous thinking in Italy.

Regarding the conversion of the 2nd Cavalry division to a service unit, White said he had been called upon to speak to several thousand of the officers and men. "I have never in my life faced so down cast an audience," he reported. "Because of the circumstances of my presence in the theatre, I did not discuss, after consulting with Col. Trudeau, the details of the transfer which had just been made, but contented myself with saying that I was aware of the reasons for their unhappiness and would discuss it with the war department." 5-11-44

The spread of anti-Negro propaganda in the North African and Middle Eastern theatres was duly noted, but compared more favorably with the "dangerous spreading of such stories" in the European theatre, White said.

He brought back with him a leaflet which had been circulated in Naples purporting to be a Neapolitan street song to be sung to the tune of "The Cup of Coffee." According to the translation, it was entitled "Italian Women Arm in Arm with American Negroes." 5-11-44

White recommended that G-2 (army intelligence) "or other appropriate agencies of the government, be instructed to ascertain who is responsible for the writing, printing and distribution of this and another anti-Negro publication that will be mentioned later It is widely rumored in Naples that an American army colonel supplied the copy and paid for the printing of this leaflet. I did not have facilities or time to investigate this rumor But the existence of such a rumor, as will readily be seen, is harmful. Investigation and action should be taken to establish the truth or falsehood of this report." 5-11-44

The other instance mentioned by the NAACP official was the printing and posting in public places of Naples of a green placard with black lettering approximately 24 x 36 inches, allegedly under the auspices of the "Italian American Committee for the Preservation of the Italian Race." American soldiers reportedly had posted the sign. Here is an excerpt from the placard as offered in the White report:

"We Italian Americans, with deep pain must see that a certain feminine nucleus of Naples, having been dragged in the mire, dare to walk on the street with the Negro, and dares also to invite one home ——Now when will harsh reality enlighten you? When will your honor, your pride in being white and Italian incite you to justly scorn the Negro? ——You cannot understand how you humiliate us. All Americans speak thus: Look, the Italian people are fond of Negroes." 5-11-44

A third practice in Naples, White reported, was the supplying of manifestly forged orders to hotel proprietors forbidding them to admit Negroes. He submitted an exhibit of the order which indicated the hours when persons might visit a particular hotel, rates charged and the remark that "No Negoes" were allowed. The "order" was signed by an American army colonel. 5-11-44

Regarding such material White "strongly recommends that the war department instruct responsible subordinates to take more prompt and vigorous action against anti-Negro propaganda. This should be done,", he added, "not only to prevent trouble, but because such propaganda increasingly disturbs the peoples of the countries where the racial pattern of states of the deep south is being transferred by some American officers and enlisted men, and brings into question the sincerity of the United States in the war itself." 5-11-44

"There is further reason that the brightest of all impressions I bring back to the United States with me is the considerable number of American white soldiers and officers who see the global implications of the race question, and who are eager to do something about."

SPARKS' APPEAL IGNORED BY FDR

Post - Birmingham Ala

Governor Gets No Answer To Protest On Lifting Segregation Rule

8-29-44

By United Press.

MONTGOMERY, Aug. 29.—Stating that he regretted that he had received no answer from President Roosevelt to his protest of a War Department race segregation ban at Maxwell Field here, Gov. Chauncey Sparks said today that he hoped there were no political implications in the order.

He described the Army's ruling against racial discrimination in the military establishment's post exchange, theater, and buses as of "such vital importance" that it warranted immediate attention.

Sparks telegraphed the President on Aug. 24, protesting the order, and asked Air Force officials to hold the matter in abeyance until he received an answer.

The Alabama governor said that if any political implications were involved, "then we of the South will find it difficult to hold the South within its traditional Democratic allegiance in the years to come."

The segregation ban reportedly was sent to all Air Force installations.

8-29-44

Maxwell Field officials refused to comment on the order, but civilian employes have reported it still in effect.

1,000 Hit 'Army Scottsboro'

Daily Worker - New York N.Y.

8-29-44

More than 1,000 labor and civic leaders and organizations have appealed to President Roosevelt for clemency in the case of Frank Fisher, Jr., and Edward R. Loury, Negro soldiers framed on a rape charge in New Caledonia, the International Labor Defense announced yesterday.

The prisoners, originally sentenced to life imprisonment, are now confined at McNeil Island Federal penitentiary for terms of 10 and eight years respectively. They were convicted and sentenced by general court-martial in New Caledonia after the officer in charge of their preliminary investigation had recommended that rape charges against them be dropped for lack of evidence of coercion.

"To uphold the hand of the President in his effort to insure national unity and heighten the fighting morale of all Americans, we are asking for endorsements of this clemency appeal by leading Americans in every walk of life, in all parts of the country," it was stated by Congressman Vito Marcantonio, ILD president.

47d-1944

M. P. Brutality

Sergeant Shot In Soldier, MP Clash

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va., 6-3-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Sgt. Wellington D. Abrams, of this city, was reported in critical condition from a gunshot wound suffered in an exchange of shots between colored troops and white military police at Brookley Field near Mobile, Ala., last week. Army public relations said Sgt. Abrams was shot accidentally "while assisting the military police."

The incident is reported to have occurred when white military police took a white civilian into the barracks of the Negro soldiers in an effort to identify a soldier the civilian alleged had robbed him.

Brig. Gen. James A. Mollison ordered all the colored troops confined to the military area. A white soldier was also reported seriously wounded.

Gen. Mollison, in the midst of the affray, is reported to have gone to the Negro barracks, unarmed, and called on the soldiers to surrender their arms. They did. 6-3-44

Mrs. Viola Abrams, wife of the injured sergeant, left for Mobile after being notified by the War Department of the shooting.

47d-1944

M.P. Brutality

Dining Car Crew Put Off Train By Marine Officer

Call - Kansas City Mo. 1-28-44

OGDEN, Utah.—(ANP)— Investigation of the removal of an entire colored kitchen and dining car crew from the Union Pacific's main train, 69294, by a white marine lieutenant and MP's at Lyndyl, Utah, on Jan. 8, is being made, according to Francis C. Franklin, secretary of an organization known as the Western Fair Employment Practice committee.

CAUSE OF INCIDENT

The incident which resulted in the removal of all colored members of dining car and kitchen departments is said to have started after mealtime when the tables were cleared and all members of the crew joined in some form of recreation, this time craps, or "dice." The white steward, whose name has not been disclosed, is reported to have participated which cost him approximately $45, a sum which he did not enjoy losing.

He became angry about his loss. Knowing that he could not possibly whip the entire crew, he realized that at least he could have his feelings assuaged by ordering them off the train on a charge of insubordination, failure to properly perform their duties, or any number of charges, Franklin contends. One of the crew is said to have refused to be removed, and angrily challenged the steward, whereupon the steward left the diner and returned with a young marine, second liteutenant and a number of white MP's.

After lining all of the colored crew against the wall, the youthful marine lieutenant tried out his choice "cuss" words, not forgetting to use the word "n.....," as he said, according to crew members:

"You damn 'n.....' ought to be all shot right here, but we will give you a chance. At the next stop I want you all to get off this train and when you get off I want you to start running like hell, or you may be shot in the back."

No effort was reported to have been made by the young marine officer to investigate both sides of the story. At the next stop, the crew left. Charges of insubordination were believed by W. M. Jeffers, president of the Union Pacific railroad, according to a bulletin issued the following day, Jan. 9, to all dining car employes from Omaha: 1-28-44

BULLETIN AND TELEGRAM

"On military train yesterday crew of colored cooks and waiters not performing work satisfactorily and one of the waiters attacked steward with knife, after which steward appealed to train commander who found food unsatisfactory and service poor, and when steward told him crew would not obey or do anything ordered of them, and after military officers had made inspection of diner, the officers ordered all waiters and cooks removed from train, which was done at Lynndyl, and military took charge of the train.

"In connection with this case, quote President Jeffers' telegram J-25 date:

"Referring removal on order U. S. Marine Corps officers in charge Main Train 69294, Lynndyl, Saturday evening, account gross insubordination and threatened violence to Steward, of the entire crew of colored waiters and kitchen men diner 3633."

Jeffers allegedly ordered Supt. Hanson, DC and H department, to get out by wire a bulletin to all DC and H department officials, stewards and supervisors about the case, describing it, and distinctly saying that the diner was taken over and "these men removed on orders of the military officers in charge of the train."

"I want it distinctly stated and brought to the attention of overy one of these colored employes in Union Pacific dining car service that this sort of conduct will not be tolerated and that if there is any repetition, they will be summarily discharged and ordered off the property at the nearest terminal and they will not be given accommodations or transportation," Jeffers telegram quoted in the bulletin, said. 1-28-44

HAVE MADE SACRIFICES

"Make it clear to them that this country is at war and they may anticipate that if there is more difficulty on these troop trains military authorities will take charge and remove them from the service; further that if there is any similar repetition on regular passenger trains I will instruct, that if it becomes necessary, armed guards be placed on each one of our diners to maintain order."

"Many people involved by this order and bulletin have been faithful employes of the Union Pacific for a quarter of a century," declared Franklin. "They have come west as pioneers just as members of other races. They have made all kinds of sacrifices to do so."

Notwithstanding the loyalty of many of these colored employes, men who have answered the call to return to work after being dropped by the company during the depression, Jeffers said, "I am not going to temporize with any such foolishness on the part of these crews, and they are either going to maintain a proper attitude at all times or get out of Union Pacific service."

Gilbert W. Haley, vice commander of the local colored chapter of the American Legion and vice president of the local waiters and cooks union, has been appointed as one of six members of the railroad investigating committee, Franklin revealed.

Benning Soldier Shot By M.P. on Atlanta Street

5-5-44

Arthur Gather, Negro soldier assigned to Fort Benning, is in a serious condition at Fort McPherson hospital as the result of bullet wounds he received early yesterday. Constitution - Atlanta, Ga.

While walking on Auburn avenue, Corporal Martin J. LePacik, military policeman, stopped Gather and asked to see his papers. LePacik started to examine them, when Gather broke and ran, the M. P. said. LePacik added he gave chase. As the Negro refused to stop, the corporal said he fired when he reached the corner of Hillard and Old Wheat streets. 5-5-44

Police first took Gather to Grady hospital and then transferred him to Fort McPherson.

COMMAND
Time-Chicago, Ill. 7-10-44

Object Lesson

Good Army men winced at the news: a major had been having military prisoners flogged. It was no extenuation of his conduct that he had been trying to restore discipline in a madhouse of a prison in a Mississippi Army camp. 7-10-44

Major Louis Rothschild Lefkoff, a misfit officer, was a reflection on his superiors' inertia: he had moved to new jobs and higher rank through a series of military failures. Finally found ill fitted for active command, Lefkoff was sent to Camp Van Dorn, a dreary clump of tar-paper barracks and huts some 50 miles south of Natchez as police and prison officer.

The general prisoners in his charge—all committed on serious offenses—were a rough lot. They refused to get up for reveille, held kangaroo courts and beat up fellow inmates, threatened Lefkoff's family. Lefkoff tried punishment—taking away all privileges, making them "walk the track" with heavy packs, depriving them of their mail. When nothing seemed to work, he lost his head.

He issued clubs to the prison guards, ordered them to beat up a recalcitrant prisoner. When the guards refused, he called in MPs. The nine ringleaders of the prison gang (six white men, three Negroes) were taken into a tar-papered room. While the major stood outside, armed with a pistol and a submachine gun, the MPs flogged the prisoners' bare backsides with weighted rubber hoses. One man had to be taken to the hospital. By nightfall, the story was all over camp—and Major Lefkoff's military career had ended.

Said the court-martial: "The offense was the result of malassignment and incompetency. . . ." Louis Rothschild Lefkoff was found guilty, dismissed from the service, sentenced to a year and a day at hard labor. For his superiors, who had joined in the superannuated Army game of passing the buck—no punishment.

Shore Patrolmen Beat Negro Soldier To Near Death At Grand Central

World - Memphis, Tenn.

BY NAT D. WILLIAMS

I saw a Negro soldier beaten half to death in the Grand Central Station at Memphis last Tuesday night 7-21-44

I was mailing the copy for the Friday issue of the Memphis World. I didn't have a chance to find the soldier's name. The Shore Patrol police were beating him too fast.

The soldier hadn't done anything I know because I walked up when the Naval Patrol officer started talking to him. The little black soldier was standing in the line holding his luggage... in the midst of a dense crowd .. in the Memphis Grand Central Station.

The Shore Patrolmen ...two of them .. walked up to him ..they said something to him .. he answered. They didn't like his answer. In a matter of seconds .. they had jumped on him. The short, stocky, dark-haired shore patrolmen was the aggressor.

The colored soldier tried to hold back the shore patrolman's arm, the one holding the wooden billet ....then the second shore patrolman struck him .. the black soldier did his best to protect himself ....when they finished with him ..amidst the pleading and crying of Negro women .. and even white women .. they beat the black man down to his knees.. .they beat him unconscious. 7-21-44

I walked up and wanted to know why they were beating him like that ...They told me to "shove off." The last I saw of the Poor Black soldier boy... he was being led off .. the Shore Patrolmen told me to "shove off" again ..I wonder if the short, stocky, dark-haired, shoreman would have been so "brave" if he had been in a company of black folk....Looking at that slack soldier....my God!.... What is Democracy?

Ten Negro Soldiers Reported Beaten By Police In Mississippi, War Dept. Told

Age-Herald, Birmingham, Ala. 4-18-44

A detailed list of ten instances in which Negro soldiers have been beaten severely either by military or civilian police in Greenville and Lyland, Mississippi during the past 21 months has been submitted to Brig. Gen. Robert H. Dunlop, in the Adjutant General's office of the War department by the NAACP.

In submitting the list which contained names, serial numbers and dates, the NAACP said these instances of "few instances" of attack on a soldier is an attack on the United States, whether perpetrated by a foreign or domestic enemy."

The letter cited the following victims of military police: Pvt. William P. Watkins, Pvt. Morris L. Murchison, Pvt. James Brown, Pfc. Amos Davis and a second beating of William P. Watkins now a corporal, on April 9, 1944.

The following victims of civilian police were cited to the Assistant General's office: Pvt. Harry T. Hackett, Pvt. Stuart Marks, Pvt. Robert L. Scott, Cpl. Theodore R. Taylor, and Pvt. Joe N. Lewis.

47d-1944

M.P. Brutality

Dining Car Crew Put Off Train By Marine Officer

Call - Kansas City Mo. 1-28-44

OGDEN, Utah.—(ANP)— Investigation of the removal of an entire colored kitchen and dining car crew from the Union Pacific's main train, 69294, by a white marine lieutenant and MP's at Lynndyl, Utah, on Jan. 8, is being made, according to Francis C. Franklin, secretary of an organization known as the Western Fair Employment Practice committee.

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He became angry about his loss. Knowing that he could not possibly whip the entire crew, he realized that at least he could have his feelings assuaged by ordering them off the train on a charge of insubordination, failure to properly perform their duties, or any number of charges, Franklin contends. One of the crew is said to have refused to be removed, and angrily challenged the steward, whereupon the steward left the diner and returned with a young marine, second liteutenant and a number of white MP's.

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No effort was reported to have been made by the young marine officer to investigate both sides of the story. At the next stop, the crew left. Charges of insubordination were believed by W. M. Jeffers, president of the Union Pacific railroad, according to a bulletin issued the following day, Jan. 9, to all dining car employes from Omaha: 1-28-44

BULLETIN AND TELEGRAM

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HAVE MADE SACRIFICES

"Make it clear to them that this country is at war and they may anticipate that if there is more difficulty on these troop trains military authorities will take charge and remove them from the service; further that if there is any similar repetition on regular passenger trains I will instruct, that if it becomes necessary, armed guards be placed on each one of our diners to maintain order."

"Many people involved by this order and bulletin have been faithful employes of the Union Pacific for a quarter of a century," declared Franklin. "They have come west as pioneers just as members of other races. They have made all kinds of sacrifices to do so."

Notwithstanding the loyalty of many of these colored employes, men who have answered the call to return to work after being dropped by the company during the depression, Jeffers said, "I am not going to temporize with any such foolishness on the part of these crews, and they are either going to maintain a proper attitude at all times or get out of Union Pacific service."

Gilbert W. Haley, vice commander of the local colored chapter of the American Legion and vice president of the local waiters and cooks union, has been appointed as one of six members of the railroad investigating committee, Franklin revealed.

Benning Soldier Shot By M.P. on Atlanta Street

5-5-44

Arthur Gather, Negro soldier assigned to Fort Benning, is in a serious condition at Fort McPherson hospital as the result of bullet wounds he received early yesterday. Constitution - Atlanta, Ga

While walking on Auburn avenue, Corporal Martin J. LePacik, military policeman, stopped Gather and asked to see his papers. LePacik started to examine them, when Gather broke and ran, the M. P. said. LePacik added he gave chase. As the Negro refused to stop, the corporal said he fired when he reached the corner of Hillard and Old Wheat streets. 5-5-44

Police first took Gather to Grady hospital and then transferred him to Fort McPherson.

COMMAND
[illegible]-Chicago, Ill. 7-10-44

Object Lesson

Good Army men winced at the news: a major had been having military prisoners flogged. It was no extenuation of his conduct that he had been trying to restore discipline in a madhouse of a prison in a Mississippi Army camp. 7-10-44

Major Louis Rothschild Lefkoff, a misfit officer, was a reflection on his superiors' inertia: he had moved to new jobs and higher rank through a series of military failures. Finally found ill fitted for active command, Lefkoff was sent to Camp Van Dorn, a dreary clump of tar-paper barracks and huts some 50 miles south of Natchez as police and prison officer.

The general prisoners in his charge—all committed on serious offenses—were a rough lot. They refused to get up for reveille, held kangaroo courts and beat up fellow inmates, threatened Lefkoff's family. Lefkoff tried punishment—taking away all privileges, making them "walk the track" with heavy packs, depriving them of their mail. When nothing seemed to work, he lost his head.

He issued clubs to the prison guards, ordered them to beat up a recalcitrant prisoner. When the guards refused, he called in MPs. The nine ringleaders of the prison gang (six white men, three Negroes) were taken into a tar-papered room. While the major stood outside, armed with a pistol and a submachine gun, the MPs flogged the prisoners' bare backsides with weighted rubber hoses. One man had to be taken to the hospital. By nightfall, the story was all over camp—and Major Lefkoff's military career had ended.

Said the court-martial: "The offense was the result of malassignment and incompetency. . . ." Louis Rothschild Lefkoff was found guilty, dismissed from the service, sentenced to a year and a day at hard labor. For his superiors, who had joined in the superannuated Army game of passing the buck—no punishment.

mestic enemy.

The letter cited the following victims of military police: Pvt. William P. Watkins, Pvt. Morris L. Murchison, Pvt. James Brown, Pfc. Amos Davis and a second beating of William P. Watkins now a corporal, on April 9, 1944.

The following victims of civilian police were cited to the Assistant General's office: Pvt. Harry T. Hackett, Pvt. Stuart Marks, Pvt. Robert L. Scott, Cpl. Theodore R. Taylor, and Pvt. Joe N. Lewis.

4-13-44

We submit that the War Department owes a duty to mend in the armed forces to protect them from abuse and violence when it sends them into camps and strange surroundings. An attack on a soldier is an attack on the United States, whether perpetrated by a foreign or do

Shore Patrolmen Beat Negro Soldier To Near Death At Grand Central

World - Memphis, Tenn.

BY NAT D. WILLIAMS

I saw a Negro soldier beaten half to death in the Grand Central Station at Memphis last Tuesday night 7-21-44

I was mailing the copy for the Friday issue of the Memphis World. I didn't have a chance to find the soldier's name. The Shore Patrol police were beating him too fast.

The soldier hadn't done anything I know because I walked up when the Naval Patrol officer started talking to him. The little black soldier was standing in the line holding his luggage... in the midst of a dense crowd .. in the Memphis Grand Central Station.

The Shore Patrolmen ..two of them .. walked up to him ..they said something to him .. he answered. They didn't like his answer. In a matter of seconds .. they had jumped on him. The short, stocky, dark-haired shore patrolmen was the aggressor.

The colored soldier tried to hold back the shore patrolman's arm, the one holding the wooden billet ....then the second shore patrolman struck him .. the black soldier did his best to protect himself ....when they finished with him ..amidst the pleading and crying of Negro women .. and even white women .. they beat the black man down to his knees. . .they beat him unconscious. 7-21-44

I walked up and wanted to know why they were beating him like that ..They told me to "shove off." The last I saw of the Poor Black soldier boy... he was being led off .. the Shore Patrolmen told me to "shove off" again ..I wonder if the short, stocky, dark-haired, shoreman would have been so "brave" if he had been in a company of black folk....Looking at that slack soldier....my God!.... What is Democracy?

Ten Negro Soldiers Reported Beaten By Police In Mississippi, War Dept. Told

Age - New York, N.Y. 4-28-44

A detailed list of ten instances in which Negro soldiers have been beaten severely either by military or civilian police, in Greenville and Lambert, Mississippi, in contained names, serial numbers and dates, the been submitted by the NAACP.

Robert H. Dunlop, in the Assistant General's office of the War department by the NAACP.

In submitting the list which only a "few instances" of

47d-1944

Soldiers

Race Friction Abroad Hampers War Effort

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

5-6-44

NEW YORK.—Racial friction between colored and white American soldiers overseas, although corrected to a marked degree by General Dwight Eisenhower, is still hurting the war effort and should be completely eliminated, said Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary, in a nation-wide radio talk over the Columbia Broadcasting System Sunday, April 30.

"The division in our ranks and the fomenting of racial and other antagonisms are postponing the day of victory," he declared. "They are creating doubt among our allies as to our sincerity when we assert that we are fighting a war for freedom for all peoples. Whoever causes the war to last one single day longer than necessary is as much a traitor to our country as one who sinks a troop ship or reveals military secrets to the enemy. If for no other reason than to win the war as soon as it is humanly possible and to save the lives of American men—perhaps among them the life of your son—it is imperative that any person, whatever his race, who causes trouble should be stopped. That will be done only if the people of America and their government stop evading or temporizing with this fundamental question whose solution is imperative if we are ever to have a world of peace."

Overseas 15 Weeks

White, who spent 15 weeks in Great Britain, Ireland, North Africa and Italy, said he had traveled more than 20,000 miles and had talked with many officers, soldiers and civilians. 5-6-44

"The majority of American soldiers abroad have been decent Americans interested in but one objective—winning the war as speedily as possible and returning home. A surprisingly large percentage of them—both officers and enlisted personnel—are concerned over the bad name being given to the United States by the friction which some of their number have caused. A gratifying large percentage manifest deep concern about the world problem of race and the necessity of working out a solution to it. Many of these are from the South. But, unfortunately, a highly aggressive and vocal minority has sought to transplant patterns of racial behavior like that of the most backward states of the South to the countries where they have been sent as soldiers to fight a war against Nazi racial theories.

"Some of them have sought to poison the minds of British, Italian, North African and other peoples against Negro Americans. They have told such stories as these: that Negroes are inferior, illiterate,, diseased, and savage. Some of them have even used physical violence to prevent the association of Negro soldiers with British, Italian and other people. They have objected to the use of places of public accommodation such as pubs and restaurants by Negro soldiers.

"Such behavior has puzzled and antagonized many of the people of these countries. They have found it difficult to understand why some American soldiers should be so violent in their hatred of other American soldiers, especially when all of them are fighting in a common cause. They have resented the action of visitors presuming to dictate to them who they should or should not invite into their homes or associate with. Many of our allies are puzzled too by the American pattern of segregation. Repeatedly I was asked why the United States, fighting a war for freedom, should send abroad two armies—one white and one Negro." 5-6-44

Generals Eisenhower and John C. H. Lee of the European Theatre of Operations were praised by Mr. White for issuing "unequivocal directives and taking other steps to eliminate the cause of trouble."

White scored the events of the past few months on the home front saying, "certain members of Congress have poured forth hate-filled tirades against the Commander-in-Chief of our nation and against racial and religious minorities, as vicious and intemperate in content and tone as any sent out by Goebbels from Berlin." He cited the politics in the soldiers' vote bill, the boasts of filibusters against the anti-poll tax bill, and the statements of defiance against the Supreme court for its opinion in the Texas primary case. He also hit Congressman Andrew J. May of Kentucky for his threat against the War Department which caused it to cancel its plan to distribute the pamphlet "The Races of Mankind."

White said, "as men approach actual combat and face the dangers of combat, they tend to discount many prejudices," and he praised the combat record of the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the work of Negro supply troops on the Anzio beachhead. 5-6-44

The radio talk inaugurated the nation-wide membership campaign of the NAACP which opened May 1 and will close June 30.

RADIO TECHNICIANS PUT INTO LABOR BATTALIONS

Afro, N.Y., N.Y.

In line with Secretary Stimson's admission that the Army has a policy of converting Negro combat troops and technicians into service troops, is the revelation that a group of Negro radio operators and technicians was recently changed over into a labor battalion.

The information came to the N. A. A. C. P. in a letter from a Negro sergeant.

The irony of the situation was heightened by the fact that German war prisoners stationed near these Negro troops are said by the sergeant to be receiving better treatment than United States Negro soldiers.

The letter declares:

"When the division was shipped to———, we were left in Fort———; later we learned that we were coming to this camp to form a battalion. Since our troop was composed mostly of radio operators and radio technicians, we were reasonably certain that it would be an operations battalion because a construction battalion hasn't any place for communications men. Upon our arrival we find that we were going to be formed into a construction battalion after being merged with the ———F. A. All the training that the men in this battalion must learn is something about climbing poles and digging holes. In other words, we are in a labor battalion with a glorified title. We aren't kicking because we have to climb poles and do some hard work, but we figure if we are qualified for a certain type of job we should get it if possible and I know the Army needs radiomen.

"A lot of us have asked for transfers, but all we run into is red tape and that is when an enlisted man loses his case.

"There is a trend in the Army, at the present, to transfer all the Negro soldiers from the Army Ground Forces and put them into the Army Service Forces no matter if they are qualified for other types of work.

In this camp we are also forced to live in an area that should be condemned. All our sanitary facilities are outside and across the street in a poorly heated building. The barracks we live in are heated by two stoves, one at each end of the barracks

"The reason the boys are hot under the collar is due to the fact that there are German prisoners (here) and live better and are getting better treatment than we are getting at the present.

"We would appreciate it if you are able to look into the matter."

News Chronicle Blames Whites

AFRO American

Baltimore, Md.

Americans Brought Hate Over, It Says

5-13-44

NO WELCOME NOW

Problem Endangers Success of War

WASHINGTON

A recent United Press dispatch quoted the London News Chronicle as saying that the many thousands of colored soldiers in Britain, who were received warmly by the British people on their arrival two years ago, are now barred from community life here because anti-colored prejudice among white American troops has infected the British public.

In a long article, by a staff correspondent, the newspaper said:

"Colored American troops constitute the largest colored population Britian has ever known, and the present situation poses a problem vital to the morale of these troops as well as to the development of Anglo-American relations." 5-13-44

Super-Secret Order

One of the things Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, who recently returned from a fifteen-week tour of war fronts, discussed with War Department officials, last week, it is reported, was a super-secret order handed down to the law enforcement officers in Great Britain to the effect that British women in uniform are to be discouraged from appearing in public with American colored soldiers.

When the soldiers first arrived in Britain, an order to the effect that there was to be no color line was put in effect. After protests from American whites, however, the British succumbed and issued an order prefaced with the words "in the interest of harmony, therefore, it is suggested . . ." etc. 5-10-44

The order is tempered with a suggestion that it is all right to entertain colored soldiers in British homes "where difficult situations can be met more easily."

(Continued on Page 12. Col. 8)

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa.

Speaking of discr[illegible]tion, a corporal writes me In-dia: "The Red Cross the colossal effrontery to up separate Red Cross cl[illegible] or white and colored Am[illegible]n soldiers in Calcutta, and also to forcibly expel and insult some of the colored fellows in my outfit, who, unknowingly, entered this club for whites . . . They built a club for us and named it Club Carver . . . A few Indian associates tell me that we've got no kick, since the same thing happens to them and in their own country." Apparently the Four Freedoms "everywhere" are being delivered by Jim Crow. 4-1-44

'No Colored' Signs Not in Naples

Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

5-6-44

WASHINGTON

The War Department has been unable to locate Col. James E. Manley in the Naples area.

A check of all headquarters, including British, machine records unit, Central Postal Directory and Allied Central Commission there, failed to reveal any record of such an officer, it advised the AFRO.

Prompted by AFRO Story

The department instituted a search for Colonel Manley following publication of a story in the AFRO of January 15, stating that a "no colored" notice was posted in a Naples hotel, signed by Colonel Manley.

An investigation, conducted by the commanding general at Allied Headquarters in Naples, found also no hotel at which "no colored" signs were posted.

47e-1944

★ ★ Sons And Daughters Of The Revolution ★ ★

Journal + Guide - Norfolk, Va. 2-19-44

J. ROANE

SGT. NICKENS

MILDRED WILLIAMS

JAMES LAFAYETTE

MATTIE OLIVIA CUMBER

G. B. FOSTER

RUTH MEALY

These are "sons and daughters of the American Revolution," descendants of men who fought for our national independence. James Lafayette, spy to General Lafayette, was one of those who fought. Born a slave in New Kent County in 1760, he died a free man in 1832. Ruth L. Mealy of Irwin, Va., is a descendant of James Mealy of Goochland County, private soldier in the Continental Army, who fought with the regulars at Yorktown. Mildred Brown Williams of Petersburg, Va., is the great-great-granddaughter of Abram Brown of Charles City County and collateral descendant of Freeman and Isaac Brown of Charles City County, soldiers on many battlefields in the Revolution. Mattie Olivia Cumber of Richmond, Va., is a descendant of the 17th and 18th century free family of Cumbers of Charles City, James City, and New Kent Counties, four members of whom fought in the Revolutionary War. Sergeant Royal Nickens of Kilmarnock, Va., member of the Armed Forces in the present World War, is a descendant of the 11th century free family of Nickens of Lancaster and Northumberland Counties, nine members of whom fought in the Continental Army and State Navy for the cause of American independence. Joseph J. Roane of Templemans Cross Roads, Va., is a descendant through his grandmother to the 18th century free family of McCoys of Westmoreland County, two members of whom, James and Bennett, were private soldiers in the Revolutionary struggle. Geraldine Banks Foster, of Richmond, Va., is a descendant in the sixth generation of John Banks of Goochland County, cavalryman in the 1st Light Dragoons, and a collateral descendant of Jacob Banks, brother of John, private soldier and wagoner.

THE OLD 8TH

Courier - Pittsburg, Pa 2-19-44

Well-Trained Regiment Sacrificed on Altar Of Army Jim-Crowism

By HORACE R. CAYTON

THIS IS the story of the shame of a nation. This is the story of "Fascist-like" minds in high places. This is the story of the betrayal of a regiment and the knifing in the back of the hopes and aspirations of thirteen million black people. This is the story of a "sneak attack" on our institution of democracy. This is the story of the Old Eighth Illinois Regiment. This isn't a new story. You've read about it before. You know the facts. It's worth re-telling.

Mr. Cayton

The Old Eighth Regiment had a proud history as a fighting outfit. In the first world war it was known as the 370th. In spite of the opposition of many prejudiced white officers who refused to fight by the side of it, it won the battle honors three times and the regimental colors were decorated with the Croix de Guerre. It fought with the French and fought well and was proud and jealous of its reputation.

CERTIFIED FOR COMBAT DUTY 2-19-44

After the war the tradition of the Old Eighth was kept up and for 25 years a group of young fellows, and some who were rapidly becoming not so young, continued to drill and to practice and to perfect themselves in every way against the time when they might again have to protect their country. They had a tradition behind them; they had a reputation to live up to. This was no plantation army with soldiers dragging their gun in the dust. This was a proud, smart, snappy, alert outfit commanded by capable officers.

EARLY IN 1941 the outfit was inducted into active service and became the 184th Field Artillery. In November of 1942 the regiment passed all of its tests and was certified for combat duty by General Lear. Then followed some months of inactivity and finally the order came in January of 1943 that the regiment was to be divided into two battalions: the 930th and the 931st. Even after this division, training continued and both battalions passed the second army field firing test.

REDUCED MEN TO MENIAL TASKS

Now let's stop for a moment and sum up. Here is a group of well trained fellows with good backgrounds — no illiteracy here, no heavy concentration in a low psychological aptitude bracket—good clean boys with education. Here also is a regiment that has had a history as a fighting organization. At this point they had been well trained—over-trained. In fact they had been in training so long that something had to be done. So what did our War department do? 2-19-44

IN August of 1943 between 400 and 500 men from both the 930th and 931st battalions were transferred to service units—that means labor units. These were the men that had been in training for nearly two years as field artillery men. They were specialists and General Lear had passed them a year before. Now they were reduced to the ranks of common labor perhaps because the War department thought they might be able to fight and acquit themselves and their race with credit and fame. That's just one thing this man's army is not going to stand for now—letting Negroes have the glory of battle.

FOLLOWS WASTEFUL JIM CROW PATTERN

And the tattered remnants of the old 370th, the proud Eighth Regiment, the smart 184th Field Artillery is now under strength as to men and over strength as to officers, marking time until the high command may think up some other way to demoralize and humiliate it.

I COULD go on about the waste of time and equipment and of human resources. When we can't get building materials for people who haven't decent homes because the army is using them and then we see the army throw away a whole regiment of soldiers with all their training, it doesn't make much sense. But as wasteful as is the present reckless, almost criminal, expenditure of men and materials to maintain the jim crow pattern, it's nothing to the harm which is being done in building up the bitter hatred and defeatism in the minds of these thousands of young Negroes. 2-19-44

We, you and I, and the reactionary high command, and the men of good will, and all the others of us who go to make up this country, will have to suffer for the sins against the black youth of America we are now allowing to be perpetrated.

The Negro Soldier

Tribune - Washington, D.C.

The War Department is releasing a film, "The Negro Soldier," produced under the direction of Col. Frank Capra, Signal Corps, and written by a young Negro. 3-4-44

In 40 minutes the film purports to tell the story of the Negro's contribution to the various wars in which this country has been engaged, beginning with the battle of Bunker Hill on through our activity in the present world conflict.

The film was reviewed here in the War Department auditorium by a select group of Negroes, representing a cross-section of Negro life in Washington. It was proclaimed by some who reviewed it as "wonderful," and by others as "propaganda."

Inasmuch as we have a jim-crow Army, and live generally under jim-crow conditions, the film was an excellent portrayal of the Negro's contribution under segregated circumstances to a jim-crow America. Any other type of presentation would have been ficticious.

The picture naturally, to be factual, had to be jim-crow throughout. Its setting was in a jim-crow church in Harlem. Its narration was delivered by a dark-skinned Negro, clothed with the robe of a clergyman preaching a sermon to an all-Negro congregation. The musical scores were all spirituals, sung by an all-Negro choir. All of the participants in the film were Negroes.

The picture therefore should be a welcome document not only to theaters that cater to mixed audience, but to lily-white audiences of the South in particular. For in this film the South will see a historical document of segregation extended to the Armed Forces. 3-4-44

Inasmuch as the South has no objections to the Negro fighting in the war, if on a segregated basis, this film should be "must" on the list of every Southern theatre. For it will show that, although under the stigma of second-class Americanism, the Negro has distinguished himself in every major battle in which this country has been engaged, and but for that participation and valor, every war would have been lengthened at the expense of more white lives.

The film will show to the South the Negro "in his place," under the auspices of the Federal Government, which will permit the South to argue that if the Federal Government can foster and finance segregation based on race, even to the extent of filming it, the South has the same right.

We hope the day will come, if there must be wars, when the War Department will be able to film "The American Soldier," in which the Negro will be pictured fighting as an American side by side with other Americans, of whatever race, creed or hue.

This is not a Caucasian war; not a Negro war. It is an American war. Our soldiers are not white soldiers; not Negro soldiers, but American soldiers.

But under American traditions, even though we are fighting one war against a common enemy, we have the paradox of the soldiers being compelled to fight the battle from two camps—one for white and the other for black. They are drafted that way; fight that way; win that way; and filmed that way.

If the War Department's sister, the Navy, was to film "The Negro Sailor," we would find the film picturing all Negro sailors in the kitchen of our ships, peeling potatoes, frying eggs, and waiting tables around which are seated their white compatriots. It wouldn't show Dorie Miller shooting a gun at Pearl Harbor, for indeed, Miller was "out of his place." Because of pressure, however, he was promoted from a messman one class to a messman another class.

Unless it is for the purpose of letting the South know that the Federal Government is perpetuating and extending its system of segregation and jim-crowism, we can see no useful purpose to which "The Negro Soldier" can be put.

Jackson Journal+Guide — Washington, Lincoln And The Negro Soldier

Norfolk, Va. 3-4-44

THE month of February focuses attention on American's two greatest statesman — George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Each of these distinguished persons became entangled in the race question. Because of the very close relation and entanglement of the Negro race with Lincoln, Negro History Week is properly celebrated in the month of his birth.

DR. JACKSON

Washington served our country as commander-in-chief of the Continental army during the Revolutionary War; Abraham Lincoln served it as president during the Civil War. Serving in time of war and serving at a time when most Negroes were slaves, both of these statesmen were confronted with the question of arming the blacks at the beginning of these conflicts. In the attempt to settle this question both leaders adopted the same policy — each declared that the war he was directing was not a war to interfere with slavery, and therefore not a war to allow the colored man to enlist. In both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, Negroes were forever to remain in slavery and, like bond-slaves and the unfree classes the world over, they were not to bear arms.

SLAVES IN BOTH WARS FREE NEGROES

Falling under this ban with the slaves in both wars were the free Negroes. They too, because of their color, were not to fight. All told, then, on both occasions the war being waged was a white man's war.

But notwithstanding the claim that each of these wars was a white man's war, each finally became a war in which all men might fight. It was in recognition of the participation of the black man as a soldier that we celebrated Negro History Week this year with the Negro soldier as the main theme.

The celebrants drew their facts from history books which abound with reference to the participation of Negroes in the war for American independence and in the war to save the union. Bancroft, the noted historian, devotes space to the Negro soldier in the Revolution; and Woodson, of course, dwells at length on this soldier in all of our wars.

ENEMY MADE BID FOR NEGRO SUPPORT

Each of these wars became a struggle in which all men could join the army because of the force of circumstances. Not to allow Negroes to fight might lead to the losing of the war. Not to allow them to fight on the American side of the Revolutionary War, might lead to their fighting on the British side; and not to allow them to fight on the side of the union in the Civil War, might lead to their fighting on the side of the Confederacy. On both occasions the enemy was making a bid for Negro support.

The British generals were issuing proclamations of emancipation and invited them to come over and fight; the Confederate generals were not emancipating but they were using the blacks heavily as laborers and they finally invited them also to fight. In this desperate effort the Southerners were too late; for Lincoln, the Northerner, beat them to it by being the first to ask Negroes to enlist.

FOOTBALL BETWEEN TWO OPPOSING TEAMS 3-4-44

The Negro was thus a football between two opposing teams. In both games the final decision of "Captains" Washington and Lincoln was something like this: "It is better to have the blacks fighting with us than to have them fighting against us." Their final decision led to the Negroes enlisting in the latter half of each war game.

They were no longer to sit on the bench and beg to enter the contest; rather they were to enter and to help the American side in the Revolutionary War and the union side in the Civil War. In each case their aid was a factor in helping the winning side to reach its goal. Five thousand Negroes fought in the war of Washington; 178,000 fought in the war of Lincoln.

Each of these wars became a struggle in which all men could fight because each was a struggle for human freedom. They began as wars for "white" freedom only; they ended as wars for "black" freedom also. Washington and Lincoln were compelled to make them wars of freedom for all; for if they did not, the enemy might win the war. As an outgrowth of the talk of liberty during the Revolutionary War all slaves in the North were afterwards made free and a sprinkling of slaves in the South became free also.

FOUGHT FOR THEIR OWN FREEDOM 3-4-44

Advancing much further in the conception of freedom during the Civil War, Lincoln conferred it on practically all Negroes during the middle of this struggle and he combined his proclamation of emancipation in 1863 with an invitation to the freedmen to come over to his side and fight to the bitter end in 1865. In both wars, then, Negroes fought for their own freedom.

The Revolutionary War and the Civil War were blessed events in the history of the Negro because each event marked a milestone in his upward struggle for freedom. Washington and Lincoln were likewise blessed statesmen in the history of the Negro, for though they were blinded to begin with, they showed a high degree of wisdom by changing their policy to enrolling the Negro soldier who in turn fought for benefits to his race.

"The Negro Soldier" Movie

Amsterdam News — New York, N. Y.

Announcement has been made by the War Department that the official film. "The Negro Soldier" is ready for distribution to theatres, and that all persons who wish it shown in their cities should ask individual theatre managers to book the picture. 3-25-44

The film is regarded as the best screening on the Negro in American life that has ever been made and puts emphasis on the World War II. Already some difficulty has been encountered in trying to get the larger theatres to show the picture.

Two reasons are given for the trouble. The first is that the film shows the Negro in too favorable a light to impress theatres in the South on account of prejudice, and many theatres in the North and Middlewest are reluctant to show it for fear their audiences would not approve. The other reason is the fact that the film is not a full length picture and yet is too long for a regular news short. Up to now there has been stiff opposition to the plan to 'cut' the film by Major Frank Capra who made it, and Negro audiences that have seen it. 3-25-44

But because of its importance, both from a historical point of view as well as for morale-building reasons, it is the consensus of opinion among all groups that it should be given the widest possible showing. With this in mind an appeal is being made to the War Department to use its influence to have the film shown, meanwhile, citizens' committees should be formed to put pressure on stubborn exhibitors. It is just that imperative that the picture be shown.

White G. I.'s Like Film of Negro Soldiers

Amsterdam News, New York, N.Y. 3-25-44

If anyone is skeptical as to whether or not the documentary film, "The Negro Soldier" won't be accepted by white as well as Negro patrons, then we reprint excerpts from an Army camp newspaper, a camp where an all white audience of G. I.s witnessed the show.

"TRIBUTE: After more than two years in wriggling through red tape what he actually is, a dignified and four and one-half months in time production, the WD's "The Negro of war, an excellent soldier. Be- Soldier" emerges as worth all the fore this documentary was pro- time involved in getting it on film, duced too many citizens of this na- for it's the best portrayal of the tion were unaware of this—after colored race's participation in the they see it they can no longer re- building and maintenance of this main blind to the truth." democracy that has ever been made as a graphic footnote to our national history. The film will be shown to the armed forces and to civilians, too. 3-25-44

"It is worth everyone's attention.

47e-1944

The Negro Soldier (U.S. Army Signal Corps). This short moving picture has been two years in the making. The War Department authorized the film, but Lieut. Paul Vogel, the chief cameraman, had to do his job with old cameras which he pilfered (for the occasion) from Universal. During the shooting of one snowy sequence these tired machines froze up and he had to use an Eyemo 16 mm. 3-27-44

As anyone can see who knows or cares anything about the seriousness of the subject, the makers of the film have not included any of the dynamite implicit in a truly forthright treatment of the subject. There is no mention of segregation, of friction between Negro soldier and white soldiers and civilians. But Carlton Moss, a Negro who wrote the film's script, was overall adviser for the production and acted in it, assured white friends who were discouraged by its mildness that the picture would mean more to Negroes than most white men could imagine.

Sneak-previews for Negro soldiers proved that Mr. Moss was right. At first the men, who have learned to expect veiled contempt in most Hollywood handling of Negroes, froze into hostile silence. But after 20 minutes they were applauding. For just about the first time in screen history their race was presented with honest respect. Many wanted to know: "Are you going to show this to white people?" Asked why, they replied: "Because it will change their attitude." 3-27-44

The Negro Soldier opens in a Negro church with the sermon of a Negro preacher (Carlton Moss). From its first moment, it is arresting. For the preacher is no Uncle Tom. He does not talk minstrel-show dialect or advise his flock that, for those who bear their afflictions meekly, there will be watermelon by & by, or the Hall Johnson Choir in the sky. He talks sober, unrhetorical English, and before long he is reading aloud (from *Mein Kampf*) some of Hitler's opinions about those "born half-apes." While he reads, the camera moves among his listeners, quietly contradicting Hitler by the most powerful shots in the film—the intent faces of proud, enduring, mature human beings.

They continue to listen gravely while their minister tells them of the Negro's part in the making of America. The screen fills with historical paintings and with statuary, with bits from U.S. films which record the Negro's work in U.S. industry and warfare. They nod and smile when a mother interrupts to read a letter from her boy at camp. Then the screen fills with his Army story, from the day of his induction, and with images of Negroes at work in all branches of the service.

With deep feeling, the Negro congregation sings *Onward, Christian Soldiers.* In 46 minutes there has taken place on the screen (despite the bitter facts left out) a brave, important and hopeful event in the history of U.S. race relations.

They're Ganging Up on Texas

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y. 3-26-44

By Robert Minor

THE most important split in a convention of the Democratic Party of Texas was in 1859 when Sam Houston was denied the nomination for governor.

To make Texas a state in the Union had been the life's ambition of old Sam, father of the Texas revolution, victorious commander-in-chief of the Texas army, twice-elected President of the Republic of Texas after its separation from Mexico, and then senior Senator at Washington after Texas had become a state. He wanted to keep it so. He had fought the slave power on the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, and had been defeated for reelection as Senator.

When the slavery issue came to a crescendo in 1859 and the effort was made to have Texas secede from the Union and join the slave-state Confederacy, old Sam came back into politics like a tornado to fight against the proposed destruction of his lifetime dream. 5-26-44

To beat the old General, his past was raked up. Even thirty years after the old man's death, when I was a small boy, someone warned me not to boast of being related to Sam Houston because "that man" was a Negro-lover and had run away from home at 16 years of age to live with the Cherokee Indians and had grown up to young manhood as an Indian adopted as a member of the tribe; he had been what they called a "renegade" and a "squaw man."

The Democratic convention refused the nomination to the old father of Texas, and nominated a secessionist.

Houston Goes Out Alone And Beats the Machine

So Sam Houston went out by "the cars," as they called the new railroad, and by stage-coach and on horseback from town to town and ranch to ranch as an independent candidate for Governor of Texas on the platform of keeping Texas in the Union.

Texas is big—you could travel almost a thousand miles in a straight line and still be in Texas, and the old man of 66 years rode and talked—and beat the machine.

The majority voted to keep Texas in the Union and elected Gen. Sam Houston as governor to see that it was done. But a lot of candidates than ran for the State Senate and House as supporters of Houston who were in fact merely getting into office that way. And they ganged up against him as soon as they were in. They took Texas out of the Union.

In March 1861 Gov. Houston refused to swear allegiance to the slave-owner's Confederacy. He was deposed from the governorship and as the war broke out he went off alone to his last two years of life. My mother used to tell me that she, as a small child, remembered old Sam Houston riding up to her father's farm on the Arroyo Cibolo (Buffalo Creek) in Wilson County, wearing an Indian blanket around his shoulders as he always did, and alighting from his horse on to the old red sandstone horseblock in front of the farmhouse. She heard her father, who was a country doctor, Gray Jones Houston, discussing earnestly with Old Sam. 5-26-44

Who won? Texas is in the Union. That shows that Sam Houston won.

Texas Paid Price Once; She Must Not Again

Because Sam Houston didn't win immediately, life in Texas was thrown back by half a century. In the biggest war that had even been fought up to that time, the blood of her sons watered the fields not for the welfare of Texas, but for stagnation, economic decline and two generations of less abundant life, fewer schools and poorer ones, wasted resources, retardation of industry and all the other things that Texas didn't want.

Sam Houston died in 1863 twenty-two days after Vicksburg and Gettysburg had turned the scales of the war. So Texas stayed within the greatest country the world has ever known, and grew to be its most rapidly advancing state.

Anyone who was born in Texas and lived there must always love that tremendous land of prairies and mountains and swamps and cactus and horned toads and strong six foot men and good women.

And because Texas is and must remain all of this, Texas and Sam Houston's United States must win this war in 1944.

They are ganging up to split the state now. They are trying to help break up the national unity by breaking the unity of the biggest of its forty-eight states.

Texas Will Win This Fight Too

They will fail. Texas is becoming an industrial empire of great cities and towering buildings of steel and concrete and stone and solid red and yellow Texas brick. In winning the war we are building our Texas to be a land of more abundant life. Democracy is necessary for this. Whether you know it or not, I know that the whole vile Jimcrow system and the peonage and all the other reeking remnants of the greatest curse my Texas ever knew — slavery — are beginning to pass, and with accelerated speed they will pass inevitably and quickly and forever. 5-26-44

Because the penalty would be the loss of all the progress that we have made in the past eighty years but especially in these past five years in which the electric touch of modern industry has begun to make the beauty of this land shine brighter for all.

Fight it out, people of Texas! The whole world knows you are for the Commander-in-Chief and for the victory and for the powerful life that is symbolized when the sun rises over the prairies.

Before the fight is over more people than Martin Dies will rub their eyes and wonder that the Texas' people white, black, of Anglo-Saxon and Mexican blood, all, can be decent, intelligent, patriotic Americans, as good as any, if not better. Sam Houston's ghost, even now, they say, with that old Indian blanket around his shoulders, is riding at night around Fort Sam Houston, where I was born, peeking into the tents to inspect the thousands of the best and tallest and strongest and bravest young new Texas boys sleeping off the hard day's training for the war they are going to do more than their share to win.

Pic Traces Negro's Part In U. S. Wars

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa. 2-26-44

By HERMAN HILL

HOLLYWOOD—Press preview showings of "The Negro Soldier," film story of the participation of Negro Americans in the various wars engaged in by the United States, were held last Monday at 20th Century-Fox studio. An ultra favorable opinion-reaction by members of the fourth estate, indicated that the 45-minute picture might easily prove to be one of the most outstanding and factual characterizations of the Negro ever made in the flicker city.

It is the writer's candid observation that if—the film, which by the way is available to movie houses free, is properly distributed throughout the nation—it will be worth its weight in gold.

Our concept of "proper distribution" is not merely to Negro-attended community show houses, but in predominantly white-attended theatres as well. Granting that showings in race houses will be of tremendous morale value—the success or failure of the planned message will depend largely upon white patrons seeing the film.

A War Department presentation, made by the Special Coverage Section, United States Army Signal Corps, under the supervisiion of Col. Frank Capra, the picture was directed by Capt. Stuart Heisler formerly of Paramount studios. Chief characters are men and women of the armed forces of the United States. The heroes are Pvt. Robert Brooks, one of the first American soldiers to die in World War II; Capt. Colin Kelly, Sgt. Meyer Levin and Dorie Miller.

Supporting players include Sgt. Clyde Turner, Carlton Moss, William Broadus, Bertha Wolford, Lt. Norman Ford and Clarence Brooks. The choir is under the direction of Jester Hairston. Maj. Eddie Dunstedter conducts the Army Air Force orchestra.

DEEDS OF THE RACE TRACED 2-26-44

Tracing in a spine-tingling sequence manner, the picture brings to life Negro Minute Men at Lexington and Concord; Peter Salem, hero of Bunker Hill; Prince Whipple, at Valley Forge with General Washington; Negro sailors with Perry at Lake Erie; Negro troops with Andrew Jackson at New Orleans; the famous Massachusetts 54th regiment of volunteers in the Civil War; the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry, 24th and 24th Infantry at San Juan Hill; Negro troops in action in a basic training scene. The main part of the story deals with Negro soldiers in the present war, and presents them in all phases of the service. Battle-front scenes abroad are pictured. Smartly garbed WAC's parade. An actual follow-through of an inducted man's basic training proves most interesting.

MAKING NEW PAGES

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

479

2-5-44

The Wars Of America Have Brought Great Benefits To The Negro .....

Virginia Negroes In The Revolutionary War

Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va
2-19-44

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

VIRGINIA NEGROES, five hundred or more strong, fought in the American Revolution during the years 1776-1781, and the descendants of a portion of them still live in this State. Some of these descendants still live in the very counties where their free ancestors 170 years ago enlisted in the Continental Army and State Navy to fight the British and to establish the independence of America. Thus they are sons and daughters of the American Revolution, although they could hardly join these patriotic societies.

Among the families in Virginia today who descend as the "great-great" and "great-great-great" grandchildren of Revolutionary soldiers and seamen are the following: Beckets of Accomac County; Battles, Barretts, Bowles, and Goings of Albemarle; Browns, Harrises and Cumbers of Charles City; Lemons of Glouchester and Mathews; Banks, Cousins, Coopers, Howells, and Mealys of Goochland; Cumbers and Wallaces of James City; Nickens, Pinns, Woods, and Weavers of Northumberland and Lancaster; Lesters of Lunenburg; Chavises of Mecklenburg; Cuffees of Norfolk and Princess Anne and the Roanes of Westmoreland and its shores.

Participating thus in so many engagements they naturally fought under all the generals so noted in American history. They were under Washington, Greene, Lafayette, Baron Von Steuben and many others. Certain Negroes, especially Saul Mathews and James Lafayette, two distinguished spies, received the highest praise of these well known commanders.

From this war the Negro combatants received many benefits. Some of the slaves received their

FOUGHT IN ALL LEADING BATTLES

In company with Negroes from other states the Virginia soldiers fought all over the country in all of the leading battles of the time on land and on sea. They were at Valley Forge, Brandywine, Monmouth, Charleston, Savannah, Guilford Court House, Eutaw Springs, and finally at Yorktown. They enlisted in the various regiments of Virginia and they enrolled on fifteen or more of the vessels built by the State to defend

freedom and many of the free Negroes were granted pensions, granted land, and granted pay for their services.

WARS HAVE BENEFITTED THE NEGRO 2-19-44

The Revolution was a boon to the Negro in America for out of this struggle, with its emphasis on the rights of man and the equality of man, he was granted privileges previously unknown. A foothold in business enterprise, the liberty to preach, the privilege of establishing churches, the privilege to read and write, and the right to own and sell property, were among the advantages which came to Negroes because of the Revolution, and especially because of their participation in it.

Tribune, Savannah, Georgia
NEGRO SOLDIERS -
Those black doughboys who lie buried in the soil of France, those who still fight there and elsewhere on foreign soils, are carrying on the tradition as old as the history of their country. Crispus Attucks, Peter Salem, Salem Poore were among the first American patriots to fight with conspicuous bravery for their country. There is a long list of them in which are included the Negro heroes of the war of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish American War, World War I and to which will be added those of North Africa, Italy, France, India and the South Pacific. They have served and are serving in all branches of the armed forces; in the Navy, Air Corps, Anti-Aircraft, Field Artillery and Paratroops, fighting valiantly despite restrictions and frustrations which would dampen the ardor and courage and hopes of less loyal and earnest men. And in these wars the Negro soldier has had to endure segregation, discrimination and acclaim given grudgingly and sparingly lest he feel and display the pardonable pride a soldier should feel. Moreover, while he has fought and fights, the demagogues on the home front keep alive the tricks, extra-legal and illegal though they be, to prevent his enjoying the citizenship he is entitled to. Notorious contradictions and evil consciences cannot hope for a lasting peace.

47f-1944

F.D.R. CANCELS ARMY JIM-CROW

Guardian—Boston, Mass.

Mister Jim Crow was again tossed out on his ears when this week the President canceled War Department plans for segregated rest centers for colored veterans in New York and Chicago. 10-7-44

The original order called for redistribution and recreation centers in hotels at noted vacation sites and said that war-weary soldiers would be given two weeks rest at Government expense. Colored soldiers were thus to be assigned to Hotel Theresa in New York and Hotel Pershing in Chicago.

Upon announcement of the Jim Crow program more than a score of colored leaders wired a protest to the President against the segregation proposal and asked for an appointment to discuss the matter. Friday of last week the President received at the White House a delegation of three signers of the project, Mrs Mary McLeod Bethune, Walter White and Channing Tobias. He told them, according to report, that the first information he had about the War Department's plan to segregate wounded and battle-worn soldiers on the basis of color came in their telegram and that he had at once instructed the War Department to abandon the segregation program and establish centers in Northern states without restriction.

It is understood that colored and white soldiers will be admitted on an equal footing at such swank holsteries as Lake Placid Club, Lake Placid, N. Y. and at Santa Barbara, California and Atlantic City, N. J. Whatever the official arrangements may be, the three leaders who interviewed the President expressed themselves pleased and satisfied with the change. Walter White said it was one of the greatest victories over discrimniation in the Army. Boston, Mass.

10-7-44

THE HORIZON

By P. L. PRATTIS

Treatment of Casualties in Army Hospitals at Home Creates War Dept. Problem

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

5-20-44

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

ANOTHER Army problem emerges. It is going to require intelligent and sympathetic handling by the War Department and by officers in the field. It is a new type of problem, one that could scarcely have been foreseen, and yet one that might have been expected, the system (segregation) being what it is. The new problem involves the handling of Negro casualties. The problem of casualties is difficult from any angle you take it, Negro or white. The majority of the casualties, from home-front training centers and from the battlefront, are neuro-psychiatrics, commonly referred to as "N. P.'s". These are men who suffer from nervous disorders and cannot be traced to any organic source. There are thousands of these men, white and black, in the Army and Navy today and thousands are being returned to civilian life each month. They are "tough" cases, in and out of the Army. They require most sympathetic handling and, their emotional condition being what it is, even that kind of handling is not enough. And yet it is the responsibility of the armed forces and of civilians to do all they can to help restore these men to normalcy.

Mr. Prattis

FANCIED WRONGS

THE problem is complicated where Negroes are involved. Every slight, every neglect, every mistake, attributed to Army officers, doctors or nurses, is liable to be magnified by such a Negro casualty, as by a white, and to be interpreted, because of the discrimination he has suffered in training, in terms of prejudice. The white soldier may fancy wrongs where no wrong exists, but the Negro soldier, through no fault of his own, will be sure to feel that the fancied wrongs done him are because of his color. That is especially true where he is segregated from white soldiers in hospitals and he has no chance to see the same fancied wrongs visited upon the white soldiers.

Furthermore, there is more than a 50-50 chance that the Negro soldier is going to be right. Emotional break-downs are no respecters of person. They attack six-foot, 200-pounders with the same insidious confidence and competence that they attack the sickly-looking little runt. But it is difficult for the average person, even the average doctor or nurse, to accommodate himself or herself to the notion that an otherwise healthy person may have an unaccountable derangement of the nervous system. That is true, whether the patient is white and the observer is white, or the patient is black and the observer is black. The chances are that it is much more true if the patient is black and the observer is white. I am not sure how sympathetic I'd be if I saw a white guy who looked like Max Baer always folding up when the test came. And I am not confident that there are many white people, professional and non-professional, who have a feeling or a fear that when a Negro looks like Joe Louis and yet complains he can't carry through with the drill or detail schedule, he is dissembling. He may not be "putting on" any more than a similarly unbalanced white boy would be.

CHARACTER REFERENCES

THIS tendency on the part of whites in the Army is observable in the discharges the men are given. The white boys are given excellent and good character references. The colored boys are given fair and poor character references. Not in all cases, but the proportion seems to be out of balance. These character references seem to reflect a feeling that if the Negro boy had wanted to do the job, he could have, but he has contrived in ways that are strange to white folks to beat the system and to force the Army, reluctantly, to return him to civilian life.

But all the cases are not covered by these victims of nervous disorders. There are actual battle casualties, of men who have lost a limb, or an eye, or who have suffered burns. Their injuries and their presence in the hospital attest the fact that they had been called upon, placed in a position, to make the supreme sacrifice for their country. Whether black or white, they deserve the utmost consideration. The ethics of the medical and nursing professions decree that all who are sick should be given the utmost in service. But where these boys are concerned, there is even a stronger compulsion than the ethics of the profession. These injured boys have been placed in jeopardy that these doctors and nurses and others on the home front might live. The sacrifice of life or limb has been made, in part, for those who must care for them when they return. That is true even of the black boys. The black boy has given his limb as much for the white nurse or white doctor as he has for his own mother and father. It would seem, therefore, that the attitude of those who serve them should be almost contrite, rather than arrogant, bossy and indifferent.

PROBE NEEDED

IT seems wise to call the attention of the War Department to the growing seriousness of the problem involving colored casualties because the letters reaching Negro newspapers these days reflect the extent and the nature of the problem, one that might easily be overlooked by officials in Washington. It certainly would not be amiss for the Inspector General's Office to investigate and study it.

Hit Jim Crow in Soldiers' Hospital

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Elimination of discriminatory practices of the United States Soldiers' Home hospital in accommodations provided Negro Veterans of the regular Army, was requested in a letter by William H. Hastie to Major General Frederick W. Coleman, governor of the federal institution.

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

Under signature of the president, of the N.A.A.C.P., Mr. Hastie said, it is submitted that this practice is undemocratic and un-American in principle and contrary to the practice of the regular army which does not require segregation in its hospitals for soldiers.

10-20-44

"Moreover, with the attention of the nation now fixed on the tremendous problem of just and honorable provisions for the accommodation of veterans after this war, it is particularly important that the United States Soldiers' Home be in all ways a wholesome example of the most desirable administrative practices.

"It is respectfully urged that the existing situation be considered by the administration of the Soldiers' home and, if necessary, by the governing Board of Commissioners with the view of eliminating the segregation of Negro veterans in the Soldiers' Home Hospital."

47f-1944

ARMY HOTEL

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Under Jim-Crow Policy Takes Largest Negro Hotel And Causes More Suffering

By HORACE R. CAYTON

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

A SITUATION has resulted in the Army which is even more dangerous and vicious than the segregation and discrimination which it has previously practiced. Many of the boys are coming back from the front and need rest while they are convalescing. Although the Army maintains no jim-crowism in its hospitals in certain sections of the country, it is determined to house these Negro heroes in existing Negro communities regardless of how badly overcrowded the communities may be and what a hardship it might work on civilians and soldiers alike.

9-16-44

Mr. Cayton

Let me take one example to show you what I mean. Chicago's Negro community is one of the most overcrowded in the country. The population density, that is, the number of people per square mile, is 90,000 in the Negro community while in adjacent white communities on either side, it runs from 30,000 to 35,000. The community is hemmed in by restrictive covenants so that Negroes cannot move out and as the population of the area has increased since 1940 from about 275,000 to at least 350,000 and is still increasing at the rate of nearly 2,000 a month, housing conditions are intolerable. People coming to the city have slept in railroad stations, families of five or six are living in basement coal bins with no windows. During the past year a number of people have been burned to death because they were living in fire traps, as no other accommodations were available. Just recently three young babies were burned to death in a house that was so overcrowded that it was in violation of every city ordinance to protect the health and safety of the people. Every housing authority, the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations, every governmental official, is aware of the conditions and realize how serious they are. Most people expected a riot here this summer, and it was the consensus of opinion that the lack of housing facilities would be the principal cause.

9-16-44

ARMY TAKES OVER LARGEST HOTEL

Now let's look at the program of the Army. They apparently, or at least Major General Henry Aurand, commanding general of the Sixth Service Command, is determined to house Negro troops returning to the United States as convalescents or those on rotation leaves, in the Negro community. He therefore acquired the largest Negro hotel in the city for this purpose. Even though the Army realizes, as it does full well, the desperate overcrowding which endangers the health and demoralizes the community, it is willing to take away this amount of housing in order to maintain its jim-crow policy.

MY argument isn't that these soldiers shouldn't be given consideration. It is utter folly and rank and blind prejudice, however, to take away additional housing facilities from a community which everyone knows is in desperate need of housing.

PROBLEM SHOULD GO TO GENERAL MARSHALL

Here's what the Metropolitan Housing Council of Chicago stated, "When you have more than 300,000 people bottled up and forced to live in indescribably horrible, hazardous, and unhealthy quarters, piled up on top of one another, you have all the ingredients for an explosion. We cannot afford to ignore this festering sore any longer." But the Army now, in order to maintain its jim-crow policy even to returning war heroes, takes additional space from these people.

9-16-44

THIS is a problem which I refer directly to Truman Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War. Gibson should take this to General Marshall, for General Aurand's lack of social insight may be the last straw for the Negroes that are paying exhorbitant rents to live in coal bins without windows. The Army took over Chicago's largest downtown hotel and it can do it again. Certainly it can go to other sections of the city that are not suffering from overcrowding, and house our heroes whether they are white or black.

USS George Washington Carver Hotel Opens For Negro Seamen

Weekly — New Orleans, La.

7-8-44

Opening of the U. S. S. George Washington Carver Hotel, 837 Iberville Street, for American Negro seaman, was announced last week by Jack Kamaike, port area executive of the United Seamen's Service.

The building contains 27 rooms with accomodations for 60 to 80 guests per night and is completely staffed by Negroes. The first colored seamen was registered last Wednesday.

7-8-44

"This is a definite step forward in meeting the demand for seamen now [illegible] much needed to man [illegible] leaving the Port of New Orl[illegible] and other Gulf and Easter[illegible]s" Mr. Kamaike said. "Wit[illegible]ening of the U. S. S. C[illegible]ve, named in honor of the grea[illegible] Negro scientis[illegible], New Orleans now [illegible] a centrally located facility for housing these seamen convenient to the 'shipping out' offices of the war shipping administration, the shipping company offices and the various maritime union hiring halls."

The United Seamen's Service also operates the U. S. S. Carol Hotel, 3628 St. Charles Avenue and the U. S. S. Senator Hotel, 208 Dauphine Street, for white seamen.

[illegible] HOTEL [illegible] SEAMEN IN NEW O[illegible]N, LA.

NEW ORLEANS, La. (ANP).—After a long fight, the USS George Washington Carver Hotel was opened here for seamen with a colored staff.

Nipped in the Bud

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

The Army plan to take over the Theresa Hotel in New York and the Pershing Hotel in Chicago, for the purpose of establishing jim-crow redistribution centers for returning Negro soldiers was nipped in the bud by the President this week, much to the dismay of the War Department and the satisfaction of Negroes.

10-7-44

The plan now calls for integated centers in those States where segregation based on race is illegal.

Why the War Department, in the first place, would go into cities like New York and Chicago, where segregation is taboo, and seek to institute a pattern unknown in those communities, is one for the sages to answer.

Of course, as usual, this segregated plan had the blessing of those few Negroes who stood to benefit thereby.

The set-up at the Pershing Hotel was to be staffed from top to bottom by Negro officers, with Col. West Hamilton already designated as commanding officer.

Now the commanding officer of anything has power, and those in the Army know that Army "C.O." is tops. And so, we find Colonel Hamilton issuing laudatory phrases concerning the proposal.

Said the Negro Colonel:

"This is something entirely new in the history of the Army and will be the only station of this kind in the country with colored personnel to handle the entire complicated task of reassignment of Army personnel."

10-7-44

This week, the Army, on White House Orders, retracted their plans, and tenants who had been served with notices to vacate from these hotels were told to stay in. Negro officers who had been detailed to fly to training centers were sent by rail back where they came from.

10-7-44

The Secretary of War has a Negro aide on his staff. The Selective Service System has a Negro executive assistant. If the advice of either was sought we know the War Department was advised against its plan in its early stages. If that advice

We know that the colonel could not be expected to publicly criticize Army policy, but he is under no obligation to bless its policies when he know them to be in violation of the principles of democracy for which these soldiers are asked to give their lives.

Fortunately, Mrs. Crystal Brd Fauset to the contrary notwithstanding, we had three Negroes who were able to sit at the desk of President Roosevelt and acquaint him with the inside goings on in the War Department, and exact from him a promise to break it up.

Mr. Walter White, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and Dr. Channing Tobis are to be congratulated for taking this matter directly to the President for immediate action.

47f-1944

ARMY HOTEL

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Weekly — New Orleans, La.

7-8-44

Opening of the U. S. S. George Washington Carver Hotel, 837 Iberville Street, for American Negro seaman, was announced last week by Jack Kamaike, port area executive of the United Seamen's Service.

The building contains 27 rooms with accomodations for 60 to 80 guests per night and is completely staffed by Negroes. The first colored seamen was registered last Wednesday.

7-8-44

"This is a definite step forward in meeting the demand for seamen now [illegible] much needed to man [illegible] leaving the Port of New Orl[illegible] and other Gulf and Easter[illegible]s" Mr. Kamaike said. "Wit[illegible]ening of the U. S. S. C[illegible]ve, named in honor of the grea[illegible] Negro scientis[illegible], New Orleans now [illegible] a centrally located facility for housing these seamen convenient to the 'shipping out' offices of the war shipping administration, the shipping company offices and the various maritime union hiring halls."

The United Seamen's Service also operates the U. S. S. Carol Hotel, 3628 St. Charles Avenue and the U. S. S. Senator Hotel, 208 Dauphine Street, for white seamen.

HOTEL O[illegible] TO SEAMEN IN NEW O[illegible]

NEW ORLEANS, La. (ANP).—After a long fight, the USS George Washingon Carver Hotel was opened here for seamen with a colored staff.

Nipped in the Bud

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

The Army plan to take over the Theresa Hotel in New York and the Pershing Hotel in Chicago, for the purpose of establishing jim-crow redistribution centers for returning Negro soldiers was nipped in the bud by the President this week, much to the dismay of the War Department and the satisfaction of Negroes.

10-7-44

The plan now calls for integated centers in those States where segregation based on race is illegal.

Why the War Department, in the first place, would go into cities like New York and Chicago, where segregation is taboo, and seek to institute a pattern unknown in those communities, is one for the sages to answer.

Of course, as usual, this segregated plan had the blessing of those few Negroes who stood to benefit thereby.

The set-up at the Pershing Hotel was to be staffed from top to bottom by Negro officers, with Col. West Hamilton already designated as commanding officer.

Now the commanding officer of anything has power, and those in the Army know that Army "C.O." is tops. And so, we find Colonel Hamilton issuing laudatory phrases concerning the proposal.

Said the Negro Colonel:

"This is something entirely new in the history of the Army and will be the only station of this kind in the country with colored personnel to handle the entire complicated task of reassignment of Army personnel."

10-7-44

This week, the Army, on White House Orders, retracted their plans, and tenants who had been served with notices to vacate from these hotels were told to stay in. Negro officers who had been detailed to fly to training centers were sent by rail back where they came from.

10-7-44

The Secretary of War has a Negro aide on his staff. The Selective Service System has a Negro executive assistant. If the advice of either was sought we know the War Department was advised against its plan in its early stages. If that advice

We know that the colonel could not be expected to publicly criticize Army policy, but he is under no obligation to bless its policies when he know them to be in violation of the principles of democracy for which these soldiers are asked to give their lives.

Fortunately, Mrs. Crystal Brd Fauset to the contrary notwithstanding, we had three Negroes who were able to sit at the desk of President Roosevelt and acquaint him with the inside goings on in the War Department, and exact from him a promise to break it up.

Mr. Walter White, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and Dr. Channing Tobis are to be congratulated for taking this matter directly to the President for immediate action.

had been followed, all of this unfavorable publicity, which the Hitler crew enjoys, could have been avoided.

Why have Negro officials in these departments if their advice is not to be followed? The War Department knows by now that whether or not it backs up these advisors, Negroes will. And during this election year, according to the testimony of Frank R. Kent, the columnist, the barking of Negroes carries more weight than the whites in all of the Southern States combined.

Army Abandoning Jim Crow In Redistribution Centers

Tribune — Washington, D.C.
10-7-44

By HARRY McALPIN

President Roosevelt told a delegation of Negroes on Friday that the Army had considerably abandoned its segregation proposal in the establishment of redistribution centers for overseas veterans returned under its rotation system.

While refusing to reveal details of the plan, all three of the persons—Walter White, Channing Tobias, and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune—said they were pleased with the change.

This jimcrow program originally planned by the Army, which included taking over the Hotel Pershing in Chicago and the Hotel Theresa in New York City as Negro centers, were protested by Negro organizations and citizens in both cities.

Several of these protests were directed to the President. Both White and Tobias were among the twenty six New Yorkers who wired protests to President.

The proposed seizure of the Hotel Theresa was exposed first by the NNPA.

10-7-44

It was under pressure from the White House, the NNPA has learned, that the Army revised its plan for the jimcrow centers. Announcement of the revision has been expected for several days from the War Department, but at the end of the week had not been made.

The new plan, however, is reliably reported to provide for complete integration, by assignment, in the centers at Lake Placid, N.Y., and at Atlantic City. The latter place recently has been added to the five resort centers where forty nine hotels already had been selected by the Army.

10-7-44

None to Go to Dixie

In New York City, the center will be integrated on a volunteer basis. Returned overseas veterans, white and colored, may express a prefence for New York. They will be housed indiscriminately in the same hotels.

A new center, not yet selected, will be opened on the West Coast.

In view of the social and recreational pattern of the program and the necessary community contacts and cooperation outside the hotels to make the program a success, no Negroes will be assigned to centers in the South. Otherwise, and except for volunteer requests to be sent to New York City, the men will be assigned to centers nearest their homes.

10-7-44

While no announcement has been made, it is believed the Army will abandon both the Pershing and the Theresa hotel sites in Chicago and New York City, respectively.

In Chicago, where steps have been taken toward the actual physical seizure of the Pershing and occupants notified to be out by October 1, the Army is known to have sent a representative to study the community reaction and to learn whether abandonment of the project is advisable.

The Chicago Sun, daily newspaper, has denounced the seizure of the Pershing, and the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations in Chicago has recommended the hotel be left to fill a critical civilian housing need.

10-7-44

Somervell Objects

This reversal of position has come only after the Army, through Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somervell, chief of the Army Service Forces, and his staff, put up a stiff and bitter figght for a week to retain a segregated arrangement. The fight continued even after the Army was told by the White House to work out its own new plan, but only within a very definite framework which would provide for integration.

The first sign of weakening on its jimcrow plan came when the Army was informed of the results of an "off the record" meeting called by General Terry, commanding officer of the Second Service Command, with a group of outstanding citizens in New York City. These citizens protested against the jimcrow policy outlined by the Army, against the taking of the Theresa which helps meet a stringent housing problem in Harlem, and against the use of a second-rate hotel for Negroes while white soldiers would be brought back to luxury-type hotels located in resort centers.

10-7-44

Following Gen. Terry's report to the War Department, all further Army action was held in abeyance as affected the Theresa, though the decision to take it over definitely had been made and Terry's meeting presumably was for the purpose of giving out this information.

10-7-44

The redistribution centers are being set up to provide a means of relaxation for battle-weary soldiers, lifted out of the hell of war overseas. Efforts are made to get the men in a mood to re-turn to combat. ..They are given the best of food, provided dental and medical care, and undergo a series of psychiatric interviews to determine their best classifi-cation for them in the Army. But, mainly, they are encouraged to forget all about war for about two weeks and have a "helluva gogod time."

10-7-44

Other than the Theresa and the Pershing hotels, which the Army had planned to take over for Negroes, it had already taken 49 hotels in the resort centers at Miami Beach, Fla., Ashville, N. C., Hot Springs, Ark., Lake Placid, N. Y., and Santa Barbara, Cal. To these have been added proposed centers in Atlantic City, N. J.

BIAS IN ARMY PROTESTED

Times — New York, N.Y.

Negro Council Urges President to Bar Any Discrimination

9-19-44

The National Negro Council in a telegram signed by Edgar G. Brown, director, urged President Roosevelt yesterday in his capacity of Commander in Chief to stop segregation of and discrimination against returning Negro veterans.

The telegram asked the President to countermand the order of the War Department barring Negro soldiers from fifty-six Army rest centers in Miami, Hot Springs and other resorts. It also declared the Council's opposition to the establishment of "Jim Crow" quarters for Negro veterans in Negro sections of Chicago, Harlem or at Howard University in Washington.

"We believe such action by the War Department grossly unfair and discriminatory and negates the very principle of democracy for which these men have fought," the telegram read.

NAACP HITS JIM CROW IN U. S. SOLDIERS' HOME HOSPITAL

Evening Star — Washington, D.C.
10-19-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Elimination of discriminatory practices of the United States Soldiers' Home hospital in accommodations provided Negro veterans of the regular army, was requested in a letter by William H. Hastie to Major General Fredrick W. Coleman, governor of the federal institution.

Under signature of president, of the the D. C. NAACP, Mr. Hastie said, "It is submitted that this practice is undemocratic and un-American in principle and contrary to the practice of the regular army that does not require segregation in its hospitals for soldiers. Moreover, with the attention of the nation now fixed on the tremendous problem of just and honorable provisions for the accommodation of veterans after this war, it is particularly important that the United States Soldiers' Home be in all ways a wholesome example of the most desirable administrative practices.

10-19-44

"It is respectfully urged that the existing situation be considered by the administration of the Solders' Home and, if necessary, by the governing board of commissioners with the view of eliminating segregation of Negro veterans in the Soldiers' Home hospital."

J.C. Wash Rooms in Army Hospital

Afro American 7-15-44
Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE — That separate rest rooms are provided for colored and white women employees at the Valley Forge General Hospital at Phoenixville, Pa., was admitted this week by an Army public relations officer.

Replying to an AFRO query, Col. James Wharton, of the Third Service Command public relations office here, said:

7-15-44

May Use Same Rooms

Due to the great number of employees in the dietetic department of this installation, there are separate rest rooms provided. Male colored and white persons use the same facilities.

"There are two rest rooms for female colored and white employees who have mutually agreed to utilize separate rest rooms. There has been no discord, discussion, or argument."

Colonel Wharton also admitted that there are no colored persons employed in an administrative capacity at the hospital, but said that if any should qualify for such

3,126 Admitted to Tuskegee Hospital

Atlanta Daily World — 11-1-44

ATLANTA — A total of 3,125 patients were admitted to the Veterans Administration Facility at Tuskegee, Ala., during the fiscal year ending June 30, Col. Eugene H. Dibble, manager of the facility, told the Service School for Officers here Wednesday.

During the same period, 2591 officials, clerical employees and custodial workers were discharged either directly, upon completion of examination and observation, transferred to other facilities on trial visits, deaths or while on leave of absence.

The station staff is composed of 844 employees, he said, including 27 physicians, 2 dentists, 77 attendants, nurses, 266 hospital attendants, 90 dietary employees, the remainder consisting of administrative

47f-1944

TRAINING INJURED WAR VETERANS

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

3-25-44

3-25-44

At Northington General hospital, Tuscaloosa, Ala., this type of recreation is one among many factors making up the reconditioning program of the hospital which refits the patients, most of them from overseas combat zones, to resume their military duties or return to civilian life. Shown left to right, are: Pfc. Johnnie Malone of Port Gibson, Miss.; Pvt. Moses Whitley, Baltimore, Md.; Pfc. Albert Grigsby, Jefferson, Texas; Pfc. George W. Williams, of Springfield, Ga.; Pfc. Elbert Doss of Birmingham, Ala., and Pvt. Harvey Wesson Jr., Memphis, Tenn.

Federal Housing Project Open To In-Migrant Workers

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.
5-6-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Accommodations in the Federal Public Housing Authority's war housing project, Millside, in Wilmington, Del., reserved for Negro war workers and their families in Wilmington, have been made available to in-migrant war workers in nearby Elkton war plants, it was announced by Oliver C. Winston, director of Region III of the Federal Public Housing Authority.

The release of such existing housing accommodations makes immediately available adequate ... for in-migrant Negro wa... workers in Elkton, who have been forced to live in crowded and insanitary facilities, some of which are located at considerable distance from their places of employment. At the same time, adequate transportation services are available between Wilmington and Elkton to assure these workers of convenient low-cost transportation between home and job.

5-6-44

The completion of large war contracts in the Wilmington locality has precluded any possible use of such reserved war housing accommodations by its local industries. Accordingly the administrator of the National Housing Agency has terminated an assignment to Mr. Winston for the construction of two projects for a total of 100 permanent-type family units for Negro families in Elkton.

The Millside project is operated for FPHA by the Wilmington Housing Authority.

ARMY TO DROP JIM CROW IN VETS CENTERS

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
10-14-44

Pershing, Theresa Hotels Abandoned Under New War Dept. Plan

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The War Department officially announced this week its abandonment of the Army proposal to set up Jim Crow redistribution centers for returned Negro veterans in the Theresa hotel in New York and the Pershing hotel in Chicago.

Direct intervention from President Roosevelt brought the revision in policy.

Although there was no specific mention of the two big Negro hotels, the announcement stated: "In order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing northern redistribution centers."

The official announcement says: "The War Department announced today that its program of processing soldiers in Redistribution Centers on their return to the United States from combat areas overseas will be altered and expanded through the utilization of existing Army camps. 10-14-44

"The expansion is necessitated by a growing volume of soldiers sent back home by the Army's Air, Ground and Service Forces. At present, hotel facilities are being utilized in the Redistribution Program, where the returning veterans are housed while resting and being processed, re-oriented, reclassified and reassigned. These hotel facilities, however, are taxed to capacity, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find additional hotels which would be suitable quarters for the establishment of Redistribution Centers."

On the matter of the previous jim-crow plan, the announcement declares: "ending the establishment of the camp type Redistribution Centers, and in order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing northern Redistribution Centers. Thereafter, all returning soldiers, white and Negro, certified by a medical officer as being most in need of this type of accommodation, will be housed in hotels retained for convalescents in the same manner in which they are at present being cared for in the hospitals or convalescent centers." 10-14-44

Assurance has been given by Assistant Secretary of War McCloy that Negro medical officers will be included in the program for determining whether Negro soldiers should be "certified" as being "most in need of" the hotel type of accommodation. 10-14-44

As for the Army camp phase of the Redistribution Center program proposed for the future, the Army says: "Under the new Redistribution Program, certain of those Army camps which are better situated and more attractive will be selected for use as Redistribution Centers. Many such camps are becoming available through the movement of troops overseas."

Says Democracy Is a Fact in New Veterans' Hospital

AFRO-AMERICAN
Baltimore Md.

By VERNA ARVEY

(For Calvin's News Service)

From the lips of nurse's aides and Red Cross workers in the Birmingham General Hospital in Van Nuys, Calif., has come a heartening tale of the excellent race relations that exist in this newest hospital for overseas casualties, the fifty-seventh of its kind in the United States. 12-2-44

And it is, fortunately, all true, for I visited the installation and saw that the colored patients were everywhere completely integrated into the life of the hospital and that many of them had formed firm friendships with the white patients.

All of them were so lacking in self-consciousness about the whole matter that it wasn't even necessary to ask questions about it. They all regarded themselves and each other as Americans who had done a good job for their country. The hospital is entirely unconcerned about racial matters. When the returned servicemen arrive, they are classified by wards, according to the nature of their ailments, not according to their racial origins. As a result, practically every section of the hospital has men of several racial origins living together cheerfully and with no friction whatsoever.

At one time, the neuro-surgical ward contained white, colored, Mexican and American-born Japanese patients. In the officers' ward at the present time there are two colored and one Filipino officers along with the others. In this ward, just now, there happens to be a white officer who commanded colored troops in Africa. He had nothing but the highest of praise and admiration for their out-

Says Democracy a Fact at veterans' hospital
By VERNA ARVEY for Calvin's News Service
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At one time, the neuro-surgical ward contained white, colored, Mexican and American-born Japanese patients. In the

white Southerner who is a staunch Democrat. Arguments? They argue all day long. But never over racial matters—always over politics!
That seems to be the majority opinion in the Birmingham Hospital, for it is like a big country club, equipped with two theatres, telegraph station, library, and many other fine features. It covers 150 acres has 100 buildings and is so large that one can walk for eight miles through the corridors without re-tracing one's steps.
The commanding officer, Col. Irvin C. Miller of the Medical corps, a man of vision and courage, was in command at the Tripler General Hospital, Pearl Harbor, at the outbreak of war. For his outstanding work in saving the lives of many wounded, he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

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The hospital is entirely unconcerned about racial matters. When the returned service men arrive they are classified by wards, according to the nature of their ailments, not according to their racial origins.
Colored GOP, White Democrat
In one ward there is a colored Republican in a bed next to a

standing work in the war.

During the past several weeks there has been a lot of fun in the orthopaedic ward. One white bed patient had a guitar, another a banjo. A colored patient nearby managed to find a hollow box, two sticks and two lemons. He fastened the lemons on the ends of the sticks and found he had a mighty effective drum. So he sang and drummed while the others played their instruments, and a new jazz band was born.

The Birmingham Hospital is like a big country club, equipped with two theaters, telegraph station, library, attractive mess halls and many other fine features. It covers 150 acres, has 100 buildings and is so large that one can walk for 8 miles through the corridors without re-tracing steps or going out in the open.

Ft. Huachuca Hospital

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

One Of Nation's Finest

5-20-44

By LANGSTON HUGHES

Fort Huachuca on the Arizona-Mexican border contains America's largest encampment of colored troops. It contains the world's largest Negro hospital, military or civilian. This hospital, Station Hospital No. 1, is headed and entirely staffed by Negroes.

Col. M. O. Bousfield, formerly with the Julius Rosenwald Fund in Chicago, is its Commanding Officer. Under Col. Bousfield are some of America's most distinguished men of medicine, colored or white. The eminent colored physicians heading Station Hospital No. 1's various departments are all outstanding specialists in their fields.

Lt. Col. Roscoe C. Giles, formerly of Provident hospital in Chicago, head of the Surgical Department, is one of our country's great surgeons. Lt. Col. Harold W. Thatcher, head of Medical Service, is a distinguished young physician, for a number of years associated with Dr. Lawless, famous dermatologist of Chicago.

The hospital's executive officer is Lt. Col. DeHaven Hinkson of Philadelphia. (His home and family were recently pictured in color photos in the Ladies Home Journal.)

Have Excellent Staff

Others on the excellent staff which Col. Bousfield has assembled include Maj. Phillip T. Johnson, chief of the Orthopedic Service, formerly at Howard; Maj. Raphael Hernandez, head of the Neuropsychiatric Section, formerly professor at Meharry Medical school; Maj. William E. Allen, head of X-Ray, former chief of X-Ray at Phillips in St. Louis; Capt. J. Owen Blache of St. Louis, chief pathologist; Capt. William A. Weathers, head of the Genito-Urinary Section; Capt. Ronald N. Jefferson, chief of Contagious Diseases; and chief nurse, Lt. Mary L. Petty.

5-20-44

The Dental Unit of the hospital is headed by Maj. Ralph Teabeau with six dentists in the outfit. The hospital also has a Red Cross Unit headed by Miss Thelma T. Hawes with a staff of 13, and nine volunteer Grey Ladies from the civilian community of army wives on the Post. The many dining halls of the hospital and the ward diets are supervised by the chief dietitian, Delma F. Thompson.

Station Hospital No. 1, serving the Negro soldiers of Fort Huachuca, is an enormous installation covering several acres. Its various units are connected by miles of corridors. Some of the straight corridors are well over a half mile in length.

A stranger visiting the hospital cannot get about without a guide. Unlike several other army hospitals I have visited, all the connecting corridors of this Huachuca hospital are covered, protected against the desert sun, wind, and sand.

Barracks For Personnel

Besides the customary wards, there are barracks for the medical personnel, the nurses, the orderlies, and the various workers. There are also within the confines of the hospital, PX shops, a barber shop, a beauty shop, and a cafe and soda fountain. There are recreation halls, gyms, movies, and a library, also outdoor fields for exercise and baseball.

5-20-44

The size and extent of the hospital area are breath-taking. It contains 944 beds for patients, and is the only army post hospital entirely managed and staffed by Negroes in America.

The hospital also has a number of special training schools and classes. It has a Medical Officer Replacement Pool, sometimes containing as many as a hundred men, from which Medical, Dental, and Administrative Officers are sent to other camp establishments.

The 9th Service Command school for the training of WACs as medical and surgical technicians is also located here. Its graduates are sent all over the country. There is, too, a WAC school for Physical Therapy Aides, and a similar school for civilians enrolled through Civil Service.

The physical therapy department of the hospital under Maj. Johnson interested me greatly. I spent a good part of an afternoon there learning how soldiers who have been ill for periods of three weeks to perhaps many months, are brought back to physical health during convalescence, and their morale and confidence stimulated.

5-20-44

Those whose arms or legs have been useless, are taught to use them again. All sorts of wheels, pulleys, and other apparatus for exercising the various extremities from a single finger or ankle to a whole arm or leg, lined the walls of one of the rooms shown me.

There are two gymnasiums. One is equipped with treadmills, bikes, rowing machines, weights, bars for reconditioning. The other has punching bags, mats for tumbling, and apparatus for more advanced exercising. There are three physical culture experts in charge, one who, formerly conditioned Hollywood stars — for all sorts of talents are now found among the enlisted men in the army.

Before a soldier is released to duty, so Maj. Johnson told me, he must pass a rigid hospital health test, and the results are carefully noted down on his chart. He must run a hundred yards, chin himself a given number of times, also push up from the floor.

5-20-44

He is tried at the standing and the running broad jump. And physicians or hospital attendants accompany him on mild hikes, gradually extended to five, then ten, then fifteen miles. When the convalescent soldier is released by the Physiotherapy Department of Station Hospital No. 1 he is ready for release from the hospital entirely and fully capable of performing his tasks with his military outfit again in the line of duty.

Aided By Red Cross

Maj. Johnson's staff is aided in their re-conditioning program by the Red Cross and their Gray Ladies who teach bed exercises if the patient is still abed, or who engage him in mild games, dancing, or light athletics if he is ambulatory.

They also carry on programs of education and reading, or the development of a patient's hobbies. If illiterates are convalescing, a portion of their time is given over to learning to read and write under the patient guidance of the ladies of the Red Cross, or other instructors provided by the Physiotherapy Department.

5-20-44

Maj. Johnson took me down a long corridor whose doors opened into a series of rooms equipped with the most modern scientific electro-therapy, hydro-therapy, and thermo-therapy apparatus. In these rooms patients receive violet-ray and massage treatments such as can only be found in the most expensive of civilian hospitals or nursing homes. I saw also the equipment for baking, sweat baths and hot quartz treatments, all of the most modern design.

Later in the afternoon, Dr. Giles — Lt. Col. Giles — showed me through Surgery, a section of the hospital austere in its simplicity, roomy, and spotlessly clean. He showed me shelves of instruments laid in long rows, sterilized, shining, ready for the operating room. I saw immaculate closets of gauzes and bandages. I was deeply impressed with the quiet and the antiseptic cleanliness of the surgical rooms, and the brisk efficiency of the attendants and nurses.

5-20-44

Lt. Col. Giles is a Diplomat of the American Board of Surgery. He has working with him an expert staff of surgeons. Frequently there are four or more major operations a day. Since Fort Huachuca is an isolated post, maternity cases of the wives of officers or enlisted men are also accepted.

I was told of a little new-born baby who had just arrived, prematurely, weighing only five pounds and being fed with a medicine dropper, but who was thriving and doing well.

"Its little feet are so cute and so cold," one of the nurses said, "that I am going to knit it some little boots."

5-20-44

Finds Friendliness

I found a warmth and friendliness among the personnel of Station Hospital No. 1 that was more than professional. I dined with a table of younger medical men, a jovial crew. I lunched with the nurses, a wholesome, happy looking group of women from all over the country.

I made a couple of records with convalescent patients in one of the recreation halls, and listened to one of their own recordings of barber shop chords. I read some of my humorous poems to a group of convalescents under Physiotherapy who laughed out loud every time I mentioned Georgia or Mississippi. I had dinner another day at Col. Bousfield's table and talked at a genial meal with some of the top staff members.

Col. Bousfield, who heads the management of this enormous hospital, is a tall distinguished-looking man, ruddy faced, with a small goatee. His eyes sparkle behind his glasses. He has a sense of humor. But he has also a sense of the great responsibilities of Negro officers and men in the armed forces of America. He believes in his job.

5-20-44

Many White Officers

And he believes in the potentialities for achievement, further training and experience for his large staff, and for the mutual education of both the Negro and white military men in their contacts on the Huachuca Post where there are many Southern white officers who have never known before colored men of the calibre of those on the staff of Station Hospital No. 1.

Like the vast extent of Tuskegee Institute when seen for the first time, like the bigness of Niagara Falls first seen, Fort Huachuca's Station Hospital No. 1, spreading over acres of Arizona desert in miles of pavilions and corridors, peopled with distinguished and efficient doctors, neat and competent nurses, white-coated orderlies, grey-uniformed Red Cross ladies, patients abed or afoot in their red robes, this hospital is impressive in a way no visitor can ever forget. It's a proud achievement for the U. S. Army and for America.

Says Democracy Is a Fact in New Veterans' Hospital

American — Baltimore, Md.

5-13-44

By VERNA ARVEY

(For Calvin's News Service)

From the lips of nurse's aides and Red Cross workers in the Birmingham General Hospital in Van Nuys, Calif., has come a heartening tale of the excellent race relations that exist in this newest hospital for overseas casualties, the fifty-seventh of its kind in the United States.

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5-13-44

The commanding officer, Col. Arvin C. Miller of the Medical Corps, a man of vision and courage, was in command of the General Hospital at the Tripler General Hospital, Pearl Harbor, at the outbreak of war. For his outstanding work in saving the lives of many wounded, he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

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In one ward there is a colored Democrat. Arguments? They are in a bed next to a Republican in a bed next to a student. They argue all day long. But never over

47f-1944

Negroes fight homes for war workers

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.

CHICAGO—Despite a hearing set in federal court for September 12, work has begun last week on a governmental housing project for Negro war workers in the exclusive West Chesterfield community of well-to-do Negro home owners.

The most unique case on record, erection of the 250 houses for Chicago war workers has been fought for several months by a West Chesterfield Citizen committee, headed by a Dr. J. E. Walker, Southside dentist. Charging that federal and city housing officials, by erection of the project, would ruin the finest Negro residential development in the United States", a petition in behalf of 7 property owners for vacating of an order condemning lots in the area, has been filed. 8-28-44

The West Chesterfield community located between 91st and 95th streets and State Street and South Parkway, now contains 71 homes, erected in the last five years and ranging in cost from $6,000 to $14,000. The Chicago housing authority claims the war workers' homes will average $6,000 and would compare favorably with the average of the Chesterfield homes. However, property owners in the sector claim that under the Lanham Act, the average cost of homes, federally financed, is now limited to $3,000.

The property owners admit that new homes for Negroes are needed but contend a 400-acre area, south of 95th street and West of South Parkway, is available where as many as 5,000 dwelling can be erected without detriment to property values.

To House Overseas Veterans

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

But Citizens See Inequality In Facilities

9-22-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — In actions led by O. T. Shelton, head of the new tenants' organization, telegrams of protest were sent to the secretary of war, Gen. Aurand, 6th Corps area, Mayor Edward J. Kelly, the NAACP and Sens. G. Wayland Brooks and Scott W. Lucas. The resolution said, among other things:

"It is rank discrimination in view of the fact that the army now has the Congress, Auditorium, and numerous other hotels available where no housing shortage exists; and having just returned the Stevens hotel back to the civilian channels at a great loss to the taxpayers, that they would take the Pershing hotel, which is obviously inadequate, we repeat is rank discrimination.

A Dangerous Precedent

"The assemblage feels that you are now establishing a dangerous precedent, contrary to the ideals for which men, white and black, are yet fighting and that this action in which evidently you concur would dissipate the ideals for which they are offering their lives." The message was signed by O. T. Shelton, chairman and C. P. Reed, counsellor.

The Pershing hotel is one of many hotels that will be seized by the army for a re-distribution center for overseas veterans. Negro soldiers in the Chicagoland area will be sent to a reception center at Fort Sheridan, then will be given a 21-day furlough, which will be followed by assignment to a re-distribution center where they will live in comfortable surroundings until re-assigned to army duties. 9-23-44

The decision to use the Pershing hotel is the result of a conference between high ranking army officials and explained by Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the secretary of war to local newspapermen recently.

While white soldiers might be housed comfortably in the beachside hotels of Miami, it was brought out that current race practices would greatly imperil the happiness of Negro soldiers and their wives. The decision to bring Negro soldiers to Chicago, where there are less race tension and prohibitions, was reached and agreed upon.

A 500-room modern hotel, the Pershing is located in the heart of Chicago's better colored residential district. Plans have been completed for transforming the hotel into a sort of glamor resort by enlarging the dining room, refurnishing its ballroom and employing a full hotel staff to make it possible for the returning vets and their wives to frolic in a highly sophisticated atmosphere, it was learned.

The Theresa is the second Negro hotel to be taken over for this purpose. The week before, the Pershing Hotel in Chicago was taken.

The loss of the Theresa for civilian use will be a severe blow to Harlem's housing problem for both in and out-of-towners. The hotel was constantly filled to the rafters, and reservations were more difficult to obtain there than at the McAlpin, the Pennsylvania, the New Yorker, the Commodore, the Edison, and many other of the "downtown" hotels. 9-22-44

A Jim Crow Feature

The principal grudge of Negroes is not that the hostelries are being taken over for the benefit of soldiers who have been undergoing the hell of war. They see a great injustice, however, in the Army taking accommodations in the heart of Negro belts, where housing conditions already are acute, whereas for the whites the Army is taking over the luxury accommodations at resort centers, which in no way affects the day-to-day living of the white civilian.

"Negroes", said one leader, "are not unwilling to make any sacrifice in the interest of the war and for the benefit of their soldiers. But in a democracy, one expects the sacrifices to be somewhat evenly distributed."

The jim-crow feature of the centers for Negroes is being severely criticized, also. No such segregation is practiced in the redistribution centers set up by the Army Air Forces.

Pershing Tenants Protest

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — A newly organized Pershing Tenants league, composed of tenants of the Pershing hotel, struck back at the army last week when they adopted a resolution in protest to the war department's seizure of the hotel for the housing of Negro soldiers. 9-22-44

Leaders Protest Army Move To Lease Theresa

People's Voice — New York, N. Y.

9-23-44

Reports that the Army plans to take over Theresa Hotel as a post-war demobilization center for returning Negro oversea veterans drew "most vigorous protest" this week from twenty-six Negro leaders of Harlem who called upon President Roosevelt to block the plan. The threat to Theresa Hotel in already overcrowded Harlem was revealed following last week's announcement that the Army has already acquired Pershing Hotel, on Southside Chicago, for one of the proposed two jimcro demobilization centers. Mr. Walter Scott, Manager of Theresa Hotel, refused to confirm or deny reports of the Army plan. It was learned from reliable sources, however, that Army engineers have already been assigned to survey the building. 9-23-44

A telegram sent to President Roosevelt by the protesting Harlem leaders pointed out that "white soldiers brought back from overseas for recreation and relief from battle strain are to be given approximately two weeks each at . . . luxurious hotels and resorts," but that "Negro soldiers are required to go to Theresa Hotel in New York's Harlem, and Pershing Hotel in Chicago's Southside," a joint telegram sent to President Roosevelt this Monday urged him "most vigorously to instruct the War Department to abandon its plans to set up segregated institutions for returning Negro soldiers."

The telegram to President Roosevelt was signed by the following:

A. A. Austin, Commissioner Samuel Battle, Judge Jane Bolin, Herbert Bruce, Harold Burton, Lt. Lewis Chisholm, George Cohron, Henry Craft and Charles A. Collier, Jr. 9-23-44

Additional signers include Frank Crosswaith, Judge Hubert T. Delaney, Fred Dickens, Rev. S. T. Eldridge, Alphonse Heningburg, Edward S. Lewis, Louise McDonald, Fronk Montero, Rev. A. C. Powell, Jr., Mrs. Ruth Logan Roberts, Cecilia C. Saunders, George S. Schuyler, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Ludlow Werner, Walter White, Doxey A. Wilkerson and Dr. Louis T. Wright.

Expect Pershing And Theresa To Stay In Private Hands

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

10-7-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) —President Roosevelt told a delegation of Negro leaders Friday that the Army had abandoned its segregation proposal in redistribution centers for returned overseas veterans.

While refusing to reveal details of the plan, all three leaders—Walter White, Channing Tobias, and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune—said they were pleased with the change.

The jim crow program originally planned by the army, which included taking over the Hotel Pershing in Chicago and the Hotel Theresa in New York City as Negro centers, was protested by Negro organizations in both cities.

It was under pressure from the White House that the army revised its plan for the jim crow centers. 10-7-44

Plan Integration

The new plan is reliably reported to provide for complete integration by assignment in the centers at Lake Placid, N. Y., and at Atlantic City.

In New York City, the center will be integrated on a volunteer basis. Returned overseas veterans, white and colored, may express a preference for New York. They will be housed indiscriminately in the same hotels. The same is expected to be the practice in Chicago.

A new center, not yet selected, will be opened on the West Coast.

In view of the social and recreational pattern of the program and the necessary community contacts and cooperation outside the hotels to make the program a success, no Negroes will be assigned to centers in the South. Otherwise, and except for volunteer requests to be sent to New York City, the men will be assigned to centers nearest their homes. 10-7-44

Will Abandon Hotels

While no announcement has been made, it is believed the army will abandon both the Pershing and the Theresa hotel sites in Chicago and

N. Y. Meeting 10-7-44

definite framework
zens protested against the jim crow
ovide for integra- policy outlined by the army, against
the taking of the Theresa which
helps meet a stringent housing prob-
of weakening on lem in Harlem, and against the use
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d" meeting called brought back to luxury-type hotels
ommanding officer located in resort centers.
ervice Command, Following Gen. Terry's report to
outstanding citi- the War Department, all further
k City. These citi- army action was held in abeyance
Saturday that the Pershing will not be taken over.
New York City, respectively.
In Chicago, where steps have been taken toward the actual physical seizure of the Pershing, occupants were given an indefinite ex-tension of time to get out.
The Chicago Sun denounced the seizure of the Pershing, and the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations in Chicago has recommended the hotel be left to fill a critical civilian housing need. The Sun said
within a very definite framework which would provide for integration.
The first sign of weakening on the army's jim crow plan came when the army was informed of the results of the "off the record" meeting called by Gen. Terry, commanding officer of the Second Service Command, the War Department, all further outstanding citizens in New York City protested against the jim crow policy outlined by the army, against the taking of the Theresa which helps meet a stringent housing problem in Harlem, and against the use of a second-rat hotel for Negroes while white soldiers would be brought back to luxury-type hotels located in resort centers.
Following Gen. Terry's report to the War Department, all further army action was held in abeyance
out its own new plan, but only

as it affected the Theresa, though the decision to take it over definitely had been made and Terry's meeting presumably was for the purpose of giving out this information.

The redistribution centers are being set up to provide a means of relaxation for battle-weary soldiers, lifted out of the hell of war overseas. Efforts are made to get the men in a mood to return to combat. They are given the best food, provided dental and medical care, and undergo a series of psychiatric interviews to determine the best classification for them in the army. But mainly, they are encouraged to forget all about war for about two weeks and have a "helluva good time." 10-7-44

Other than the Theresa and the Pershing hotels, which the army had planned to take over for Negroes, it had already taken 49 hotels in the resort centers at Miami Beach, Fla., Ashville, N. C., Hot Springs, Ark., Lake Placid, N. Y., and Santa Barbara, Cal. To these have been added proposed centers in Atlantic City, N. J.

Heroic Sergeant Decorated For Saving His Pal

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

Medal Pinned On His Chest By Gen'l Clark

10-1-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY — (SNS) — At a special formation at Fifth Army headquarters in the field near the Italian front, Sergeant Thomas W. Northcross, of Nashville, Tennessee, recently received the Soldier's Medal for heroism, the War Department reported today.

The medal was pinned on Sergeant Northcross by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, commander of the Fifth Army, during Salerno Day, September 9, ceremonies commemorating the anniversary of the Fifth Army's invasion of Italy.

Sergeant Northcross was awarded the medal for his heroic action last June near the port of Piombino, Italy, when he swam 150 yards out into the sea to rescue a drowning soldier who had been seized with cramps. Sergeant Northcross' quick action saved the man's life.

The son of Mrs. Mary Brown, 12 North Hill Street, Nashville, Sergeant Northcross has been in the Army more than two years. He is section sergeant with a Negro trucking company, and is in charge of 16 men and vehicles.

In a year and a half overseas his outfit, one of the outstanding transportation units in the Fifth Army, has driven over 1,000,000 truck miles in convoying troops and supplies through North Africa, Sicily and Italy. 10-1-44

The unit, which includes more than a hundred Negro soldiers from all parts of the States, and five white officers, is commanded by Captain Aldo E. Garoni, 361 Sterling Street, North East, Atlanta, Georgia.

Sergeant Northcross was graduated from Pearl High School in Nashville, where he won a letter in football.

For Heroism

Commercial Appeal - Memphis, Tenn.

10-6-44

For heroism displayed when he saved a shipmate from drowning on D-Day, although he himself was wounded, Steward's Mate 1-c Arthur Jones, Memphis Negro, was decorated with the Silver Star by Capt. Ogden D. King at Naval Hospital at Charleston, S. C. Jones, a Manassas High School graduate who lives here at 2143 Stovall, was serving aboard a destroyer whose crew was compelled to abandon ship under heavy frie of German shore batteries in Normandy.

—Navy Photo

Jim Crow Vet Centers Protest Grows

Leaders From Harlem, Chicago Blast To FDR Against Army Discrimination

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

9-30-44

Negro leaders from New York to Chicago have been sending in the last few days bitter protests to Commander-in-Chief Roosevelt against the latest discrimination program proposed by the United States Army. That order has not yet been officially proclaimed, but it will be put into practice like all the others before the order is made public, they believe.

Reliable sources state that black overseas veterans scheduled for demobilization and rehabilitation will henceforth be housed in such colored hotels as the Theresa in New York City and the Pershing Hotel in Chicago. The same sources state that white soldiers under similar orders will come home for recuperation from their wounds and battle fatigue or discharge to swank hotels at the nation's famous watering places in Miami, Lake Placid, Santa Barbara, Calif., and Hot Springs, Ark.

Denounce Injustices

The angry leaders have denounced this cruel injustice to colored doughboys and their race on two counts:

The first of these relates to the unequal, segregated accommodations to be given wounded and worn out black service men. It is apparent that it is inconsiderate and inhumane for these men to return to such conditions after they have made a supreme sacrifice for their country. 9-30-44

Secondly, for the United States Army to command here the two best colored hotels in New York and Chicago, is to do the congested civilian population a great injustice. One must know the crying lack of decent hotel accommodations for Negro people to realize what it means to take the Theresa and Pershing Hotels from them.

This latest affront to Uncle Sam's black fighters follows a long line of such outrages. It follows the long prison term sentences to the five soldiers who balked at discrimination in a Southern Army camp. Under pressure these sentences have been reduced by the high command in Washington.

Former United States Army Chaplain J. Benjamin Dove, of New York City, has been retired to inactive service for his heroic complaint against racial abuse and discrimination in Southern Army camps. Rev. Dove is now crusading against these conditions after protesting in vain to the Commander-in-Chief. 9-30-44

Another glaring case was that of the colored soldiers recently hanged in England by the United States Army when British law does not make the crime of rape punishable by death. The stench from the sentence of death for three colored soldiers, court martialed for rape in Caledonia, still rises to high heaven. The woman was a harlot.

'Defender' Attacks Plan

The famous Fighting Fifteenth of New York, now the 369th Regiment, United States Infantry, one of the crack new regiments in the Army, has constantly been denied combat duty and has long been doing guard duty in Hawaii. The same story of discrimination runs the entire gamut of the service for colored fighters in the Army, Navy and Air Forces. 9-30-44

The Chicago Defender, as well as all the other militant Negro organs, some of whom are supporting the fourth term for the Commander-in-Chief, takes this trenchant blast at this latest Army order. The Defender says editorially in the issue of September 16, 1944:

"Next to General Eisenhower's spectacular advance through France, the most amazing thing about the U. S. Army continues to be its cockeyed inconsistent racial policy.

"Newest of its one-step-forward, two-steps-back tactics on the color problem comes in its plans for redistribution of Negro veterans returning from the battlefronts. The War Department has decreed a strictly Jim Crow setup in sending veterans back to civilian life."

Is This Discrimination?

Chicago Hotel Seized For Army Rest Center

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa.

9-16-44

CHICAGO, Ill.—Having designated Chicago's Pershing hotel as the first redistribution center for Negro officers and enlisted men of the Army ground and service forces returning from overseas, the War Department deviates from its recently announced policy of abolishing segregation in the use of recreational facilities by Army personnel, general said. Maj. Richard Jones, former Chicago department store superintendent, will be in charge of special services and public relations.

The Chicago center will probably be staffed with a crew of Negro officers and enlisted men now stationed at Camp Ellis, Illinois, who will be housed most likely at the nearby Mansfield Apartment hotel, according to General Ardrand, commanding general, Sixth Service Command. The commander of the post has not been selected, provide facilities in a pleasant at

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housed on a cost basis.

mosphere, where troops may relax from the strain of overseas service and enjoy recreational opportunities while being reclassified for future action. 9-16-44

Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson announced last Thursday that plans were under way for establishing redistribution centers for colored soldiers, shortly after General Aurand announced the establishment of the Chicago hotel as the first of these centers.

Prior to this announcement, the Army Air Force has processed all of its personnel, white and colored through the same centers at Atlantic City, N. J. Redistribution stations are not crowded beyond capacity at the time, but pointed out that veterans—not the Government—must defray their wives' expense, who will be fed and housed on a cost basis.

9-16-44

WIVES MAY STAY AT REST CENTERS

According to the Army's plan, returning veterans will be sent from ports of embarkation to reception centers near their homes, where partial pay and,

AFFORDS RELAXATION FROM OVERSEAS SERVICE

Establishment of these centers is a part of a recently announced pro

Homes & Hospitals

Non-Segregation Idea Carries Out FDR Promise

Theresa And Preshing Hotels Not To Be Seized

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) Official announcement of the abandonment of the Army plan to use the Theresa and Pershing Hotels in New York and Chicago, and to abolish its jimcrow proposal for Negro soldiers was made by the War Department here on Sunday.

The announcement did not mention the two hotels by name but said "in order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing northern Redistribution Centers."

For almost a month after President Roosevelt received protests concerning the proposed seizure of the Pershing and Theresa Hotels for jimcrow centers and ordered the Army to work out new plans which would eliminate segregation, the War Department has been trying to work out a "face-saving" statement for release.

PLAN FURTHER REVISED

The plan envolved in consultation with White House representatives, as exclusively revealed by the NNPA last wek, was further revised when Secretary of War Stimson reviewed the new proposal and determined that inadequate provisions had been made for the large numbers of soldiers who would be returned to this country come V-Day.

The official announcement says: "The War Department announced today that its program for processing soldiers in Redistricution Centers on their return to the United States from combat areas overseas will be altered and expanded through the utilization of existing Army Camps.

"The expansion is necessitated by a growing volume of soldiers sent back home by the Army's Air, Ground and Service Forces. At present, hotel facilities are being used in the Redistribution Process where the returning veterans are housed while resting and being processed, re-oriented, reclassified and reassigned. These hotel facilities, however, are taxed to capacity, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find additional hotels which would be suitable quarters for the establishment of Redistribution Centers," the announcement states.

PROCESSING TOGETHER

On the matter of the previous jimcrow plan, the announcement declares, "Pending the establishment of the camp type Dedistribution Centers, and in order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing northern Redistribution Centers. Thereafter, all returning soldiers, white and Negro, certified by a medical officer as being most in need of this type of accommodation, will be housed in hotels retained for convalescents in the same manner in which they are at present being cared for in the hospitals or convalescent centers."

Assurance has been given by Assistant Secretary of War McCloy that Negro medical officer will be included in the program for determining whether Negro soldiers should be "certified" as being "most in need of" the hotel type of accommodation. Without this assurance, this is viewed as a weak spot in the program, offering a loophole to keep Negroes out of the hotel centers after the camps are established.

The "same manner" referred to in connection with hospitals, and convalescent centers is one of full integration of white a nd Negro soldiers. This program of non-segregation in these phases of the Army's program has been in effect all along.

ARMY CAMP PHASE

As for the Army camp phase of the Redistribution Center program proposed for the future, the Army says: "Under the new Redistribution Program, certain of those Army camps which are better situated and more attractive will be selected for use as Redistribution Centers. Many such camps are becoming available through the movement of troops overseas."

Persons familiar with the usual Army plan of operation are cautioning Negroes to watch closely to see that when this phase of the Army program is put into effect that Negroes are not herded into Southern camps where their opportunities for relaxation and recreation will be hampered by the traditions and customs of that section.

The upshot of the Army's announcement for the present is that Negroes will be integrated in the centers at Lake Placid, N. Y., and Atlantic City, N. J.; that the Pershing and Theresa Hotels will not be seized as originally proposed; and that a tremendous step has been taken in combatting jimcrow in the Army.

47f-1944

Hospitals

How Ft. Huachuca Wages Fight On Social Disease

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

5-27-44

By LANGSTON HUGHES

The Crusaders, returning from their wars in the East, are credited with having first introduced syphilis into Europe. From the beginning of military history, commanders have considered as one of their major problems that of sex and soldiers.

Men in the army are always men away from home. Men in the army are often men on the move. Men in the army, any army, are the target and prey of promiscuous women selling their bodies for gain. Prostitution is one of the great problems of any army.

The French army during World War I approved organized inspected commercial prostitution. The Japanese army in this war is said to carry with their troops contingents of commercial women. The American army has chosen to outlaw prostitution, and to institute a program of health education and venereal disease control.

At Fort Huachuca, America's largest concentration of Negro troops, the venereal disease control program is in the hands of Capt. John J. Goldsberry, brilliant young Negro graduate of the Harvard School of Public Health. Col. Edwin M. Hardy, post commander, has taken an intensive personal interest in this control program, and it is due to his backing that amazingly excellent health results have been achieved at Fort Huachucha within the year.

At Station Hospital No. 1

I spent an afternoon with Capt. Goldsberry at his offices in Station Hospital No. 1. Capt. Goldsberry is the venereal disease control officer for the entire post of Fort Huachuca. The post population, fluctuating as it is according to the number of troops in quarters, is sometimes equal to that of any city in Arizona except Phoenix or Tucson. Fort Huachuca is a large army post containing within its borders, besides male soldiers and WACs, a large number of civilian workers. Just outside the gates of the Fort is the village of Fry.

5-27-44

It is obvious that the control of disease in any given community involves the entire population. The population of the Fort Huachuca area consists then of the military; the civilian workers on the post—clerks, laundry workers, laborers, and others; army wives, and visitors; and the population of Fry.

Fry was formerly one of the most disreputable areas to be found near any large army post in America. However, Col. Hardy threatened to invoke the May Act so, with the aid of local health officers, new Arizona laws, and military pressure, the notorious Hook, the prostitution section of this desert village, has been closed. Most of the women are gone and the Hook is off limits to soldiers. This step alone has reduced the venereal contraction rate at Fort Huachuca by more than 80 per cent. At a recent periodic medical inspection, not a single new infection for that period was reported.

Civilians Should Help

The army alone, however, cannot fight with complete effectiveness the battle against commercialized vice. Col. Hardy agrees with Capt. Goldsberry that the moral pressure of the better elements in civilian communities near army camps must be brought to bear on local situations. Graft and corrupt public officials may often prevent the cleaning out of vice areas unless prodded by civilian public opinion. Since Capt. Goldsberry is directly concerned with the problems of Negro soldiers, he feels that Negro civilians have a deep responsibility toward these soldiers, in that commercialized vice, with its trail of infectious diseases, be cleared from communities near military camps.

American public schools in most sections of our country have been very backward in sex education. The army is now furnishing education in sex hygiene to millions of young men. By the mediums of lectures, motion pictures, and reading matter they learn that venereal diseases are not the result of "strain" or "bad blood," but are definitely diseases contracted from careless, unclean, infected persons. They learn that commercial women are dangerous. That such women may eventually kill or cripple more men than a machine gun. They learn the value of continence. Failing that, of cleanliness and prophylaxis.

For the protection of all Fort Huachuca's soldiers, but particularly for those men who cannot or will not profit by the lessons of the army's sex education program, Capt. Goldsberry has devised and keeps on file an elaborated system of charts, maps, and records of all venereal cases on the post, military or civilian, of the women from whom the infections were contracted whenever it is possible to secure their names and addresses, and of all possible sources of infection in the camp area.

5-27-44

Spot Infection Sources

On the wall of the V. D. Control Office there is a map with colored pins marking the city of each known source of camp infection, whether in this country or just south of the Mexican border. Public health officials in these cities are requested to clean out or round up the infected women for treatment. Capt. Goldsberry reports very helpful collaboration from the health officials in the Mexican cities of Nogales, Naco, and Agua Prieta.

For purposes of identification when a soldier cannot remember the name of the woman from whom he picked up an infection, Capt. Goldsberry has a file of photographs of many of the public women in towns and cities within a hundred mile area of Fort Huachuca, both Mexican and Negro. It is amazing how physically ugly many of these women are. Capt. Goldsberry hopes shortly to be able to put his finger on all known sources of infection in the Southern Arizona region. Such sources are almost entirely without the camp area.

Educational movies and lectures for all soldiers on the post are also available to civilian workers. The post newspaper, The Apache Sentinel, is cooperating with this program by offering a weekly prize of $10 for the best soldier essay on some aspect of venereal disease control. In its issue of March 31, Pvt. Walter Gray of the 758th Tank Battalion writes concerning syphilis, "Ask yourself this question, 'What can I do to avoid this disease?' . . . A defense worker loses man-hours, time and money, while a soldier loses training hours, time and money. Both are impeding the war effort."

5-27-44

Warn of Social Disease

The Art Department of Fort Huachuca's Special Services is producing an excellent series of silk-screen posters warning of the dangers of gonorrhea and syphilis. Some of these brightly colored posters are designed by Pvt. Lew Davis. Other posters are designed by the wife of Capt. Goldsberry who is a graduate of the Boston Art school. The posters picture Negro figures and are slanted to appeal to the Negro soldier and civilian worker.

Each soldier going on furlough from Fort Huachuca is given a little booklet, The Furlough Soldier, by order of Post Commander Col. Hardy, gotten out by Capt. Goldsberry's office. This booklet warns anew of the dangers of promiscuous contacts, and instructs the soldier in how to care for himself. It also appeals to his manliness to return to camp clean, rested, refreshed, and a good soldier.

5-27-44

Fort Huachuca's venereal disease control program has now reached such a point of popularity with the men that companies compete for places on the camp honor roll as being free of disease for the month. The Special Service Division works intensively to provide athletics, entertainment, and personal recreation for the men in camp. Just outside the gates the USO club at Fry does its best to furnish amusements, games, dancing, and refreshment. These activities are a great aid to the V. D. Control Office which continues to expand its activities against the army's ancient snake in the grass, venereal disease.

47f-1944

Hospitals

Carter Describes 332nd's Field Hospital, Only Fully Equipped Unit in 15th AAF

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.

9-16-44

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ALLIED AIRBASE IN ITALY (By Air Mail) — Far off the dusty runway rises a small rectangle of pyramid tents plainly marked by huge red crosses — military sign of medical men two of which resemble miniature "big-tops" of the circus, long and narrow.

Together they form the field hospital of the 332nd Fighter Group. Within the confines of the canvas-tops, one paved with brick, the others floored with wood, is all the medical equipment possible to use in the field.

This field hospital, under direction of the group flight surgeon,

Maj. Marshbanks

Maj. Vance H. Marshbanks, Jr., is the only fully-equipped field unit in the 15th AAF, and has been especially praised by the force's medical authorities. "The trend here is preventive rather than curative," declared Major Marshbanks during a tour of the dispensary, 36-bed aid station, unit pharmacy, X-ray tent and dental laboratory. "No man should get sick," added the major, the only coloerd group flight surgeon in a combat organization.

Squadron flight surgeons are: Capts. William E. Allen of Columbus, Ohio, Meharry Medical College, '41; Bascom S. Waugh, of Camden, N.J., Meharry, '35; Arnold H. Maloney, Jr., son of a Howard U. professor, University of Indiana, '38. 9-16-44

Major Marshbanks, a retired army captain and a 1937 graduate of Howard University College of Medicine, was once resident physician [illegible] and, Ore.; Carl [illegible] Woods, Ma[illegible] Pa., and Vincent Mitchell, Mou[illegible] Clemens, Mich. The other thirteen, all second lieutenants, are:

Jimmie D. Wheller, Rosevill[illegible] Mich.; Henry Peoples, Hampt[illegible] graduate of St. Louis; Earl [illegible] Lane, Wichliffe, Ohio; Boland [illegible] Moody, Cambridge, Mass., studen[illegible] Elbert Hudson, Los Angeles;

Hannibal M. Cox, Chicago; M[illegible] [illegible]on S. Hays, Los Angeles; Harc[illegible] M. Morris, Portland, Ore.; Joh[illegible] H. Porter, Cleveland; Roosev[illegible] Stiger, Jackson, Mich.; Willia[illegible]

one year's service within the continental limits of the United States and completion of 50 hours of flying in a military aircraft — flying as passengers not pilots.

Assignment for overseas duty earned for each the designation as flight surgeon, an appointment based on the physicians' stability, tactfulness, personality and technical knowledge in aviation medicine.

Their Duties the Broadest

Their duties are broader than those of a military surgeon, who is a member of the commanding officer's special staff and supervises all medical activities in his organization. 9-16-44

In addition to the military surgeon's duties of medical administration, sanitation, first aid, professional practice and advice, the flight surgeon is charged with care of the flyers.

Indirectly, they choose the flying personnel, for they decide when a pilot should fly and when he should not, maintain them through training phases and "keep em flying" in combat.

These flight surgeons are confidantes of the flyers. Their psychological konwledge must be profound, both theoretically and practically, and not the least important, is that they must be familiar with the effects of flying environment.

Flying environment includes details about the effects of the airplane, its motion and its altitude (atmospheric variations in oxygen, pressure and temperature) and the use of survival techniques and equipment.

Psychological Treatments

By far, the most absorbing phase of the flight surgeon's work is the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and disposition of cases involving emotional disturbances.

After months of combat, such cases pop up with increasing rapidity, and the surgeon must exert a mother's influence and care for upon his decision the question of whether a flyer goes home or stays to fly again in combat is often answered. 9-16-44

The group dispensary where the surgeons work and which is the centralized station for the group is equipped for eye, ear, nose and throat examinations, routine physical examinations; X-ray, fluroscopy, foreign body localization, first aid (shock treament), minor surgery and medicine.

36-Bed Station

The 36-bed aid station takes care of cases that require short periods of bed rest, and serious cases are sent to general hospitals.

Each squadron also maintains a unit dispensary, which takes care of minor cases within the outfit. In the dental department, Captain Beck handles extractions, remedial relief for aches and other minor oral defects. 9-16-44

Besides care and treatment of men from the group, the medical unit is frequently called upon to render emergency service for bomber casualties, when bullet-filled ships find it necessary to make emergency landings at their base.

No Epidemics in 2 Months

They also handle malaria control and other general problems of sanitation, and to their credit there has been no outbreak of an epidemic of any kind in eight months' overseas duty for the group.

Sgt. Leroy Harrell, 37 N.Y. University graduate, who ran his own bacteriological laboratory in NYC, is the unit's pharmacist, while Cpl. John L. Hill, Tuckahoe, N.Y., dental assistant, did similar work in civilian life. 9-16-44

Lt. Eugene Sills, Washington, is administrative assistant to the flight surgeon. Others attached to the headquarters section are:

T/Sgt. Felix James, New Orleans; Sgt. Moses L. Potter, Monroe, La.; Sgt. Arthur H. Bruce, Los Angeles; Pfc. Luther T. Friday, Detroit; Cpl. William Alexander, Richmond; Cpl. Howard P. Vennabel, NYC, and Pfc. Theodore Thompson, Louisville, Ky., are also attached to the headquarters section.

Scattered among the various squadrons' medical detachments are:

Sgts. Lewis W. Jackson, Wester, Pa., and Willie Jaggers, Rock Hill, S.C.; Cpls. Carl H. Bradford, Birmingham; and Eugene Weatherspoon, Selma, Ala.;

S/Sgt. Broadus N Butler, Mobile, Ala.; Cpls. Thomas O. Fuller, Dallas; Frederick M. Clark, Corona, N.Y.; S/Sgt. William E. Whitlow, Jr., Chicago; Cpls. John H. Davis, Cleveland, Ohio; and Claude E. Smith, Cincinnati; 9-16-44

Preventive Medicine the Trend in Outfit Headed by Major Vance H. Marshbanks

9-16-44

Arnold H. Maloney, Jr., of Wash[illegible] and First Lieutenant Walter L. McCraery, pilot of San [illegible]o, Texas.

Captains Allen, Maloney and Bascom S. Waugh.

Capt. William K. Allen of Columbus, Ohio, makes X-ray examination in a field hospital of the fighter group commanded by Col. B. O. Davis ,Jr.

Ft. Huachuca Hospital Earns Higher Rating

Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.--Station hospital No. 1, commanded by Col. Aidian O. Bousfield, has been given a new official rating, according to an announcement last week by the war department. Under the new designation, it will known as the Army Service Forces Regional hospital.

The new set-up places the hospital midway between the station hospital class and the general hospital designation, and is viewed as a compliment to the excellent staff under Col. Bousfield. It is now among 50 other hospitals in the continental United States moved up into a newly created division of general hospitals which functions as hospitals of the interior.

The hospital will take over the functions of a general hospital, such as formerly carried out in the continental United States, for everything except reception of overseas patients. The name "general hospital" will continue to serve for reception of overseas patients and to give specialized services in cases of tuberculosis, neuro-surgery and similar special conditions. However, many patients who were formerly sent away to "general" hospitals for final medical treatment before being discharged will receive that final type treatment here.

Tribune--Philadelphia, Pa. 6-17-44

More Jim-Crow Hospitals for Veterans Considered

Afro-American Balt., Md. 12-23-44

WASHINGTON

The Veterans' Administration is planning the construction of additional jim crow hospitals of the Tuskegee type in the South.

This disclosure was made by Maj. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, before the Deficiences Appropriations Committee of the House during hearings on the first supplemental appropriation bill for 1945.

Consideration Revealed

General Hines said:

"We are going to have a problem undoubtedly of providing another Tuskegee Hospital, or a solid colored hospital, probably more, in the Mississippi-Alabama area.

"There are a large number of colored troops from that area. The Board (the Federal Board of Hospitalization) is studying all of that now."

Opposition Ignored

The subject of segregated facilities for colored veterans, it was learned, has been broached by General Hines in conferences between him and colored individuals who have talked with him concerning the employment of colored administrative personnel in the central administrative offices in the District of Columbia and in regional offices in the field.

Upon these individuals expressing their opposition to segregated facilities, it was said, General Hines dropped the subject.

It was also pointed out to him, it was learned, that the Army and Navy maintain no segregated general hospitals for their white and colored personnel.

Establishment of a separate hospital for colored veterans after World War I was bitterly opposed by colored people and white Alabamans. After its establishment, colored veterans who were sent there from the North bitterly complained.

Convenience a Factor

The policy that the Veterans Administration follows in the location of new units is to place the unit in an area where it will serve the greatest number of veterans, endeavoring to shorten the distance of travel not only for the veteran but for his family who want to visit him at one of those facilities.

Both tuberculosis and neuropsychiatric patients are cared for at Tuskegee hospital.

5% of Patients Are Colored at D. C.'s Walter Reed Hospital

Afro-American-Baltimore, Md.

All Soldiers Get Best of Medical Care; Red Cross Policy of Jim Crow, Lack of Barbers and Entertainment Are Sore Spots

2-26-44

By MICHAEL CARTER

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The stretcher bearers who brought him into Walter Reed Hospital were white. When they lowered the stretcher to the floor and walked off the patient asked them not to forget his overnight bag which was in the ambulance.

The soldier looked embarrassed lying on the floor. He stared disconsolately at his bag which was placed near his head and occasionally looked up at passers-by. A few minutes later he was whisked into the admitting room.

From the time the hospital doors close on him until he leaves under his own steam he will not experience any serious jim crow or official anti-race humiliation.

Since he is still in the American Army he will, of course, be treated as a "colored soldier," but so far as medical attention, personal consideration and general treatment are concerned, he will be treated as an American soldier.

Official Policy

He will be placed in a ward with white soldiers. When he is able to walk about, he will eat, cafeteria style, in the general mess hall, will use the same toilets, the same recreation hall and the same nurses will massage him. Such is the official policy of the hospital.

Native Nazism will bite him only when he wants to get a hair cut, or when he wants to go to a dance on the post. Obviously he will find many prejudiced inmates and a number of similarly prejudiced nurses and doctors.

The lieutenant who escorted me through the wards and grounds made every reasonable effort to show me that he was personally fair and was only interested in the AFRO's getting a true picture.

When a good-natured woman phoned to offer twenty gifts, he told his secretary to select ten white and ten colored recipients. According to the percentage of colored soldiers only four should have received gifts.

None of Walter Reed's many colored employees holds an executive job. All I saw were porters or kitchen workers and orderlies. There are several white WACS in the building, but no colored WAC has ever been seen there.

At the beginning of the war, the hospital contained 1,500 beds. Today it has 3,000. A new addition has been set up at Forest Glen, Md., where there are a large number of the colored convalescents. A regular bus service takes them into Walter Reed for clinical treatment. 2-26-44

Only about 5 per cent of the total patients are colored. Less than 1 per cent are battle casualties. In three days I found only one colored battle casualty. The few others were either on furloughs or passes.

Best Medical Treatment

Any soldier who gets into Walter Reed is a lucky man. Medical treatment here compares with the high quality of treatment in Russian Army hospitals. Soldiers have been known to collapse, deliberately, in Union Station to get in.

Any soldier who becomes ill in Washington is automatically taken to Walter Reed. The hospital's fame is international. It is equipped with the latest devices for all types of surgery and healing.

A giant electro-magnet will extract foreign particles from the eye, and penicillin is produced and used in the hospital. The occupational therapy rooms are fitted with numerous devices to restore self-confidence and dexterity.

No Discrimination

The devices are as simple as weaving to complex machines to re-establish finger muscles. There is no evidence of discrimination in the use of or application of these instruments. If a patient needs them he uses them. Medical attendants seem to be quite as interested in curing colored soldiers as white.

Among the fancy instruments in the occupational therapy rooms is a jig saw operated by foot power. Frequently the pedals are placed just out of reach so the patient must stretch his legs to operate the saw.

There are whirlpool baths, heat treatments, giant wheels to exercise shoulder muscles and massages. Soldiers told me that whites frequently were distressed at the sight of a white nurse massaging a dark shoulder. Officially no one pays attention to such protests.

Lack of Recreation

All patients wear reddish colored jumpers and trousers and are not required to salute officers. Even General Patton could not demand a salute from a hospital-clad soldier.

Chief complaint from our soldiers is the lack of recreation in which they can participate without embarrassment. The Red Cross, which handles most of the recreation, is upset about the prospect of mixed dances.

White groups, making party arrangements through the Red Cross, have been known to specify "no colored soldiers."

Ignore Some Soldiers

"It is sickening to see wealthy white clubs come in here and pass out gifts. They deliberately ignore colored soldiers.

"Of course, they can't pass you up if they are giving things to everybody in a ward, but they make you feel that they are giving only out of duty and not because of appreciation for our help in winning the war. 2-26-44

"It's just as bad when a group of colored girls offers to give a party for our soldiers only."

This club, which was formed at the Lucy Slowe Hall, offered to entertain colored soldiers.

The Red Cross said it would have to include white soldiers. Since the Red Cross had not insisted on the presence of colored soldiers when white clubs were giving parties, the club refused to give that party.

Gave Gift to Friend

The same soldier told me, "Sometimes colored individuals or groups come here to give presents and ignore the white soldiers. Once I gave my present to a white soldier who had been friendly with me.

"I tried to explain why my people had passed him up, but got embarrassed and walked away. Suppose he had tried to explain the actions of his people?"

The Red Cross shows no consistency in its policy. The result is boredom and confusion for the patients.

Barber Shortage

The other sore point is the business of getting a hair cut. One incident, descriptive of the many, follows: A barber passed through a ward cutting the hair of several white patients. A colored soldier asked for service and was told, "I don't cut colored people's hair."

A captain, hearing this, did not force the barber to cut the man's hair, but said, "If I had a pair of scissors I would cut your hair myself," and arranged to have a colored barber come in.

Frequently a genuine feeling of unity exists between patients. Morale is raised by the feeling of acceptance in the American pattern. The soldier forgets that he is colored and his white friend forgets that he is supposed to be infinitely superior—until barber shop time.

Then the old national custom of discrimination pops up and the white soldier remembers all the things he has been taught.

No Colored Papers

Inmates may borrow from the 4,000-book library. Bed patients have the use of a ward truck that brings books to them. But only "nice" books which are not controversial, and which do not advocate racial equality or other dangerous, un-American ideals, are available. This definition is given by the civilian librarian.

"Native Son," "The Grapes of Wrath," and similar titles are not considered "nice." Several hometown papers are taken, but no colored paper is allowed. The librarian finds them too exciting.

"Colored soldiers read a good deal along religious lines. But we don't want to give them any propaganda on race or equality. We find that sort of thing makes for argument," the librarian said.

Nevertheless, the soldiers I talked to wanted to see some colored papers. 2-26-44

"My AFRO was taken from me and several fellows followed the soldier who took it. As they passed from sight I heard them saying, 'I'm next on it,' one said."

Like Boogie-Woogie

The only time general fraternalization is shown between inmates in the recreation hall is when colored soldiers play boogie-woogie. Whites surround the piano six deep and absorb the music. They will not, in general, listen to anything else.

In the recreation room is a large telephone room where booths are ample in size and number. An operator places the call and signals the soldier who wants it. Booths are equipped with swivel chairs and free cigarettes. Some have amplifiers on the receivers for the hard of hearing.

Others are big enough to allow a man on a stretcher or in a wheel chair to get in.

Although only 5 per cent of the patients are colored, about 50 per cent of the men who visit the white chaplains are colored. According to the chaplains, most of them are confronted with personal problems. Several said they saw no difference between the needs or problems of white and colored soldiers.

No Peculiar Problems

Ranking next were domestic and financial difficulties. No chaplain admitted having encountered any race problem. The chaplain's chief duty, as described by one of them, "is not so much to let the man have his way, but to reconcile him to the Army way."

An amateur radio station, nicknamed WRGN (Walter Reed General Hospital), is manned by an all-white volunteer crew. Through it radio programs are piped to each bed.

Considering the location of the hospital, our soldiers are given fair treatment, although there are plenty of minor grievances.

So, if your soldier is at Walter Reed General Hospital, you can be assured of decent treatment to him. Both medical and social treatment will be above par.

To date there have been more than 172 patients, including many from the fighting area, that are handling a haven of rest and security here. All cases are most-ly general medical, with an occasional surgery case listed.

One of the latter cases was a "skin-grafting" operation which was successfully performed on Pvt. Fred Poole by Capt. Arthur H. Thomas of Philadelphia, the hospital's chief of surgery and executive officer.

Huachuca Hospital Gets Higher Rating

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

8-8-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — (ANP) — Station Hospital No. 1, commanded by Col. Midian O. Bousfield, has been given a new official rating, according to an announcement last week by the war department. Under the new designation, it will be known as the Army Service Forces Regional hospital.

The new set-up places the hospital midway between the station hospital class and the general hospital designation, and is viewed as a compliment to the excellent staff under Col. Bousfield. It is now among 30 other hospitals in the continental United States moved up into a newly created division of general hospitals which function as hospitals of the interior.

New Hospital Opens in SWP

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

D.C. Physician Heads All-Colored Staff of 28

6-10-44

HAS 17 BUILDINGS

Baltimore, Philly, Medics in Group

N.J.

AT AN ADVANCED BASE, NEW GUINEA.—America's only overseas hospital with an all-colored staff was opened recently at this base, which is less than three hours' plane ride back of the fighting lines.

Headed by Major Arthur H. Simmons of Washington, D.C., formerly of the staff of Freedmen's Hospital and the Howard University Medical School faculty, the hospital will take over the functions of a general hospital, such as formerly carried out in the continental United States, for everything except reception of overseas patients. The name "general hospital" will continue to serve for reception of overseas patients and to give specialized services in cases of tuberculosis, neurosurgery and similar special conditions. However, many patients who were formerly sent away to "general" hospitals for final medical treatment before being discharged will now receive that finial type treatment here.

There are movies five times per week, a recreation hall for all, and a beautiful green lawn surrounds the area. The site overlooks the sea which can be seen for miles.

6-10-44

Philly Man Chief Surgeon

In addition to the officers, there is a staff of enlisted men attached to the personnel headed by 1st Sgt. Watt G. Saunders of Los Angeles, Calif., and Willie J. Yeldell of Stroud, Okla., sergeant major in charge of administration.

6-10-44

17 Buildings

A few months ago, the present hospital site, of about five or more acres, which is more than 900 feet above sea level, was a huge jungle, but today more than seventeen buildings dot the hillsides, including about ten wards, two mess halls, a dispensary, headquarters' office, and quarters for the personnel.

hospital's staff includes thirteen officers, and fifteen registered nurses.

other medical officers,

Group from Hauchuca

Before coming overseas, the physicians were attached to a hospital at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. After spending about six months at a hospital somewhere in Australia, the staff arrived here about Easter to begin operations.

A visitor walking through the wards and the other buildings is amazed at neatness and general healthful atmosphere in a place so recently opened.

This was made possible by the doctors and nurses, donning their fatigue clothes, and becoming painters overnight, interior decorators, electricians, carpenters, and general laborers, and helping to make the place comfortable for the incoming patients.

Staff Members

Mmbers of 'the staff in addition to Major Simmons and Captain Thomas are: 6-10-44

Capts. Rotan Lee of Montclair, N.J., ward officer, chief of anesthesia and assistant surgeon; Joseph H. Mitchell of Los Angeles, radiologist and registrar; 1st. Lt. William S. Hendricks of Los Angeles, adjutant, public relations olicer and assistant registrar;

Capts. Robert P. Randolph of Durham, N.C., chief of medical service and malariologist; Kenneth E. Fletcher of Jacksonville, Tenn., chief of service of urology and assistant surgeon; and John W. Skinner, chief of dental service:

BALTIMOREAN IN GROUP

First Lts. Barnett M. Rhetta of Baltimore, medical officer of general medical ward, formerly at Freedmen's Hospital in D.C.; Jacob A. Frye of Montclair, N.J., medical ward, laboratory and assistant sanitary officer; Charles R. Joseph of Brooklyn, N.Y., ward officer; Edward C. Booker, detachment commander and supply officer;

Second Lt. Lowell H. Burrell of Detroit, Mich., transportation, mess and assistant detachment commander; and First Lt. William C. Rogers of Philadelphia;

NURSES LISTED

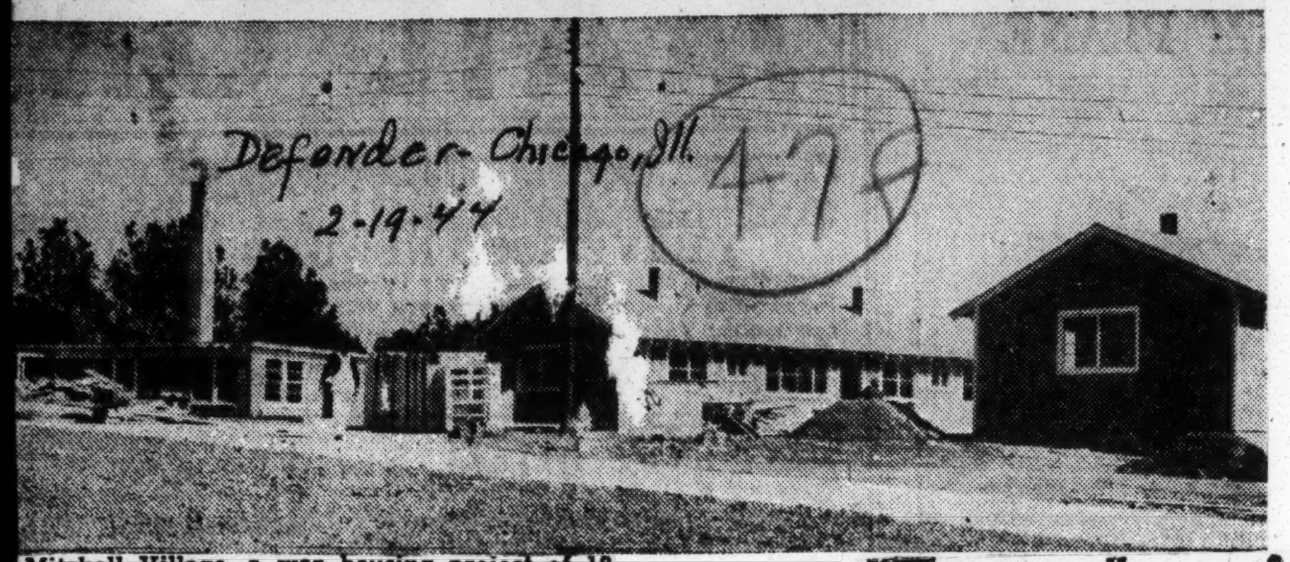
The nurses are:

First Lts. Birdie E. Brown, principal chief nurse, formerly of Harlem Hospital; Alberta L. Smith of Kansas City, Mo., chief nurse-medical supervisor; Louise Miller, surgical and operating room supervisor, formerly of Harlem Hospital; Bessie P. Evans of St. Louis, Mo., hospital dietitian; 6-10-44

Second Lts. Marjorie S. Mayers of Harlem Hospital, head nurse, medical ward; Beulah L. Baldwin of Harlem Hospital, nurse in charge of surgical ward; Geneva H. Culpepper of Wadley, Ala., surgical nurse, formerly of Harlem Hospital; Elena A. Townsend of Long Island, N.Y., operating room nurse, who also worked at Harlem Hospital;

Second Lts. Jean L. Hamilton of Kansas City, Mo., Claudia Matthews, of Dallas, Tex., Thelma L. Fisher, of Rothburg, Mass., Dorothy O. Branker of Nashville, Tenn., and Prudence L. Burns a former public health nurse of Kansas City, Mo.

NEW TUSKEGEE PROJECT HONORS 99TH PILOT



Mitchell Village, a war housing project of 18 buildings and 100 apartments, was opened for occupancy at Tuskegee Army Air field, Ala., this week. The project which will house civilian war workers, enlisted personnel and officers, was named in honor of Lt. Paul Graham Mitchell, first member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron killed in action overseas.

PLAN 146 HOMES FOR NEGROES IN TWO PROJECTS

Tribune
Chicago, Ill
6-18-44

Chicago, Evanston Units for War Workers.

BY AL CHASE.
[Real Estate Editor.]

Simultaneously with the recommendation by the National Association of Real Estate Boards thruout the country that they program better housing for Negroes, two big housing projects for colored families were announced yesterday for Chicago and Evanston. They will represent a total investment of $844,000 and provide living quarters for 146 families of war workers. Both will be privately financed.

Newton C. Farr.

Newton C. Farr, of Farr & Co. and president of the Chicago Civic federation, is president of the George Washington Carver Gardens, Inc., which will build and sell the 56 living units to be built in the block bounded by Michigan av., 37th st., Wabash av., and 37th pl. The former mansions of the late P. D. Armour Jr. and J. Ogden Armour once occupied the Michigan av. frontage.

Will Face Garden Court.

Designed by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Chicago architects, the project will comprise six two story brick four flat buildings fronting on Michigan and Wabash, and 32 row houses facing on a central garden court, with rear entrances on 37th st. and 37th pl. 6-18-44

The $344,000 project is being financed with FHA insured loans thru the Advance Mortgage corporation. Each house and flat will have a separate loan amortized over 25 years. The two flat buildings will sell for $12,000, the four flats for $24,000, and the houses for $6,250.

Will Build Near High School.

In Evanston a big housing project is to be built near the Evanston Township High school, on both sides of Leland av., between Emerson and Church sts. It will contain 90 homes arranged in row houses of two to six units each. They will each contain three bedrooms and rent for $50. Fall occupancy is sought.

Designed by Architects Charles and Arthur Schreiber of Rogers Park, the project will represent an investment of $500,000, Charles Schreiber, president of Architectural Homes, Inc., owner of the development, reported. Arthur Schreiber is secretary of the corporation.

Teacher's Idea Resulted In 300 New Homes For Atlanta

World- Memphis, Tenn.
6-9-44

Fairview Terrace Emerges As One Of State's Largest Projects

ATLANTA, Ga.—(SNS)—When Fairview Terrace, one of the country's outstanding communities for Negro War workers, is completed this fall, it will provide more than 300 modern homes for families in Atlanta, Georgia, the National Housing Agency announced this week.

Half the homes already have been completed and are occupied. When the last house is finished, the homes will represent an investment by private enterprise of over $1,250,000. The project was organized and carried out by Negroes and is financed by an Atlanta institution with mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration under Title VI of the National Housing Act.

STARTED IN 1942

Fairview Terrace got its start in the spring of 1942, after a Negro school teacher, Miss Mattie Weaver, had received notice to vacate her quarters in a public housing project because her salary was too high for a tenant of that project. She could find no other decent housing available in that area at a price she could afford. So she took her problem to R. E. Matheson, FHA State Director for Georgia, at the FHA's Atlanta office.

Mr. Matheson and his staff knew this condition existed. They also knew that not a single loan incurred through the Atlanta office on a home owned and occupied by a Negro family had been foreclosed. Accordingly, they were confident that a considerable number of livable homes for Negroes could be built and financed safely under the FHA mortgage insurance program. 6-9-44

One of the leading Negro contractors of Atlanta, W. H. Aiken, had built a number of homes under teh FHA program. The Atlanta Federal Savings and Loan Association had made about half of its $2,500,000 of mortgage loans on Negro homes, many of them built by Mr. Aiken.

AGREEMENT REACHED

Accordingly, Mr. Matheson held a conference with Mr. Aiken and officials of the association. The result was Mr. Aiken's decision to develop a tract of land in the neighborhood of Atlanta University into a new and permanent residential community, but temporarily war workers families. This action was made conditional on the approval of the development under the local war housing quota of the National Housing Agency, that the FHA would help guide the developers, and that the association would do the necessary FHA-insured financing.

Agreement was reached on all these points and the planning started.

The site for Fairview Terrace is high, well-drained ground, already in a zoned area, and with the street plan fixed by the city. It is convenient to churches, schools colleges, employment centers and shopping districts. The general plan, adapted tc the street pattern was laid out with the aid of FHA land planning consultants to meet FHA neighborhood standards, with protective convenants, paved streets sidewalks, curbs, and gutters; connection with the city sewer system; gas, water, and electric systems; and two small recreational areas.

HOUSES SOUND

The houses are designed to be sound, attractive and comfortable, measuring up to FHA minimum construction requirements under wartime limitations on the use of critical materials. Each house has hot and cold running water, sanitary flush toilets, bathtubs, central heating systems, modern fixtures, gas and electricity. 6-9-44

The ultimated result will be the largest housing project for Negroes built under the FHA program in Georgia, comparing favorably with other communities of similar rent and price ranges in the Atlanta area.

Fairview Terrace was planned for 306 family dwelling units, consisting of 206 single-family homes and 50 duplex houses. All the duplex houses have been completed and the 100 dwelling units occupied at a rental of $39.50 a month each. More than half of the single family homes have been completed, sold, and occupied and the others are scheduled to be completed this fall. These homes have a price range from $3,900 to $4,400, with FHA-insured mortgages of from $3,510 to $3,960. Monthly payments, which include principal, interest, hazard insurance and taxes, range from $26.59 to $30. 6-9-44

Most of the families occupying these homes came from substandard neighborhoods and houses, but the monthly payments in Fairview Terrace are well within their means. Those who are buying their new homes under the FHA plan had the necessary down payment of 10 percent of the FHA valuation, or were acquiring it under a lease-option agreement; also, they had a credit reputation acceptable to FHA and were earning steady incomes sufficient to carry the monthly payments, with enough left over for living requirments.

Race Gets Only 1 Percent of War Housing

Tribune-Miami, Fla.
2-8-44

WASHING[illegible] D. C. (C)—Pri[illegible] industry [illegible] rated completely [illegible] granted. [illegible] allocated f[illegible] units are fi[illegible] show that f[illegible] industry/ha[illegible] units for w[illegible] race though[illegible] of the popu[illegible] the 17,000 [illegible] population. Then, too, out of the 17,000 units the government has allocated for Negroes, only 3000 units are finished. However, figures show that for white housing, private industry has completed most of the units for which priorities have been granted. [illegible] housing completed has [illegible] for less than 1 per cent of the war [illegible] left over for living requirments.

Zoning Bars War Housing For Negroes

Herald—Miami, Fla.

An attempt to remove the last remaining barrier to construction of a 50-unit housing project for war-working negroes in the Coconut Grove area will be made July 8 when the St. Alban's Housing Co. will request rezoning of a 20-acre tract from a white to negro and from single to multiple dwelling classifications. 6-18-44

Recently purchased by Fred Howland, Miami contractor, and head of the housing firm, from the Protestant Episcopal Chuch. South, a small negro parish, for $21,000, the property is bounded on the north by Thomas ave. and on the east by Douglas rd.

Half of the adjacent property to the north of the site is occupied by negro dwellings, with the other half taken up by an incinerator. Across from Douglas rd. on the east are negro houses and a negro cemetery. A park for negroes, negro school and unimproved property lie west of the project site, but a restricted white residential area adjoins the negro housing property on the south, just north of Kumquat ave.

Major bone of contention over the project is its proximity to the white dwellings on the south, but to offset this difficulty the housing company has agreed to create a 74-foot buffer strip between the two areas, deeding it to the owners of adjoining white property, if they want it, or to the city for a park.

Present plans of the promoters are to build 50 duplex homes for 100 families of negro war workers with each structure on a 5,000 square foot lot suitably landscaped.

All buildings are to be of concrete block construction with asbestos roofs, each living unit to contain a large living room, two bedrooms, kitchen, dinette, bath and front porch. They will be plastered on the inside and stuccoed on the outside. Hot and cold running water, stoves and refrigerators will be installed in each unit.

$225,000 PROJECT 6-18-44

Estimated cost of each house will be between $4,200 and $4,500 making a total of $225,000 to be spent on the project, half of it going to labor. Negro labor will be used wherever possible, company officials said. Plans for the house already have been approved by the Federal Housing Administration.

Several meetings of protest have been called by white residents of Coconut Grove to oppose the project, but housing company officials contend that more than the necessary 10 per cent of property owners have signed waivers to permit the matter to be taken before the Miami Planning Board.

The land has been owned by the negro church since 1907. Classified as a "secondary fire zone" or negro zone until 1941, the tract was reclassified "not within a secondary fire zone," which is tantamount to being a white zone. 6-18-44

The petition for a change in the zoning classification will be presented to the planning board by Malcolm B. Wiseheart, attorney for Howland.

WILLOW RUN AND THE NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

Last week, Negro war workers' families began to move into Willow Run, the site built with public funds, intended originally to house workers employed at the Bomber Plant operated by the Ford Motor Co. 7-22-44

The policy of restricting occupancy of this project to white workers has been a target for criticism not only by Negroes but liberal groups throughout the Detroit area as well as nationally.

It is most certainly a welcome step forward in the policies of the National Housing Agency, headed by John B. Blandford, Jr., in announcing that Willow Run henceforth would be made available to Negro war workers who are eligible for housing under NHA regulations.

In announcing the new NHA policy, according to the official statement made by William K. Divers, NHA Regional Representative, "the program was approved following a series of conferences with the Detroit Housing Commission, the Victory Council, representatives of the UAW-CIO, Citizens Planning and Housing Committee, and other organizations in the Detroit area." It is of extreme significance to note that several Detroit organizations supported NHA in removing the racial bias which had formerly prevailed at Willow Run.

The National Housing Agency is to be congratulated for recognizing the importance of providing housing for eligible war workers, irrespective of Jim Crow commitments and pronouncements which may have been formerly made. We hope the present NHA policy in Willow Run will apply elsewhere in the country. 7-22-44

While we hail the progressive step on the part of a federal agency, we must point out that considerable work still remains in correcting the attitudes of other federal officials, who are charged with executing newly announced policy. Negroes must be united with labor and other liberal groups to demand that the federal government adopt a democratic policy in its relationship with all minority groups.

Simultaneously, with the announcement removing racial bias at Willow Run, another important development was the approval of 1,000 additional units for war workers in the Detroit area, making a total of 3,298 dwelling units for Negro war workers to be made available during the next six months or approximately 500 new dwellings per month for the balance of the year. The Detroit Victory Council has offered its assistance to the government in the selection of sites for this new program. 7-22-44

What has been done in Detroit can also be accomplished in Chicago. Under the leadership of Mayor Kelly, the National Housing Agency, the Chicago Housing Authority and progressive private builders, other projects similar to Altgeld Gardens should be developed to house Negroes and other new areas should be opened to break the iron ring which now restricts most Negro families to in intolerable, unsanitary conditions. Restrictive covenant agreements and the iron ring creating a Negro ghetto must be smashed.

Soumet Project For Negro War Workers Eases Housing Shortage

Weekly—News Orleans, La.

8-26-44

The local branch of the Urban League continues to chalk up gains for Negroes in New Orleans, and its most recent achievement came through the efforts of its Community Planning committee—housing for colored war workers. In its efforts to alleviate the suffering of Negroes in the community. the Urban League raises the morale of the race, making Negroes better citizens and New Orleans a better place for all men, regardless of race, to achieve happiness.

For some time, homes were going up all over New Orleans for war workers and white families were moving into the new houses. During this period. only the needs of white workers were considered. The Urban League, through its Community Planning committee, conducted a short survey and found that the Negro population of New Orleans had increased well over 30,000. These people had come to New Orleans to work in defense plants. They had come to an already over-crowded community and were forced to leave under conditions unfit for human habitation. Working on the theory that if people are not housed properly, they cannot work efficiently and regularly, the League began working on a plan to obtain homes for Negroe families moving into New Orleans. 8-26-44

To accomplish their work, the committee members held conferences with local, regional, and national officials of the Federal Housing agency. Even after a project had been authorized and a location agreed upon ,the committee had to survey the area and assist in perfecting a plan for 66 families that had lived as "squatters" for years in that community.

Through the work of the committee, Negroes have acquired the Soumet Project of approximately 300 homes and about 200 hutments for Negro industrial war workers. Families are already occupying the projects and many are purchasing homes that are being offered for less than $4,000. 8-26-44

The Community Planning committee of the Urban League are: George Washington, chairman; Dr. George N. Snowden, C. Joseph Decuir, Spencer Elliston, Robert N. Perry, and Monroe T. Stringer.

Housing Project for Negroes

Private businessmen of Columbus, Ga., have contributed $52,500 to apply against the purchase of a site for a housing project for Negro war workers, the National Association of Housing Officials reports.

The city and county governments, in addition, have pledged an additional $45,000 in the form of works related to the development of the project site, according to the association.

Housing officials report that this is the only instance where local businessmen have made actual cash contributions to public housing.

By making up the difference between the cost of the two sites, the development committee was able to assure realization of a direct slum clearance operation during the construction of the new war housing. Also, use of the new site will contribute to the progress of the city plan, since it involves the straightening of a creek and the development of a bordering parkway.

A community center, including recreational rooms and the office of the housing project, are included in the site plan.

To be constructed by the Federal government on a close-in site now occupied by some of Columbus' worst housing, the 160 family war housing project will revert to low rental housing after the war, when ownership will be vested in the local municipal housing authority.

The $52,500 contributed was raised by the Greater Columbus Development Committee, an organization of local businessmen, and will make up the difference between the cost of the chosen site and a less expensive site outside the city previously selected by the municipal housing authority within the limits of the funds available from the federal government.

47f-1944
Danville, Va., Register
February 6, 1944

Housing Available For Colored Labor In Seacoast Area

There is ample housing facilities in the Hampton Roads areas for colored labor wishing to go there to work in fertilizer plants, it was announced by colored ministers, Revs. W. P. Keen and H. B. Moore, who went there on a survey trip.

This inspection trip was sponsored by six fertilizer manufacturing concerns in the Hampton Roads area working in cooperation with the War Manpower Commission in an effort to correct the impression that housing facilities cannot be found for workers.

Arrangements have also been made whereby the Danville office of the U. S. Employment Service can issue releases to the seasonal tobacco workers in this area to work in the fertilizer plants until the 1944 tobacco season opens in Danville.

War Housing

'Ideal War City' Fought Negro Defense Housing

PM-New York, N.Y.
3-19-44

Meriden Wrangled 4 Months to Keep War Workers Out

Special Correspondence

PM Exclusive

MERIDEN, Conn., Mar. 18.—This city of 45,000, which has been designated by the WMC (War Manpower Commission) as the "Nation's Ideal War Community," is typical in its faults as well as its virtues.

Although Meriden's record in mobilizing its resources for war apparently entitles it to the honor, the town wrangled for four months before a handful of Negroes who were to be brought in to work in the war plants were permitted to live here.

About six months ago, when labor shortages were critical, several of the plants, including the New Departure ball bearing plant, agreed to hire Negroes from outside the state. But when the question of housing them came up, busines and real estate interests balked.

Plenty of Room

There was plenty of room for them in Gala Terrace, a Federal Housing project of some 150 units, only about a half of which were occupied, but its tenants and the surrounding community—all white—protested that letting Negroes in would turn the neighborhood into a "black belt."

Another plan to house the Negroes also was rejected. Charles Harris, a much decorated veteran of the last war and a fruit merchant in Meridan, proposed that the Negroes move into an old office building he owned in the center of town, which was being converted into apartments. Harris, who is Jewish, told local housing officials that "I know what discrimination is like. Let them live in my property." 3-19-44

Plan Blocked

The merchants blocked the proposal, charging that the Negroes would reduce values of some of the most valuable properties in town.

The final responsibility to find accommodations for the Negro families fell to Hollis D. Immick, secretary of the Meridan Chamber of Commerce, local director for the War Housing Authority and the National Housing Administration, which operates the housing project.

Despite opposition, Immick ruled that the Negroes could live at Gale Terrace in a separate wing of the project. Seven Negro families have been living there for two months, and no trouble of any sort has been reported. And two more families are scheduled to move in next week.

War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt will pay tribute to the city Monday, when he leads a delegation of Government officials to Meridan. His speech will be broadcast over NBC.

As part of the fanfare, the world premiere of the movie *Main Street Today* will be presented at Meridan by its producers, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, which is financing a junket from New York of movie critics, reporters and photographers to attend the showing.

500 Feet Too Near Negroes For Tampans

Journal-Guide
Norfolk, Va.
1-1-44

So Housing Project For War Workers Is Reduced In Size

Staff Correspondence

TAMPA, Fla.—Among the thing the President found on his desk on returning from the Cairo and Teheran conferences was an allocation for a $2,300,000 war housing project here, which he approved last week—but southern racial bias has caused the original number of units to be reduced from the originally planned 500 homes.

Members of the board of aldermen here objected because three of the big apartment buildings would have to come within 500 feet of Ponce de Leon Courts, a white development. They were eliminated. 1-1-44

The original cost was estimated at $1,900,000 but increased materials costs brought about an increase to the $2,300,000 figure. Work on the projects is expected to begin before February 1.

PERMANENT TYPE 1-1-44

The project is strictly for war-worker housing—Tampa is an important shipping, shipbuilding and industrial center—but the units will be of permanent construction. After the war they will be used as low-rent units to improve the admittedly bad housing available here for Negroes.

One project, North Boulevard Homes, is already occupied by Negroes here, having been erected before Pearl Harbor as a slum clearance aid.

The two tracts selected total 40 acres northeast and southwest of the intersection of Lake avenue and 22nd street. Buildings will be of one and two story constructions.

SITE SELECTED

The Federal Public Housing Authority said the site was selected because it is in the heart of the largest Negro section here and because it will be well served by electricity, water, transportation and Negro schools.

Fifty-one colored homes on the sites will be moved, not razed as in peace-time slum clearance construction. 1-1-44

Upon completion the new unit wil bring to 1,000 the number of government housing units for Negroes here. North Boulevard Homes consists of 520 units.

Negroes Get Housing Aid

Detroit Free Press
Detroit, Mich.

Eight Mile-Wyoming Projects to Be Built

BL LEO DONOVAN
Free Press Staff Writer

Development of a greatly enlarged community in the vicinity of Eight Mile and Wyoming as a temporary remedy for the long acute Negro housing shortage was promised Sunday by Sherwood L. Reeder, area director of the Federal Public Housing Authority.

More than 1,500 dwelling units—temporary war housing projects, including mobile homes, demountable houses and multiple family structures—will have been completed or under construction in the area by the end of July, Reeder predicted. 6-5-44

SCHOOL IS PLANNED

Serving the community will be an additional school building, a large community center, a new fire station and a block of neighborhood stores.

The land for the residential development all has been acquired by the FPHA, Reeder reported. Much of it was owned by the State Land Board, which had witheld a section of it from public sale for almost three years at the request of the City Plan Commission, which contemplated a model community in the area bounded by Eight Mile, the alley west of Birwood, Pembroke and the alley east of Greenlawn.

A compromise agreement, opposed only by the commission, provided for the release of 109 lots in the southeast section for private construction. Approval was voiced by the Federal Housing Administration, the State Land Board, the FPHA and the Detroit Housing Commission.

300 ALREADY BUILT

Three hundred temporary dwelling units have been built and are being occupied just west of the original model site. A contract for construction of another 124 similar type dwellings has been let and an additional 285 mobile homes, constructed by the Palace Coach Co., will be erected and available for occupancy no later than July 1, Reeder said.

In Royal Oak Township, just west of Wyoming and south of North End Road, there will be erected 475 demountable houses which are being moved here from LaPorte, Ind., where they were no longer necessary to house war workers on an arsenal contract, Reeder announced.

OTHERS ARE PLANNED

Also north of Detroit between Eight Mile and North End, west of Wyoming, an additional project for 399 temporary dwelling units will be built. Alternate bids on wood panel and concrete block construction will be taken because of the lumber shortage, Reeder said. 6-5-44

While most public improvements, including sewer, water, light and gas utilities, are in the Detroit area of the projects, the new Negro community north of Eight Mile will require installation of sewers, sidewalks, fire hydrants and some new roads, Reeder explained.

COURT WILL ACT TODAY ON PLAN TO BAR HOUSING

Tribune-Chicago, Ill.
3-28-44

Federal Judge Walter J. La Buy will be called upon this morning to determine whether government contractors shall continue with construction work on war emergency homes in the West Chesterfield community on Chicago's south side despite the protests of Negro residents there.

Home owners in the community, said to be one of the finest Negro home developments in the United States, petitioned the federal court to set aside an earlier order of Judge Elwyn R. Shaw, which condemned lots in the community for the erection of 250 emergency homes for war workers. 8-28-44

This petition had been set for hearing on Sept. 20. Contractors went into the community on Aug. 19, destroyed some war gardens and started construction work on basements. Atty. Aaron Payne asked Judge Michael L. Igoe for a restraining order pending action on his earlier petition. Hearing the injunction plea was assigned by Judge Igoe to Judge La Buy.

Teacher's Idea Resulted In 300 New Homes For Atlanta

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Fairview Terrace Emerges As One Of State's Largest Projects

When Fairview Terrace, one of the country's outstanding communities for Negro War workers, is completed this fall, it will provide more than 300 modern homes for families in Atlanta Georgia, the National Housing Agency announced this week. 6-4-44

Half the houses already have been completed and are occupied. When the last house is finished, the homes will represent an investment by private enterprise of over $1,250,000. The project was organized and carried out by Negroes and is financed by an Atlanta institution with mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration under Title VI of the National Housing Act.

STARTED IN 1942

Fairview Terrace got its start in the spring of 1942, after a Negro school teacher, Miss Mattie Weaver, had received notice to vacate her quarters in a public housing project because her salary was too high for a tenant of that project. She could find no other decent housing available in that area at a price she could afford. So she took her problem to R. E. Matheson, FHA State Director for Georgia, at the FHA's Atlanta office.

Mr. Matheson and his staff knew this condition existed. They also knew that not a single loan incurred through the Atlanta office on a home owned and occupied by a Negro family had been foreclosed. Accordingly, they were confident that a considerable number of livable homes for Negroes could be built and financed safely under the FHA mortgage insurance program.

One of the leading Negro contractors of Atlanta, W. H. Aiken, had built a number of homes under teh FHA program. The Atlanta Federal Savings and Loan Association had made about half of its $2,500,000 of mortgage loans on Negro homes, many of them built by Mr. Aiken.

AGREEMENT REACHED

Accordingly, Mr. Matheson held a conference with Mr. Aiken and officials of the association. The result was Mr. Aiken's decision to develop a tract of land in the neighborhood of Atlanta University into a new and permanent residential community, but temporarily war workers families. This action was made conditional on the approval of the development under the local war housing quota of the National Housing Agency, that the FHA would help guide the developers, and that the association would do the necessary FHA-insured financing.

Agreement was reached on all these points and the planning started. 6-4-44

The site for Fairview Terrace is high, well-drained ground, already in a zoned area, and with the street plan fixed by the city. It is convenient to churches, schools, colleges, employment centers and shopping districts. The general plan, adapted to the street pattern, was laid out with the aid of FHA and planning consultants to meet FHA neighborhood standards, with protective convenants, paved streets, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters; connection with the city sewer system; gas, water, and electric systems; and two small recreational areas.

HOUSES SOUND

The houses are designed to be sound, attractive and comfortable, measuring up to FHA minimum construction requirements under wartime limitations on the use of critical materials. Each house has hot and cold running water, sanitary flush toilets, bathtubs, central heating systems, modern fixtures, gas and electricity.

The ultimated result will be the largest housing project for Negroes built under the FHA program in Georgia, comparing favorably with other communities of similar rent and price ranges in the Atlanta area.

Fairview Terrace was planned for 306 family dwelling units, consisting of 206 single-family homes and 50 duplex houses. All the duplex houses have been completed and the 100 dwelling units occupied at a rental of $39.50 a month each. More than half of the single family homes have been completed, sold, and occupied and the others are scheduled to be completed this fall. These homes have a price range from $3,900 to $4,400, with FHA-insured mortgages of from $3,510 to $3,960. Monthly payments, which include principal, interest, hazard insurance and taxes, range from $26.59 to $30. 6-4-44

PAID 10 PERCENT DOWN

Most of the families occupying these homes came from substandard neighborhoods and houses, but the monthly payments in Fairview Terrace are well within their means. Those who are buying their new homes under the FHA plan had the necessary down payment of 10 percent of the FHA valuation, or were acquiring it under a lease-option agreement; also, they had a credit reputation acceptable to FHA and were earning steady incomes sufficient to carry the monthly payments, with enough left over for living requirments.

Mitchell Village At Tuskegee Honors Fallen Airman Of 99th

Journal & Guide. Norfolk, Va. 2-19-44

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — While the Warhawks of the 99th Pursuit Squadron were winning new laurels in the embattled skies over Italy this week, the pioneer Negro unit of the U. S. Army Air Forces was scheduled to receive an added honor at Tuskegee Army Air Field on February 15, the Federal Public Housing Authority and the War Department have reported to the Office of War Information this week.

On that date, Mitchell Village, a war housing project constructed by the Federal Public Housing Authority at the airfield, will be officially opened.

The unit is named for Lieut. Paul Graham Mitchell, first member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron officially reported killed in action overseas.

Plans for Mitchell Village, a project of 18 buildings and 100 apartments, were completed while the all-Negro air squadron was still in training at Tuskegee Army Air Field, but actual construction was not begun before the unit joined other Allied air forces in North Africa.

The plans were drawn by Edward C. Miller, architect, with the firm of McKissack and McKissack serving as associate. The contract was awarded to the Bierney Jones Construction Company.

NAMED BY COMMANDER

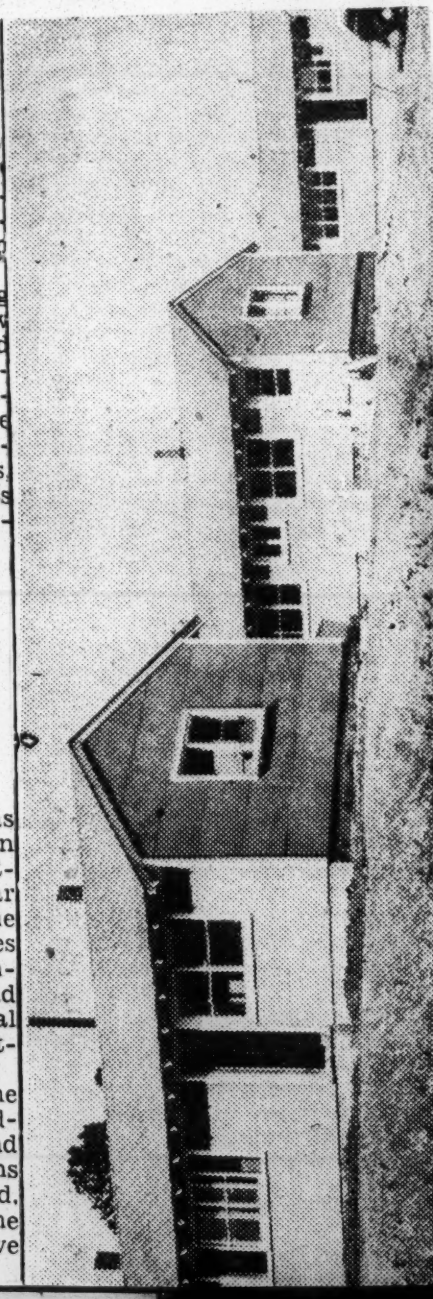
As the work progressed, John P. Broome, EPHA Director of Region IV, asked the Commanding Officer to suggest a name for the project, and the Commanding Officer suggested a tribute to Lieutenant Mitchell who was killed in action September 11, 1943.

The modern project, covering 21.4 acres on a hill above the low level of the base, will be occupied by civilian war worker of the airfield, enlisted personnel and officers up to and including the rank of captain. Only the civilian residents will pay for lights, water, and heat, but civilian rents have been adjusted to civilian income.

One hundred families will be housed in the project which includes a large community building and one two- and three-bedroom apartments. The community building has general offices, a clinic and an assembly room for entertainments.

The 99th Pursuit Squadron has recently figured prominently in the fighting above the Anzio-Netuno beachhead near Rome. War Department reports show that the unit shot down eight Axis planes on January 27, 1944; four on January, 28, one on February 7 and three on February 8 for a total of 16 enemy planes in the fighting over Italy. 2-19-44

Between January 15-28, the War Department said, the squadron made 231 effective sorties and dropped seven and one-half tons of bombs. During this period, squadron casualties included one plane lost, two missing and five damaged.



VILLAGE NAMED FOR FALLEN FLIER—A village section of a housing project for civilian war workers at Tuskegee Army Air Field has been named in memory of the late Lt. Paul Graham Mitchell, killed in action with the 99th Fighter Squadron in North Africa. The name was recommended by his commanding officers

Tuskegee Housing Project To Honor Lost 99th Pilot

Defender- Chicago, Ill. 2-19-44

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — While the pioneer Negro unit of the U. S army air forces was scheduled this week to receive an added honor at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Warhawks of the 99th Pursuit Squadron were winning new laurels in the embattled skies over Italy.

47g-1944

Jewish Group Unveils Portrait Of First Pilot Killed In Action

Widow Of Sidney Brooks Present At Exercises

Daily World - Atlanta Ga
3-16-44

Painting Will Hang On Walls Of Karamu House

CLEVELAND, Ohio — (SNS) — A unique manifestation of interracial understanding reached its climax here last week when an oil painting of Lt. Sidney P. Brooks, Cleveland airman and the first Negro pilot killed in the war, was presented to Karamu House, a Negro community center, by the Cleveland B'nai B'rith War Service Council in the presence of white and Negro civic and educational leaders.

Commissioned by B'nai B'rith, the portrait was first unveiled before the entire school assembly of Central High School, of which Lt. Brooks was a alumnus. Leo M. Ascherman, member to B'nai 'B'rith's National War Service Committee, presented the portrait, which was accepted by Russell Jelliffe, director of Karamu House.

WIDOW PRESENT 3-16-44

Others present at the exercises were Mrs. Lucille Brooks, widow of Lt. Brooks; Mr. and Mrs. T. Brooks, his parents; J. W. Brooks, his brother; R. W. Watson, principal of Central High School; Dilworth Lupton, Cleveland Press columnist; Alfred A. Benesch, president of the Cleveland School Board; Superintendent of Schools Charles Lake and Ormonde A. Foote, editor of the Cleveland Herald. The portrait, the work of Elmer Brown, art director of Karamu House, is now being exhibited at public and private high schools throughout Cleveland.

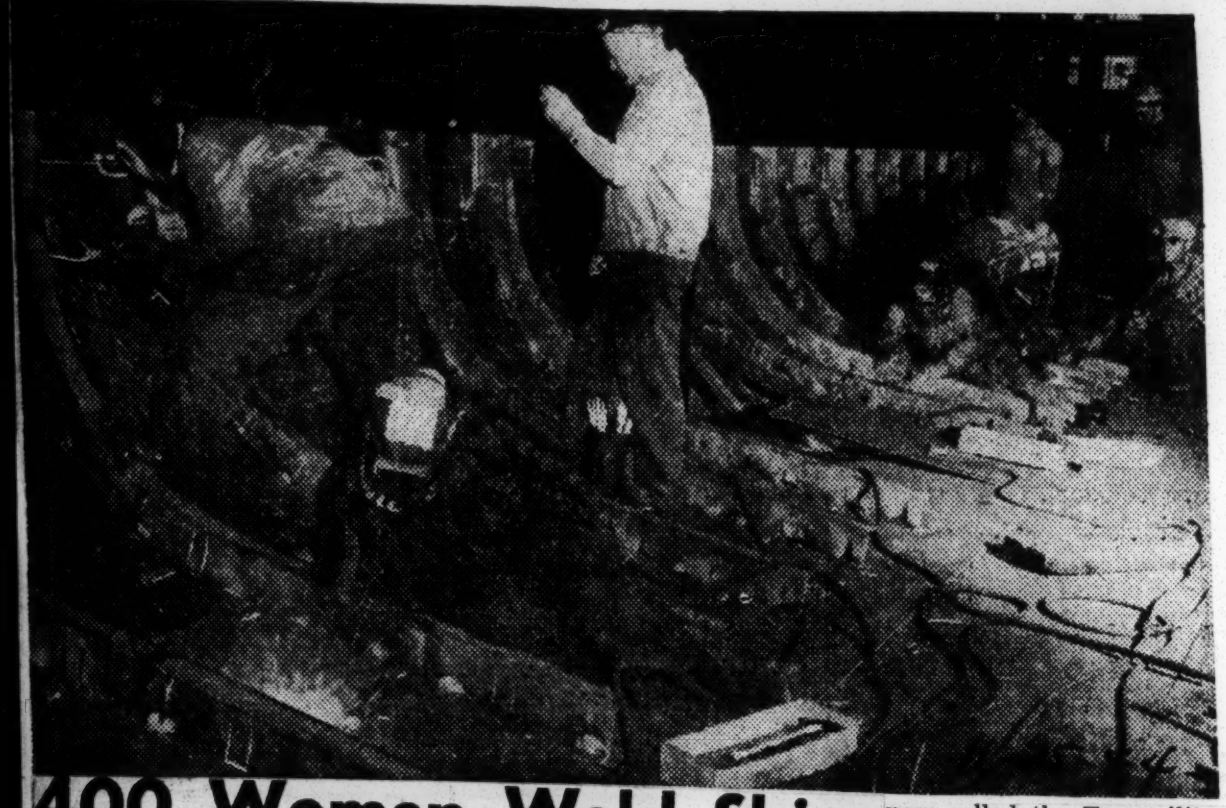
In a letter to M. Ascherman, Mrs. Brooks said "this means so very much to us and his loved ones, and to our race as a whole. We do so much appreciate your most gracious gift. It was very, very kind of you, and I just had to try, somehow, to express my thanks—our thanks — with the words that I find so inadequate at a time like this. Thanks so much again to you and your organization. Perhaps, yet, there may come about the existence of the true democracy — among the peoples that folks like you and us dream of."

AWARDED AIR MEDAL

Lt. Brooks, who was a member the Army Air Forces first all-Negro fighter squadron, was killed in action last September in North Africa. He was awarded the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster for aiding in fighting off German bombers attempting to raid Pantelleria. 3-16-44

Presentation of the portrait of Lt. Brooks was accompanied by an announcement from Mr. Ascherman that B'nai Ba'ith has furnished 20 recreation facilities for Negro military personnel at various Army installations throughout the country.

47h-1944



400 Women Weld Ships For Victory At Sun Co.

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.
11-25-44

CHESTER, Pa.—One of the jobs women seem very good at in war plants is welding. Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, as other plants, has found this to be a fact.

Sun Ship employs many women welders. Since November of 1942 women have been receiving training in welding and have been working as welders and welders' helpers at Sun Ship. At present about 50 per cent of the women employed in that yard or approximately 400 women are working as welders or welders' helpers.

The work of these women may take them anywhere in the Yard or anywhere on the hulls and ships.

11-24-44

There are those who say the work is hazardous. It is not hazardous if the welder observes safety standards—wears protective clothing, wears a welding mask and helmet, wears suitable eye protection, and a respirator.

The women employed in this department express and show an interest in their job. Many of them say: "Not only am I helping the war effort, but I've learned new skills and I have been able to buy many longed-for things.

In the picture are women welders at Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, Chester. These women are welding stiffner angles on the bilge section of a car float. The welders include B. Showell, E. Malloy, R. Cooper, E. Lewis and A. Roane.

Standing on the hull and supervising the job is assistant welding foreman, Al Wagner. The two men at the extreme right are C. Brinkley and N. Key, shipfitters.

11-28-44

One-Sixth of Hospital Ships Made by Negroes

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
11-24-44

CHESTER, Pa. — Six hospital ships launched during 1944 at the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company are the newest units in the United States Armed Services' Fleet of 36 new hospital ships having a capacity for approximately 22,000 patients, it was disclosed last week in a report released by the American Merchant Marine Institute.

The six Sun-built ships are the Marine Lion, which has been rechristened the Benevolence, the Marine Walrus, now the Consolation; the Marine Hawk, now the Haven; the Marine Beaver, now the Repose, the Marine Owl, now the Sanctuary, and the Marine Dolphin, now called the Tranquility.

Each of the vessels was built in the No. 4 Yard at Sun Ship predominantly Negro-Employed, and cost approximately $3,000,000 each. After launchings and test runs, the ships were taken over by the Government and outfitted for hospital service.

Many of the other ships in the hospital fleet were drawn from the merchant marine, according to Frank J. Taylor president of the Institute. He said that in 1939 the Army had no hospital ships and the Navy only one.

Painted white from smokestack to waterline, the ships travel fully lighted at night over routes not used by big convoys.

11-24-44

They average 600 beds each and are the floating equivalent of a seven to nine-story hospital covering a city block, the Merchant Marine Institute report stated.

The ships are completely equipped with operating rooms, dispensaries, pharmacies, laboratories, refrigerating rooms, sterilizing units and wards for the treatment of all types of war illnesses, physical and mental.

Electricaly operated "mechanical cows" provide milk and ice cream.

Dining halls, lounges and recreation rooms complete the services available to hospitalized fighting men.

Vessels Average

600 Beds Each; Fully Equipped

Atlanta Daily World

Boats Equal To Seven To Nine-Story Building

Atlanta, Ga.
11-24-44

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BUILT IN YARD FOUR

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11-24-44

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Women Invade Electrical Field While Working at Sun Ship Yards

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

11-18-44

Prior to the war era the field of electricity was for all practical purposes left almost entirely to men. Not only were women not actively engaged in electrical work, but there was no thought of their entering this field at all. Now we find in Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, as in many other war plants, that there are many women working in the electrical department.

The girls who are making good at this work in Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company represent many previous occupations. A great number of them were waitresses, domestics, and bus girls; some had previous experience in clerical work; a few were in school preparing for the teaching profession.

The jobs of some of the girls are very responsible in nature as that of Ernestine Taylor—3rd class electrician. Miss Taylor hooks up the gun fire control panel. In case of emergency the guns need not be manned but can be fired from this panel. On the panel which Miss Taylor hooks up there are 568 connections—84 of these connections are telephone connections. There are connections to signal systems, firing system to guns, telephones to guns, lighting circuits to guns, lookout and Captain's station, the engine room, and the gun fire control room (here is the heart of the gun system).

Another young woman who holds a very responsible position is Miss Dorothy Arbeary. Miss Arbeary is a cable expeditor. She must be always on the alert as she must order different types of cables for different types of wiring. She must see that the right size and type of cable is delivered to the right boat and on time.

11-18-44

In the maintenance department the girls work on ship generators; they do welding repair—as fixing welding lines and putting handles on welding rods; they splice wires together; and often take care of the temporary light system.

On the boats they hook up I C control panels, put wire on terminals, fix lugging wire, and hook up lighting boxes.

In the shop they work as handimen, drill press operators, on the hand thread tapping machine, ordering material and taking care of blue prints.

Colored women are proud of their sisters who have been given opportunities such as these girls in the electrical department at Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company.

Emmett Bailey, Leader in the electrical department, working with a megger as one electrician and three electrician's helpers look on. The megger is a machine which tests for any bare wires or any grounds.

11-18-44

Left to right: Bailey, formerly a window cleaner; Lucy Mosnee, electrician's helper, formerly a bus girl in a restaurant; Ernestine Taylor, 3rd class electrician, a fountain girl in a drug store; Gladys Washington, electrician's helper; and Toyia Furness, electrician's helper, was a waitress in a hospital.

They are standing in front of a gun fire control panel. ...

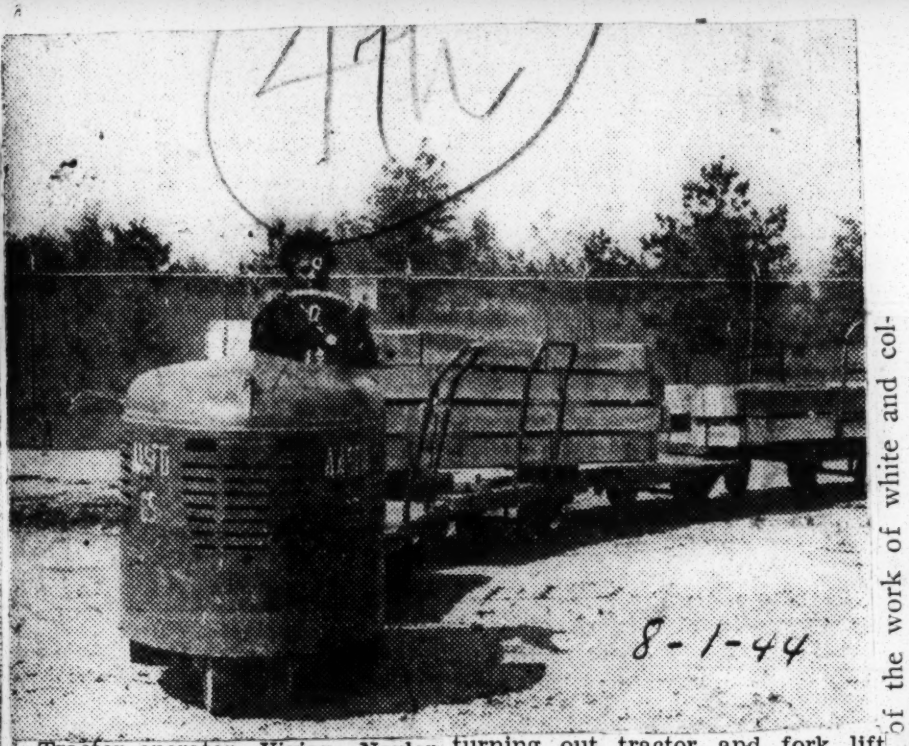
47h-1944

Our Women Do Their Part

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

8-1-44

KEEPING PACE WITH THE MEN, many of whom they have replaced due to current shortages, colored women are filling many important war jobs at the Atlanta Army Service Forces Depot huge Armys 'supply hub' of the South-east. Mesdames L. Bradie Wangfield and Freddie May Ashley, both of Atlanta, are two of the many colored women who have found new employment along the opportunity to do their bit towards winning the war.



8-1-44

Tractor operator Vivian Naylor, of Jonesboro, Georgia is one of the many women of above-average capabilities 'graduated' from the the Depot's school which has been turning out tractor and fork lift truck operators every bit as efficient as the men they have replaced.

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
8-1-44

Messenger Roxy Grier of Atlanta, Georgia is loading up for another round.

8-1-44

KEEPING A CLOSE CHECK ON VITAL WAR SUPPLIES is checker Virginia Matthews of Atlanta.

Head Of War Plant Demonstrates Way To Win On 2 Fronts

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.
4-8-44

Smelting Company Official Doesn't Just Talk About Democracy—He Puts it to Work

CHICAGO (ANP)—Abraham Rubin, vice president of the National Smelting Co., of Cleveland, recently proved himself a real anti-fascist, pre-labor employer, in his fight against racial discrimination and by giving Negroes full equality in job opportunities and upgrading at his 100 per cent war plant.

At his war plant which employs 1,400 Negro and white workers, Negroes work as foreman supervising white workers; white and Negro workers take training courses in skilled trades side by side; the chairman of the executive shop committee is a Negro and the plant physician is a prominent Negro doctor. Negroes are active in all parts around the plant.

4-8-44

Declaring that he is eager to see mixed teams in the major leagues, and segregation abolished from armed forces, Rubin believes that such changes would aid in bringing about an early end of the war. Rubin, a thorough pro-unionist, insists that a strong labor movement is a major bulwark against fascism.

Debunks 'Race Myth'

His workers are 100 per cent organized by the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers union, CIO. Union leaders and plant executives serve on a labor management committee, which actively promotes employee health and welfare, athletic programs, safety measures against industrial accidents.

American democracy."

Rubin, 52 years old, started as an errand boy in the smelting plant he now heads, 30 years ago. He strongly advocates "equal job opportunities for all."

Local Girl 1st Welder Instructor

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.
7-17-44

Miss Annie Mae West, has been promoted to the position of instructor of welders in 26 Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Miss West is the first person of color to receive this position, and her duty calls for supervision of the work of white and colored men and women.

The Shop is supervised by the Master Shipfitter and the shipfitting department. Miss West's appointment is a notable one and it is hoped that it will lead to other appointments.

WOMEN FILL IMPORTANT JOBS IN ATLANTA—In an effort to combat current manpower shortages, the Atlanta Army Service Forces depot, Atlanta, Ga., is recruiting colored women for lighter labor and for semi-skilled jobs. A school is being conducted, too, for women of above-average capabilities. In top photos, left to right: Lucille Moore, a fork-lift truck operator, stacks vital war supplies; Virginia Matthews, keeps a close check on war supplies, and Vivian Naylor, of Jonesboro, Ga., stacks pallets and other war supplies. In bottom photos, left to right: L. Bradie Wangfield and Freddie May Ashley, two of the women who have found new jobs in the depot, and Roxy Grier, a messenger at the depot.

NEGRO-OWNED WAR PLANT IS MAKING MILITARY CLOTHES

CLEVELAND, July 13—(ANP)—The American Enterprises association Inc., one of the few Negro-owned and operated war plants produces military garments under United States army and lend-lease contracts.

Tucked away on the second floor of the Hart building, the five month old plant employs 135 skilled, unskilled and clerical workers of all races and creeds, resembling a miniature united nations.

The room is alive with the constant droning of 110 power-driven sewing machines, buttonholers and fed-off-arm machines operated by Negro, Italian and Spanish women.

A Polish foreman moved from worker to worker giving assistance wherever needed.

From its initial contract of 16,000 completed garments the plant has graduated to a contract calling for 30,000 garments, Olander J. Smith, president, said this week.

"Since March the United States quartermaster inspection division has not rejected a single garment of the association. They have given us a perfect production record," Mr. Smith said.

"Cleveland was chosen as the site for this plant because of the fine reputation it has in race relations."

Kenneth Tato, personnel director, said that all employes were hired on the basis of qualifications for the job. He said that they have no union trouble nor do they expect to fire any racial group after the war.

"We do have the same problem that other plants have in recruiting trained precision workers," he said.

Mr. Smith was born in St. Paul, Minn. He attended the University of Wisconsin and received his law degree from Northwestern university.

Married and the father of two daughters and two sons, Mr. Smith has one son serving in the army in England. His family still lives in Toledo where he formerly worked for housing authorities.

War Training Schools

This is a nation whose physical strength has been built upon technical skills, inventiveness, and scientific management. Survival and progress in this war and the hope of the future peace will also have to rely in the physical realm upon these processes, which have startled the world with American productiveness. Before World War II Negroes had been largely maneuvered away from the technical skills. The necessities and the upheavals of the war have removed some of the barriers. One outstanding factor in this process has been the war training schools, an excellent example of which is the one conducted in Houston under the local supervisorship of S. B. Byars. The original sponsor was the Houston Independent School district, but more lately the Houston college for Negroes.

A recent announcement of the Houston War Training school shows that "more than 2300 persons have completed short unit courses in six trades and the majority have accepted employment locally and throughout the nation, contributing their labor to supplying the armed services with ships and many other types of war material." When to the Houston accomplishment is added the accomplishments of other war training schools over the country, it is not hard to visualize the fact that these new technical skills have made it possible for Negroes to make large contributions to the war program, and to be better and more useful citizens in the peace which will follow war.

47h-1944

MAYOR GREETING 'MISS NEGRO VICTORY WORKERS'

The Misses Aurelia Carter (left) and Edna Rucker with Mr. La Guardia at City Hall

Co-winners of the title "Miss Negro Victory Worker of 1944," Miss Aurelia Carter of Yonkers and Miss Edna Rucker of Detroit were received yesterday by Mayor La Guardia at City Hall.

Miss Carter, 22 years old, is an electric welder at the Otis Elevator Company plant at Yonkers and Miss Rucker, 27, is employed at the steel foundry unit of the Ford Company River Rouge plant, at Dearborn, Mich. They will receive national merit awards at the Negro Freedom Rally in Madison Square Garden on June 26.

They Won 'Victory' Awards

Two attractive "Miss Negro Victory Workers for 1944"-will help draw the crowds to the big Madison Square Garden meeting of the Negro Freedom Rally on Monday, June 26. Those two girls from Ford's River Rouge Plant in Detroit and the Otis Elevator shop in Yonkers are winning the hearts of New Yorkers already.

Mayor LaGuardia greets the girls at City Hall at 11:45 a.m. this morning and a round of other festivities will follow until next Monday's meeting.

Both girls are active unionists. Miss Edna Rucker, the Detroit girl, is recording secretary to the new steel foundry unit of Ford local 600, United Automobile Workers, CIO. And Miss Aurelia Carter of Yonkers is recording secretary to the Otis local 453 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO.

Miss Edna Rucker told the Daily Worker yesterday that she is enjoying her stay, but she misses her friends at River Rouge, where she has been breaking records in getting blood for the Army and Navy as chairman of her CIO unit's blood donor committee.

With too much energy to get tired she is an active member of the local's Political Action Committee and has been elected a delegate to the Michigan State Federation of Labor, and is shop editor of the Steel Foundry unit's paper Ford Facts.

Miss Carter, the other co-winner of the Negro Freedom Rally's contest, gives gives most of her time to union war work, after finishing a ten-hour shift as an electric arc welder.

The first Negro girl welder to work in the Yonkers plant, she takes the job in her stride, tends a victory garden in her backyard, serves on the local's Political Action Committee, on its inter-local social activities committee, helps out as a servicemen's hostess, buys war bonds, belongs to the executive committee of the American Labor Party of Yonkers, is secretary to the financial secretary of the Bethany Lutheran Church of Yonkers

Hagerstown Has Only All-Negro Aircraft Plant

HAGERSTOWN, Md.—This city enjoys the distinction of having the only all-Negro aircraft plant in the United States. It is the Fairchild Aircraft Corporation which has been operating for 17 months under an entirely Negro personnel.

It's young general supervisor, Kenyon E. Evans, 25 years old, came to Hagerstown in June, 1942, and opened up a defense training school where he and a few others held classes every night.

Then with the first five who finished, they set up a shop which has grown now to 148 employees—all colored. They do small parts in sheet metal for the PT19's and UC61A cargo vessels.

The only white men in the shop are the three company inspectors, the army and navy inspectors being colored, too. They have made a commendable showing in the production line as Fairchild will testify. The Army and Navy "E" Flag flies from the flag-pole, and under it a "Minute Man" flag.

Miss Edna Rucker, one of the two "Miss Negro Victory Workers for 1944" appearing at the Negro Freedom Rally, Monday, June 26, at Madison Square Garden, is recording secretary of the new steel foundry unit of Ford Local 600, United Auto Workers, CIO.

How Brooklyn Navy Yard Bars Colored Promotions

Mechanic Says He Had to Step Down When White Men Refused to Work Under Him

By SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—It was six o'clock in the evening and the trolley was very crowded. Most of the passengers were defense workers from the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and as we stopped at each corner we picked up more people going home after a day's work.

It had been my misfortune to be on this Flushing Avenue trolley, and, although I had a seat, I found myself being pushed and leaned on by those standing.

Seated next to me near the window was a colored man who was obviously a Navy Yard employee, as I could see by the badge that he wore on his overcoat.

At Yard 8 Years

To pass the time, I engaged him in some casual conversation, and before I realized it this man was revealing inside information which proved to be quite interesting.

"I have been working at the yard for eight years," he told me; "I was always a mechanic and came to work here with many years of experience.

Blames Employees

"There's one thing I learned here, and that's that the white employees are just as much to blame as the Navy Yard officials for the color discrimination. What can the officials do if the whites refuse to work along with the colored men when I was just another employee? That's what happened in my case.

"When I was first hired I got a trainee's rating. It took me three years to earn a promotion despite my experience. From then on I was to the next grade and for all the work done in his section or unit, which is usually composed of twelve men.

"He must be an excellent mechanic and be responsible only for the time I worked out of the title of first class instructor of our unit left for the Army. By every right—seniority and experience—I was entitled to take his place. Frankly I was a little surprised and somewhat pleased when I was appointed as instructor.

"But I didn't take into consideration what the white workers in my unit thought about this action.

Whites Refuse to Work

"I found that the men who were willing to work along with me when I was just another em-

ployee refused to work under me once I became instructor. They all ganged up and went to the supervisor and asked for transfers to other units. They made no bones about the reason why.

"One white man said that he wouldn't take orders from a 'n----r' for any money.

"The supervisor approached me and seemed confused about what he should do. I asked him whether it was possible to let these men go to other units and transfer others to my unit who would be willing to work for me.

"He told me that it was impossible, that these men were used to their jobs and experienced in that particular type of work and that he didn't want to break up an entire unit just for the sake of one man—meaning me!

Had to Step Down

"I knew what that meant. I had to step aside and consent to a white man's taking the job—a man who didn't have my mechanical abilities and who certainly wasn't entitled to it ahead of me by seniority or by any other reasons.

"Of course, I was burned up for a couple of months, but I had to get over it or quit my job. So I swallowed my pride and feelings and went back to work. 3-4-44

"If this happened to me, it must have happened to many other colored men in the Navy Yard. It means they'll never get a break."

Quit CIO Union

I asked this man, who preferred to remain anonymous, whether he was a member of any union in the yard. He said that he used to belong to the CIO union but that he quit it when they refused to take any action for him on a number of grievances he had had.

"I don't blame them," he explained. "The unions have no strength when they deal with the U.S. government. The government just has no respect for labor outfits. That goes for the AFL, too, which is also represented in the yard. 3-4-44

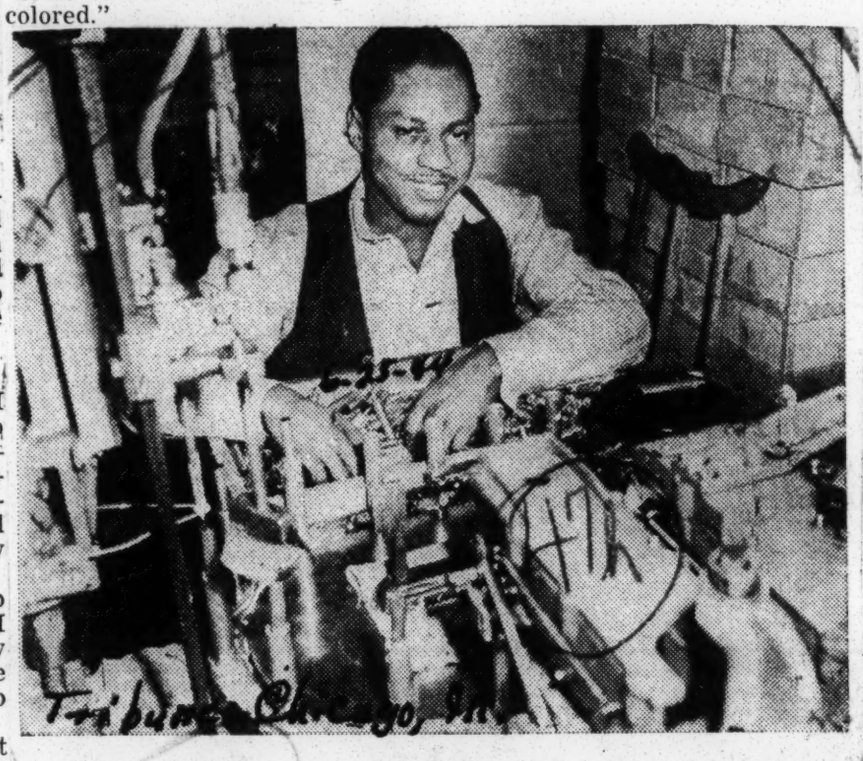
Workers Need Education

"I know of some cases where colored girls are hired as mechanic learners and are given brooms and dust cloths to clean up the place. When they complain to the supervisors they are told that all work in the Navy Yard is important no matter how menial it is, even sweeping up, and that you have to learn to take orders in the Navy and carry them out.

"This kind of answer hardly clears things up for them, but what can you do? Maybe we shouldn't expect too much of the management when white employees themselves need some education on working with colored.

As we turned into Graham Avenue the man got off the trolley, but not before I had made an appointment to see him the following night at his home.

When I went to see him we talked until midnight about the whole Navy Yard situation without hitting ony any solution. At this writing the thing that keeps popping up in my head is what he said about whites needing "some education on working with colored."



Wilbur Lightfoot, 28, 4415 Calumet av., is paralyzed in both legs, but he makes $60 a week operating a tube filling machine at the Barr plant. The machine requires only the use of hands. At home Lightfoot further develops finger dexterity by playing the violin. 6-21-44

THE GOOSE THAT LAYS THE GOLDEN EGG IS LEAVING

Register—San Antonio, Texas

DEVELOPMENTS of recent weeks should occasion some very sober reflection on the part of those persons who have seemingly thought that high-paying war jobs, and the acute labor shortage in many fields, because of war conditions, are going to continue forever. 3-17-44

Not only the experts, but the serious-minded observers of the general citizenry should know, now, that we have reached the peak in war-worker requirements, that we are now on the down-grade, that layoffs and shut-downs have occurred, are occurring, and will continue to occur.

The Office of War Information has reported that December, 1943, was the first month since the United States entered the war that industry experienced a net loss in its working force.

Excluding layoffs, fifty-four workers quit, were drafted, or were discharged for every fifty-one hired. Industry suffered a net loss of three workers per thousand in December, the first overall loss since Pearl Harbor. If layoffs were included, the net loss would be twelve per thousand.

The quit rate was the lowest of any month in 1943, but, in contrast, the layoff rate was the highest reported since July, 1942, and the rate of new hiring was the lowest reported since 1941. 3-17-44

Although, however, labor turnover remains a serious problem, often impeding war production and actually causing a net reduction in the working force of many war plants which, in order to meet their schedules should be increasing their working force, the handwriting appears on the wall.

And let the Negro not be disillusioned. The practice has always been that he is the last to be hired, the first to be fired, and, despite some gains he has made during the war emergency period, this practice will, more or less, continue. Let us not forget that nothing short of a presidential executive order opened the doors of many war plants to Negro workers, even in this emergency.

Last week, in Detroit, more than three hundred Negro workers were laid off by a war plant. The layoffs, of course, resulted from cutbacks in war production, fulfillment of some war contracts, and renegotiation of others. A complaint has been entered that Negroes were laid off out of proportion, that seniority rights had been juggled. There will be more of this as time goes on.

It is obvious that the Race must prepare itself for what is to come—possibly it may not be for many months, it may be weeks, possibly days. 3-17-44

Now, as never before, the Negro should use every dollar to the best possible advantage, save, practice thrift, for a rainy day is coming, not only for the Negro, but for all America. The Negro, of course, will get a more thorough drenching than any group.

Let the Race prepare itself, for the goose that has been laying the golden egg is on her way out.

Eight War Plants Charged With Unfair Labor Policies

World—Memphis, Tenn.

Cartridge Co. Fired Negroes With Seniority

States Cartridge Co., refused to reinstate these Negro workers just because they were colored.

9-4-44

ST. LOUIS—(ANP)—"The practice of some plants here of refusing to hire Negro workers is too frequent for the good of the war effort," Paul Connole, St. Louis States Employment Service office manager, said in comment of his required report to the FEPC on the conduct of plants holding government contacts in regard to Negro or white workers.

According to Malcolm Ross, F. E. P. C. chairman, the hearings will be conducted by the full membership of the committee. The F. E. P. C. counsel will consist of Ernest C. Trible and Frank D. Reves, staff members.

8-4-44

The seven plants charged with refusing to hire Negro workers are Amertorp Corporation; Bussman Manufacturing Co., Wagner Electric Corporation; St. Louis Shipbuilding Steel Company, McDonnell Aircraft Corporation and the McQuay-Norris Manufacturing Co.

Connole's report revealed that eight war plants were discriminating against the Negro in their employment programs. Hearings are scheduled for August 1 and 2.

While seven of the companies are charged with refusing to employ needed and available Negro war workers and with refusing to promote Negro workers to jobs in which they could exercise their special skills, one of the companies was charged with having dismissed its Negro employes during a recent work shortage when workers with less seniority were retained. The eighth plant, the United

7h-1944

They Lay Claim To Riveting Championship

The team of Misses Elizabeth Vernando and Cleo Glover have set a record of driving 104 one-eighth inch rivets in 120 seconds at the Burbank, Calif., plant of Lockheed Vega Airplane Company. This team works on both bay doors for the PV-1 Ventura bomber, among the first American planes consistently to bomb the Japanese homeland of Paramushira, northermost bastion of the Nippon OWI.)

5-24-44

Set Example For Men

Women War Workers Answer Nation's Call

Courier- Pittsburgh Pa.

1-22-44

By STANLEY ROBERTS, Courier Poll Analyst

Side by side with men, women today are performing similar duties in the nation's industrial war effort. And there is little doubt that they have proven their worth. One of the first questions raised by doubtful employers before the existing manpower shortage was: "Will the output and efficiency of the woman worker measure up to that of a man?"

That question has been definitely answered. A considerable body of evidence has proven that the woman worker is as satisfactory as a man in most instances, and in some, even more so, particularly in operations that require care in measurement and delicate handling.

Having demonstrated her ability, the woman worker is now coming in for much speculation as to how long her tenure in the industrial world will last. Questions such as the following are constantly being asked: "After the war will women return to the home?"—"Will women be thrown into the post-war labor market in competition against men?" These provoke a series of most interesting discussions and this week The Pittsburgh Couriers Bureau of Public Opinion asked colored America:

"Do You Believe Women Will Leave Industry in Great Numbers After the War?"

72.4% said "Yes"
10.8% said "No".
26.8% were uncertain

Women pollees were almost unanimous in the contention that the "weaker" sex had demonstrated their worth on the assembly lines of American factories, but most felt that the situation was temporary.

"We like the new freedom, the good money and the gained recognition," said one. But many of my friends, in talking over the problem, agree that the joys of building and maintaining a home is more fun than the work at the plants. In fact, we feel the responsibility of assuming our duties once more at the family fireside."

"We have taught the men a great lesson," said another. I think we have gained in their appreciation and respect."

Men were mostly concerned about the competition in post-war jobs. "I do not believe there will be enough work to go around after the war," said one. "And the normalcy of peacetime living will demand that the women re-enter the home to once again establish a typical and happy American family."

1-22-44

The unusually large numbers of "uncertain" answers was attributed to the newness of the situation. In this group many felt that every woman desired to help win the war, but would not venture an opinion on whether womanpower would be needed afterwards.

Colored Texans Establish Own War Industry Plant

Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va.

1-15-44

FT. WORTH, Tex.— (ANP) — Carver Industries, the nation's first all-Negro small parts plants, is now doing sub-contract work for precision metal parts of the U. S. Navy. Excluding the director, the plant is manned entirely by woman power, another distinguishing feature of the establishment.

The plant, named for the great scientist, George W. Carver, is the brain child of Elmer Williams, member of the training and employment committee of the Negro Welfare Council, former NYA director for Negroes and founder of the Vocational Preparedness Association.

William began work on the idea last March when it became apparent that the skills of Negroes, trained in the East Lancaster War Training school, would not be utilized by many local war plants.

The plant is now under the direction of Joseph E. Baker, electrical engineer, formerly employed in the engineering department of Douglass Aircraft Corporation Santa Monica, Cal. Baker took over after Williams was inducted into the Army a few weeks ago.

1-15-44

SIX SONS IN ARMY, NEGRO MAKES ARMS

Post-Birmingham, Ala.

By United Press.

METUCHEN, N. J. — The commander-in-chief of a one-family army, Mrs. Malissia Johnson, Middletown, N. Y., has become an expert on the disassembling and reassembly of small arms at Raritan Arsenal, near here.

7-6-44

The 45-year-old Negro mother, who has six sons in the Army and two other children at home, is one of 100 mothers who are working in the arsenal small arms shop. Five of her six sons are overseas.

Texans Establish Own War Plant; Named For Late G. W. Carver

Courier- Pittsburgh Pa.

1-15-44

FORT WORTH, Texas—(ANP)—Carver Industries, the nation's first all-Negro small parts plants, is now doing sub-contract work for precision metal parts of the U. S. Navy. Excluding the director, the plant is manned entirely by woman power, another distinguishing feature of the establishment. The plant, named for the great scientist, George W. Carver, is the brain child of Elmer Williams, member of the training and employment committee of the Negro Welfare council, former NYA director for Negroes and founder of the Vocational Preparedness association.

IDEA NEARLY 1 YEAR OLD

Williams began work on the idea last March when it became apparent that the skills of Negroes, trained in the East Lancaster War Training school, would not be utilized by many local war plants.

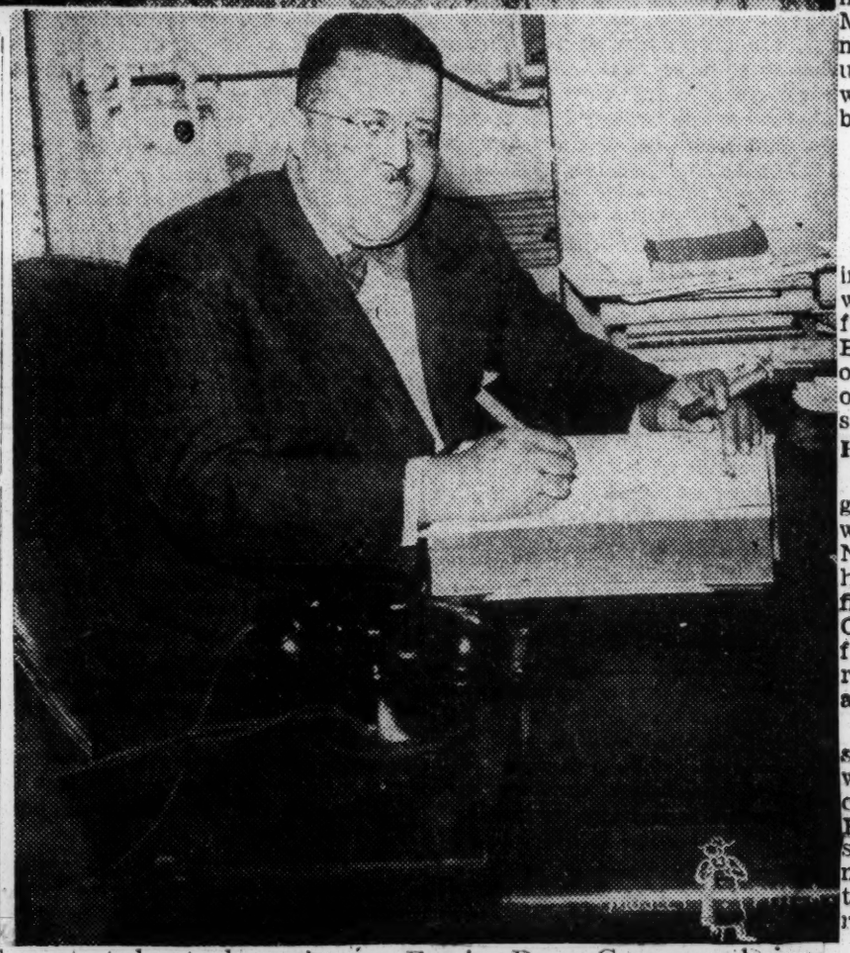
The plant is now under the direction of Joseph E. Baker, electrical engineer, formerly employed in the engineering department of Douglass Aircraft corporation.

School Founded To Train Women Now Operates As Business Firm

By JAMES H. YOUNG

In October 1941, Young's Textile School was started at 517 north 55th street. It was established in an attempt to train women so that they might fill jobs fast being created in the Quartermaster Depots of Army and Marine Corps. Our women were desirous of holding such jobs but had not been given the opportunity to gain experience needed. At the time I was employed as an investigator in the Inheritance Tax Department at City Hall. Many persons would bring applications to me to fill. Upon investigation I found that many had only experience as homestic help to offer. I knew then that something had to be done. On December 9, two days after "Pearl Harbor," with ten machines we started classes of two hours each, six classes per day. They were attended nicely. We taught one hundred and eighty pupils, most of whom secured work from the Quartermaster Depot of the Army and Marine Corps.

Later with the Government's creation of a training system my school was discontinued. I



then started actual manufactur-Empire Dress Company, designing. My first order was for Ap-ed and cut these outfits and Mr. ple Storage Company. It includ-Holmes gave me my start and ed jumpers and caps for the has cooperated with me in every drivers of the fleet of trucks. way possible, financially and Mr. Griffin, head cutter for otherwise. 1-15-44

We then obtained work from H. H. Rosenbaum of 123 n. 5th street. We had a complete shop of thirty machines. Our contract finished with this firm in June. Later we obtained another contract for Marshall Frock The production manager showed us his mass production system and today we have a complete shop with experienced operators.

We are members of the Waist and Blouse Contractors Association, the only colored firm to be so affiliated.

We need and welcome the further cooperation of the Negro people of Philadelphia to make this a big enterprise.

Women Operate Key Jobs In Industry; More Needed

Journal and Guide. 2-12-44
Norfolk, Virginia

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Mrs. Rosalie Ivy, an energetic young woman, works in mud, but she's neither a pottery worker nor a maker of mud pies. She's a "Pan Man" in a giant Gary, Ind., steel mill, and mixes a special mud used to seal the casting hole thru which molten iron flows from a blast furnace.

In the entire steel industry few women, or men either, are "Pan Men," for this is a rare job. 2-12-44

Mrs. Ivy belongs to that growing list of women war workers who have replaced men in jobs for the first time. The Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor recently compiled a list of some of the odd jobs held by such women.

HIGHEST RATING

Among those listed in this group is Evelyn Samuels, who went to work at the Brooklyn Navy Yard last year when they hired women mechanics for the first time in 41 years. In the Civil Service examinations given for Navy Yard jobs Miss Samuels received 99, the highest rating of any of the 6,000 women tested.

Doris Wilson, Hunter College student and Brooklyn resident, was another high-ranking applicant in the same examination. Both Miss Samuels and Miss Wilson were assigned to the instrument division where binoculars, telescopes and range finders are reconditioned.

Sarah T. Francis, formerly a presser in a laundry, is not only the first woman in the country to be employed as chipper and caulker, but the first in the history of shipbuilding. She is working at the Todd Shipyards in Ho-

boken, N. J.

Mrs. Susie T. Glover of Georgia holds a unique job for a woman. She was probably the first woman train announcer in the United States. Mrs. Glover started her railroad career 25 years ago doing odd jobs, icing and watering the train, cleaning up the station's carpenter shop, etc.

Her job as caller started accidentally when the station master asked her not to let anybody miss a train. She got copies of all schedules and began memorizing them. Today her voice is part of the essential station noises. Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

RUNS STEEL BURNER

At the Bartlett-Hayward plant in Baltimore, Md., a woman runs a steel-burning machine. It is an intricate machine, 25 feet long and six feet high, which cuts huge plates of steel for use in six different kinds of anti-aircraft guns. The acetylene torches which cut two parts at a time must be set and guided with precision. The operation must have a dozen or more controls set exactly right. 2-12-44

One of the most unusual jobs held by a colored woman in war industries is that assigned to Ethel Maxwell Williams of St. Paul, Minn. Mrs. Williams is assistant to Cecil E. Newman, director of Negro personnel for the Twin Cities Ordnance Plant at New Brighton, Minn. Her work includes labor relations, personnel adjustment, race relations and related spheres of administrative activity.

Last spring this plant was employing more than 17,000 workers, 700 of whom were colored. They work at a variety of jobs and include supervisors, stenographers, machine operators, nurses, photograph technicians, draftsmen, machine adjusters, movemen, janitors and matrons.

The pre-war theme song of the aircraft industry was "Men Only." Shortly before Pearl Harbor some 4,000 women were employed in the entire aircraft industry—and most of them were in sewing jobs. By September of 1943, however, the tune had changed, more than 340,000 women were at work in the industry in airframe, engine, and propeller plants. Another 4,000 were employed on gliders.

IN KEY JOBS

The cannon and small arms plants also were considered men's domain before our entry into the war. A study of the Women's Bureau in the summer of 1942, of four government arsenals and four private firms showed, however, 11,000 women among the 75,000 employees. This number has been greatly increased within the past year.

The need for women war workers is still acute, and there is still a need and opportunity for women in civilian jobs to transfer to war work.

47h-1944

Armless Welding Wonder

Daily Work — Atlanta, Ga. 10-19-44

10-19-44

Termed "most dependable and industrious," James Murray 41-year-old armless night shift worker in the Industrial Canal plant of Higgins Industries, Inc., New Orleans, is speeding the output of giant ship hulls. Murray, who has two sons overseas, lost both arms in a railroad accident at Conroe, Texas, several years ago when he was trapped between two box cars. Using artificial arms, he graduated from the training school and Xavier University on July 21 and was immediately hired by Higgins Industries on the basis of his above average training record. Since his employment he has established an enviable record as a welder. (Higgins Industries Photo from OWI).

Toward Freedom

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

IN REFUSING to face squarely the special problem of Negro layoffs during the period of reconversion from wartime to peacetime production, the labor movement is courting disaster.

10-2-44

The problem arises out of the fact that racial discrimination in employment prevented the early entrance of Negro workers into war jobs in most industries. If strict seniority is followed in postwar layoffs, hundreds of thousands of Negro war workers, "the last hired," will again become "the first fired."

Such a development, of course, would be a terrific economic blow to the Negro people. They would be forced again, as during the Hoover depression, to bear the main brunt of that temporary unemployment which the reconversion period is sure to bring.

10-2-44

But the Negro people would not be the only victims of such a development. In this new period of our history, the postwar mass discharge of Negro workers from their jobs very easily could, and probably would, lead to the general disruption of the largest and most progressive trade unions, rendering them entirely incapable of protecting the economic

By Doxey Wilkerson

interests of either white or Negro workers, and greatly weakening the essential organized labor base of our whole American democracy.

This was not true after World War I, when the Negro newcomers to northern industry had been prevented from entering the unions in great numbers by the traditional craft and racial exclusiveness of the AFL. The **apparent** interests of the unions were not seriously armed by the postwar discharge of most Negro war workers

* * *

NOW, however, hundreds of thousands of Negro war workers are **within** the unions, and are in the process of building new and wholesome relations with their white fellow unionists. Moreover, the continued strengthening of Negro-white unity within the labor movement and of Negro-labor political collaboration in the community generally is absolutely necessary for organized labor and for our country as a whole.

10-2-44

But if the reconversion period brings a gross disproportion of layoffs to Negro workers, there is nothing anyone can say or do that will not drive a deep wedge between white and Negro workers within the unions, and between organized labor and the Negro people in the political arena. Trade unionists could argue all they want to about the abstract principle of "seniority," but their words would

Negroes and Reconversion
The Seniority Question

mean nothing to Negro trade unionists faced with breadlines or to Negro voters whose collaboration organized labor must continue to strengthen.

If after this war the masses of Negro workers are again the "first fired," the trade unions will probably be split wide open by racial conflict. They will be easy prey for every kind of disrupter, within the unions and without, who sees an opportunity to exploit the racial issue to the detriment of the unions. And there would be no effective defense.

10-2-44

THIS problem is serious, but it can be solved **in advance**, through agreements to modify the application (not the principle) of seniority so as to assure that Negro workers will not bear a disproportionate share of postwar cutbacks. Yet no union, not even the great progressive CIO unions which have been holding conventions during the past few weeks, has faced this problem squarely.

They would do well to heed the warning of the London Tribune, which comments: **"The forces of reaction in America can be counted on to make the most of the postwar situation by stirring up resentment between the white proletariat and the Negro proletariat. . . . Unless the unions can cope adequately with this problem, the Century of the Common Man may turn out to be the Century of the Comman Man's enslavement."**

Seniority Rules Fail to Aid Negro

The adjustment of seniority rules in some plants to prevent heavy layoffs of Negroes during the reconversion period was recommended today by the National Negro Congress after a survey of seniority ratings at the Sperry Gyroscope Co., Great Neck, L. I.

"Our survey shows that Negroes have gained very little seniority in war plants," Thelma Dale, acting secretary, said. "Under the present regulations, a far higher proportion of Negroes than whites will lose their jobs in cutbacks."

The Sperry plant was chosen for a test survey because of a long fight by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union, CIO, to overcome discriminatory practices against Negroes, she said.

"While seniority adjustments are not necessary everywhere," Miss Dale said, "the unmodified application of seniority rules would in many places . . . freeze prewar discriminations into postwar industry."

Fully Equipped

Memphis World — Tenn.

Boats Equal To Seven To Nine-Story Building

11-24-44

CHESTER, Pa. — (SNS) — Six hospital Ships launched during 1944 at the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company are the newest units in the United States Armed Services' fleet of 36 new hospital ships having a capacity for approximately 22,000 patients, it was disclosed last week in a report released by the American Merchant Marine institute.

Tenn

The six Sun-built ships are the Marine Lion, which has been rechristened the Benevolence, the Marine Walrus, now the Consulation, the Marine Hawk, now the Haven; the Marine Beaver, now the Repose; the Marine Owl, now the Sanctuary, and the Marine Dolphin, now called the Transquility.

BUILT IN YARD FOUR

Each of the vessels was built in the No. 4 yard at Sun Ship—predominantly Negro-employed, and cost approximately $3,000,000 each. After launchings and test runs, the ships were taken over by the Government and outfitted for hospital service.

Many of the other ships in the hospital fleet were drawn from the merchant marine, according to Frank J. Taylor, president of the Institute. He said that in 1939 the Army had no hospital ships and the navy had only one.

Painted white from smokestack to waterline, the ships travel fully lighted at night over routes not used by convoys.

They average 600 beds each and are the floating equivalent of a seven to nine-story hospital covering a city block, the Merchant Marine institute report stated.

COMPLETELY EQUIPPED

The ships are completely equipped with operating rooms, dispensaries, pharmacists, laboratories, refrigerating rooms, sterlizing units and wards for the treatments of all types of war illnesses, physical and mental.

Electrically operated "mechanical cows" provide milk and ice cream.

Dining halls, lounges and recreation rooms complete the services available to hospitalized fighting men.

Vessels Average 600 Beds Each;

Negro Getting Skilled Jobs in Shipyards

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

Navy Yards Absorbed Many Earlier in War Emergency

5-13-44

Non-white workers in the nation's shipyards, 96 per cent of whom are Negroes, now total 157,874, as compared with the 10,909 non-white workers employed in the whole industry in 1940, the Office of War Information disclosed this week following a survey of ninety-six shipyards and naval establishments.

The 1944 employment of non-white workers exceeded by more than 4,500 the total number of 153,364 persons listed as working in the whole shipbuilding industry by the 1940 U. S. census. The non-white shipyard workers now constitute 10.9 per cent of total employees as compared with 6.5 per cent in 1940.

South Lags as Usual

Although Southern employers have shown a reluctance to upgrade Negro workers and elevate them from the unskilled categories, other yards have shown considerable progress, said the OWI.

5-13-44

The increase of non-white employment at the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company in Pennsylvania, where thousands of Negroes are now working, is typical in some respects of the expansion of non-white employment in a number of new and enlarged shipyards.

In July, 1941, this firm employed only 750 Negro workers, confined mainly to unskilled and semi-skilled work. Demands for increased production and draft inroads on the working force caused the Sunship to start large-scale recruitment of Negro workers and the upgrading, through in-plant training, of hundreds of Negro cleaners and sweepers in its laboring departments.

On March 1, 1944, the company reported that 12,049 non-white workers constituted 39.7 per cent of its total working force, and that more than 7,000 unskilled Negro workers had been trained in the yards for skilled positions.

5-13-44

Sixty per cent of the non-white workers were employed in the "all-Negro" yard at Sunship, while 40 per cent were integrated in threo ther yards.

Kaiser Employs 11,284

Non-white workers are playing an important part in the West Coast shipbuilding industry. Seven Kaiser yards in that area employ 11,284, the largest number.

An analysis of the survey shows that private shipbuilders, however, have lagged considerably behind naval establishments in offering job opportunities to Negroes.

"The most rapid war-time expansion of non-white employment," the OWI says, "occurs in the U. S. Navy Yards in the early days of the defense and emergency."

5-13-44

During the year before Pearl Harbor, the Navy yards employed 100 per cent more Negroes than were at work in 1940. The survey pointed out that the Navy is absorbing Negroes into a variety of skills early in the war program, made it easier for the yards to take on larger numbers as the program expanded. One naval establishment has now doubled the number of Negroes employed in 1940.

wards for the treatment of all types of war illnesses, physical and mental.

11-25-44

Electrically operated "mechanical cows" provide milk and ice cream. Dining halls, lounges and recreation rooms complete the services available to hospitalized fighting men.

Call—Kansas City Star

5-26-44

CHAMPION RIVETERS AT LOCKHEED.—The team of Miss Elizabeth Vernando and Cleo Glover have set a record of driving 104 1-8 inch rivets in 120 seconds at the Burbank, Cal., plant of Lockheed Vega Airplane company. This team works on bomb bay doors for the PV-1 Ventura bomber, among the first American planes consistently to bomb the Japanese homeland of Peramusiro, northernmost bastion of the Nippon home defenses. Their record has been attested by Joseph M. Alvey, group supervisor, who conducted a special time test. When asked how they attained such a high degree of efficiency, Miss Vernando said, "You can become efficient doing anything if you have rhythm in your work." Miss Glover echoed, "You gotta have rhythm."—OWI Photo.—Story on Page 3.

5-26-44

Negro Crew Constructed Six Hospital Ships Now In Active Wartime Service

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

11-25-44

CHESTER, Pa.—Six hospital ships of 36 new hospital ships having a launched during 1944 at the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company are the newest units in the capacity for approximately 25,000 United States Armed Services' fleet patients, it was disclosed last week in a report released by the American Merchant Marine Institute.

The six Sun-built ships are the Marine Lion, which has been re-christened the Benevolence; the Marine Walrus, now the Consolation; the Marine Hawk, now the Haven; the Marine Beaver, now the Repose, and the Marine Owl, now the Sanctuary. Many of the other ships in the hospital fleet were drawn from the Transatlantic Merchant Marine, according to Frank J. Taylor, president of the Institute.

Each of the vessels was built in the No. 4 Yard at Sun Ship—pre-viously, Army had no hospital ships and the Navy had only one.

Completely Equipped

They average 600 beds each and are completely equipped floating equivalent of a two-nine-story hospital city block, the Merchant Marine Institute report stated.

The ships are completely equipped with operating rooms, dispensaries, to pharmacies, laboratories, refrigerating rooms, sterilizing units and the eating rooms.

11-25-44

Built In Yard No. 4

47h-1944

Number of Negroes In War Jobs Mounts

The Worker—New York, N.Y.
2-20-44

By Eugene Gordon

The National Urban League and he Fair Employment Practice Committee last week gave us some significant figures on Negro employment.

The League, having surveyed 300 war plants, reported that last year "the movement of Negro workers into war industries throughout the nation continued with accelerated speed, both as to numbers and in the type of work for which they were employed." It added that, because of necessary restrictions on information, no more than estimated figures on the total number employed could be given.

That estimate, however confirms the oft-repeated fact that this anti-fascist war, being a people's war of national liberation, is liberating, also, the economically-restricted Negro worker; and it proves to the skeptical that this war, being different from the first world war, will bring about different results for the Negro people.

The FEPC report came in the form of a statement by Malcolm Ross, national chairman, following a meeting of regional directors in Washington. This report tends to back up and sustain the two points made just above.

The League said that in June, 1943, the War Manpower Commission revealed that 6.7 per cent of the 14,673,000 workers employed by industries were Negroes. About 1,000,000 workers, in other words, were Negroes, according to the WMC.

The WMC report did not, however, include all war production industries. It follows, therefore, that the total would be somewhat higher—if the figures from the other industries be were included. The Urban League declares that more recent estimates place the percentage of Negro workers at 8.3, owing to the fact that employment of Negroes has increased since the WMC report of last June. The League declares:

". . . Reliable estimates of total war production employment place the number of workers at approximately 20,000,000. From these reports it is apparent that at least 1.500.000 Negro workers are currently engaged in war production and other essential war employment. Additional increase in Negro employment is anticipated in areas of severe labor shortage, mainly the Eastern Seaboard, the Middle West and the Great Lakes regions." 2-20-44

The FEPC regional directors' reports, tallied up, went something like his. During the last six months of 1942 it closed a total of 989 cases having to do with discrimination against job applicants. These applicants were chiefly Negroes and Jews. The remaining were other creeds and foreign-born.

During that six months, however, "a progressively mounting number of new cases, averaging more than 300 a month, left the committee with 1,957 cases at the beginning of 1944." Three hundred fifty-nine of the 989 cases closed were adjustments in compliance with Executive Order 9346. That order forbids war-job discrimination. The remaining cases were dismissed by the FEPC or withdrawn by the complainant.

The largest category among the 989 complainants was discrimination because of race, numbering 716 cases. Discrimination because of creed (mostly Jewish) involved 127 cases; foreign-born, 102, and national origin, 44. There were many cases closed in addition to the 359 satisfactorily adjusted; 36 dismissed because of lack of jurisdiction; 208 because of insufficient evidence; 256 on the merits; 123 withdrawn by complainants, seven dismissed for other reasons. 2-20-44

The Urban League figures prove that, owing to the anti-fascist nature of this war, more Negro workers than ever before are now integrated in industry. The FEPC figures prove that it is an agency by which these gains may be held after the war. The Negro worker, therefore, made more secure than ever by his trade union affiliation, will be given further security by the fact that there is a Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The workers' task remains, chiefly, while integrating themselves in the trade union movement, to achieve a permanent and a legally constituted FEPC. That means pressure for passage of the permanent FEPC bills now before Congress.

Texans Operate Own War Industry

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
1-15-44

FT. WORTH, Tex. — (ANP) — Carver Industries, the nation's first all-Negro small parts plants, is now doing sub-contract work for precision metal parts of the U.S. navy. Excluding the director, the plant is manned entirely by woman power another distinguishing feature of the establishment.

The plant, named for the great scientist, George W. Carver is the brain child of Elmer Williams, member of the training and employment committee of the Negro Welfare Council, former NYA director for Negroes and founder of the Vocational Preparedness Assn.

Williams began work on the idea last March when it became apparent that the skills of Negroes trained in the East Lancaster War Training School would not be utilized by many local war plants.

The plant is now under the direction of Joseph E. Baker, electrical engineer, formerly employed in the engineering department of Douglass Aircraft Corporation Santa Monica, Cal. Baker took over after Williams was inducted into the army a few weeks ago.

1-15-44

Accomplishment Is Outstanding, Writer Concedes

Daily World
Atlanta Ga.
1-15-44

Unskilled Men Soon Acquire Highest Skills

CHESTER, Pa.—(ANP)—"Training the Negro for the Production Front Line," is the subject of a five-page elaborately illustrated [illegible] section which sets forth the story of the unique performance which has taken place on the banks of the Delaware river.

The story, appearing in the Dec 1943, issue of Machinery, organ of the Design, Construction, Operation of MetalWorking and Allied Equipment manufacturing groups, was written by the magazine's associate editor, Holbrook L. Horton who visited the Sun Shipbuilding plant to evaluate the organization's program with respect to its shipyard No. 4.

WORKERS TRAINED

Hollbrook set down what the editors referred to as concrete evidence of an outstanding accomplishment in the field of job training, starting from scratch, with only a few white foremen and leaders in an over-all program where trained workers are manning an entirely new shipyard "Those workers," Horton states "have been taken from unskilled Negro jobs and have been taught to build merchant ships from bow to storm and from keel to stack." 1-15-44

The illustration of this special article include a young Negro, formerly a laborer, making the complete layout for an engineering gage board from a blueprint and a workman forging a large davit to shape under a steam hammer, with a Negro crew leader, rated a first class forger.

HAS SIGNIFICANCE

The article by Machinery is brought to the attention of the public because of its national significance in a field heretofore closed to trained Negro workers The magazine, published with the ccoperation of the U. S. Maritime commission, has its headqaurters in New York.

Negroes in Shipyards Exceed All Records

PM—New York, N.Y.
5-10-44
By ELIZABETH DONAHUE PM Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The OWI today disclosed that Negroes now working in the Nation's shipyards outnumber the total peacetime employment of all workers in the industry.

In a special survey of 96 shipyards and naval establishments, the OWI concluded that non-white workers, 96 per cent of whom are Negroes, now number 157,874 as compared with the 10,909 non-white workers employed in 1940.

Although Southern employers have shown a reluctance to upgrade Negro workers and elevate them from the unskilled categories, other yards have shown "considerable progress," the OWI declared. 5-10-44

The Kaiser yards on the West Coast are reported to have offered the major employment to Negroes in skilled and semi-skilled jobs.

An analysis of the OWI survey shows, however, that private shipbuilders have lagged considerably behind naval establishments in offering job opportunities to Negroes. While the shipyards have had the most phenomenal growth of any wartime industry the total percentage increase in workers is 888 as compared with 1463 per cent over 1940.

The most rapid wartime expansion of non-white employment, the Non-white employment in the U. S. same period shows an increase of over 1463 per cent.

Navy in absorbing Negroes into a variety of skills early in the war program, made it easier for the Negroes to take on larger numbers as the program expanded.

One naval establishment has now doubled the number of Negroes employed in 1940. 5-10-44

Negro Top Riveter At R. I. Shipyard

Daily World—Atlanta Ga.
5-3-44

PROVIDENCE, R. I. — ANP) —A gang of riveters at the Wa'sh-Kaiser shipyard, led by Donald Turner, set a record at the yard the past week, when they drove 2514 rivets on the day shift. Turner himself led his crew by accounting for 515 rivest on Liberty ships being built by the yards. Officials of the shipyard pointed out that 800 rivets would have been considered a good day's work for a crew of that size in the allotted time. There were three others in Turner's crew.

Turner is a graduate of Central High School in Providence, and attended Rhode Island Boys' State at R. I. State college for a year. He served in the army for a time, but was discharged due to a slight disability. He is the son of Robert Turner of Providence, and his wife is the former Gladys White of Oakland, R. I.

Nationwide Campaign To Retain Jobs In Post-War Period Planned

Dangers On Home Front Considered

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 2-3-44

NEW YORK CITY — (SNS) — Retaining job gains made in war industry and planning for the post-war employment of Negro workers highlighted plans completed this week for nation-wide observance of the National Urban League's Twelfth Vocational Opportunity Campaign to be held from March 12 through 19. The home-front dangers which will face Negro veterans and civilians as the country re-adjusts to peacetime economy will also be considered.

Negro youth and adults will be rallied under the slogan, "THE FUTURE IS YOURS—PLAN AND PREPARE!" The Campaign will be devoted to consideration of vocational problems such as job training and placement, membership in trade unions, absenteeism and efficiency on the job. It will also consider the problems of race tensions and ways of improving race relations throughout the country. 2-3-44

DRIVE NATIONWIDE

Forty-eight affiliated brancnes of the National Urban League, and Negro schools and colleges and other community groups and institutions will conduct activities during the week. Special radio programs on local stations and over coast-to-coast networks have already been arranged to reach the general public.

Announcement of the Campaign was made from the League's headquarters at 1133 Broadway, New York City, by Ann Tanneyhill, Secretary of the Bureau of Vocational Guidance. "The Vocational Opportunity Campaign this year is important," she said. "For eleven years the National Urban League has used its annual Vocational Opportunity Campaign to impress upon young and adult Negro Americans the need for training in the present for security in the future. These reasons are more important today than ever before. The world is changing before our very eyes and people must change with it in order to face tomorrow with any degree of confidence—with any certainty of a secure place as working, contributing citizens of society.

"Negro workers and workers must face the war and post-war world with the knowledge that, first, there will always be a place in civilized society for the trained, capable worker. Secondly, that this place will be enlarged or dimished in direct proportion to the cooperative effort and planning made by Negroes themselves—and between Negroes and their white fellow-citizens. Third, the influence of government in providing employment and social security will be increasingly important. Fourth, the influence of organized management and of organized labor can be brought into a common interest center at the point of the Negro's job application."

SHOULD BE CONCERNED

Continuing, Miss Tanneyhill stated, "It is up to each individual to be vitally concerned about his own place as a citizen. Our Campaign slogan this year—"THE FUTURE IS YOURS—PLAN AND PREPARE!" therefore has broad and deep significance. The question of full employment versus the unemployment of millions is directly tied up to the things we will consider during the Campaign, such as job training and re-training; adjustment on the job; membership in labor unions; and relationships with fellow white workers.

"We shall be concerned with four groups: the war disabled; the men and women returning from our armed forces in normal physical condiiton; the displaced war industry workers; and the youth just coming of age as workers. As minority group member. Negroes will suffer. We must be articulate in planning for what we want in the post-war world, and what we have a right to expect—complete integration with other Americans in our democracy. This means to us the opening of full opportunities for vocational training and job placement; the elimination of discriminatory practices in American industry; the equalization of educational opportunities; the assurance of full citizenship rights and a just share of civic benefits and cultural opportunities; the removal of restrictions upon social mobility; and the removal of the stigma of inferiority which has been placed upon us by the attitude of many white Americans. These are the things we want—these are the things for which we must plan."

During the Campaign staff members of the National Urban League will travel to racial tension areas throughout the country and confer with educational authorities, civic and governmental leaders, labor union officials, and representatives of management.

Negro Employment 15 Times Greater Than '40, OWI Reveals

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 5-10-44

There are 15 times as many Negroes in American shipyards today as in 1940 and the total as of March 1 was greater than the entire peacetime employment, the Office of War Information disclosed yesterday.

Statistics from 96 yards and naval establishments list non-white employment (96.9 percent Negro) at 157,874 as of March 1 as compared to 10,099, the over-all 1940 job total, the OWI said.

The increase is even more striking in percentages. While shipbuilding jobs generally increased 888.8 percent, Negro employment leaped 1,463.2 percent. Total employment in the 96 yards surveyed is 1,516,783.

Nine yards reported Negroes constitute more than 16 percent of all employed; three said they constitute more than 30 percent. The three are Sun Shipbuilding, Chester, Pa.—39.7 percent; Alabama Shipbuilding Repair Division, Mobile—33.9 percent; North Carolina Shipbuilding Construction Division, Wilmington—30.2 percent. 5-10-44

UP-GRADING PROGRESS

Most of the Negro shipbuilders, dividual production m

100-Year Old Yet Job In This One

Daily World Of Atlanta, Ga.

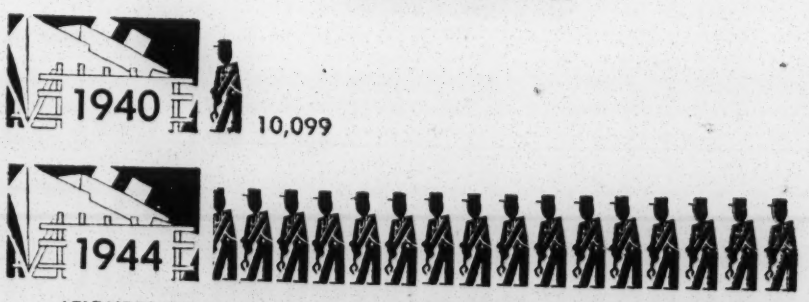
KANSAS CITY, Mo. 1-11-44 June (ANP)—"I fought in the Civil war and there is no reason why I should't work in this one," declared 100-year-old Green Young when doctors said he was a bit below par for work at the Pratt-Whitney engine plant, Friday.

The centenarian came here from his home in Holden, Mo.

e said his first 26 years were spent as a slave in Lexington, Ky.

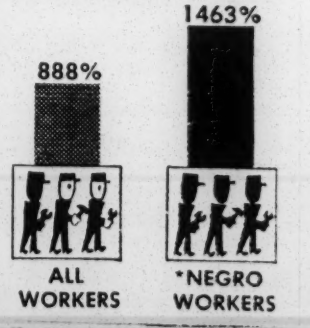
MORE *NEGRO WORKERS EMPLOYED IN SHIPYARDS

NUMBER EMPLOYED



*FIGURES COVER ALL NON-WHITE WORKERS, 96% OF WHOM ARE NEGROES

RATE OF INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT, 1940-44



47h-1944

Defense Training

TEACHING WELDING CAUSING OUSTING OF TOWN'S NEGROES

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.
6-23-44

NEW IBERIA, La., June 19—Two doctors and two business leaders, heads of the local NAACP, were terrorized, beaten and driven from this deep South Metropolis over the fostering of a Welding School for members of their race. The victims are Dr. E. L. Dorsey, whose $65,000 hospital was dismantled and patients removed, one dying from fright; Dr. Irma G. Pleisor, dentist; Dr. Lewis H. Williams and J. Leo Hardy, NAACP president and father of two sons in service in the South Pacific. Two of the victims are officers of a Federal Credit Union that has bought $65,000 in bonds.

Others required to leave were Dr. H. O. Scoggins, owner of a drug store; Franzella Volter, teacher, Octavia Tilly, Jr., insurance salesman. 6-23-44

The removal of the two doctors left the Negro population without medical aid and two patients are reported to have died.

The (WMC) opened a white welding school. Thru complaints to the FEPC by Negro leaders, a similiar school was opened by Negroes.

47h-1944

Newest Negro Skipper

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.
2-23-44

CAPTAIN JOHN GODFREY

Negro Captain Lauds Harmony Aboard Ship

2-23-44

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.

Capt. John Godfrey, third Negro American to command a mixed American crew, was back from a foreign port yesterday with a story of delivering the goods without trouble—either from the Nazis or those that ape them, the inciters of race hatred.

Introduced at a press conference called by Edward Lawson, regional director of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, the captain indicated that it might have been just good luck that the trip was free of attack by Nazi subs but that harmonious relations between Negro and white can be achieved anytime management and labor are ready to lay aside prejudices.

His ship, the Robert L. Vann, is manned by an all National Maritime Union crew, and his white Chief Engineer, Paul Rohfling, and his Negro First Engineer, Harry B. Forte, were at the captain's side to tell about them at the press conference.

Rohfling was enthusiastic about the way the crew cooperated. "I wouldn't want to deal with better men," he said. He added that United Fruit Co. officials, under which the Robert L. Vann sails, indicated that they were very pleased, too.

"We have all shown we can make a go of delivering the goods without consideration of race, creed or color," the Chief Engineer commented proudly. 2-23-44

He and the captain reported the burial at sea of Chief Officer Adolphus Folkes, a Negro who was stricken with a heart attack. Folkes was a lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve. Discrimination, which still continues in the Navy, would have prevented him from taking up his reserve commission. But in death he got full Naval honors. Enlisted men in the Naval gun crew buried him with the full salute that is the highest Navy honor, they said.

However, generally speaking, in spite of the good experiences of the Robert L. Vann, discrimination is still rampant in war shipping, Mr. Lawson disclosed. The more than 6,000 Negro trained seamen and licensed men are still forced to waste needed manhours because some companies discriminate or contend that unions they deal with would object if Negroes were hired, the FEPC head said. The committee, a government enforcement agency, is pressing for removal of the barriers.

Merchant Marines

Negro Soldier Finds Real Help In South

Post
Birmingham, Ala.

I want to say something about race relations. I am a colored American merchant seamen from the Northern states. My shipmate (another colored merchant seaman) and I arrived in Birmingham, going to Baltimore to catch our ship. When we arrived, holding bus tickets all the way to Baltimore, we found we were stranded, due to a strike in the bus company. We immediately tried one or two well known relief agencies here. They could help only stranded men of the armed forces, although we, too, are serving our country. 1-1-44

We were about to believe all we had heard about treatment of Negroes in the South, but a policeman told us to contact Ensign Vaughn, officer in charge of the U. S. Maritime Service in Birmingham. In fact, the policeman took us to the building.

After we met Ensign Vaughn and explained our situation to him, he immediately dropped everything and got busy on the telephone. He called a half dozen numbers before he began to get results. He enlisted the aid of The Post and eventually contacted Mrs. Doty of the Travelers' Aid Society. 1-1-44

With the help of the three of them, we got our tickets to Baltimore. Ensign Vaughn wished us good luck and got us under way. The next time I hear anyone say that white people in the South will refuse to help a colored person I am going to tell my story. This is one of the reasons we in the Merchant Marine are proud to serve under officers like Ensign Vaughn.

Mr. Westbrook Pegler has said a lot about Communism in the Merchant Marine. Those who want him can have Mr. Pegler and his gripes—as for us, we will take Ensign Vaughn and his helping hand.

V. DUPONERONE,
Baltimore.

Harmony Prevails Aboard His Ship

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
3-1-44

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Capt. John Godfray, master of the Liberty ship Robert L. Vann, can prove beyond question that Negro and white officers and seamen can and will work together on merchant vessels without friction, he told reporters at a press conference in the FEPC office here Monday afternoon.

As a concrete illustration, he cited the recent successful overseas voyage of his ship. Full details of the voyage could not be revealed for security reasons, but Capt. Godfray told enthusiastically of the fine work of the officers and crew. The ship's first mate, Adolphus Folkes, died of heart failure on the bridge, Capt. Godfray said, and was buried at sea with full honors, including a salute by the ship's navy gun crew. As a result the entire officer personnel had to be advanced to fill the vacancy.

4-h

IN COMPLETE HARMONY

Many of the ship's personnel thus took over duties they had never before assumed, the skipper explained and it was their efficient performance in this crisis which warrant his warmest praise. Never before, he said, had he seen Negro and white officers and men work together in such complete harmony. 3-1-44

Capt. Godfray, veteran of 23 years' sea experience, was called back to active service by the War Shipping administration early in 1943 after being in retirement for 10 years. Prior to his retirement he had served as master of vessels of varying tonnage on Carribean runs for more than seven years.

Despite his long experience and his possession of a master license, Capt. Godfray was unable for more than a year to obtain a command, apparently because of his race.

NO DIFFICULTIES

The FEPC, informed of the situation, made an investigation. Subsequent negotiations with the United Fruit compnay resulted in the assignment of Capt. Godfray to command the Robert L. Vann.

"We have no difficulties," Capt. Godfray told reports. "Everything went fine, and there was a very good feeling among the officers and men. I was impressed by the fact that the white commander of the navy gun crew ordered his men into full dress regalia, and they gave Chief Officer Folkes the highest honors possible to a merchant officer by firing a salute."

That Man Mulzac--Every Time He Ships Out He Makes History

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.
3-31-44

By Art Shields

Skipper Hugh Mulzac of the S.S. Booker T. Washington did some life saving on his last trip to the war zone.

In fact he probably saved the lives of every man on the ship, says Henry Krensdorf, chairman of the ship's committee. But Captain Mulzac isn't satisfied with less than a foot to spare the vering that saved the big ship.

MULZAC AS TEACHER

But Captain Mulzac isn't satisfied on the bridge in the delicate maneuwith an under water superb Negro captain ducked a blow. Sunken ships snare war cargoes in training his crew. some of these harbors. And Captain "The skipper taught a class in navigation," said Henry Krensdorf, "He's a swell teacher. He

It happened in a North African harbor. The port was crowded with ships when a storm struck with fury. The "Booker T." was dragging its anchor. Other vessels were dragging theirs' too. A collision that would have blown up the ship was a split second away when the skippers' skill

CAPT. HUGH MULZAC

told us to continue our studies by correspondence, when we left the ship. That's how he learned navigation," he said.

Some crew members tell me, however, that the narrow escapes are not the main story.

"The high point of the trip," said a seaman, "was the party we gave to the people in ——, a North African port."

Two thousand French folks, Spaniards, Arabs, and British and American soldiers and sailors took in the party.

They helped eat the "Booker T.'s" sandwiches and their singers and dancers and actors joined in the fun making.

"Some shows!" said the seaman. "An American swing band and a French workers' orchestra were competing. Comic solos and skits we had too. Every one was happy."

The French Red Cross, the American Red Cross and the British Naval Hospital authorities were happy too when each got one third of the proceeds. 3-24-44

The chief doctor at the British hospital was so happy that he called his staff together when Captain Mulzac came with the money, and said something like this:

"This is a wonderful thing you've done," he told the Negro captain. If everyone felt and acted like you the war would have ended long ago.

"We'll always appreciate your spirit.

"And if any seaman on the Booker T. Washington gets sick we'll send the whole staff to help him."

FRIENDSHIP

The French trade union movement in the port presented the NMU crew with a plaque of friendship which has been turned over to the NMU headquarters in New York.

And till the ship left the port the American seamen, both Negroes and whites, were welcome guests in the workers' homes.

The seamen want me also to tell of the warm friendship between them and the American troops, both Negro and white, that they spent much time with on this trip. But that is a story that one of the crew should write out himself.

We're waiting to get it.

Incident in the Arabian Sea

PM's Picture News
New York, N. Y.

ARTHUR MCBOWMAN told us a pretty good story the other day. It was the story of his escape as a merchant seaman from a Liberty ship torpedoed by a Japanese submarine March 29 in the Arabian Sea.

We sat across a table from Arthur at National Maritime Union headquarters. He is a 19-year-old Negro whose large eyes look serious even when he smiles. An NMU "torpedoed" pin was in the left lapel of his new-looking Navy blue suit. He talked quietly. 7-9-44

"It was 4:20 p.m., he said. "I was just

PHOTO BY SKIPPY ADELMAN

Seaman Arthur McBowman (story above) starting to take a shower. Suddenly, I heard a loud boom and felt the ship rock. The room was filled with a funny-smelling steam. I thought maybe a boiler had blown up. I yelled, 'What's going on?'"

The engine room had been blown out of the ship.

"I saw all the fellows running by. I didn't even take a towel. Just grabbed my life jacket and ran on deck. The ship wasn't sinking very fast. I went to my station, at the aft fall (rope for lowering a lifeboat.)

Thought about chow time

"The ship was dead. There wasn't any noise that I can remember. I don't remember what I said. Some of the guys were getting cans of tomato juice to take aboard the lifeboat. The chief officer was telling Sparks to continue sending the *SOS* from the lifeboat. 7-9-44

"I thought how it was almost chow time. And we were gonna have fresh pineapples for dessert that night. We'd been trying to get the cook to give them to us for days. Then this had to happen. I got mad for a minute or so."

Scarcely had the boat pulled away, with Arthur still feeling provoked about those pineapples, than the Japanese sub surfaced—less than 50 yards away.

"I thought they'd come over and ask questions," said Arthur. "Even in *Action in the North Atlantic*, they come over and ask questions."

"What did they look like?"

"Like the movies," said Arthur. "They were all lined up on deck in neat formation. They had on snappy looking khaki uniforms. They looked like they got dressed up for the occasion. They had tommy guns."

Then the Japs started to shoot at the men in the boat. Arthur and the others dived overboard. They had to leave the badly burned 78-year-old chief engineer in the boat. The men kept the lifeboat between themselves and the sub.

Three days in a boat

"One of the Japs was looking at us with high-powered glasses. Another was taking movies."

"What did the camera look like?" we asked.

"Like Paramount's *Eyes and Ears of the World*," said Arthur.

The Japs did not leave till 8 o'clock that night. When the men climbed back into the boat, they found it riddled with machine-gun holes but none of Arthur's companions had been hit. The men in another lifeboat, though, are still missing.

Arthur knew his boat was heading toward India, "but only the chief officer knew how many days off we were and we didn't ask him. It's better when you don't know."

Three days after the torpedoing they were picked up by the San Calia, a British-manned Liberty ship, which took them to Karachi, India. From there, they went to Boston as passengers on a transport.

Arthur's story of the torpedoing ended there but we wanted to know how he felt about the war. "I'd rather not say anything about it," he answered. We asked why—did he think this was a "white man's war?"

"I'd rather not talk about it," said Arthur. "The fellows on the ship were always together. We went every place together."

"What about the stories that the Japanese don't want to fight Negroes?"

"The boys in India talk about it," said Arthur. "They say the Japs don't shoot Negroes."

"Weren't they shooting at you in the water?" 7-9-44

"Sure," said Arthur. "Sure, it's all Japanese propaganda. They want to divide us over here. But . . ." he paused.

"My mother tried to teach me not to hate anyone," he said. "We had a southern boy on our ship. He didn't like me in the beginning. If I sat near him, he'd get up and move. Once I asked him what was the matter with me. He said, 'It's just the way I was brought up.' After a week or so, we were working together, and he forgot all about it."

On 'Washington'

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

7-20-44

Ensign Joseph Banks Williams of Maryland, first Negro to graduate from the U. S. Merchant Marine Cadet Corps, has been assigned to active duty on the S. S. Booker T. Washington, first Liberty ship named for an outstanding Negro American, the War Shipping Administration announced this week. (Official WAS Photo from OWI)

Mutiny

Officer at Mutiny Trial Calls 50 'Afraid to Work'

Survived Explosion, Balked at Again Loading Ammunition

By RODNEY GUILFOIL,
United Press Staff Correspondent.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 30.—Fifty Negro seamen, all survivors of the Port Chicago explosion that took 327 lives last July, refused to load ammunition at the Mare Island Navy Yard because they said "they were afraid," Cmdr. Joseph Tobin, USNR, testified at their court-martial.

The men, who are charged with mutiny, have been on trial for 15 days before a seven-man board of naval officers at Yerba Buena Island.

Cmdr. Tobin, a prosecution witness who was in charge of loading operations at the Mare Island depot, said that the 50 men refused to load a ship about to depart for the South Seas.

Some Returned to Work.

They were part of a group of 257 Negro sailors who refused to handle ammunition. The remaining 207 eventually returned to work.

Cmdr. Tobin said the incident occurred Aug. 9, about a month after two Liberty ships blew up in the harbor at Port Chicago.

The prosecution witness testified that some of the men said "they were afraid" and others simply refused to load the vessel. Some, however, said they were physically "too small to load ammunition" and they wanted "sea duty," Tobin said.

Lt. Ernest Delucchi, a division officer in charge of the loading platform at the depot, said there had been a general conspiracy to bring about the mutinous action. He said he had argued with the men when he became aware they were unwilling to load the cargo and finally said:

"Everyone who is going to work, stand over here by me."

All except four of the 50 moved over to his side, he added, but after he had returned from telephoning for orders on what to do with the four, all had moved back again.

Threatened with Violence.

Several of the men who testified as prosecution witnesses said they had signed an agreement to refuse to work and that those who said they would work anyway were threatened with violence.

Jack Crittenden, seaman second class, one of the accused, corroborated testimony of other witnesses for the defense that they never had received direct orders to load explosives. He said he was one of a crowd of men who signified they were willing to resume work after hearing a speech by Adm. C. H. Wright, 12th Naval District commandant, on Aug. 11 in which he reminded them of their duty.

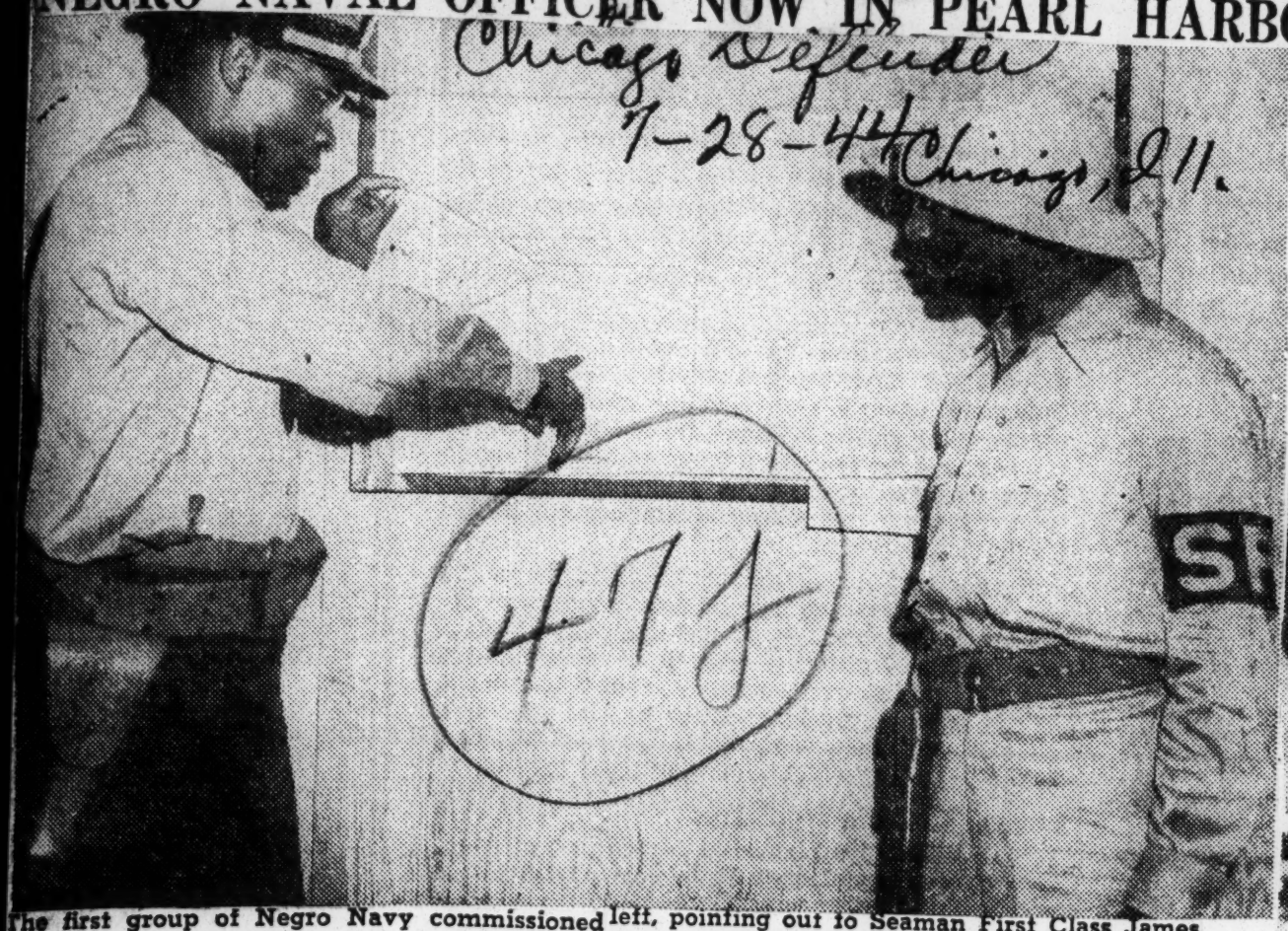
The trial of the 50 men marks the first trial for mutiny in this war and the first time so many persons have been tried at the same court-martial.

47j-1944

NEGRO NAVAL OFFICER NOW IN PEARL HARBOR

Chicago Defender
7-28-44 Chicago, Ill.

47j



The first group of Negro Navy commissioned officers to be assigned to duty outside of continental United States have arrived in Pearl Harbor. Hawaiian Territory and will serve in the fourteenth naval district. Ensign Jesse W. Arbor, a graduate of Arkansas State college and former tackle on the football team, is shown at left, pointing out to Seaman First Class James Gustus, Baltimore, Md., something important on the bulletin board. Ensign Arbor was among the first Negroes to be commissioned in the U. S. Naval Reserve at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Illinois. He is 29 years old and has served on a mine sweeper before being commissioned.

21-Year-Old Steward's Mate Cited By Coast Guard For Downing Nazi Planes In Africa

Age—New York, N.Y.
8-12-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Coast Guard Headquarters this week hailed a new hero — a fighting steward's mate who took his crack at the enemy by downing one Junkers 88 during the Allied invasion of North Africa and assisting in the destruction of a second Nazi plane in the same engagement.

The fighting steward's mate was John R. Smith, 21-year-old former cook's helper of Cincinnati, Ohio. His exploit was confirmed this week by Lt. Comdr. J. W. Paine, who, at the time of the North African invasion, was serving as fire control officer on the famed U.S.S. Samuel Chase, Coast Guard-manned transport.

According to Commander Paine, Smith was manning a gun on the CHASE when the transport approached Algiers. Attacked by Nazi planes, the youth scored a direct hit, downing one Junkers 88, and then directed his fire towards a second plane, which also drew the fire of another gun crew before crashing into the ocean.

Discussing the engagement, the fire control officer said: 8-12-44

"The gun crews composed of Negro steward's mates were a revelation and cannot be praised too highly for their enthusiasm, alertness and proficiency. Apparently they also possess visual accuity in semi-dark conditions inasmuch as many of the attacks occurred during twilight, and the colored crews always detected and reported approaching enemy aircraft before the other crews, increasing considerably the possibility of a successful defense against such attacks."

The U. S. S. Samuel Chase, on which Smith was serving, is one of the most famous ships of this war. The Coast Guard-manned transport, which served as flagship in the Sicilian invasion, has paticipated in hundreds of actions. Because it has always landed all of its troops without the loss of a single man, it has been nicknamed the "U. S. S. Lucky."

8-12-44

In announcing Smith's achievement, the Coast Guard called attention to its current campaign for the volunteer enlistment of 1,700 Negro youths in the Steward's Mates Branch. These volunteers, like Smith will have a battle station.

Ship Named for Him
AFRO-American
Baltimore, Md.
1-6-45

WILLIAM COX, the first colored man in Georgia for whom a Liberty ship has been named and launched. A merchant seaman for more than twenty-five years, Cox, born in Cairo, Ga., lost his life when the SS David H. Atwater on which he was a fireman was sunk in 1942. His widow, Mrs. William Cox of Savannah, christened the SS William Cox.

ENSIGN COOPER
Sublett and Reagan both were in the first class to be trained at the Hampton Navy School reporting there in September 1942. While serving later as [illegible] officers, they were selected for officer training at Great [illegible], Ill. (Guide Photo by Pvt. Bernard Young Jr.)

THREE OF TWELVE Negro H. Downes, commander of the present at the time the above naval officers, first in the his- school. Left to right: Com- picture was made, is Ensign tory of the Navy, have been as- mander Downes, Ensign Frank George Clinton Cooper of Wash- signed to the Naval Training Ellis Sublett of Evanston, Ill., ington, N. C. (below). Prior to School at Hampton Institute, and Ensign John W. Reagan of entering the Navy, Ensign Va. Two of them (above) are Chicago, Ill. The third officer (Ohio) University and at being welcomed to their new Cooper taught at Wilberforce assignment by Commander E. assigned to Hampton, but not Hampton Institute. Ensign

47j-1944

Graduates of Radioman School at Great Lakes

No. 1—Left to right are Walter Lott, Chicago; Eddie James, Bronx, N.Y., and Roosevelt Smith, Edwards, Miss., three of the eleven graduated from the Radioman School at Great Lakes, Ill., and advanced from seaman second class to seaman first class during special exercises recently. No. 2—Alwan Griffith, New Bedford, Mass., who was presented a special certificate as honor man of his class with an average of 87.70 during the special exercises at Camp Robert Smalls. No. 3—Ralph Sears, Los Angeles. No. 4—Daniel Morgan, Youngstown, Ohio. No. 5—Ulysses Rodney, New Orelans. No. 6—Donald Johnson, Corapolis, Pa. Other graduates were Oliver Brown, New York City; Horace Walker, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Frank Armstrong, also of Brooklyn.

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore, Md.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. 8-19-44

Thousands of Army, Navy Men Reviewed

N. Y. National Guardsmen, Other Easterners Among Group Seen

By VINCENT TUBBS

HONOLULU--President Roosevelt, General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz and many other high-ranking Army and Navy officers saw thousands of colored Army and Navy troops at work in review on this rugged island of Oahu during inspection intervals of their three-day conference July 26 to 29.

The President left the Hawaiian Islands indicating firm confidence in the ultimate defeat and unconditional surrender of Japan.

lined up along the route of the Presidential party's journey through historic Schofield barracks, tan yanks were among the thousands who stood rigidly at attention as their supreme commander drove through the camp grounds to the review field where he saw and addressed fighting verterans of the 7th Division who have beaten the Japs in battles from Attu to Kwajalein.

GREETINGS FROM HOME

Addressing his remarks to all in hearing distance he said in part:

"I want you to feel---at least in theory---that I am bringing each and every one greetings from his own home at this spot which, thank God, is still a part of the United States.

On the outer reaches of the parade grounds, hundreds of tan Yanks thrilled at the sound of the President's voice carried to them through loud speakers and waited patiently for a close glimpse of him as the party left the camp. Dividing his time between talks with top men of the armed forces, the President toured the multitudinous defenses of this island from giant Pearl Harbor to outposts high in the surrounding mountains. 8-19-44

New Yorkers in Group

Crack troops of a famous New York National Guard unit, veteran chemical warfare troops, seasoned engineers and hundreds of others lined the highways near their camps to render the highest military courtesy to the supreme commander-in-chief.

"We didn't really see him," Pfc. Williams Breckham, Pvt. Robert Ham and T/4 Warern Peterson, New Yorkers, said. "We can't look to left or right when at attention, our guns were slung over our left shoulders and we saluted with our right hand. The car went past so fast we couldn't really see who was in it but we know it was the Presid[illegible] all right."

Oth[illegible] who, more fortunate[illegible] feast[illegible] their eyes hungrily the big chief, included Cpl. Ja[illegible]s Caldwell, AFRO scribe, who has resided here since 1929 and is now a member of a chemical warfare unit; Pvt. Charles Edmondson, 1306 Madison Avenue; Sgts. Ohara Rice, 1025 Arlington Avenue; Timothy Harris, 1202 N. Central Avenue, Baltimore; and Cpl. James Gibson, 2213 First Street, Northwest; Cpl. Clarence Morgan, 2803 Eleventh Street, Northwest, and Sgt. Edward Wright, 5 K Street, Northeast, Washington.

Officers Present

Capt. Leroy Roache, 1711 Euclid Street, Northwest: First Lt. John Posey, 916 French Street, Northwest, Washington, company commanders in an engineer outfit, were others along with Lt. Roslyn Henley, 4236 S. Dakota, Washington; Lt. Sam Norton, East Orange, N.J.; Lt. Brooklyn McMillian, Newark, and Capt. John Woodruff, Connellsville, Pa., of the crack NYC ack-ack unit, who put their troops through courtesy paces as the President looked them over. 8-19-4[illegible]

Key figures in the President's war strategy talks were Genera[illegible] MacArthur, SWPA commande[illegible] who, in coming here, saw th[illegible] President for the first time si[illegible] the beginning of the war; Admiral Chester Nimitz, commander of the Pacific fleet; Admiral William Halsey, commander of the Third Fleet, and Lt. Gen. Robert Richardson, commander of the Army forces in the Central Pacific.

Confidence Expressed

In a press conference before leaving the island, the President said that the conference and inspections here were extremely successful and that plans for future operations leave him more confident than ever about the outcome of the Pacific war.

An interesting sidelight on the Chief Executive's visit, which was doubtless a closely guarded secret in the States, is that it was as well known as the shining sun here. Crowds lined the streets for hours during each day and cheered wildly.

However, censors were so strict that a person on the adjoining island of Molokai could not have known of his presence here until security premitted the current release of stories.

Negroes Manning U.S. Navy Ships

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

11-25-44

In Pacific Area

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, (NNPA) — The Pacific [illegible] possibility that Negro-manned ships are participating in the great naval battle of the Pacific around the Philippine Islands came to light when the Navy Department announced belatedly last week that cargo ships, oilers, and miscellaneous vessels, since August 9, the Navy began to assign Negroes in general service to [illegible] part, partially, 25 large auxiliary [illegible] vessels. Most of these ships, the Navy says, are in combat areas, and substantially all of the fleet trained in the Pacific.

these vessels, say[illegible] petty officers assigned to non-rated men have been assigned to the vessels too.

The latest figures of the number of Negroes in the Navy show 148,749 enlisted men and 22 commissioned officers as of September 30, 1944.

Among them are [illegible] coxwains, gunners mates, quarter[illegible] carpenter's mates, yeomen, [illegible] machinist mates, radic men, sound [illegible] electrician mates, and shipfit[illegible] ratings, a proportionate number of graduates of class A ser[illegible] who have been trained for advancement to petty officer [illegible] vice schools who operate the ship[illegible] ships, machinist mates, electrician [illegible] ships. Beside

Questions Arise On WAVE Policy After Announced Recruitment Cut

What the future of the Negro woman in the WAVES will be, now that three have already joined the corps, is a question on the minds of many. Announcements following their news of their acceptance indicate that the Navy has ordered sharp cutbacks in the recruitment program. Capt. Mildred Manfee, highest ranking officer of the group, has been quoted as saying that they will enjoy whatever degree of integration "local conditions indicate."

Only 500

As of Dec. 1 not more than 500 recruits a month will be accepted. The present rate has been closer to 4,000 a month, a press officer explained. The announcement of the acceptance of Negro women Capt. McAfee explained that it was done because there is actually work for them to do.

The women will be trained in the same school although it is not clear at the moment whether or not it will be Hunter college in New York. Plans in general for WAVE training are in the midst of being changed, it was pointed out.

On Segregation

Asked about segregation in sleeping quarters, Capt. McAfee said, "The Navy is making no statement about how it is going to administer its own internal program. It is definitedly assumed the people are coming in withour discrimination but whether or not the particular procedure happens to put Negroes thogether in one place is something else the Navy is not going to make any definite comment on its actions.

They will, however, be trained in the same classes, she added.

At the moment applications for commissions are being received from Negro women, and other enlistments will begin about Jan. 1. These are being processed in the "usual way" it was said. Miss McAfee was evasive in some of her answers to questions regarding segregation, but it was made apparent that local conditions rating and job qualifications were to determine assignment upon completion of training.

Amsterdam News, N. Y. C. 11-25-44

47j-1944

Mixed Crew On USS Mason Made Good The Hard Way, Says Writer

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.
10-7-44

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
Guide War Correspondent
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ABOARD THE USS MASON AT SEA—(Delayed)—The crew of the USS Mason, with no special talent for demonstrating that the two races can work and live and fight together harmoniously and effectively, is doing a surprisingly good job of showing that the principles of democracy can work at home as well as abroad.

It appears obvious that the Navy chose the men to run this ship solely for their abilities to man a destroyer escort in its ceaseless pursuit of enemy submarines. The officers are well trained, some of them seasoned two years or more of sea duty.

But they have no peculiar aptitude for wrestling with sociological problems such as the one which made necessary a separate warship for Tan Yanks in Navy Blue to do their fighting on. Yet that very circumstance may turn out to be the best thing that ever happened to the USS Mason. 10-7-44

For if this mixed crew, chosen in a routine way without regard to background, environment or attitudes on the race question, makes a success of this effort, then it will follow that any other mixed crew the Navy might wish to get together will certainly do no worse.

The officers' home towns dot the map of the U. S. from border to border and coast to coast. They hail from Connecticut and Washington, North Dakota and Pennsylvania, Texas and Iowa, Massachusetts and Virginia and Illinois. 10-7-44

CHANCE TO DECLINE

But when the enlisted men size up their officers —as soldiers and sailors inevitably do— the southerners stand high on their list of all-right guys.

Among the white enlisted men we find a chief radioman from New Orleans, La., electrician's mates from Oklahoma and Kentucky, a storekeeper from North Carolina, a gunner's mate from Kansas and a chief motor machinist's mate from Alabama assigned to the Mason because of their longer training and combat experience to help season the Negro Bluejackets. 10-7-44

This mixed array of Americana gets along excellently well and makes an effective fighting team. And most of these officers and men were told before they went aboard what kind of an assignment it was, and were given the opportunity to decline it. Only two or three did.

An inspiring example of what this warship and others like it can do to promote the principles we are fighting for is the team of Paul F. Clotts and Charles T. Kelly, one white and the other colored. Their responsibility is maintenance and repair of all communications equipment. 10-7-44

Clotts is from Cleveland, Kelly from Chicago. Both are superb technicians, intelligent, methodical, tireless. Clotts, particularly, is a wizard at diagnosing and correcting troubles in this equipment. They work together as a team and during spare moments study together (see cut).

One day early in this cruise I came across the two of them feverishly working on one of the anti-submarine devices with its intrals laid bare. Their minds were on the job so they didn't see me making preparations to take their picture. 10-7-44

Flash! A brilliant light momentarily lit up the room for my picture as the flashbulb "exploded." It was totally unexpected by Clotts and Kelly as they probed among the maze of wires and electrical connections. I suspect their reaction was considerably more violent than that of the average person who, while installing a new fuse at home, hears the sharp crack of current jumping across space.

Cold beads of perspiration rolled down their faces as they looked at each other, probably asking themselves just how many thousand volts they escaped that time. When their glance fell on me and my camera, I imagine I looked a little sheepish and apologetic.

RADIO "HAM" 10-7-44

"Phew!" they both said at the same time and went back to work hesitantly and cautiously. After that I always gave a warning before shooting off flashbulbs around men working on electrical gadgets.

Kelly was an electrician by trade around Harrisburg, a suburb of Chicago. So many people asked him to fix their radios when he came to install lights and wires that he decided it might make a good business. In no time at all he was up to his neck in it.

And in due course he became inevitably a radio "ham" with an amateur's license. Then he got a job as operator for a local radio station and was doing right well when the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor.

Two days later, on December 9, Kelly went to the nearest Naval recruiting office to offer his services to his country. His patriotism was rewarded with the frank announcement that there was no place in the Navy for him except in the messmen's branch. 10-7-44

Kelly thanked them and said he'd come back if they ever had a job for him along his line of work. He did come back, almost the same day, the Navy announced it would begin training Negroes in other branches of the service.

Any man that anxious to serve his country was a dead ringer for the Mason crew. And here he is, throwing punches with both hands.

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.
10-7-44

10-7-44

MIXED TEAMS—Radio technicians Paul F. Clotts, white, and Charles T. Kelly (above) study latest data on intricate communications equipment during maiden combat cruise of the USS Mason. At left are Thomas J. Kea, fireman 1c, Chicago, and Marion L. Holland, white, Tulsa, Oklahoma, electrician's mate 1c, shown during leisure moment of Mason's trip. Kea's father, a physician serving in the Medical Corps, was killed in action at Salerno. Holland had been in six major engagements during his 22 months in the Pacific before joining the Mason crew. (Exclusive photos by Journal and Guide war correspondent).

Navy Will Use More Negroes

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-1-44

SAN FRANCISCO—In this city to study with naval district commanders, the more effective use of Negro personnel, Commander E. H. Downs said the U. S. Navy plans a substantial increase in the number of Negroes assigned for special preparation at the naval training school at Hampton institute, which he commands, and will draw from its enlisted personnel for commissioning of colored ensigns.

"All ratings open to white personnel are open equally to colored personnel with advancement in rate dependent on ability to meet the standard Navy tests," Commander Downs also said.

Coast Newspaper Says Mutiny Case Too Harsh

The Peoples Voice — N.Y. N.Y.
12-2-44

SAN FRANCISCO—An editorial, clearly expressing disapproval of the severity of sentences imposed on the 50 Negro seamen charged with mutiny for failure to load ammunition at the Mare Island depot last August 9, appeared in the Nov. 2 issue of the San Francisco Chronicle: "We have been mulling this matter over for several days. We have been thinking about the real nature of fear. Fear is not a crime. Fear can in some circumstances have the effect of a crime and in some grave circumstances must be punished as a crime.

"These Negroes who refused to load the munitions ships following the Port Chicago disaster were not plainly overcome by fear. They were not persuaded except to the extent that their fear overcame whatever responsibility they had.

"Considering then that fear and

Thoroughly convinced of the innocence of these men, the NAACP through its special counsel, Thurgood Marshall, has requested opportunity to file a brief and appear personally when the case is referred to the Judge Advocate General's division of the Navy Department for review in wartime, Washington.

Attorney Marshall will also file a brief and appear personally when the case is referred to the Judge Advocate General's division of the Navy Department for review in wartime, Washington.

12-2-44

Navy Reviews 19 Negroes' 'Undesirable' Discharges

Case Involves Men Called Unfit At Trinidad 'Jim Crow' Seabee Base

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—A five-man Navy Board of Dismissals and Discharges is sweating gently in Temporary Navy Building No. 2. It has on its hands one of the hottest racial issues of World War II.

Before the GI Bill of Rights became law, the Navy dismissed with "undesirable" discharges 19 Seebees. Arthur Garfield Hays, Seabees, for reasons which have counsel for the Civil Liberties not yet become clear. The 19 sea- Union, is appearing for the seamen. men, all Negroes, were given "yel- All four reiterated the facts that low" discharges, denoting "unfit- they had been invited to the CO's ness" and "ineptitude," after they office and spoke only when asked attended an "off the record" meet- questions.

ing in their commanding officer's quarters in Trinidad. They are petitioning for honorable discharges.

The story is this:

Eleven of the men were requested to come to the office of Comdr. James Cantey, Jr., and told to unburden themselves of any gripes they had on their chests. They complained in mild fashion about the slowness of promotions for Negroes and the fact that leaves were few and far between.

Segregation

There was no complaint about segregation, although facilities for whites and Negroes were marked in a manner understood only by the men in the camp. Negro witnesses said they knew they were not welcome where the sign said "first class and chiefs" although they knew these facilities were patronized by white enlisted men. They went to the portals marked "enlisted men." Nor did they object to the arrangement, they said.

In Cantey's office, they said, they were queried about their troubles—in a camp of 800 Negroes and 200 whites. They did not speak up until questioned, Isaac G. McNatt, 27, told the Navy board. This is described in the bill of particulars of the Navy as "a seditious meeting." The men who were given "undesirable" discharges "without honor" — not so severe as a dishonorable discharge — are petitioning for honorable discharges. McNatt claims it may mean the difference between acceptance and non-acceptance by the New York Bar Assn. and another petitioner fears for his medical degree

Case Outlined

Four Negroes went on the stand at the hearing after the Navy had outlined its case for dismissal of the

"What makes it tough for the Navy Board is that if it reverses the decision of the naval commander in the Trinidad area they will have hundreds of similar cases on their hands. If they find against the petitioners in the current case they will be in even worse shape, because evidence yesterday fails in every respect to measure up to even the broad outlines of the clause in the Naval Manual under which they were dismissed.

The "Bill of Particulars" charges that the men:

¶ Participated in seditious meetings.

¶ Refused to obey orders.

¶ Gave vent to outspoken radical

¶ Used inciting tactics in handling groups of men.

¶ Attempted sit-down strikes.

¶ Threatened sabotage.

Flat denials met all charges. When the men were asked to come to the CO's office they were told that the "best educated men" in camp were being summoned.

Two of those discharged had rather lurid records. The rest had "no offenses for which they had been punished."

At the first meeting, Oct. 26, 1943, Cantey listened to the complaints of his men. A day later, the same men listened to the comments of an unnamed regimental commander who said he wouldn't have any of "these petty gripes" under his command. Cantey did not rise to say he had invited the men to air their grievances during the poration of the regimental commander, according to the evidence

Bawled Out

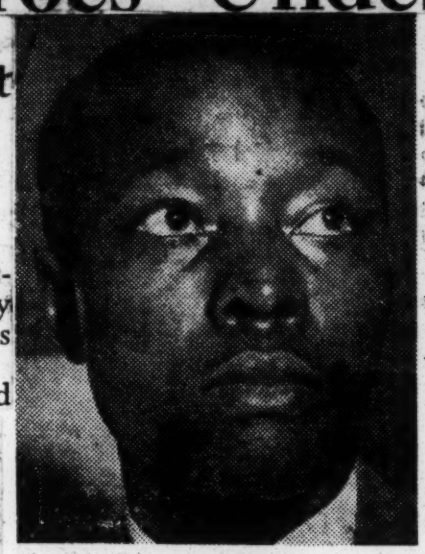
At the first meeting the chaplain of the camp in Trinidad—where the boys were building an air-strip and other facilities—was empowered to form an inter-racial committee to iron out differences. This the anonymous regimental commander objected to. He "bawled them out" for "forming committees and attending conferences," McNatt told the board.

Every one of the Negroes who attended the meeting in Cantey's office was dismissed with either "inaptitude" or "unfitness" discharges. Both bar the men from civil service employment and many other jobs. The fact they were in the "brig" in New York before getting their discharge papers doesn't help, either.

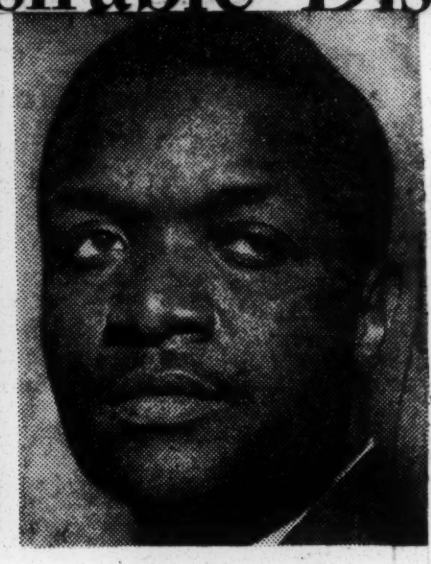
Harvey Steele, Clarence O. Clarke, and Robert Louis Mills told the same story as McNatt. They were invited to the meeting and they were not guilty of any of the other charges of disobedience, "inciting" tactics with groups of men or to sabotage attempts or sit-down strikes. None of them ever heard of attempted sabotage or sit-down strikes, they told the board.

Mills didn't even know there was any trouble until he was told to pack, he said. He didn't even attend the "seditious" meeting in the CO's office. He said he didn't fail to "adapt himself to the military way of life"—a blanket charge against the dismissed Seabees.

Capt. Anton B. Anderson, chairman of the board, said in a preliminary statement that after evidence had been taken it would require two or three weeks before a decision could be expected.



Isaac McNutt



Harvey Steele

Democracy in Command Performance at Hampton

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
5-13-44

Commander Says "I Want My Men to Be Part of the Team (U.S. Navy) Not Apart from It"

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA Correspondent

HAMPTON, Va. —We have long sought the "cup of the Holy Grail" in the navy. A reasonable facsimile exists here at the United States Naval Training School on the campus of Hampton Institute. I saw democracy give a command performance.

The school is one of the two Class A service schools — the other being at Great Lakes — where colored candidates with special aptitudes and skill along mechanical and technical lines receive advanced training in electricity, forging and welding, Diesel engineering, carpentry, shipfitting, coxwain's duties and as cooks and bakers.

Nowhere else in the navy can colored coxwains be trained.

Under the command of Capt. E. H. Downes, USNR, of Dover, Del., who bears a striking resemblance to Thomas Mitchell and Pat O'Brien of cinematic fame, this unit of the training program of the navy bids fair to answer many questions regarding the integration of colored men into this branch of the service.

Not Considered "Colored"

Here, the trainees are not considered as colored sailors, but as sailors of the United States Navy. Said Commander Downes: "I want my men to be part of the team and not apart from it." The motto of this naval base is "Competency gains respect" and by this means the men in training hope to prove that they do belong.

Graduates of the school are strikers (working towards) for ratings as petty officers, but some of them hold this rating on leaving the school. 5-13-44

In this category are: Berkley D. Williams, MoMM 1/c (motor machinist's mate-first class) of Washington, D.C., who is skilled in both the Diesel and electrical fields, and 28-year-old Joseph W. Gilliard, M 1/c (metalsmith) of Greenville, S.C.

Gilliard started the first ceramic class at his alma mater, Hampton, and is now in charge of the model shop — his products now being used by many other naval training schools and large industrial concerns throughout the country — where visual aid models are made for use in the courses of instruction.

Others, like James S. Barham, Csp (T) of Graham, N.C., and a Hampton grad, now instructing in shipfitting, received their petty officer's ratings when they volunteered for military service.

School Opened in 1942

The school was officially opened September 12, 1942, with a beginning class of 128. Since that time some 2,500 have graduated and are now giving their services in our great two-ocean navy. Attending the school at the present time are 800 trainees. As each class graduates a new one enters. Numerous letters from officers have been forwarded to the command here attesting to the competence of the men who were trained at this base. Five of the

ment usually find assignments elsewhere.

Yes, here is one spot in the navy where democracy is not a rumor. It is working fine — and below the Mason-Dixon Line.

Hampton men are proud of their training and are looking forward to doing their share for victory.

few weeks, white officers command colored personnel here for indoctrination, "the proper way," and to themselves with the way men respond to demo- eatment.

mmand does not tolerate o exercise opposite ideas ubject. Those who do sure up to this require-

recently commissioned colored en- about 4 per cent out of each class. signs are Hampton N.T.S. prod- Sixteen weeks are required to ucts. complete the course. In practi-

Those assigned here either pos- cal work it is equivalent to that sess high educational qualifica- of two years in the average col- tions or practical experience lege, more emphasis being placed gained in civilian life. In gen- upon practical work than upon eral, they hail from sections of the theory. The curricula has been country where educational standards are relatively high. The essentials. percentage of failures averages,

Americanizes White Men — not measure

4 47j-1944

Powell Is Second Of Race Made A Warrant Officer

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.
6-17-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Warrant Pay Clerk Willie Powell, the second Negro to be appointed a warrant officer has reported to Great Lakes Training Center for duty. Powell, who is forty-four years of age, and has served more than twenty-three years in the Navy was at sea when the first group of Negro officers was appointed. He is the only Negro regular Navy man who has been appointed.

This veteran Navy man, a native of Cordova, Tenn., was raised in St. Louis where he first enlisted in the Navy as mess-attendant, during the first World War. He was assigned to service on the Panaman, a merchant marine ship transporting troops.

After a short tenure of service on the Panaman he was advanced in rate to ship's cook, second class; he held this rating when he was transferred to the destroyer U. S. S. St. Clair carrying troops to France.

He served aboard the St. Clair and the destroyer Yarbrough during his second hitch, in the Navy and earned the rating of ship's cook, first class. His third enlistment sent him to the Asiatic Fleet where he served until 1932.

6-17-44

MADE CHIEF STEWARD

From 1932 until 1935 he was in the Yangtze River Patrol serving his fourth hitch. Upon returning to the states in 1935 he was made chief commissary steward and placed in charge of the experimental shop and classroom of the cooks and bakers school at San Diego, Calif.

After serving in this capacity for three years he was assigned to the Light Cruiser U. S. S. Cincinnati and was subsequently transferred to the Fleet Reserve after 20 years and five months service.

Powell was recalled from the Fleet Reserve for action in World War II early in 1941 and assigned for duty aboard a troop transport. He was in the North African invasion and was under continuous fire during landings at Dakar, Oran and Casablanca.

When notified of his appointment as a warrant officer he

6-17-44

W. O. WILLIE POWELL was in the South Pacific area transporting troops to New Guinea war zones. He reported to Great Lakes on May 24, 1944 to be sworn in the following day for temporary duty at this station.

6-17-44

Warrant Officer Powell has the Good Conduct Medal, World War 1 Victory Medal, and battle stripes for three major engagements in World War II. His present duty assignment is assistant to the commissary officer, in charge of the 14th Regiment General Mess.

50 Navy Negroes Jailed for Mutiny

Leader Enquirer
Columbus, Ga.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18—(AP) Initial sentences of imprisonment for 15 years were imposed on 50 Navy enlisted men convicted on one specification of mutiny for refusing to load ammunition, 12th Naval District Headquarters announced today.

Rear Adm. Sarleton H. Wright, USN, commandant of the district, ruled however, that mitigating circumstances in some cases justified reduction of the sentence to eight years.

11-19-44

All the men are Negroes. Their court martial was held at Yerba Buena Island, San Francisco Bay, last month.

Partially Man Large Vessels

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
10-5-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A large number of Negroes serving outside of the category of mess attendants are participating in the naval action in the Philippines, it became known here on Friday with the announcement by the navy department that on August 9, the navy began assigning Negroes in general service to man partially 25 large auxiliary vessels.

"Most of these ships are now in combat areas as part of the fleet train in the Pacific," the official announcement said. "Approximately 500 Negroes are currently assigned to these ships, both as petty officers and non-rated men."

The 25 vessels of the following type: store ships, ammunition ships, cargo ships, oilers, and miscellaneous auxiliaries. Petty officers assigned to these vessels include substantially all ratings required to operate the ship among them coxswains, gunner's mates, quartermasters, store keepers, carpenter's mates, yeomen, machinist's mates, radiomen, soundmen, electrician's mates, ship-fitters.

This is the first statement from the navy department that Negroes who have been trained for various skills have been given an opportunity to perform duties in line with their training. As far as had been known, graduates of the Great Lakes Training School near Chicago had been assigned to port installations.

10-5-44

When a check of the names of the Port Chicago disaster was made, it was found that out of the more than 200 seaman killed, large number of them were men with other than general service ratings.

The recent announcement said that besides graduates of Class "A" service schools who have been trained for advancement to petty officer ratings, a proportionate number of non-rated men have been assigned to the vessels listed.

Navy Puts Negro Sailors On 25 Combat Vessels

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
11-4-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) —The possibility that Negro-manned ships joined in the great naval battle of the Pacific around the Philippine Islands came to light when the Navy Department announced last week that since August 9, the Navy began to assign Negroes in general combat service to man partially 25 large auxiliary vessels.

Most of these ships, the Navy says, are in combat areas, and part of the fleet trained in the Pacific.

Approximately 500 Negroes are currently assigned to these ships both petty officers and non-rated men. The 25 ships are of the type of store ships, ammunition ships, cargo ships, oilers, and miscellaneous auxiliaries.

The petty officers assigned to these vessels, says the Navy, include substantially all ratings required to operate the ship. Among them are coxswains, gunner's mates, quartermasters, carpenter's mates, yeomen, machinist mates, radio men, sound men, electrician mates, and shipfitters.

11-4-44

Beside graduates of class A service schools who have been trained for advancement to petty officer ratings, a proportionate number of non-rated men have been assigned to the vessels too.

The latest figures of the number of Negroes in the Navy show 148,749 enlisted men and 22 commissioned officers as of September 30, 1944.

Booker T.'s Mate Afro American Made 4th Captain

Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—The fourth colored man to win a master's license and the fourth given command of an American war vessel, Capt. Clifton Lastic this week was placed in command of the S.S. Bert Williams, which was launched recently.

12-16-44

Formerly chief mate of the Booker T. Washington under Capt. Hugh Mulzac, Captain Lastic, a native of the British West Indies, has spent thirty of his forty-four years at sea.

Naturalized in 1937

The captain, who served on British vessels during World War I and in the years until 1937, when he became an American citizen, served fro several years on one of the three ships operated by the City of New York.

An old friend of Captain Mulzac, having sailed with him in 1920, Captain Lastic made seven trips with the Booker T., including the maiden voyage. Starting as second mate, he was chief mate when the ship separated from its convoy and arrived in port two days ahead of it.

Eighteen Men Graduated From Aviation Metalsmith School

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World
12-12-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Nov. 23 — Eighteen men were graduated from the Aviation Metalsmith School, Camp Robert Smalls, of the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., when a special graduation was held in advance of the bi-monthly ceremonies to enable the men to go to their posts ahead of schedule. Eugene R. Moore, Oklahoma City, Okla., was the honor graduate, leading his class with an average of 90.42. The honor man and two others were advanced in rating from Seaman, Second Class, to Aviation Metalsmith, Third Class, and the remaining men were advanced to Seaman, First Class.

Lt. Comdr. R. C. Cline, Education and Information officer of the Service School Command, was the principal speaker. He told the men they were to be congratulated for three reasons, first: because they are the Navy's best, in that only one man in three who finished Recruit Training has the aptitude and ability to qualify for Service School; second, the field is not only fascinating but most necessary to the prosecution of the war, and, thirdly, this field will offer an opportunity for work after the war. He told the men that they would soon join their shipmates who by their efficiency and morale had paved the way for them. This

Navy Bars Negro Defender — Chicago, Ill. Nurses; Needs 500

2-3-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — "The 217 are on duty with the army, the services continually maintain representative said. This condition ey need nurses, yet we get exists in spite of the fact that "thou- of refusal back constantly," sands of qualified Negro nurses are Charlotte May, of the Na available."

Qualified Negro nurses are barred from navy nurse corps and only tional Association of Colored Graduate Nurses told the Senate education and labor sub-committee Thursday.

The American Red Cross on the same night issued a call for 4,000 additional nurses in September. Basil O'Connor, Red Cross chairman, explained that the navy will continue to recruit 500 nurses each month while the army during the month of September alone, will endeavor to get an added 4,000 nurses.

I Was A Seabee

Age - New York N.Y.

(Reprinted from "Politic")
By ISAAC McNATT

PART II

7-8-44

Life on Shipboard

Aboard ship, we were quartered according to rating. This resulted in one or two incidents. The captain of the ship was told that first-class petty officers and chiefs would go into one hold and lower ratings into the others. He probably realized this was our particular "Navy" way, but ordered the lists made up accordingly. As a result, the three or four white yeomen below first-class were quartered with the Negroes and the Negro first class steward was quartered with the whites. While the white yeomen soon found reason to be transferred to the other hole without trouble the steward was threatened with immediate bodily harm if he didn't "get outa here".

Whereas at the base we had been accustomed to two chow halls, here there was only one. Consequently, all whites, those in other units aboard ship being influenced by the conduct of the whites in ours, lined up and ate first. We ate last. For the first two meals, several of our fellows didn't get any food at all, as it ran out before all were served. From then on, they always got something, though it frequently was not what the first through the line got. On two or three occasions when chicken was served, the last one through got, not even the neck of the chicken, but whatever was handy to the cooks.

7-8-44

During the day, most of the troop passengers had no regular duty except for short intervals. Therefore, we lined the rails watching the waves, the horizon, and other ships in the convoy. The second day out at sea, a long line was stretched across the ship, from the port to the starboard side. From it dangled pasteboard signs. They read: "Only first-class men and chiefs forward of this line". This meant that all Negroes were restricted to the rear of the ship, even up on the main deck. Who was responsible for the sign? The crew members didn't know, said they had never seen any such signs before, and if their ship was beginning such practices, they would resign from the Merchant Marine when they returned home, or at least get a transfer. One or two of our officers were approached on the subject. "This is an Army transport," they said, "must be an Army custom." The Army chaplain was approached. He knew nothing of it. Finally, after our Commanding Officer was approached, the sign was removed. Great cheers went up from the fellows.

7-8-44

At last we were overseas, disembarking at our Carribean base. We settled in a reception center while we began to build our own quarters preparatory to our main task.

At the Caribbean Base:
3 Chow lines

Buildings went up and roads took shape where there had been mud, jungle, and morass. Constant tropical storms vied with intense heat to make the work more difficult. Instead of coming back to the base for meals, the fellows all ate at a nearby naval air station. For the first two or three meals, they filed into the chow hall in the order in which they happened to get in line. The second day, the Negroes, who did all the actual work while the whites supervised, were ordered to stand aside and let the whites eat first.

7-8-44

After this had happened once or twice, the Negroes found that they had to stand in line during the entire lunch hour, never having a chance to rest, while the white fellows had half an hour in which to relax. The fellows refused to eat. A high officer of the base intervened and asked one of our officers why he followed such a policy. He replied that such were his orders. However they worked out a policy whereby the Negroes ate in a separate line, and the whites in our unit lined up with the crew members of the station, all white. But the station crew were so displeased at the attitude assumed by our whites that they refused to eat with them. As a result, three chow lines were formed, one for us, one for he station crew, and one for our superior whites.

When living quarters were completed, all of us moved into them, with the same patterns of segregation we had followed back in the States. For the first time since boot days, we were separate from all other naval units, with our own Ship's Service Store, our own recreation buildings. For the first time since boot days, too, a sign went up in the ship's service. This time, instead of saying, "Colored and White" as in boot days, it said: "This line for enlisted men".

7-8-44

No one, however, was fooled. Everyone knew what was meant, for even chiefs and first-class men are enlisted men. Also, the handful of whites who were below first class rating always fell into the first-class line. The sign this time was no hastily scrawled pasteboard affair, but was prettily painted in bold red letters against a white background. A Negro guard was posted to see that this sign was adhered to.

For the first week the store was in operation, the "enlisted men" refused to buy cokes and beers there. Instead, they went to the nearby air station or to the Army PX where it was a case of first come, first served. When the Supply Officer at the N.A.S. was threatened with a beer shortage, he asked our fellows why they didn't buy beer at their own store. The answer he got was that we didn't have any beer. Upon investigation, he discovered that not only was there plenty of beer at our store but that his helpers had been trying to borrow beer from it to replenish his rapidly declining reservoir.

Toward the end of the week, we noticed two or three strange "gold-braids" inspecting our ship store. On Saturday the two pretty signs disappeared, and our fellows discovered that there was some beer in our Ship's Store, after all.

7-8-44

Negro Marines At Camp Lejeune Learn New Aquatic Training

Age - New York N.Y.

12-23-44

CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C. — Not by mere chance are fighting Marines amphibious. Not by accident are they able to retain under hostile conditions at sea that measure of cool, level-headedness essential to ampibious warfare. Such efficiency comes only through training Montford Point's new aquatic training program for Negro Marines is dedicated to that purpose. The objective of the course is to develop the amphibious military efficiency of the individual by training him quickly to keep afloat and to swim satisfactory distances under adverse conditions — as a result, reducing mass panic and loss of life at sea.

Minimum requirement for personnel of Fleet Marine Force units is the ability to swim 200 yards; and, in addition, satisfactory completion of a course of at least five hours in combat swimming. This covers instruction in methods of swimming in oil and debris, the use of clothing and inflated life rafts as aids, handling of packs and weapons in water, and the correct procedure to be followed in abandoning ship.

The Marine learns a side stroke which enables him, without becoming panicky, to calmly administer necessary self-aid. He is able to massage the pain-ridden leg, or exercise the knotting muscles of an arm.

12-23-44

He develops skill in swimming backwards, treading water. In so doing, he keeps his head above water. Thus he has a good view of what happens around him. In addition, he clasps his hands back of his head, fingers at the base of the skull. In this position, he wards off shock from explosions to his stomach muscles, which are weaker than the back sinews.

Skill and cool-headedness are necessary to survive when swimming in a sea lashed by heavy breakers. The final stage of the combat swimming course covers surf swimming. In this stage of training, Marines learn how to swim in breakers, how to meet swift currents, what to do when there is a coral, and what distance to swim, if at night, from comrades. Throughout this stage of instruction, "leathernecks" become used to swimming with arms and ammunition.

12-23-44

One hundred and sixty-nine years of brilliant fighting tradition established on land and at sea is back of the Marine Corps unrivaled fighting achievement through training of every individual member from the advancing "boots" to the courageous, trained "Devil Dog" who has had his baptism of fire in the assault wave that storms the beach. Each individual under combat instruction knows that there is a sound motive for the Marine Corps' elaborate preparation for training, for each phase of the rugged training itself. He knows that there is an over-all reason for requiring him to learn the art of combat swimming. He realizes that it is a step taken to prepare him and the organization he serves with to be numbered among the finest amphibious warriors to charge the enemy.

Lt. Sidat-Singh Memorial is Set For May 7th

Amsterdam News N.Y.

Famed Athlete and Flyer To Be Honored at Center

4-22-44

On May 7 at 3:30 p.m. the Harlem Defense Recreation Center will hold - memorial service for the late Lt. Wilmeth Sidat-Singh.

Lt. Sidat-Singh, former star athlete of Syracuse University was attending Howard University Medical School when the United States declared war. He enlisted and was assigned to the Tuskegee Flying School where he received a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army Air Corps. He was assigned to the 332nd Fighter Squadron, all Negro fighter group commanded by Lt. Col. Benjamin D. Davis at Selfridge Field, Mich.

While on a routine training flight, Lt. Sidat-Singh's plane developed engine trouble over a lake. Although he was considered an expert swimmer, it is believed he became entangled in his parachute when he hit the water and was drowned.

Ludlow Werner, editor of the New York Age, and a member of the board of managers of the Center is chairman of the memorial services which will be held in front of the Center on Seventh Avenue and will be broadcast.

Outstanding personalities will include Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, Ossia Solem, coach of Syracuse University, Douglas G. Hertz, sports promoter, Eyre Saitch, former captain of the Rennaissance basketball team, Miss Dorothy Maynor, the "Winged Victory" chorus, directed by Lt. Leonard DePaur, and the Coast Guard Quartet. A plaque will be presented to Mrs. Sidat-Singh by Mrs. Willie F. Parris, director of the center.

Through the cooperation of Mitchel Field, a flight of planes will pass over when taps are sounded.

The members of the committee for planning the affair are: Ludlow W. Werner, chairman, Cold. Edward O. Gourdin, Samuel A. Allen, Comm. Samuel J. Battle, Mrs. Willie F. Parris, George Gregory, Elfreda Douglas, Barbara Watson, Frank Forbes, and Col.

12-23-44

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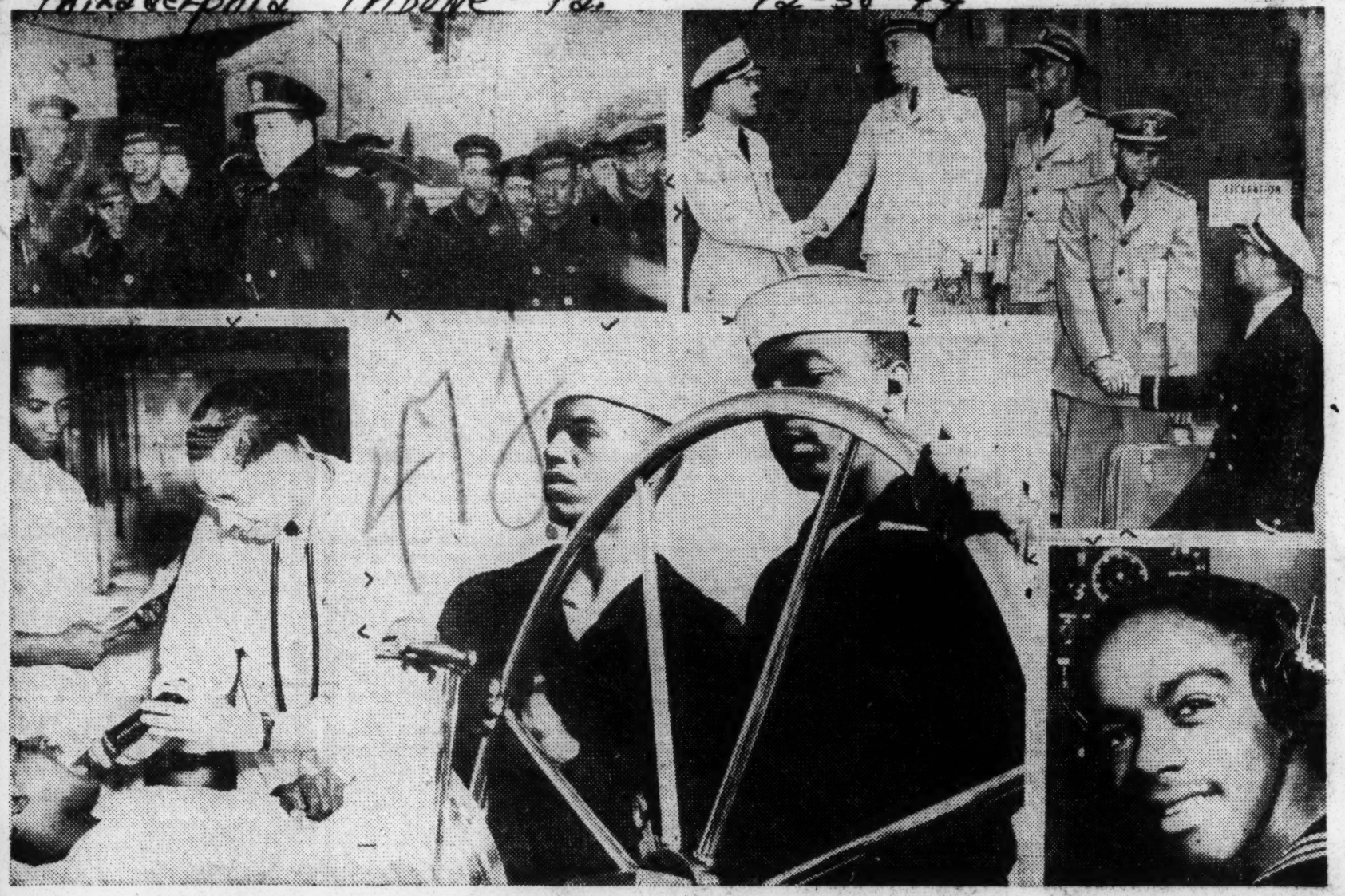
Navy Firsts For 1944

Philadelphia Tribune Pa. 12-30-44



GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Upper left. For the first time in Naval history a vessel with a predominantly colored crew, the USS Mason, was commissioned and after a routine shakedown cruise went on duty with the fleet. The skipper, Lieutenant Commander William M. Blackford, Seattle, Washington, is shown with members of the crew on the dock after the commissioning ceremonies last March.

The first colored Naval officers were commissioned last March. In the picture at top right, Ensigns Reginald E. Goodwin (left), Washington, D. C., and Samuel E. Barnes (right C., and Samuel E. Barnes (right), Oberlin, Ohio, are shown bidding farewell to Boatswain Charles B. Lear, Keokuk, Iowa and Ensign Jesse W. Arbor, of Chicago, Ill., who were being detached from the U. S. Naval Training Center here. Ensign Arbor and Boatswain Lear were assigned to duties in Pearl Harbor thus becoming the first Negro Navy officers to serve outside continental United States. In the center is Ensign Dalton L. Baugh, Pine Bluff, Ark., now an officer aboard ship in the Atlantic.

During 1944 for the first time colored physicians and dentists were commissioned in the Medical and Dental Corps of the U. S. Naval Reserve. Lt. (jg) Arthur L. Thompson, Senior Medical Officer of the dispensaries in Camps Lawrence and Robert Smalls, U. S. Naval Training Center here, is shown (lower left) examining a recruit patient. Almost three-fourths of the hospital corpsmen on the staff of these dispensaries are colored.

In August, the Navy began to assign colored men in general service to man partially twenty-five large auxiliary vessels most of them in the Pacific combat areas. Trained Bluejackets like those shown in the center picture have been selecected to serve on these ships. Mark Elmer Jones, Quartermaster, Second Class of 526 Center street, Indianapolis, Ind. and George W. Meekins, Seaman, Second Class of 403 New Pittsburgh avenue, Baltimore, Md., are pictured at the wheel of the United States Training Ship, Dallas, at the U. S. Naval Training Center here.

Thousands of colored men in 1944 were graduated from the Camp Robert Smalls Service Schools, where they were trained in Navy trades. Typical of these men is Daniel Morgan, Seaman, First Class of 510 west Royen avenue, Youngstown, O. shown in photograph, lower right, who was graduated from Radiomen School. —(Officia U. S. Navy Photos).

Hobart Pit. Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Calif. Daily Disapproves Sentences of 50 Negroes

11-29-44

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—An editorial, clearly expressing disapproval of the severity of sentences imposed on the 50 Negro seamen charged with mutiny for failure to load ammunition at the Mare Island depot, last August 9, appeared as follows in the November 2 issue of the San Francisco Chronicle:

"We have been mulling this matter over for several days. We have been thinking about the real nature of fear. Fear is not a crime. Fear can in some circumstances have the effect of a crime and in some grave circumstances must be punished as a crime.

"These Negroes who refused to load the munitions ships following the Port Chicago disaster were plainly overcome by fear. They were not per se mutineers except to the extent that their fear overcame whatever responsibility they had. Considering then that fear and failure to do a duty because of it cannot be encouraged in wartime, we sitll believe that the sentences imposed on these men were altogether too severe. We do not believe that the honor of the United States Navy as a fighting, fearless force would have been impaired by sentences ranging from one-half to one-third of those given."

Thoroughly convinced of the innocence of these men, the NAACP, through its Special Ciuncil Thurgood Marshall, has requested opportunity to file a brief for hearing before Rear Admiral Carlton H. Wright, C. O. 12th Naval District. Attorney Marshall will also file a brief and appear personally when the case is referred to the Judge Advocate General's division of the Navy Department for review in Washington.

Recruits At Great Lakes Learn Latest Methods Of Fighting Fire Aboard Ship

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa. 11-18-44

11-18-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Garbed in the Navy's traditional foul weather clothing these sailors, (left, top) are attacking this burning oil storage tank from the lee side using the Navy all-purpose nozzle for extinguishing the blaze. These practical demonstrations of fire-fighting are all under the supervision of a trained instructor who has finished one of the Full Scale Navy Fire-Fighting Schools. Pictured are, left to right: Edward Tynes, AS, 1808 Frederick Place, S.E., Washington, D. C.; Hilton L. Wilson, AS, 440 Belmont street, San Antonio, Texas; William D. Harris, AS, 6214 south Ada street, Chicago, Ill.; Russell Howard, AS, 215 west High street, Gettysburg, Pa., and Lawson Bell, Sp(F)3c, instructor of the group.

11-18-44

Recruit crew of fire-fighters (right, top) poised and ready to combat a blaze started aboard one of the simulated ship decks at the Fire-Fighters Unit, U. S. Naval Training Center, here. Flames, smoke and water provide a realistic setting to the training routine given the recruits at the recently opened practice unit. Pictured left to right: William Haywood, AS, General Delivery, Delray Beach, Fla.; Willie Procher, Star Route No. 1, Georgetown, South Carolina; Lawson Bell, Sp(F)3c, instructor of the training crew; Joddie Walton, Bldg. 1735-A Bellevue square, Hartford, Conn.; Oscar Rayam, Rt. No. 1, Box 87, Lake Park, Ga.; Keith McKenley, Route No. 5, Anderson, S. C. ....

Certificates indicating that they have completed the course in fire-fighting for recruits of the U. S. Naval Training Center, here, are being presented (bottom, left) to these Bluejackets by Lieut. W. L. Mayer, Officer-in-Charge of the Fire-fighting Unit at the Center. The Recruits are, left to right: WILLIAM R. BROWN, AS, 3609 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa., and Eddie B. Allen, AS, Route No. 2, Canton, Miss.

11-18-44

....Blazing oil tanks give the necessary realism to the training of the recruits at the Fire-Fighters Training Unit, U. S. Naval Training Center, here. Sizing-up and plotting the extinguishment of fire according to approved Navy methods is important in the training of these men. Fires such as the one shown in the photo provide conditions similar to those under which these sailors might have to combat fire at sea. —

GREAT LAKES, Ill.— Since fire aboard a ship at sea represents one of the greatest dangers facing a crew, every recruit is required to take part in practical demonstrations at the Fire - Fighters Training Unit recently opened at U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. Due to the extremely hazardous nature of this type of conflagration and the limited facilities available aboard ship to combat fire, a great deal of stress is being put on the teaching of fire-fighting methods used on modern sea-going craft.

11-18-44

The practice unit set up here at the U. S. Naval Training Center is constructed so as to give the sailors experience in handling every conceivable type of conflagration. Simulated aircraft carriers, compartments, and oil tanks are ignited with gasoline and oil to provide all the possible realism, and the recruits learn to fight all types of fires with all the latest and most modern equipment used on the huge sea-going craft as well as the smaller ships.

11-18-44

One hundred thirty-nine officers assist in putting the men through their training paces, and the well-equipped 400x500 foot plot which most of the day belches forth voluminous clouds of black acrid smoke and searing fire is the scene of training for approximately 720 men a day. The training begins with a movie which portrays detailed information concerning the cause and origin of the different types of fires that occur aboard ship, equipment used to combat them and how this equipment is used.

This is followed by a brief period in the classroom where the men are instructed in the actual operation, maintenance and re-charging of foam-making gear, fog-nozzles for oil and gasoline fires, carbon-tetrachloride and carbon dioxide extinguishers, portable pumps and the latest types of rescue breathing apparatus. Emphasis is placed upon the chemistry of fire, the use of forcible entry tools, and ladders. All of the equipment is standard and approved by the Bureau of Ships. Garbed in their foul weather suits, the sailors brave the smoke and fumes pouring from the hatches and the blazing tanks in their practice demonstrations in fighting fire. They are shown how to size-up a fire and plot its extinguishment or isolation according to approved Navy methods.

11-18-44

Lieut. W. L. Mayer, a veteran smoke eater of 23 years experience, former Captain and District Fire Chief of the St. Paul, Minn., Fire Department is the Officer-in-Charge of the Fire-Fighting Unit at the Center. He has a staff of experienced instructors who have received thorough training in one of the Navy's Full Scale Fire-Fighter's Schools.

47j-1944

Whites Work Without Pay On Xmas To Build Ships Honoring Negro Sailors

Defender — Chicago, Illinois

BRUNSWICK, Ga. — If this is Georgia's idea of a "white Christmas"—may all her Christmases be white.

For the Christmas spirit struck Jim Crow with a vengeance here this week.

Some 1,000 white Georgia shipworkers here will celebrate Christmas by working without pay to build two Liberty Ships named for Negro merchant seamen.

The strongest interracial spirit to strike above or below the Mason Dixon line began here early this week at the J. A. Jones Construction yards.

The Yuletide spirit began when a handful of shipfitters hit upon the novel idea of presenting the government with a Christmas gift.

Free Turkey Dinner

Within a short time the spirit spread to welders and crane operators and to every department in the plant. By Christmas eve, more than 1,000 workers had signed up to work free on Christmas Day. The privately managed shipyard cafeteria promised a free turkey dinner to the crews. One of the concerns furnishing welding supplies wired from New York that the day's materials would be sent at no cost.

12-30-44

The two Liberty Ships under construction at the company which will benefit by the interracial spirit of the white workers are the S. S. Robert J. Banks and the S. S William Cox.

The Robert J, Banks is named in honor of a Negro messman who was lost on the S. S. South America which was torpodeod and sunk April 10, 1942. Banks was born in Philadelphia on May 29, 1927. His mother, Mrs. Julia Lively, lives at Healy's Post Office, Va.

The S. S. William Cox is named for a Negro fireman on the S. S. David A. Atwater, which was shelled and sunk April 2, 1942. Cox is survived by his widow, Mrs. Arlee Cox, of 559 Indian street, Savannah, Ga.

The two Negro seamen were among three included in the naming of the last 100 Liberty Ships, the United States Maritime Commission announced this week. This makes a total of 18 Liberty Ships

List of Dead at Port Chicago

Call — Kansas City Star

SAN FRANCISCO. — (ANP)— Names of Negro sailors missing since the mysterious blast last week here, were reported by the navy department, Friday. The blast, which occurred while stevedores were loading shells aboard ships for the war fronts, is being investigated by naval authorities and civic and labor organizations.

The names of those listed by the navy are:

7-28-44

Akins, James Cleo, S 2-c, mother, Bernie James, Miami, Fla.; Allen, Clarence Jr., GM 3-c, mother, Marcie Lee Oliver, Natchitoches, La.; Asaro, Leslie K., S 2-c, mother, Alberta Asaro, Chicago; Ash, Isalah Jr., S 2-c, mother, Johnnie Ruth Jordon, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Aker, Leonard, GM 3-c, wife, Harriett Dunn Baker, Baton Rouge, La.

Bacon, David Sr., S 1-c, wife, Luvenia Bacon, Jacksonville Beach, Fla.; Bailey, Henry William, S 2c, wife, Lizzie Harris Bailey, Chicago; Barnes, David Jr., S 2-c, sister, Eva Mae Barnes, Bluefield, W. Va.; Battle, Joseph, S 2-c, mother, Sally Battle, Detroit, Mich.; Beason, Raphel Orval, S 2-c, wife, Juanita Beason, Palestine, Texas; Bell, Silas, S 2-c, wife, Mat Lillian Bell, Ft. Worth, Texas; Blackwell, David Edwin, S 2-c, mother, Addie Gray Blackwell, Crowe, Va.; Blaylock Thimon, S 2-c, wife, Willie M. Blaylock, Oakland, Cal.; Borders, Johnnie C., S 1-c, wife, Delores Borders, Tampa, Fla.; Born, James Henry, CM 1-c, wife, Mary Catherine Born, Port Chicago, Cal.; Bowden, L. T., S 2-c, mother, Aggie Osborne Bowden, Clay, La.; Boyce, Charles Louis, S 2-c, father, Willie Boyce, Oakwood, Norfolk, Va.; Brower, Alvin Jr., S 2-c, mother, Clara Brower, Tyler, Texas; Bridges, James, S 2-c, grandfather, Steve Bridges Sr., Natchitoches, La.; Brooks, Walter Lee Jr., S 1-c, mother, Blanche Brooks, St. Louis, Mo.; Broome, Johnnie Lee, F 1-c, father, Charlie Broome, Bushnell, Fla.; Burnett, Ernest Lee, S 2-c, mother, Camellia Burnett, Moffett Road, Crichton, Ala.

7-28-44

Craig, Norman Hamilton, S 2-c, mother, Evelyn Craig, Washington, D. C.; Calvin, Wilbert, S 1-c, mother, Amanda Calvin, Bessomer, Ala.; Carlin, Lawrence Louis, S 2-c, wife, Leola Gascon Carlin, Plaquemino, La.; Carter, Robert Andrew, S 2-c, sister, Mador Vallarta, E. Chicago, Ind.; Clark, Eddie Lewis, S 2-c, father, L. T. Clark, Meridian, Miss.; Coffee, Eugene Jr., S 1-c, father, Eugene Coffee, Bessemer, Ala.; Coleman, Bill, F 1-c, mother, Viola Cole, Deridder, La.; Coley, Enos, S 2-c, wife, Elnoria Barney Coley, Oakland, Cal.; Cooley, Frank, S 1-c, mother, May Lue Cooley, Memphis, Tenn.; Conner, Arthur Alexander, S 2-c, father, Erly Conner, Long Island, N. C.

Evans, William Lee, S 2-c, wife, Mamie Miles Evans, Norfolk, Va.; Evans, Horace, S 2-c, mother, Annie Bell Waiters, Buffalo, N. Y.; Evans, John Henry, S 2-c, father, Samuel Evans, Farrell, Pa.; Evans, Ananias, S 2-c, wife, Lula Toy Evans, Chicago; Eusory, Luther, S 2-c, father, Charlie Eusory, Flovilla, Ga.; Ervin, Junios Calvin, S 2-c, son, James Calvin Harris, c-o Lillie Mae Harris; Edwards, Hobert Lee, S 1-c, mother, Emma Maybelle Edwards, Maryland Heights, Mo.; Edwards, Bunton Ivan, F 2-c, father, Rev. Aquila Beauragin Edwards, Montclair, N. J.; Ebenezer, Arthur Lee, S 2-c, mother, Bertha Ebenezer, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Doyle, Rayfield David, S 2-c, sister, Queen Doyle, Miami, Fla.; Davis, Willie, S 2-c, wife, Olivia Andrews Davis, Woodland, La.; Davis, Floyd McKinley, mother, Hattie Lougenia Davis, Trenton, N. J.; Davis, Henry Joseph, S 2-c, wife, Dorothy Davis, Portsmouth, Va.; Dixson, Nathaniel, S 2-c, mother, Maggie Dixson, Grenada, Miss.; Dunbar, Herman, S 2-c, father, Edward Dunbar, Burton, S. C.; Daniels, Horace, S 2-c, wife, Lula Mae Daniels, Atlanta, Ga.; Dansby, Huby, S 2-c, father, Hugh Dansby, Homer, La.; DeVaughn, James Lloyd, S 2-c, wife, Rosa Lee DeVaughn, Jacksonville, Fla.

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Cross, Eddie Lee, S 2-c, wife, Josie Mae Cross, Moultrio, Ga.; Crump, Jesse V., S 2-c, mother, Viola Collson Crump, Lumberton, N. C.; Curtis, Herman Lee, S 1-c, father, Edward Curtis, Selma, Ala.

Felisbrot, John Baptist Jr., USNR, S 2-c, father, John B. Felisbrot Sr., Middletown, N. Y.; Ferguson, Robert Lewis Ferguson, S 2-c, father, L. Ferguson, N. Y.; Fields, Clarence Sinclair, GM 3-c, wife, Alma Fields, Charleston, S. C.; Finney, Jessie, S 2-c, mother, Lena Finney, Milledgeville, Ga.; Forkner, Matthew Jr., S 2-c, wife, Shirley Mae Forkner, New Orleans, La.; Francis, Joseph Robertson, S 1-c, wife, Catherine Francis, St. Louis, Mo.; Franklin, Ford Sumpter Jr., S 2-c, wife, Margie Franklin, Oakland, Cal.; Frazier, Artis James, S 2-c, sister, Margaret Frazier Anderson, Moultrio, Ga.; Freid, Elmer Bertie, CM 1-c, wife, Gertrude Freid, Port Chicago, Cal.

Gaines, Ennie L., S 2-c, father, Lanzie Gaines, Lavonia, Ga.; Gant, Elger, S 2-c, wife, Mrs. Eloise Gant, Derwood, Md.; Gibson, John Samuel Jr., S 1-c, (GM,) father, John Gibson Sr., Baltimore, Md.; Gilbert, Jethero, S 2-c, father, Joe Gilbert, Mansfield, La.; Glenn, Samuel Jr., S 1-c, mother, Anna Glenn, Columbus, Ohio; Goudelock, Lewis Dennie, S 1-c, father, Boyd Goudelock, North Braddock, Pa.; Graham, Harry Lloyd, S 2-c, mother, Sally Geneva Graham, Trenton, N. J.; Green, William Henry, S 1-c, mother, Dasie Green, Petersburg, Va.; Grinage, Ross Burl, S 2-c, wife, Florence Grinage, Washington, Pa.

Hamm, Emeral, S 2-c, father, Lewis Hamm, Richmond, Va.; Hamilton, A D., S 2-c, grandfather, John Parks, Starkville, Miss.; Hamilton, Ernest Eugene, S 2-c, father, Charles Hamilton, Blythedale, Pa.; George R. Hammond, S 2-c, father, William Hammond, Philadelphia, Pa.; Hannah, John Wesley Jr., S 2-c, sister, Gloria Hannah, Chicago; Hardway, Joe Henry, S 2-c, wife, Opal Reeds Hardway, Greenville, Ga.; Harding, John Lloyd, S 2-c, mother, Carrie Louis Harding, Jacksonville, Fla.; Harris, B. C., S 2-c, wife, Carrie Harris McDowell, Ala.; Harris, Roscoe Alexander, S 2-c, mother, Mary Harris, Chester, Pa.; Harrison, Phillip Harold, S 2-c, mother, Ruth Jacobs, Detroit, Mich.; Harvey Jr., Clifford, S 2-c, mother, Ella Adkisos, Manchester, Ga.; Hayes, George George, S 1-c, mother, Mary Elizabeth Hayes, Franklin, N. C.; Haywood, D. C., 2-c, wife, Eloise Foster Haywood, Alexandria, La.; Hector, Douglas Lee, S 1-c, sister, Eva Mae Hector, Jacksonville, Fla.; Higginbotham, David Lee, S 1-c, wife, Ardella Higginbotham, Vallejo, Cal.; Higgs, Bobbie Richard, S 1-c, wife, Hattie B. Higgs, Bailey Rd., Pittsburg, Cal.; Hill, Cluster, S 1-c, mother, Beulah Lee White, Neelyville, Mo.; Hills, Joseph, S 2-c, wife, Albertia Henry Hills, New Orleans, La.; Hite, Charles William, S 2-c, wife, Elizabeth Hite, Louisville, Ky.; Holden, Rudolph Valenteen, S 2-c, father, Henry L. Holden, Jackson, Miss.; Holley, Stanford, S 2-c, father, Charlie Holley, Philadelphia, Pa.; Holmes, Eldred Lar, MOMM 3-c, (T), mother, Sadie Holmes, Batesburg, S. S.; Howard, Milton, S 2-c, mother, Mattie Howard, Dayton, Ohio; Howard, Frank James, S 2-c, mother, Emma Howard, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Hudson, Earl Howard, S 2-c, mother, Willie Gentry Travis Hudson, Paris, Tenn. Hughes, Glen, S 2-c, father, Melvin Hughes, Ethel, Miss.; Hughes, Leroy, S 2-c, wife, Cleora Hughes, Muskogee, Okla.; Hughes, Theodore, Lawrence, S 2-c, father, Jason Hughes, Houston, Texas; Humphrey William Jr., S 2-c, father, William Humphrey Sr., Kansas City, Kas.; Hunt, Ross Dee, S 2-c, wife, Curley Bee Hunt, Arlington, Texas; Hunt, Eave, S 2-c, mother, Alberta Hunt, Dacusville, S. C.; Hunter, Rudolph William, S 2-c, wife, Dora Lee Hunter, Oklahoma City, Okla.

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Ingram, Lorey, CM 3-c (T), mother, Mrs. Gladys Ingram, Covington, Ky.

Jackson, James, S 2-c, mother, Francis Asken Jackson, Wilmington, N. C.; Jackson, James Edward Mason, GM 2-c, wife, Susie Elizabeth Jackson; Jackson, Levi Randol, S 1-c, mother, Olive Jackson, Steubenville, Ohio; Jackson, Paul Eugene, S 1-c, wife, Leona Catherine Jackson, Oakland, Cal.; Jackson, Robert Albert Jr., S 2-c, father, Robert Albert Jackson, Oakland, Cal.; Jackson, Robert Albert Jr., S 2-c, father, Robert Albert Jackson Sr., Bronx, N. Y.; Jackson, Samuel Jr., GM 3-c, wife, Johnnie Lee Jackson, San Francisco, Cal.; Jamison, W., S 1-c, mother, Mary Elizabeth Jamison, Anacosta, D. C.; Jennings, Willie, S 1-c, brother, George Jennings, Ensley, Ala.; Johnson, Clarence, S 2-c, wife, Irene Jones Johnson, Simmesport, La.; Johnson, Earl Thomas, 3 2-c, mother, Alberta Johnson, Remlik, Va.; Johnson, Gabe, S 1-c, wife, Fanny Johnson, Royce City.

Peete, Robert Fulton, S 2-c, mother, Georgiana Stevens, Peete, Suffolk, Va.; Perry, Lester Lee, S 2-c, father, John Perry, Conyers, Ga.; Person, Joe Herman, S 2-c, legal guardian, Ethel Murphy Person, Newport News, Va.; Phillips, Alfred, S 2-c, wife, Sarah Phillips, Pike Road, Ala.; Pickett, Charles, GM 3-c, mother, Emma Pickett, Greenville, S. C.; Porter, Houston, S 2-c, mother, Judie Howard Porter, White Castle, La.; Porter, McCoy, S 2-c, mother, Minnie Peterson, Cleveland, Miss.; Potts, David William, S 2-c, wife, Beatrice Brown Potts, Portsmouth, Va.; Powell, Samuel Harry, SM, 3-c, brother, Andrew Powell, Washington, D. C.; Preuitt, Joe Clarence, GM 2-c, wife, Willie May Preuitt, Houston, Texas.

Reid, Arthur Jr., S 2-c, sister, Margaret Reid, Charleston, S. C.; Rhodes, James Elton, GM 3-c, father, John H. Rhodes, Paducah, Ky.; Richardson, Clyde Franklin, S 2-c, father, Jacob Richardson, Columbia, Mo.; Roberts, James Allen, S 2-c, daughter, Shirley Mae Roberts, c-o Katie Roberts, Louisville, Ky.; Roberts, Mango, S 1-c, mother, Marie J. Roberts, Jacksonville, Fla.; Robinson, Alphonso, MOMM 3-c, mother, Addie Newton, New Orleans, La.; Robinson, Fred Jr., S 2-c, mother, Mary Gillian, Westfield, N. J.; Rogers Eugene James, S 1-c, mother, Mattie Elle Ray, Greensboro, N.

7-28-44

Scott, Carl Clifton, GM 3-c, mother, Jessie Mae Scott, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Sanders, Robert, S 2-c, wife, Pauline Sanders, San Francisco, Cal.

Johnson, Harold, S 1-c, mother, Mrs. Anna Bell Johnson, New York, N. Y.; Johnson, Henry Lee, S 2-c, father, Levi Johnson, Grenada, Miss.; Johnson, Milton Frank, S 1-c, mother, Mrs. Claudia Johnson, General Delivery, Marshville, Ga.; Jones, Daniel Lancaster, S 1-c, mother, Carrie Jones, Washington, D. C.; Jones, Ivery Lee, S 1-c, mother, Nellie Jones, Jacksonville, Fla.; Joseph, Henry Jr., S 1-c, mother, Mrs. Mable Jackson, D. C., S 2-c, wife, Clara Ollie Jackson, Texarkana, Texas.

Kearney, Samuel, S 1-c, wife, Mildred Rogers Kearney, Raleigh, N. C.; King, Calvin, S 1-c, (SCB), father, Colonel King, Detroit, Mich.; King, Clifton, S 2-c, wife, Ice Pop King, Ringold, La.

Land, Verna, S 2-c, wife, Eva Rodgers Land, Norfolk, Va.; LaPorte, Sidney Joseph Jr., S 1-c, mother, Katie May LaPorte, General Delivery, Romeville, La.; Law, Willie Jr., S 1-c, mother, Viola Law, Jacksonville, Fla.; Lawson, Cleo, S 2-c, mother, Lela Lawson, New York; Leslie, Claudius William, S 2-c, wife, Laura Campbell, Norfolk, Va.; Lewis, Aaron, Augustus, S 2-c, mother, Partha Lewis, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Lewis, T. S 2-c, wife, Ineta Lewis, Tyler, town, Miss.; Long, Lemuel McKinley, S 2-c, wife, Mrs. Agnes C. Long, Baltimore, Md.; Lyons, Roberts, S 2-c, mother, Winne Nash, Beaumont, Texas.

Makins, Beattie John, S 2-c, mother, Savannah Makins, Greenville, S. C.; Martin, Russell Edward, S 1-c, father, Osee Martin, St. Louis, Mo.; Martin Alonzo, S 2-c, father, Ben Martin, Medina, Ohio; Massie, Daniel, S 1-c, grandmother, Anna Wesley, Jacksonville, Fla.; Matthews, Lawrence Jr., S 1-c, mother, Mrs. Margaret Mathews, Mobile, Ala.; Mayfield, Charles Alvin, S 2-c, mother Arlean Mayfield, Lake Charles, La.; McClam, Mitchell, S 1-c, grandfather, F. L. McClam. Lake City, S. C.; McFarland, Clarence K., CCM, wife, Elnora McFarland, Washington, N. Y.; Melton, Calvin, S 1-c, sister, Hannah Melton, Washington, D. C.; Miller, Ernest Charles, S 1-c, mother, Mrs. Irene Miller, Chicago Heights, Ill.; Miller, Ira Jr., MOMM, S 2-c, grandmother, Virginia Harvin, Jacksonville, Fla.; Miller, Otis Kenneth, S 2-c, mother, Willie Lucy Cutts, Jacksonville, Fla.; Moore, Marshall, S 2-c, wife, Rosie Lee Moore, Tuskegee, Ala.; Moore, Thomas, CM, 2-c, mother, Lettie Moore, Pineville, Ky.; Moore, William Paul, S 2-c, USN, wife, Pearline Moore, Norristown, Pa.

Neal, Eddie Lue, S 2-c, wife, Beulah Neal, Troy, Ala.; Nettles, Willis, S 2-c, mother, Marie Nettles, Youngstown, Ohio; Nixon, James Henry, S 1-c, mother, Zilphia Nixon, Wilmington, N. C

Otey, William Houston Sr., S 2-c, (SSMB), wife, Ophelia Otey, Nashville, Tenn.

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Packer, Auguster, S 2-c, mother, Mary Packer Hobbs, Lower Peach Tree, Ala.; Passchall, William Floyd, S 1-c, (SC), wife, Maryln Taylor Passchal, Knoxville, Tenn.

Saunders, Wesley, S 2-c, wife, Martha Saunders, Bronx, N. Y.; Sheckles, Joseph Jackson, S 1-c, wife, Victoria Sheckles, Chicago; Sims, Willie, S 2-c, mother, Mary Taylor, Collinston, La.; Smith, Isaac Ebenezer, S 1-c, mother, Katie Smith, Alexandria, Va.; Smith, James Parker, S 1-c, mother, Thelma Smith, Louisville, Ky.

Taylor, Ellis, S 1-c, mother, Mary S. Taylor, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Thomas, Calvin Burnett, S 2-c, mother, Mabel Cornelia Thomas, Trenton, N. J.; Tolson, Joseph Marcella, S 2-c, father, Isaac Tolson, Hertford, N. C.; Towles, Maxie Daniel, HA 2-c, mother, Erma Christian Towles Owens, Washington, D. C.

Van Dunk, Nervin Lester, S 1-c, wife, Delores Van Dunk, Oakland, Cal.

Wade, Isaiah, S 1-c, mother, Essie Wade, Jonesboro, Ark.; Walker, Charles Jr., S 2-c, sister, Carrie Bell Walker, Kenner, La.; Walker, Walter Lee Jr., S 2-c, aunt, Annie Bell Walker, Ensley, Ala.; Walker Woodrow Luther, S 2-c, mother, Odella Murton Robert, Helena, Ark.; Warren, William Claude, GM 2-c, wife, Janetta Warren, Hutchinson, Kas.; Washington James L., S 2-c, mother, Lizzie Bradley Washington, Minden, La.; Washington, Woodrow Sr., F 2-c, wife, Edith Washington, St. Elmo, Tenn.; West, Daniel, GM 3-c, mother, Louella Adams, Columbus, Ohio; White, Joseph Bailey, S 1-c, mother, Mollie Lee Richardson, Houston, Texas; Whitmore, Arthur, S 2-c, mother, Vera Whitmore, Little Rock, Ark.; Williams, Mitchell Jeanette Fay Adelbert, S 2-c, mother, Philadelphia, Pa.; Wilson, Williams, Maryland Eugene, S 2-c, father, Mary-land Wilson, Baltimore, Md.; Wilson, Oliver, CM 3-c, grandmother, Mary Jane Jones, Springfield, S. C.; Wilson, Samuel David, S 2-c, brother, Beth-el, N. C.; Woods, Manuel Wilson, General Delivery, S 2-c, mother, Annie Woods, James Edward, Washington, D. C.; Wright, Walter Eugene, S 2-c, father, Walter Wright, Cincinnati, Ohio; Wyatt, Charles Edward, S 2-c, sister, Addie Mae Wyatt, Richmond, Va.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Chicago, Ill. 12-2-44

By HAROLD PREECE

A Floating Democracy

racial discrimination unfortunately is going virtually unnoticed. It is in the U. S. Merchant Marine, perhaps the outstanding example where Negroes and whites eat, sleep and live together as jobs being done in this great country to break down hundreds of ships sailing the seven seas.

And of all the vessels in the Merchant Marine, perhaps the outstanding is the S. S. Booker T. Washington, skippered by Captain Hugh Mulzac. This is a floating democ-

racy and I believe no better description of the Booker T. could be given than by John Beecher, a descendant of Harriet Beecher Stowe, former regional director of FEPC in New York and until recently purser on the Booker T.

In connection with the Political Action committee drive to reelect President Roosevelt, Beecher has done a piece on the Booker T. that I should like to pass on to readers of this column. Here it is:

This is about Capt. Hugh Mulzac, one of the best Americans of my time. I sailed under him, as one of his officers, on the S. S. Booker T. Washington for more than a year, and I know what I am talking about. I have seen him do a job for America. Nobody has done a better one in this or any other war that we have fought for our own and other people's liberty. History will remember him. Right now I want to introduce him to his contemporaries.

Maybe I should take time out at this point to announce that I am a Negro man. Everybody of course knows that Hugh Mulzac is a Negro. These distinctions of skin color are thought by some to be of importance, though not by me, and not by the new American people these years are breeding. Hugh Mulzac and I are Americans; that's what's important. That is the ground upon which we meet and work together.

As an American, Hugh Mulzac cares about what happens to his country and wants the right thing to happen, the right thing for everybody in it, whatever their skin color. But man of action that he is, he doesn't stop at wanting. He thinks and works at it. Nobody I know has a better head on his shoulders, not only for navigating a ship through tricky waters when a gale is blowing or finding a position in mid-ocean—no skipper living can beat him at that—but for figuring out the right course for the American ship of state, and who should steer her on that course.

Back Home Now

HUGH MULZAC has just brought the S. S. Booker T. Washington in from her seventh trip to the war. For two years now he has been on duty night and day. I have watched him during those black nights in convoy when we played blindman's buff with the ship ahead and the high octane tanker abeam, we with block busters in the forward hold and 500 troops below we wanted to deliver safe and sound, so they could kill Nazis. Whole rows of nights when the skipper didn't sleep.

There were other nights, too, bright with the ocean moon, when depth charges shook the engine room deck plates as the destroyers fought the wolf-pack nosing for an opening to get at us. At dusk they slipped through and nailed one of our companion ships. We heard the torpedo thud home, saw the red distress lights flash on, then black out forever as the hull plunged under, leaving only two lifeboats tossing like chips on the huge dark sea. But always the Booker T. Washington got through.

Hugh Mulzac has a long rest coming to him after two years of such nights, but he is not taking it. He is going to spend his furlough ashore, working to see that the right thing happens to his country this November. The first thing he did upon getting home to New York was to accept Chairman Sidney Hilman's invitation to join the National Citizen's Political Action committee. I myself saw these two fine Americans shaking hands on their pact to work together.

It was then that Capt. Mulzac said: "I am most happy and proud to become a member of the National Citizens' Political Action committee. On the S. S. Booker T. Washington we have a Political Action committee and every man aboard is a member of it. We know the issues in this campaign and the records of the men who are candidates, and we have made up our minds. On my ship we are every one of us agreed that President Roosevelt is the only man to steer our country on the hard and dangerous course ahead. So far, he has taken us through in spite of sabotage by members of his crew in Congress. What we have got to do is keep him for the rest of the voyage, until we drop anchor in the harbor of total victory and lasting peace. And we must give him a better crew in Congress. Anything I can do to help reelect President Roosevelt and get a Congress that will work with him and not against him, I am ready and willing to do."

A New Chapter

THIS IS Hugh Mulzac, speaking as an American. As a Negro, who on his way to personal greatness and national honor has had to suffer all the humiliating trials which a blind and dying part of America has put in the path of the Negro, he has this further to say: "After all, I can't forget that it was the Roosevelt administration that gave me my chance to do what I wanted to do, and was capable of doing, for my country as master of the S.S. Booker T. Washington. I honestly believe that the only real future for the Negro people, as a part of the American people, toward having their full share in the government of our country and an equal opportunity in our industries is through keeping at the helm the man who has proved himself by his acts to be our greatest friend in the presidential office since Abraham Lincoln."

LIVING SOUTH—

This world is one and so are its people. No one knows this better than Hugh Mulzac, who for more than 40 years has been exploring every corner of it as a seaman. "What happens in Morocco, or in Italy or Java," he says, "is just as important to me and to all Americans as what happens in New York or Texas or South Carolia. You can't solve the problems of America without solving the problems of the whole world. President Roosevelt has shown that he knows this, too, that what we have go to do is work out a plan of peace and abundance for all the world. That is why we must keep him, for the sake of all the world's people."

These are the things Hugh Mulzac says, and he is ready to back them up with work. He is determined to see that we don't get on the wrong course next November.

Once they came close to getting the Booker T. Washington. Down through the acrid smoke screen which blanketed the harbor the enemy bomber dropped a flare right over us, lighting up our decks loaded with cargo. Troops were sleeping below and we had high explosives aboard. We could hear the bomber coming back, diving in for the kill. But the flare burst in air, shot out, the smoke rolled back to hide us from view and the bomb went wide.

Hugh Mulzac and the S.S. Booker T. Washington have started not just a new chapter but a new volume in our American history. Just read it....not so many years from now.

Navy Personnel Satisfied at Bennett Field Air Base

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
6-3-44

Colored Men Hold Petty Officer Ratings; No Discrimination at Mess; Many Opportunities

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA Correspondent

FLOYD BENNETT FIELD, N.Y.—To this U.S. Naval Air Station, fighter and bomber planes used by the navy on fighting fronts all over the world and by our allies also are sent to be tested before shipment.

The base, under the command of Capt Newton H. White, Jr., is one where the colored personnel, in general, is satisfied with the station-assigned to them and many fear the day when they may be assigned elsewhere.

Instead of "keeping them frying" as messmen, men stationed here are helping to "keep them flying" a s aviation machinist's mates and seamen who perform duties ranging from maintenance to manning crash boats (designed to service disabled seaplanes around the base). 6-3-44

Fourth of Men Colored

Approximately one fourth of the enlisted personnel is colored (the exact total cannot be disclosed for security reasons) and most of it came from boot camps at Great Lakes and Sampson Naval Base. The first group came here one year ago.

All recruits arrive as second class seamen and receive their advanced ratings here after they have qualified. When these men leave here they are sent to receiving stations and from there to new assignments.

Colored and white personnel have general mess together—first and second class petty officers in the West mess hall and third class P.O.'s and seamen in the East mess hall. 6-3-44

Have Separate Barracks

The two races do not sleep in the same barracks but the colored have equal accommodations with their own masters-at-arms.

In the barracks that I visited, Coxswains Clarence (Leafy) Robinson of Pittsburgh and a former member of the crack Center Avenue Y swimming team, and Arthur H. Griffin of Wilmington, Del., are masters-at-arms. Robinson is also the only colored member of the championship base swimming team.

The trainees get instruction from white teachers in aerial free gunnery (firing from a movable turret while flying in a plane), ship identification, sighting, turret training, practical experience on the firing range and in the assembling and repairing of such planes and their engines.

Men Fond of Flying

Each trainee who spends a minimum of 4 hours per month in the air gets a 50 per cent increase in pay and our men go for their air time in a big way.

A trainee who is striking for an aviation machinist mate's rating (AMM) is usually assigned to service in the store room first so that he can acquaint himself with plane parts. As he progresses, he is put to work in the shop under the tutelage of a white petty officer and trains until he is advanced. 6-3-44

Later he becomes a plane captain in charge of a crew, made responsible for a plane or planes as the case might be, must see that the 30,- 60- and 120-hour checks are made thoroughly and must effect all repairs before the plane is ready for assignment to combat.

T. A. Johnson, San Antonio, Tex., and Jacob Dubose, Philadelphia, are both AMMs 3/c and plane captains in charge of crews and planes. Their superiors rank them "excellent" and well on their way to the top of the rated list. They are assigned to the flight division.

Others Noted at Base

I also met William McDanniel, Detroit; John Boyd, Pittsburgh, and E. M. Langley, also of Detroit, all AMMs 3/c, and Daniel S. White, S 2/c, Birmingham, Ala.; Thomas Evans, S 1/c of Kansas City, Mo. White is in Ships Service as an apprentice tailor and Evans serves on a rescue boat. 6-3-44

In the metal shop, Debreckley Barnes, S 2/c, Cincinnati, and Argel Daniels, AMM 3/c, Detroit, are both doing spot welding.

Working as one hangar crew were Charles D. Cooper, Chicago; Sylvester Keeler, Columbus, Ohio; Paul Burton, Reading, Pa., and George Watson, Brooklyn, all AMMs 3/c, and proud of their jobs and ratings as petty officers.

Over in the planning division on the tractor crew was Beasley Hall, S 2/c, Jackson, Miss.; James Henderson, S 2/c, Los Angeles, and on the truck driving detail handling the ever dangerous high octane fuel were John Franklin, S 2/c, Atlanta, and his companion, John Shea, AMM 3/c, white, of Boston. 6-3-44

Many Opportunities

When a sailor has been here for at least two weeks, he is given a questionnaire by the master-at-arms to fill out. He lists his previous schooling and experience and chooses any two of the various services available. The personnel officer then assigns him after matching the questionnaire against his induction record.

The majority of the men feel that they are "getting a break" here and that they are a part of the American combat team. Many are satisfied to remain here for the duration and more than six months afterwards.

This base is proof for the navy that morale is no problem when the enlisted personnel is treated like sailors of the fleet and not designated otherwise. Hampton and Floyd Bennett bases at least permit colored naval personnel to crawl—later, it hopes, to walk, with the permission of those in command.

Navy Admits Jim Crow Cars For New Waves

Defender—Chicago

The Navy has a problem—how to transport 50 Negro WAVES from Chicago to Hunter college on the same train with 50 white recruits without upsetting its Jim Crow policy. 12-30-44

The Negro recruits are the first to be taken into the service in the 9th Naval District since the Navy opened the door to Negro WAVES in October. At that time the Navy announced there would be no Jim Crow units established in the training centers.

But WAVE recruiting headquarters in Chicago admitted that the Negro contingent "will probably be segregated from the white recruits while on the way to New York. Naval officials were "dis-

revealed that there were four that branch of 675 enlisted men. date, there were rines in the serv-

Negro officers in the service and 3,675 enlisted men. As of the same date, there were 15,771 Negro marines in the service.

Sept. 30, and 42 Negro officers. The Coast Guard revealed that on June 30, 1944, there were

Navy Dept. announced that there were 18,749 Negro enlisted men in the Navy proper on

WASHINGTON — During

Oct. 21,

47j-1944

Third Negro Ensign Of U. S. Coast Guard

Age — New York, N.Y. 5-6-44

Ensign Harvey C. Russell, Jr., third Negro to attain the rank of commissioned officer in the U. S. Coast Guard, was the only member of his race to graduate from the Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn., in the class of February 1944. He has since been commissioned an Ensign and assigned to the Boston District of the U. S. Coast Guard.

Ensign Russell is the son of Prof. and Mrs. H. C. Russell, Sr., of Louisville, Ky., and a graduate of Kentucky State College. He also did post-graduate work at the University of Michigan.

U. S. Coast Guard Photo From OWI.

5-6-44

Combat Assignment

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

Guide Correspondent With Tan Yanks In Navy Blue Aboard Destroyer Escort During Trip Across Atlantic Ocean Guarding Convoy

9-2-44

By THOMAS W. YOUNG

U. S. War Correspondent
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ABOARD THE USS MASON AT SEA—(Delayed)—Tan Yanks in Navy blue have taken their place beside Uncle Sam's fighting men of the Army Air Forces who are now battling Nazi pilots in the skies over Europe and of infantry and armored regiments of the 93rd Division, fighting Japs through the jungles of Pacific islands.

Now it can be said accurately that Negroes are fighting "on land, on sea, and in the air," in combat units of United States forces engaged in the world-wide struggle for democratic principles.

Negro bluejackets of the Navy are the latest to receive their baptism as a combat unit. The destroyer escort USS Mason, manned by a predominantly colored crew of specialists and technicians, is nearing an East Coast port after successful completion of its first combat assignment.

WITH DESTROYER-ESCORT TASK FORCE

The Mason was part of a task force of destroyer escorts which shepherded a convoy of merchant ships from an East Coast port last June across the German submarine hunting grounds of the Atlantic Ocean to Allied ports in Europe. Not a ship was lost. Nor did either the merchant vessels or escorting warships sustain even the slightest damage as a result of enemy action.

This odyssey was both the fulfillment of a promise and the answer to a question. Several months ago the Navy Department announced that one of its new destroyer escorts and a patrol craft would be manned by Negro crews. In March of this year the USS Mason was commissioned at Boston, Mass., and complemented with a predominantly Negro crew. Since then practically nothing has been heard of this destroyer escort.

9-2-44

GOES TO WAR—HISTORY IS MADE

During the weeks and months intervening, however, its crew was being trained and conditioned, and the vessel itself subjected to a routine "shakedown" to test her fitness for combat duty.

One June 14 she left an Atlantic Coast port and took her station in a formation with other similar destroyer escorts to guard a convoy of merchantmen loaded with vital war materials across the Atlantic. That was the fulfillment of the Navy's promise to send colored bluejackets to sea as fighting men on a fighting ship.

AN ANSWER TO SOME QUESTIONS

And for the Negro public it helped to answer the oft-asked question, "what is becoming of all the highly trained specialists and other rated men turned out at Great Lakes and the Hampton Naval Training School?" Some of them are now on the Mason helping to rid the oceans of enemy submarines.

As these Negro bluejackets went to sea to set a new precedent and to break down an age-old policy which had restricted their service on U. S. warships to the steward's (formerly messmen's) branch, still another precedent was established when this reporter put to sea aboard the USS Mason on its maiden combat voyage as the first Negro fully accredited as a Navy war correspondent aboard a warship.

The full story of this historic voyage—its dangers, its exciting moments, its humor and pathos, its realism flowing from the sincere and unselfish devotion to duty by the crew and from their unrealized or frustrated ambitions—will be told in the columns of this paper during the next several weeks.

9-2-44

HIGHLIGHTS OF FIRST VOYAGE

With the war against the deadly submarine menace in the Atlantic swiftly coming to a close, it becomes increasingly difficult for the hunters of these underseas raiders to locate and destroy their prey. On the trip across no U-boat attacked our convoy or challenged the might of the escort warships

How did the Mason crew race this uncertain destiny during the hours and days of suspense as they waited for lightning to strike?

9-2-44

What kind of fighting sailors do these Negro bluejackets make?

How well do they master the intricate technical devices and scientific machinery used in anti-submarine warfare?

How did these colored sailors get along with the experienced white petty officers and chiefs in the crew with whom they worked and ate and slept during this first combat operation of the USS Mason?

These and other similar questions can be answered, in part at least, on the basis of facts observed by this correspondent during the seven-week maiden voyage recently completed. The answers will be given in a series of exclusive articles to follow.

San Diego Naval Base Has "Benevolent" Segregation

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.

6-10-44

Commander a Liberal, Barracks Divided on Basis of Race; 80 Per Cent of Men Colored

Tour of Naval Bases

By HERMAN T. SMITH
NNPA Pool Correspondent on U.S. NAVAL FRONTIER BASE,

destroyer escorts, was to return to the United States, without a convoy, as a "killer group." This time we were to go off the defensive and take the offensive. We were going out looking for the enemy, to find him and destory him.

This was something new. The tactics of an escort group with a convoy to deliver is to get the ships to the other side, avoiding submarines if possible and fighting them only when they bring the fight to you.

But now we were the hunters and the U-boats were the hunted. How well would we be able to fight them when we tracked them down?

HOW CREW FACED THE SITUATION

As this fleet of DE's headed westward across the North Atlantic, executing maneuvers and formations throughout the day and night, we all experienced that feeling of tense expectancy which usually proceeds a great dramatic moment.

COMES A THRILLING BREAK

Then came one of the greatest thrills of the entire trip when we learned that our task force, consisting entirely of

San Diego, Cal. — Although generally referred to as the San Diego Naval Base, this area is not one huge naval base but instead there are several separate U.S. Naval Bases operating near each other here.

Each base here has a different function, different personnel and a different command and I understand that there are some colored men stationed on most bases throughout the area.

My clearance here was for the Frontier Base so this report is about activities there.

80 Per Cent of Men Colored

This base is, like Thompkinsville, a working base and services most of the craft operating in or out of this immediate area. About 80 per cent of its personnel is colored, and is performing important functions in all of the shops on the base.

Colored and whites live in the same barracks together, but on separate sides, eat in the same dining room on separate sides, but completely integrated in every other phase of base activities.

My first few hours here were spent with three colored petty officers who served as my escort. They are: Jerome Kimbrough, Y1c, of Chicago; Layton Thompson, Y3c, Detroit; and Rufus Brown, Y3c, Lima, Ohio. 6-10-44

Meets Commander

I also met Commander Corlyle Craig, commanding officer, at a baseball game surrounded by a group of wildly cheering colored and white enlisted men. The game was between service teams and each team had some white and colored members.

I met him later in the Diesel engine repair shop, crawling out of a huge Diesel motor on which colored and white machinists were busily at work.

In this shop I talked with George A. Penn, MoMM3c, of Muncie, Ind., graduate of Tenn. State Teachers' College; Robert Ezell, MoMMM3c, St. Louis, Mo., and F. C. Jackson, CMoMM, San Diego, Cal.

On the bridge of the signal tower I found an all-colored crew working under a white retired officer who had been recalled to duty after thirty-three years in the service. 6-10-44

This tower controls all traffic in the harbor, receives and sends messages by visual signals in code and controls the conditions of alert and fire control in case of an air raid.

14 Men in Tower

The colored men stationed at this important post are:

John W. Watly, S1c, NYC; Russel F. Hicks, S1c., Indianapolis; Charles F. Hamilton, QM2c, Jacksonville; William P. Watson, S1c, New Brunswick, N.J.; Eugene Walker, S1c, Pittsburgh; Robert L. Spurling, S1c, Vancouver, Wash.; Robert T. Hawkins, S1c, Chicago; Thomas B. Cunningham, Richmond, Va.; Allen Anderson, S1c, Carrier Mills, Ill.; Jack O. Laflore, QM2c, Detroit; Karl H. Long, Cleveland; H. N. Jackson, S1c, Detroit; James F. Hawkins, QM2c, Horton, Kan., and Vernon Gilbert, QM2c, Providence, R.I.

Out of the 14 colored men stationed here two have been recommended for commissions. Seven of them are high school graduates and the other seven are college men. 6-10-44

Commander a Liberal

Commander Craig, an old naval man, finished Annapolis with the class of 1916, hails from North Carolina, was classmate of Commander Armstrong and, like Armstrong, was one of the few naval men who fought for the acceptance of colored men in all branches of the navy.

He is close to his men and has shown his feeling about the race question by some of the things he has done to protect colored personnel from growing race intolerance in San Diego, as well as his treatment of them on the base.

The case of Walter V. King, S2c, of Philadelphia, is a typical example of the rising tide of racial intolerance in San Diego and the interest Commander Craig is taking in his men.

The Case of the Kings

After Seaman King was sent here from Great Lakes, his wife moved here from Philadelphia to be near him, secured employment in an influential white family in San Diego and had suitable quarters in the home for her husband to share with her.

So when King finished his work on the base days, he had permission to visit his wife in town nights. 6-10-44

After calling on his wife several times, King and a white boy began to meet each other and ride into town together nights.

An Unpardonable Error

One night about two weeks ago, King left the base late, rushed to the place where he usually met the other man, saw some one standing there in the darkness, and said, "Here I am, let's go."

But on this particular night both boys were late and instead of the other fellow it was a white girl to whom King had addressed his remarks.

She became frightened, threw her pocketbook into his face and ran screaming in one direction and King in the other.

When the commander heard of the incident and that police were looking for King he sent for the police and the girl.

In his office the girl admitted that she was excited, that the boy didn't bother her, refused to press charges and the matter was dropped.

White Dailies Stir Hatred

About three days after this, the tale goes, the daily papers ran the story, stating that the girl had been assaulted by this boy. The police then, so I am told, sought the sailor's arrest on the charge of attempted attack.

Commander Craig secured a lawyer for Mr. King, arranged for bail up to $10,000 and in co-operation with the sailor's wife's employers, planned libel suits against the papers. 6-10-44

Subsequently, the police refused to press the charges and the whole case was dismissed.

The radio shack on the base has all-colored personnel, highly praised by the base command. Included are: Felix S. Anderson, RM2c, Wilmington, N.Y.; Harold D. Shelby, RM3c, Chicago; and John Green, S1c, Louisville, Ky.

The radio shack is one of the most closely-guarded places on the base.

85 MARINES WIN PROMOTIONS

Defender — Chicago, 3-25-44 Ill.

By PVT. W. FRANK BARFIELD

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.—Eighty-five Marines, members of the Montford Point detachment of this U. S. Marine Corps Training Center, have been promoted to higher ranks.

Seven of the Marines were promoted to sergeants, 27 to corporals and 51 to privates first class.

The list of promotions follows:

To Sergeant: Herbert C. Bonds, Chicago; Leroy Brooks, Detroit; Alton L. Brown, Newark, N.J.; James A. Hill, North Chicago, Ill.; Lionel Johnson, Alexandria, La.; Juddie R. Stewart, Albany, N.Y.; Milton M. Victory, Baltimore, Md.

To Corporal: Charles H. Anderson, Louisville, Ky.; Herbert W. Anderson, Glasgow, Va.; Charles N. Bartee, East Bernard, Tex.; James S. Beal, Meridian, Miss.; Lee C. Blackmon, Vredenburgh, Ala.; George Conner, Birmingham, Ala.; Charles Clinton, Hartford, Conn.; Bruce Davenport, Philadelphia, Pa.; Aurelieu C. Fournox, New Orleans, La.; Eugene Griffin, New York, N.Y.; Robert A. Halfacre, Memphis, Tenn.; Cornelius Horsey, Baltimore, Md.; Charles C. Jackson, Atlanta, Ga.; Samuel D. Jordan, Washington, D.C.; Robert L. Knox, Concord, N.C.;

Roscoe Marshall, Fostoria, Ohio; Willie C Mayes, Washington, Ga.; Robert S. McGee, Chicago; Edward J. McCoo, Chicago; William L. Overton, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Franklin S. Price, Jamaica, N.Y.; Wallace A. Ringgold, Baltimore, Md.; James H. Shamburger, Coal Bluff, Ala.; Thomas W. Snowden, Philadelphia, Pa.; Ralph R. Turner, Madison, Ill.; Horace Whitted, Alcoa, Tenn.; James R. Stevens, Newark, N.J.

To Privates First Class: George A. Cherry, Lorain, Ohio; Jeremiah Claybrooks, Thorpe, W.Va.; Joe S. Maxwell, Jenkins Jones, W. Va.; James J. Williams, St. Louis, Mo.; Frank A. Adams, Cleveland, Ohio; Leon J. Anderson, Kansas City, Kans.; Clifton H. Ashe, Cambridge, Mass.; Judson Beal, Miami, Fla.; Samuel M. Bolton, Chicago; William Brewer, Chicago; Clifton Brewster, Baltimore, Md.; Stewart L. Brooks, Winchester, Va.; Donald Brown, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Jessie W. Brown, Chicago. 3-25-44

Joseph D. Broadnax, Plant City, Fla.; Joseph D. Braley, Dodge City, Kans.; Willie Blackmon, Eudora, Ark.; Henry W. Bishop, Blevins, Ark.; Joseph L. Carpenter, Hutchinson, Kans.; John H. Chambers, E. Orange, N.J.; Louis A. Chippey, Wilmington, Del.; Herman D. Clarke, New York, N.Y.; Francis E. Goodridge, Boston, Mass.; James M. Green, Richmond, Va.; Clarence Harris, Baltimore, Md.; E. J. Harris, Birmingham, Ala.; Hurd Hill, Laurel, Miss.; Raymond L. Hill, Manchester, Ga.; George Hillmon, Waco, Texas; Joseph M. Hubbard and Lawrence A. Hubbard, both of Richmond, Va.; James H. Jackson, Jamaica, N.Y.; Robert W. Jackson, Detroit, Mich.; Sherman L. Jackson, Washington, D.C.;

Russell Johnson, Louisville, Ky.; Henry L. Jones, Holt, Ala.; William L. Jackson, Chicago; James E. Kelly, Salisbury, N.C.; Charles E. Keyes, Baltimore, Md.; George Lewis, Cedar Grove Station, Shreveport, La.; Aaron W. Lloyd, Detroit, Mich.; Robert Smith, Buffalo, N.Y. 3-25-44

Arnet Streetr, Prestwick, Ala.; Godfrey W. Taylor, Newark, N.J.; William H. Travis, Chicago; Edward B. Thomas, Quitman, Ga.; George B. Van Dross, Philadelphia, Pa.; Arthur Victory, Fernandina, Fla.; Maxwell S. Virgil, Jamaica, N.Y.; Gordon E. Warnick, Jersey City, N.J.; Horton T. Ward, Birmingham, Ala.

THE NEW NAVY POLICY

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

On the newly announced changes in naval policy which provides for the commissioning of Negro officers and for colored seamen on combat ships have been fully tested, we will withhold our appraisal of them. 3-25-44

If honestly administered, giving colored seamen and officers an opportunity to prove their metal, these changes will be a considerable improvement over past policy. If on the other hand, they are intended as a sop to palliate the Negro people just before election, they will deserve our bitter condemnation.

In the light of the record of the Army, the sister branch of the service, it is only natural that we be extremely cautious in evaluating this new Navy program.

We can remember that during the hysterical days of late 1940 and early 1941, when the nation was first attempting to build a juggernaut of military might under provision of the conscription act, the Army heralded a new era of democracy. Negroes were to be admitted to all branches of the service. There was to be no limitation on their opportunities for advancement. The elevation of B. O. Davis, Sr., to the position of brigadier-general was hailed as a symbol of the heights to which we could rise. As a safeguard against discrimination and mistreatment, a Negro was appointed as civilian aide to the Secretary of War. In theory at least, he was to have access to Secretary Stimson to bring personally to his attention grave incidents of mistreatment. 3-25-44

As the war has progressed, however, full extent of the so-called opportunities have been brought forcibly home to us. Boys trained as artillery-men, for tank destroyer units, and for armored cavalry service, have been suddenly transferred for overseas duty as engineers, stevedores, and quartermasters. Officers have been denied promotions and the privilege of commanding troops in combat. The same General Davis which we so proudly hailed, presents a sorry comic-opera spectacle running around the country making inspections in which he fails to see the plight of his black brother. Negro soldiers and officers alike hold him in utmost contempt. Then to excuse its own deception, the head of the War Department comes out with a statement branding Negroes as unqualified for the higher branches of army service.

These are the tactics we are hoping the Navy doesn't intend to use. This much at least is in their favor. To date they have been honest in their prejudice and have not hid behind a tissue of inaccuracies to support their discrimination. 3-25-44

When Secretary of Navy, Frank Knox, was visited some time ago by a group of leading Negroes demanding complete integration into all phases of the service, he denied their request on the grounds that Negroes, if given an equal opportunity would rapidly rise above some white men to positions of command.

It was apparently this possibility which has made the Navy so reluctant to give us a chance.

18 Finish Navy's Metalsmith School

Afro American Baltimore Md.

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Eighteen men were graduated recently from the Aviation Metalsmith's School, Camp Robert Small, of the U.S Naval Training Center.

Eugene R. Moore of Oklahoma City, Okla., was the honor graduate, leading his class with an average of 94.42. He and 2 other graduates were advanced in rating to aviation metalsmith, third class, and the remaining men were advanced to seamen, first class.

The group included, in addition to Moore, are: 12-2-44

Venton Brooks, Weokuk, Okla.; Caesar McIntire, Philadelphia; John E. Von, Trenton, N.J.; Leonard A. Jackson, Atlantic City; Oscar C. Black, Detroit; Irvin L. Brown, Cleveland; Ernest Hunt, Chicago; William E. Richardson, Los Angeles; Velton A. Gamble, Weokuk, Okla.; Ulysses S. Wright, Kansas City, Kans.; Floyd D. Sims, Hartford, Conn.; Carlyle D. Jones, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Freddie J. James, Oakland, Calif.; Cyril C. Mosely, Mobile, Ala.; Wilbur Haley, Columbus, Ohio; Grendler S. Stallon, Philadelphia, and Henderson D. Walker, Houston, Tex.

47j-1944

Pres. Roosevelt Approves Plan For Race WAVEs

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
10-20-44

Navy Plan Calls For Immediate Recruiting Moves

By HARRY S. MCALPIN
(White House Correspondent of the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt Thursday approved a plan submitted by the Navy Department providing Negro women in the WAVESs.

The announcement was hailed as one of the most forward steps for Negroes in their long struggle to eliminate discrimination in the armed forces of the country. The plan calls for the immediate commissioning of a limited number of especially qualified Negro women to serve as administrative officers. They will assist in the subsequent planning and supervision on the program which will be administered as an intricate part of the Women's Reserve.

Enlistment of Negro women will be undertaken as soon as the plans have been completed, and it is presently indicated that the first recruits will enter training shortly after January 1.

Officer candidates and enlisted women, according to the announcement, will be trained at the existing schools for the training of WAVEs. These schools are Hunter College in New York City and Smith College in Northampton, Mass.
10-20-44

The number to be enlisted will be determined by the needs of the service, the Navy announced.

The insistence that Negro women be admitted to the ranks of the WAVEs and SPARS and Women's Marine Corps had been of long standing, being brought again to the forefront last week at the three-day workshop of the National Council of Negro women which closed session in Washington Sunday. The Council had asserted its leadership in contending that Negro women be admitted on an integrated basis to every branch of military service.

10-20-44

The Negro press and other organizations had long asked and insisted on the late Secretary Frank Knox and other high Navy administrators to open the naval reserve branches to Negro women. The Thursday announcement was considered a victory on the part of liberal and patriotic agencies.

Two-Year Fight Won At Last

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
10-27-44

Negro Women To Be Integrated, Not Segregated

WASHINGTON. — At long last and on the eve of the election, President Roosevelt late Thursday, Oct. 19, approved a plan submitted to him by the Navy department providing for the acceptance of Negro women into the WAVES.

For two years, ever since the women's reserve was created, Negro organizations have waged a relentless battle against the policy of excluding Negro women from all military organizations except the WAC.
10-27-44

The Coast Guard announced also Thursday that it will follow the general policy of the Navy in accepting Negro women in the SPARS. No announcement was made by the Marines.

The Navy plan calls for the immediate commissioning of a limited number of especially qualified Negro women to serve as administrative officers. They will assist in the subsequent planning and supervision of the program for Negro women which, according to the official statement, "will be administered as an integral part of the Women's Reserve."

Training After Jan. 1

Enlistment of Negro women will be undertaken, the Navy said, "as soon as these plans have been completed and it is presently indicated that the first Negro recruits will enter training shortly after January 1."

Officer candidates and enlisted women will be trained at existing schools for the training of WAVES. The number to be enlisted will be determined by the needs of the service.

The existing facilities for WAVES are at Hunter college in New York and Smith college in Northampton, Mass.

The plan as adopted by the Navy department is said to be substantially that presented to it by the National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

The campaign for the admission of Negro women on an integrated basis in the Navy has been waged by the sorority, with the cooperation of other organizations. Many conferences, public meetings, mass petitions and activities to encourage Negro women to apply for admission formed part of the campaign.

10-27-44

Commended By N.A.A.C.P.

"We are happy to see our efforts finally crowned with success and glory," said Miss Norma Boyd, head of the A. K. A. Non-Partisan Council. "It was inevitable that the demands of our armed forces would ultimately compel a relaxation of the bar that has been held against us by a few ill-advised but influential people in the Navy department."

The Non-Partisan Council is now urging qualified Negro women to take advantage of the opportunity for officer training.

In a statement regarding the Navy's plan for immediate commissioning of qualified Negro women, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said:
10-27-44

"The NAACP is pleased to learn that the ban against colored American women in the WAVES at long last has been abolished, a policy the association has urged upon the Navy department since the establishment of the WAVES in 1942. We trust that the announced plan of training Negro women in existing schools means no segregation and we hope that this policy will be extended to establish a new and more democratic principle in the American armed services by integration of colored WAVES into regular units instead of being assigned to jim crow ones. We further hope and urge that the United States Coast Guard and the Marine Corps will also open their doors on an unsegregated basis to qualified Negro women."

Perform Service Tasks In Pacific

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
10-28-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(NNPA War Correspondent)

PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS — (By Courier) —Reliable sources close to this headquarters revealed recently that although Negro members of the Marine Corps in the Central Pacific area had seen combat, the immediate trend does not point toward continued usage of these troops in a combat capacity. However, it was pointed out, plans are subject to change daily, if the situation warrants.

Past history of the Pacific war has openly revealed that original strategy has been changed in several instances. At Saipan, when the enemy drew his forces up for a fanatical defense of the coral bloc, service troops took to their rifles. During the second campaign on Bougainville, as the enemy hammered at the small American perimeter, troops performing a general service mission also took up the cudgel.
10-28-44

A CRUEL WAR

It is agreed by many that the war with the Japanese is one of the cruelest in human history; and as American forces drive closer to the coast of China the fighting becomes more intense, more rugged, more gruesome. Military censorship has not tried to hide this fact. Before the current unpleasantness ends, perhaps all available, able-bodied Americans in service on this side will be flung into the fray, one way or another.

The question has been repeatedly asked why colored troops, combat units, now stationed in this command, have not been committed to action. It isn't that these men are blood-thirsty, as one correspondent has pointed out, but they have been trained for combat. On several occasions they were alerted. At the present, they wait on their guns.

PERFORMING GENERAL SERVICE JOBS
10-28-44

From information received at fleet headquarters, it was learned that colored troops in forward areas are mostly performing missions of general service. Very little specific information has filtered through on these troops. Headquarter's spokesmen, generalizing on the subject, stated that most of them are in secured areas, garrisoned. This would seem to indicate that in Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's thrust across the Pacific these troops have helped unload the material, construct the airstrips, lay the roads which are destined to lead finally to Tokyo.

Service units have valiantly performed, and continually perform, their task. The men (Negro men) who have the guns, wait to perform theirs. It isn't that the command doesn't have reasons for the prevalent policy, if it can be so termed, but they refuse to even hint an explanation. Thus, the arising of questions in some quarters. Perhaps it will be argued that no explanation has to be made, but the questions still crop up.

LONG TENURE IN PACIFIC THEATRE
10-28-44

One fact is outstandingly apparent. The Japanese have won the war in China. Despite the heroic effort of ill-supplied Chinese troops during the last eight years, the ruthless enemy is coming out on top, at the present. And the more ground he gains in China, the harder will be our task.

This writer believes, as has been stated in several dispatches, that the time will arrive when Negro troops will be used on a wholesale in the Pacific. Perhaps China, in Formosa, in the Philipines. But many of them questioned don't believe it. As a result, they look forward to returning home. This is foundationed on a long tenure in the Pacific—waiting to fire the millions of dollars of equipment in their care.

Not One Officer in Marines

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
8-19-44

Refused Commissions, Combat Unit Busted

MANY COMPLAINTS

Saipan Battle Proves Training Inadequate

By W. A. BROWER
Editor, Richmond AFRO

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — Last October when an AFRO representative visited this training center for Marines, he found many colored members of the 18,000 in the corps in an agitated state over the treatment accorded them.

Unfolding a cluster of complaints, they charged:

That the training they were getting was not the same given other men in their branch of service and that the training they had received was inadequate;

That a limited number of men had been assigned to units in training for combat duty and all others had been shunted into the steward's branch or depot and ammunition companies, described as "oversized working parties";
8-19-44

Denied Chance to Qualify

That they were denied opportunity to qualify for commissions or the warrant officer grade and that they are barred from Marine Corps specialist schools;

That a scheme had been devised to have white NCO's assigned to colored units outranking all colored non-coms, and

That colored MP's were given token assignments only outside the camp in the jim-crow sections of Jacksonville, nearest town to Camp Lejeune.

Most Charges Still Stand

Although mitigated somewhat, most of these charges still stick, according to the best sources among the men.
8-19-44

The most illuminating tipoff on the quality of training some of the men received before being shipped overseas is discernible in a recent article in Time Magazine. Referring to the Battle of Saipan, the article recorded an incident of a colored marine who handed his buddy a grenade and told him to a group of the enemy jumped into a fox hole beside a grenade.

He Learns in a Foxhole

The white marine and he learned the lesson well. But, the article pointed out, as the "pineapple" it well as the colored marines did in enemy and killed liquidating Japs they were even article said. which they were trained—as serv- t on to say that ice and supply troops. acquitted them The only bonafide colored com-

bat unit overseas is a defense battalion, which is doing anti-aircraft work.

Part of this particular organization— a seacoast unit, which, using the 155-mm. gun, established several marine corps records for long distance firing while in training here—has been dissolved.

Says Death of Secretary Knox Will Have Little Effect on Negroes in U. S. Navy

Call—Kansas City, Mo
5-5-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — No matter who is appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the sudden death of Navy Secretary Frank Knox early Friday morning, the wider utilization and integration of Negroes in the navy is not going to be any faster than it has been, in the opinion of persons conversant with the picture.

Certainly if James V. Forrestal, under secretary of the department until he became acting head the past week, is appointed this will hold true, is the concensus. Forrestal is variously credited with being the individual, more than Col. Knox himself, who has "run" the department. Actually, "the navy runs the navy," as one observer phrased it.

Forrestal is 52 years old. He began his naval career in 1917 when he enlisted as a seaman, second class. During World War 1 he served in the office of naval operations here at a time when Franklin Roosevelt was the assistant secretary of the navy.

He was made one of the President's "anonymous" administrative assistants in 1940 but remained in the job briefly before accepting the post of under secretary. He has been primarily responsible for construction work in the department. 5-5-44

Press Conferences Lively

In the course of the past winter Secretary Knox admitted to newsmen that there were some things that he could not do because navy brasshats just would not go along with him. How much he personally sought to utilize and integrate Negroes into that branch of the service may not become known until after the war.

His press conferences were generally lively. Questions prepared for early submittance were never required as is the custom at the war department. Frequently he joked with reporters at his semi-weekly conferences, and never hedged on answers to questions designed to draw information from him regarding Negroes. 5-5-44

Typical of the late secretary's directness was the answer to this reporter's question on Dec. 12 when he wheeled around in his chair and declared "You know exactly what we are trying to do. We are trying to avoid mixing crews on ships. That puts a limitation on where we can employ Negro seamen. We are using them for crews of small shore and harbor craft and for shore duty, but we are not mixing crews."

Opportunities Opened

In the period during which Col. Knox directed the affairs of the department, Negroes have seen opportunities gradually opened to them outside the rating of mess attendants and cooks. Today there are 22 commissioned officers in the navy, and three in the coast guard. Two anti-submarine vessels, a destroyer escort and a patrol chaser, are largely manned by Negroes crews, and will ultimately be in full charge of colored officers. 5-5-44

The training station at Great Lakes is rated one of the best in the country, and is turning out seamen with skills. There are more opportunities for non-commissioned ratings also. The complete bar of the marines has been wiped out, and according to one informed source, this branch of the service, in the short time it has had to work with Negroes, has done "better than any other part of the department."

Negroes Still Denied

Insofar as women are concerned, however, Negroes are still denied admittance to the WAVES, the SPARS or the marines. Col. Knox's view on this was always that until Negro men are in positions where they may be relieved by a WAVE and the like, the Negro women will not be accepted. 5-5-44

Cmdr. Van Ness is in charge of Negro personnel in the bureau of navy personnel, and is said by those who know him to be confident that he has done a wonderful job, in fact, "better than that done by the war department." The navy has no equivalent to the latter's civilian aide to the secretary.

Various organizations interested in Negroes in the navy have frequently pointed to Rear Adm. Randall Jacobs, chief of the bureau of navy personnel, as the "stumbling block." He has been described as "unspeakable on this Negro question." The general feeling then is that until he is shaken, no department secretary is going to be able to do much for the advancement of the Negro in the navy.

All-Negro Navy Patrol Boat Rescues 5 Sailors

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
8-12-44

SAN FRANCISCO — The alert crew of an all-colored Navy patrol boat saved the lives of five sailors off a sinking raft and won the praise of their commanding officer, Comdr. Robert B. England, last Wednesday. The heroic action of the rescuers has become part of the service record of each man.

Members of the patrol boat crew threw life rings to the struggling men, two of whom had gone down twice, and took them to the Yard dispensary where they were given medical attention.

The five sailors on the raft were caught in a strong tide about 9 p.m. and started to drift toward the Causeway. The men, thinking the raft was going to crash into the Causeway, attempted to swim to the dredge pipe line. Two of them were seized with cramps and had gone down twice when the patrol boat came along. The men were off a Yard-built vessel. 8-12-44

Members of the rescuing crew were J. W. Powers, coxswain; S. E. Stroughter, S1c; G. A. Churchill, MM3c; and A. Allen, S2c. The five sailors who owe their lives to the quick thinking Negro sailors were John L. Stubbs, F2c; Frank Dow, S2c; Charles Fritschy, S1c; L. B. McLellon, GM1c and W. R. Flowers, S2c.

On Tuesday, the hero crew was called before Captain A. G. Cook Jr. Captain of the Yard, for meritorious mast. A letter of commendation from Comdr. Robert B. England, enlisted and barracks officer, was read. It pointed out that the tide of Mare Island Channel is extremely strong, making swimming very dangerous. 8-12-44

In praising the work of the crew, the Commodore wrote:

"This patrol boat composed entirely of Negro enlisted personnel showed alertness, resourcefulness, and its ready and efficient action in rescuing these five men was in keeping with the best traditions of the Naval service."

50 sailors face death penalty

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO—With death the maximum penalty under the law, the Navy Thursday opened court martial proceedings here against 50 Negroes charged with mutiny for refusing to handle ammunition in the loading of a naval vessel. 9-18-44

It marked the first time in American naval history that so many defendants had been simultaneously tried during a single court martial, the first mutiny trial of a Negro, and records similarly failed to disclose a formal American Navy court martial in which mutiny was the charge.

The 50 sailors, all of whom survived the Port Chicago explosion in which 327 persons were killed last July, assertedly refused to load an ammunition ship at Mare Island Naval Ammunition Depot on Aug. 9, prior to the ship's departure for the South Pacific. All 50 defendants were present Thursday for the proceedings. 9-18-44

Cmdr. Joseph Tobin, U.S.N.R., in charge of the loading operations at the Mare Island depot, was the day's first witness.

He recalled the ship's arrival on Aug. 8, his order that it be loaded, beginning at noon the following day, the refusal of 50 men to proceed.

Tobin said he talked with the men, individually and in groups, after they had refused the order actually given by Lt. Ernest Delucchi, division officer.

Some of the men, Tobin added, openly admitted **"they were afraid;"** others simply gave a point blank **"no!"** without any reason; others gave a variety of reasons: that they were physically **"too small to load ammunition,"** that they **"wanted sea duty"** instead. 9-18-44

At that point, Cmdr. Tobin testified, he warned the men that they must obey a naval order, pointing out that **"women nearby are doing equally dangerous jobs."** The men, he said, nevertheless **continued in their refusal to load the ship, which eventually was loaded by others.** 9-18-44

Lieutenant Delucchi was next on the stand, disclosing that on Aug. 8, during muster, one Negro sailor dropped from the ranks, and later several score others likewise dropped from the ranks.

At this stage, Delucchi explained, the men already had been informed that they would load ammunition on the following day.

He confirmed the fact that they had been at Port Chicago during the explosion there; that some had been sent to Shoemaker Hospital to recuperate, while others had remained at Port Chicago Ammunition Depot to "help clean up things." On July 30, they were ordered to Mare Island. 9-18-44

During the mustering, Delucchi said, "other members of other divisions were looking on—a very unusual procedure." He said members of these other divisions had shouted to the men on muster: "Don't work—don't do it."

After the men broke ranks, they later were ordered to reform, which they did. On the following day, however—Aug. 9—they definitely refused to load the ammunition, a few moments before the scheduled deadline—noon.

PERSONNEL

Trial's End

Time Mag.

The court-martial, scrupulously conducted, had heard evidence for six weeks. Last week it announced its verdict: the 50 Negro sailors accused of mutiny at the Mare Island naval depot (TIME, Oct. 2), were guilty. Neither the extent of their guilt nor the sentence was announced. Until the findings have been transcribed in longhand (Navy regulations) and sent to Washington for review, even the 50 would not know their fate.

News of the "guilty" verdict—in the first such mutiny trial in U.S. Navy history—brought charges from Negroes that Negro sailors were victims of discrimination and a demand for an investigation of circumstances leading up to the case. The 50 had refused and persisted in refusing to load ammunition after an explosion of two munition ships had killed 327 persons at nearby Port Chicago, where the 50 had formerly been based. Navy officers sternly insisted that such conduct could not be tolerated in wartime, no matter what the excuse.

The Navy had already tried 207 other Negro sailormen and found them guilty of disobeying orders on the same rebellious occasion. Unlike the 50, the 207 had not persisted in their refusal to load explosives. Punishments (also unannounced) were undoubtedly lighter.

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To five Negro bluejackets who had behaved with exceptional courage during the Port Chicago disaster, Rear Admiral H. Wright last week awarded Navy and Marine Corps medals.

47j-1944

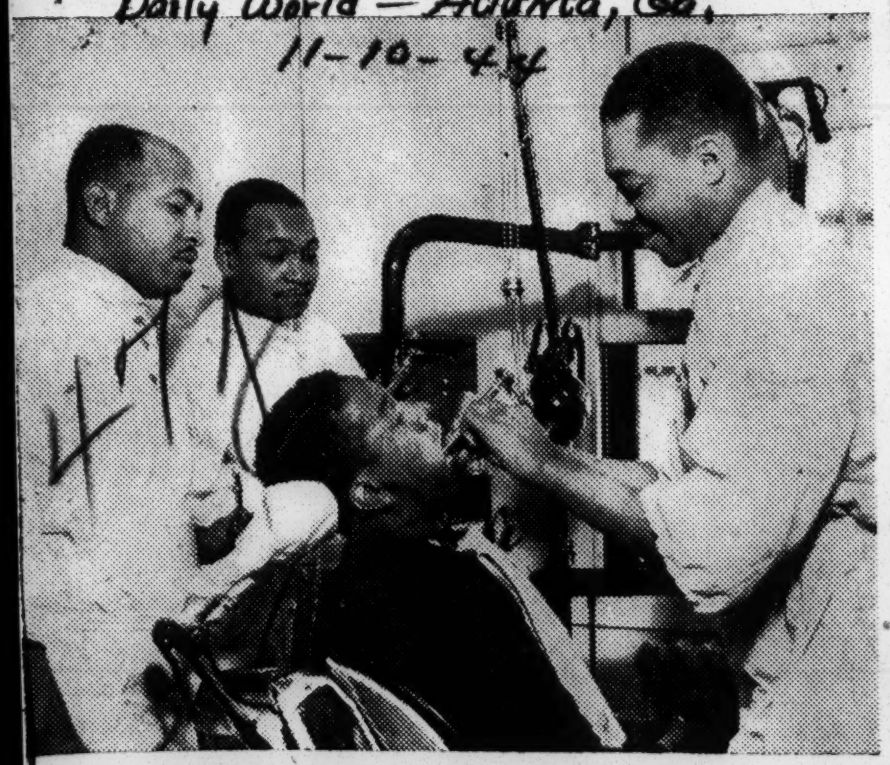
AMERICAN SCENE

Tribune — Chicago, Ill.
10-1-44

FIFTY SAILORS, charged with mutiny for failure to handle ammunition at the Mare Island, Cal., depot, on trial by court-martial at San Francisco.

First Navy Dentist At Work

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
11-10-44



GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Examining the mouth of one of the recruits at the U. S. Naval Training Center, here is Lt. (jg) Thomas Watkins, Jr., of 426 North McDowell Street, Charlotte, N. C., the first Negro to be commissioned in the Dental Corps of the Naval Reserve. He was commissioned September 23rd in Philadelphia, Pa., and reported for duty here November 1st. Lt. Watkins received his DDS degree from the Dental School of the University of Pennsylvania and his Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University where he won his school letter as an athlete. He is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and the National Dental Honorary Society, Omicron Kappa Upsilon. His parents are Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Watkins, Sr., of Charlotte, N. C. Assisting the first Negro Officer in the Dental Corps of the Naval Reserve are: Thomas E. Johnson, PhM3c, Snow Hill Institute, Snow Hill, Ala., and Lecester Jones, PhM3c, 4929 Sheriff Rd., N. E., Washington, D. C. In the dental chair is Andrew T. Johnson, AS of Richmond, Ky.—(Official U. S. Navy Photo)

11-10-44

Att'y Thurgood Marshall Reports On Mutiny Trial

10-17-44

Finds Men Failed To Act Because Of Blast Fears

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

YERBA BUENA ISLAND, Calif. —(SNS)— After listening to three days' testimony of the 50 Negro seaman charged with mutiny for refusal to load ammunition at the Mare Island depot, August 9, Special NAACP Counsel, Thurgood Marshall declared. "These men are being tried for mutiny solely because of their race or color."

Following an urgent telephone call from Joseph James, president of the local NAACP Branch, asking that National Office assistance be given the defendants immediately, Mr. Marshall flew to San Francisco where he has been reviewing testimony and interviewing the men. In his report of proceedings thus far he charged:

"The last of the defendants was on the stand today and the defense might close its case tomorrow. The Port Chicago explosion was on July 17th and many of the accused were in Port Chicago at that time. Many of them were hurt. On August 9th they were transferred to another Island and told to fall in for work, meaning loading ammunition .They did not. Their officers including the Admiral talked to them. Then their officer asked them the following: 'All of you who are willing to obey all lawful orders stand fast. All who are not fall out and give your names to the officers.' Some stood fast and others fell out. Those who fell out were arrested. There were 257 altogether but it ends up that only 50 are charged with mutiny.

11-10-44

of the accused men handled winches, one had ten months experience, two had two months experience ... all experience was with ammunition a week and ammunition.

"Lieutenant James F. Coakley, the one who directed former assistant prosecutor of the winch as to Alameda County, California, under the ammunition in- the present Governor Warren is ... No wonder they the Judge Advocate. He asks each to load ammunition. of the accused who is from above testified that since the the Mason and Dixon line 'Where operator of the affair they were you from?' He never asks any

NOT CONSIDERED ORDER

munition. They did not mean to how to lower the to the hole ... No

"The men take the position that disobey an order. the above statement by the offi- "A typical example of their were all afraid to cer was not considered by them testimony is that of Seamen Bor- Every man testified to be an order and what they have who is just seventeen. He Port Chicago affair meant by their actions was that had enlisted when he was 16: was 'afraid to load ammunition.' Three they did not, want to load am-

of the good southern boys the question. Today he asked one of the accused where he was from and the man said, "Chicago.' He asked him where he took boot

(Continued from Page 1)

training, the boys replied, "Great Lakes.', whereupon Coakley said, 'Didn't they teach you to address officers as Sir? Why can't you say, Sir to me?"

"There is not sufficient evidence of mutiny or conspiracy

"There is no evidence of refusal to obey a direct order

"These men are being tried for mutiny solely because of their race or color" 10-17-44

The meaning of Mutiny, under which these men are being tried is—"collective insubordination with intent to disobey a lawful command In order to find defendants guilty of mutiny it is necessary for prosecution to prove there was collective insubordination which consists of a persistent and concerted refusal or omission to obey orders, or to do duty None of these men appears to have conspired collectively to disobey or perform duty with insubordinate intent.

Prosecution Sags at Mutiny Trial

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By RALPH MATTHEWS

9-30-44

SAN FRANCISCO.— As an ugly sequel to the Port Chicago blast which killed 300 navy men and civilians recently, fifty colored sailors are on trial at Treasure Island, charged with mutiny for refusing to load ammunition on a ship in defiance of military orders.

The trial, in its seventh day Thursday, hit a snag when Judge Advocate Lieut. Com. Frank Coakley seemed destined to failure in his effort to prove a conspiracy through an array of witnesses who testified against the men.

Safeguards Wanted

Most of the witnesses testified that the men were not unpatriotic nor did they conspire to mutiny but were actually afraid to handl ammunition until given some a: surance that they would be protected against a recurrence of the Port Chicago tragedy. 9-30-44

Among those heard Thursday were Fireman 1/c Feodus Ship, Fireman 1/c William H. Shannon, Clarence Morgan and Joseph Morgan. The names of the fifty defendants were not available.

The mutiny trial has caused widespread interest on the coast although it is not generally known that the defendants are colored.

Says Navy on Trial

The People's World, a labor daily, said editorially, today (Friday):

"It must be frankly admitted that every one of the defendants is colored and this fact, far from adding to the weight of evidence against them, by its very promulgation shifts the burden of proof upon the navy itself, because it is the navy which is on trial.

"Are the fifty enlisted men considered in the same category, enjoying the same privileges and responsibilities as all other navy enlisted men? The answer is 'No.'

"They are segregated in a jim-crow unit, denied chance of promotion, confined to manual labor in a home port. 9-30-44

"The Treasure Island court-martial must be turned into a trial of the United States Navy if victory ovre fascism is to be won."

Navy Diver

Journal & Guide
9-16-44

Norfolk, Va.

Carl Henry Crawford has been trained at U. S. Naval Training Station, Ship Salvage, New York, to become the first Negro salvage diver in the U. S. Fleet. When inducted in November of last year he was employed at the New York Navy Yard, Brooklyn, N. Y. Later he designed a torpedo patch (a patch composed chiefly of chemicals designed to seal holes below the water's surface) which was approved for experimental practice at San Diego, Calif.

Women Credited for Breaking Navy Jim-Crow

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON

The recently announced plan of the Navy to accept colored women in the WAVES is the culmination of a long struggle conducted by women all over the country and headed by a small group of progressive women in Washington. 10-28-44

Spearheading the group through the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's Non-Partisan Council was Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, the council's legislative director. Associated with her in the fight were Miss Elsie Austin, former national president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Mrs. Jeanetta W. Brown, on leave as executive secretary of the National Council of Negro Women; Mrs. W. Stuart Nelson, wife of the dean of the Howard University School of Theology; Dr. Dorothy B. Ferebee, prominent physician and civic worker; Miss Dorothy Height, former executive secretary of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA here; and Mrs. Pauline R. Coggs, executive secretary of the Washington Urban League. 10-28-44

These women, forming a committee of themselves, began concentration on the fight about a year ago, though efforts had been exerted by them and their organizations since the inception of the WAVES.

August Agreement

Most of these women have known since early August that the announcement was coming. This was brought out in a statement by Mrs. Nelson, who when informed of the Navy Department's release said, "I have known that Capt. McAfee (head of the Waves) was working on such a plan for some time. I did not feel free at the time to discuss it, but I have known it since the first part of August. The Navy head agreed to that type of plan."

She went on to say she was very pleased on the matter of the Navy seeing it fit to take such a position in integrating colored women into its service. She paid tribute to Capt. McAfee and the "forward-looking group of women" under her leadership. She said she felt the women in the Navy Department were prepared to take a stand "slightly in advance of the stand the men have traditionally taken." 10-28-44

Miss Austin, when informed of the announcement, said: "I am certainly very glad it has happened. I trust that the announcement carries with it a policy of full and complete integration of colored women without the establishment of separate colored units. I am confident that the women who are given this opportunity will more than make it worthwhile."

Sailor On Stand Accuses Prosecutor Of Death Threat To Get Confession

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
10-14-44

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—(ANP)—Fireworks in the navy mutiny case, involving 50 colored seamen who are facing death for refusing to load ammunition after 300 seamen died in the Port Chicago naval explosion, were started last week when opposing counsel clashed over defense testimony.

The fireworks started when Alphonso MacPherson, a defendant, took the witness stand and pointed to Lt. Comdr. Jas. F. Cockley, prosecutor, saying: "That man, during pre-trial questioning, told me to 'come clean' and added that if you don't you probably will get shot." 10-14-44

Cockley stiffened and charged that the defense was attempting to inject statements to show that he was unfair and said the testimony was "hitting below the belt." In defending the testimony of his client, Lt. Gerald Veltmann, defense counsel, denied the witness had been influenced. MacPherson confirmed the statement.

Rear Adm. Huge Osterhaus, president of the court martial board, broke the row by remarking that MacPherson had not been shot and suggested, "let's get some lunch."

Cecil Miller, a section leader at Port Chicago, testified that he would not obey an order to lead ammunition if he were to receive it.

"You know you are looking down the barrel of a gun right now,'" said Miller Matthews, seaman second class, in telling about the remarks of an officer at Camp Shoemaker who was taking statements of men charged with refusing to lead the ammunition. "If you don't want to tell me the truth about what you know I'll put you down as a ringleader." The prosecutor, Cmdr. Cockley, took exception to this testimony, charging the defense with again bringing insinuations of intimidation of the prisoners into the trial.

Seaman 2-c Freddie Meeks, the 25th member of the accused group to take the stand, testified that he had made a statement to the effect that he was willing to obey any orders that would help "this country win the war, and would go to the front," but that he was afraid to load ammunition.

"You have a 50-50 chance when you are loading ammunition," Meeks said he told an officer at Camp Shoemaker. 10-14-44

Charles S. Widemen, seaman 2-c, testified that he told an ensign at Camp Shoemaker where the alleged mutineers were held that he did not know exactly what mutiny was, but that he could be shot for "making mutiny." Widemen, a baker escaped the Port Chicago explosion because he was confined to sick bay eight days before the tragedy with a rupture from injuries he received while loading the munitions.

When authorities asked Widemen if he would return to loading ammunition after he recovered, he replied that he was undecided, he testified. He was ordered to join the group of alleged mutineers for his indecision. He made a written statement expressing his fears of the task he said. A conviction of mutiny with it a penalty of death before a firing squad.

Three Negro Captains, 8,000 Seamen on Ships

People's World — New York, N.Y.
9-2-44

More than 8,000 Negro merchant seamen are working on ships carrying materials to the fighting fronts, among whom are three ship captains, it was reported in the Herald Tribune this week in an article signed by Edgar T. Rouzeau, Negro member of the reportorial staff. The ship captains, all of New York, are Hugh Mulzac, Adrian Richardson and John Godfrey, each of whom has a number of Atlantic crossings to his credit, and mans a racially mixed crew. Clifton Lastic of New York holds a chief mate's license, nine men hold second mate's and six hold third mate's licenses. In addition there are two chief engineers, three first assistant engineers, three first assistant engineers that ship assignments have had not been for the availability given to six pharmacist's of competent Negroes to complete and a large number of radio the officer roster of crews.

electricians and other

ans; and that Craig S. Atlantic Coast director itment, expressed the view any ships would have had tpone sailing dates if it

Twelve Mercant Marine officers been given have been assigned to the SSmates and a Booker T. Washington and the SSofficers, John Murphy, and twenty are on technicians; other ships manned by white offi- Vincent, of recruitment

cers and seamen. 9-2-44

Mr. Rouzeau says further that that many

the War Shipping Administration to postpone

47j-1944

NEGRO "WAVES"

Age — New York, N. Y.
10-28-44

ANOTHER significant victory for those who have been urging and fighting for the complete integration of Negroes in the war effort was scored Thursday when President Roosevelt announced his approval of a plan providing for the acceptance of Negro women in the women's reserve of the Navy.

"The plan," according to the Navy Department announcement, "calls for the immediate commissioning of a limited number of especially qualified Negro women to serve as administrative officers. They will assist in the subsequent planning and supervision of the program for Negro women which will be administered as an integral part of the women's reserve. Enlistment of Negro women will be undertaken as soon as these plans have been completed and it is presently indicated that the first Negro recruits will enter training shortly after January 1. Officer candidates and enlisted women will be trained at existing schools for the training of WAVES. The number to be enlisted will be determined by the needs of the service."

This announcement by the Navy Department comes as welcome news, because it marks the removal of another barrier against Negroes who are anxious to give their all in the service of their country. The opportunity afforded Negro women to enter the WAVES moves the whole race forward and gives heart to those fighting for first-class citizenship to continue the fight until that day when Democracy will be all that the world implies.

10-28-44

It is particularly gratifying to read in the announcement that Negro recruits and officer candidates will be trained at existing schools, rather than in special schools. It is gratifying because it will boost the morale of all Negroes in service and out.

The fight against the traditional policy of the Navy has been a long and hard one. It meant that any advance that the Negro was to make would have to be made despite the long tradition. There can be no gainsaying the fact that Negroes have made progress in the Navy. The large number of Negroes now serving as officers and enlisted men of all ratings is eloquent proof of that progress. This latest announcement removes the doubt that existed in the minds of many that the Navy was becoming liberal. It should also remove any doubt that exists as to President Roosevelt's desire to utilize all the available strength and resources of the country in this war which all hope will be the last war to end all wars.

10-28-44

The New York Age joins in paying due tribute to President Roosevelt for once more responding to the will of the people to make democracy a reality, not a myth.

THE NAVY'S ACCEPTANCE OF NEGRO WOMEN

The Nation — New York, N. Y.
10-28-44

in the Waves is a long-overdue step which will be welcomed by all who have been fighting against discrimination in the armed forces. It is announced that a limited group of specially qualified Negroes will be commissioned immediately and that enlistments will start shortly after the first of the year. The colored Waves will be trained in existing establishments, where it is to be hoped no segregation will be practiced. The Navy has a good opportunity to attack Jim Crowism by integrating new recruits, after they are trained, in existing units. The Coast Guard has announced that the Naval ruling includes enlistment in the Spars; it is to be hoped that the Marine Corps will quickly follow suit and open its doors on an unsegregated basis to qualified Negro women.

All Sailors Treated Alike at Olathe

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
10-27-44

By ESTELLA M. BLANKINSHIP

"Prejudice Takes a Holliday" is the feature shown daily at Olathe Naval Air Station, Olathe, Kas., where Negro sailors play stellar roles. They are handling delicate airplane parts and engines as easily as they were handling pots, pans and skillets three years ago when the Navy began its "Open Door" policy.

The nation can be proud of the ease in which the "gold braids" have achieved racial cooperation on this station. Today, October 27, marks another year of integration of the Negro in the Navy program. This is "Navy Day." On this day Navy personnel are invited by groups of civilians to speak, parade and give information to the public about the duties and functions of the Naval organization.

Going "aboard ship" at Olathe Naval base is a lesson in race relations that might well be copied by those who say, "it can't happen here," and certain race baiters who believe colored and white can't live together in peace and harmony enjoying the same privileges.

10-27-44

Aviation Primary Purpose

The base is ideally planned and constructed to meet the needs of a naval group engaged in aviation pursuits. Coming into this area, one is amazed at the length and breadth of the outlay. The buildings, built to accommodate several thousand men, are complete in detail to care for the group. The administration building, the first conspicuous building in the area, has rooms for officers of the ship's company. Here the ship's orders are issued daily.

With aviation the primary purpose of the base, Negroes participate in the program to a great degree. At Olathe, air cadet training has been discontinued, but there is now an expanded program of the Naval Air Transport service. Here plane commanders are being trained to pilot 4-engined R5D Douglas Skymasters for naval air service all over the world. There are also scheduled flights daily from the field carrying cargo and personnel toward the battlefront.

10-27-44

Negro sailors service these planes and do all detail and repair work on these engines which are carrying the war to the European and Pacific theaters of operations.

In Various Capacities

Heading the list of Negro machinists at Olathe is Lamar Shipp, AMM 1-c, a graduate of Iowa State university. As a civilian he was employed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Chicago and was a licensed pilot. In the navy for 20 months, he is leadman for a group of machinists at the Olathe base. Other men working as machinists are Conrad Hammond, a former post-office employe for 13 years from New York city, in the navy for 14 months; William L. Veney, AMM 3-c, in the service for 15 months, a fabric decorator in Brooklyn, N. Y., before joining up; Herman Allen, stationed at Olathe for 3 months, was a photostatic operator as a civilian and attended Alabama State college; Earl Hadley, AMM 3-c, of Kansas City and James Wynder of Harrisburg, Pa.

To compliment this work in aviation, Negroes are working on this base as motor machinists, stewards, messmen, musicians, athletic directors and in numerous other capacities.

Leaving the giant hangars in the base, the bus driven by motor machinists carries you around the spacious grounds. Driving during the day are Negro sailors, along with white sailors and WAVES who are stationed there.

Going into motor transportation, we found there K. O. Neeley, f 1-c of Chicago who had worked in the Pullman shipyards; James Carper, f 1-c of Charleston, W. Va., a student at West Virginia State college before he was drafted; Thomas Stephenson, MOMM 3-c of Kansas City who formerly worked at the quartermaster depot here. In Kansas City he lived with his mother, Pearl Stephenson, at 2527 Olive. Also working in this department was Reginald Thompson, f 1-c of Washington, D. C., who had been employed at the government printing office and James Brown of Newport News, Va., who had been chauffeur for the mayor of the city. These men work along beside white sailors daily and are given the same privileges of making higher ratings in this field.

10-27-44

All Negro Band

Behind all this work which is necessary for the carrying on of the war are the morale groups stationed here. The band for the base is an all-Negro aggregation, recruited in a body in Cincinnati, Ohio. White sailors of the base are a common sight "sitting in" with the group when they play programs or just hold "jam sessions."

The aggregation plays Bach, boogie and martial music with ease. Leading the group is Jos. Hayes, mus. 1-c, the son of a Methodist minister who took his musical training at Oberlin and later studied at Boston Conservatory.

10-27-44

The band plays concerts once or twice a month for the entire base personnel and dance music each day for dinners. All musical programs are planned and performed by the band. Monday, October 16, was the second anniversary of their stay at the base. The group still has 19 of the 20 men recruited in Cincinnati. Among them are: Ben Williams, Mus 2-c, Dayton; John Harvey, Youngstown, Mus 2-c; Harvey, an outstanding athlete, who was top man in a column called "Meet Your Mates," this week in the "Flying Jayhawk," the base publication. He holds both a BS and MA degrees from Ohio State. The article was written by Norman Kerr, saxophone and clarinet player from Cincinnati and M 3-c.

10-27-44

Other bandmen are Reginald Morgan, Columbus, Ohio, Mus 3-c; Richard Garrett, Louisville, Mus 2-c; Carl Stewart, Louisville, Mus 2-c; Edward Armstrong, Louisville, Mus 2-c; Louis Jackson, Mus 2-c Louisville; Gerald Reeves, Evansville, Mus 2-c and former sideman for Louis Armstrong's band; Richard Neely, Cincinnati, Mus 3-c; Joseph McRae, Youngstown, Ohio, Mus 1-c and master of arms for the group and assistant to Hayes; Chester Holland, Mus 3-c, Dayton; Jarvis Woodley, Mus 3-c, Columbus; Jesse Holliman, Columbus, Mus 3-c; George Barker, Louisville, Mus 3-c; James McCarthy, Middleton, Mus 2-c; John Pittman, Dayton, Mus 2-c and Guy Truly, Cleveland, Mus 3-c.

10-27-44

To keep "all hands" happy at Olathe they must be properly fed and housed and able to have certain liberties. These are not problems here. The men sleep in barracks furnished with double deck beds called "sacks" by the sailors. Their clothing is kept in individual lockers and showers and large washrooms are provided. These barracks are two-story buildings. The two floors are called upper and lower decks by the men.

At the barracks, all men are required to arise at 6 o'clock. Lights areout in the barracks at 10 p. m. In each barrack master-at-arms keep discipline. With 108 men under their direct supervision these men are selected carefully. At the barracks we visited Herbert Cooper, s, 2-c of Kansas City who lives at 2127 Flora and Heywood Scarbor of Norfolk, Va., who take over these duties.

10-27-44

In a portion of the upper deck a barber shop has been set up with J. W. Osborne, a barber in civilian life of Washington, D. C., in charge. With more than 300 customers, Osborne opens his shop every day for the benefit of the Negro personnel on the base.

Recreation facilities at the base are "tops" and open to "all hands," white and colored. The recreation building in the center of the base has a pool room, educational office, a library, bowling alley. Ship's service and cafeterias. In a gigantic auditorium facilities are ample and draw both ing the list of facilities for the men and officers. Top-men's use is the gymnasium in es are the features. These movies are

another building on the base. Here the men play indoor games and have the use of a swimming pool 170 yards in length with sliding side doors which can be raised in summer. Outside this gymnasium is a stadium for baseball and football.

To keep up morale in this field Charles Browner, Spa 2-c of Philadelphia and former promotion manager for the Philadelphia Afro-American, is in charge. His duties embraces teaching the men physical hardness, welfare and recreation and recruit training. He is aided by Simmie Rayford, Spa 3-c of Chicago, a former amateur boxer there. 10-27-44

Continuing the rounds we see Negroes driving a heavy supply truck. These men were storekeepers and work in the supply department. They were D. S. Wilson, S 2-c of Cleveland and W. R. Rand, S 1-c of Chicago, former postoffice employe there. Both men had attended storekeepers school at Great Lakes.

With more to see every minute in this tour of inspection a new building on the grounds was the Station Chapel. The chapel was erected to accommodate the men in their religious pursuits, this building was dedicated in September with Aaron Moore, St. M 2-c who formerly lived in Kansas City, singing a solo. Here again "all hands" are included.

At Bachelor Office quarters a goodly portion of Negro personnel is stationed. They too, are doing a good job in service. Here a group acts as stewards and messmen. They are headed by Chief Petty officer, Roosevelt Butler of Kansas City, Kas. A number of Kansas Citians are working in this branch. 10-27-44

Returning to the administration building, we find housed another important morale building, the base newspaper called "The Flying Jayhawk." Staffed by ex-newspaper men, news is gathered and printed according to value, barring no individual. Lt. James Sweet, a veteran newspaperman and naval public relations head, seeks to keep the ship's company on an even keel through the written word.

In charge of Negro personnel on the base is Lt. (19) R. A. E. Eddleman. Eddleman has worked with Negro groups since his induction into the Navy and held a post as supervisor at Great Lakes before being transferred to Olathe. A former credit manager with Commercial Credit he lived in Jackson, Miss., and was graduated from college in that state. At Olathe since July, 1944, he has aided in the integration program for Negroes and has refused to accept any manner of segregation or discriminatory treatment for his men. 10-27-44

In order to achieve this program the command of this station has been in complete accord with its features. Commanding this station is Commander H. J. Brow, while Commander V. A. Dorrell, is commanding officer of VR-3. Heading the welfare department is Lt. G. C. Getgood, who has the interest of "all hands."

Rounding out a tour of a Naval base in honor of Navy Day was a surprise, a pleasant one, when we find that under the democratic system "democracy in action" can be called the watchword at Olathe Naval Air Station.

Negro WAVES

Free Press — Detroit, Mich.
10-26-44

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Navy announced Thursday night that President Roosevelt has approved enrollment of Negro women in the WAVES.

ating in 1940. While in school, she was drill leader on the ring committee, and on the senior council. She has been employed as an inspector by the Dewey and Almy Chemical Company. Navy life will not be entirely new to Miss Freeman. She states that in the Civil War her grandfather, Abraham Fenno, was in the navy.

11-16-44

Two Officer Candidates And One Enlisted Woman Sworn Into Navy Reserve

Iowa Bystander

Iowa Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa

Washington—Three Negro women, including two officer candidates and one enlisted recruit, were sworn into the Women's Reserve in Boston and New York City, Monday morning, November 13, under a Navy Department plan, approved by the President, for the acceptance of Negro women into the WAVES. 11-16-44

The first Negro woman in the First Naval District to complete her application and be sworn into the Women's Reserve was Miss Jane A. Freeman, 22, of 164 Walnut avenue, Roxbury, Mass. She was sworn into the service as an enlisted WAVE at 8 a. m. Monday by Capt. L. D. Causey, USN retired, Director of the Office of Naval Officer Procuremenet at Boston.

Two hours later in New York City, two other Negro women were sworn into the service as apprentice seamen and officer candidates by Lt. Rosamond D. Selle at 33 Pine street. They were Miss Harriet Ida Pickens, 35, of 260 West 139th street, and Miss Frances Eliza Wills, 28, of 315 West 113th street, both of New York City. 11-16-44

To Hunter College

Miss Pickens and Miss Wills were scheduled to report to Smith College for training on November 15. Upon successful completion of training, Miss Pickens will be commissioned Lieutenant (j.g.) and Miss Wills will be commissioned an ensign. Miss Freeman, the first Negro enlisted WAVE in the New England area, will be one of the first group of Negro recruits to enter "boot" training at Hunter College, New York City, about January 1, 1945.

Miss Pickens graduated from Smith College in 1930 with A. B. degree cum laude and did graduate work at Columbia University from 1930 to 1933—no degree. From September 1931 to June 1932, she was an instructor at the Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina. From 1934 to 1939, she was a project supervisor under the recreational program for WPA in New York City. From June 1939 to the present, she was executive secretary of the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee in New York City. Miss Pickens was born in Talladega, Alabama, on March 17, 1909. 11-16-44

Former Social Worker

Miss Willis graduated from Hunter College in 1938 with a B. A. degree. She received a M. S. from the University of Pittsburgh, in 1934. This degree was in biology, social administration, speech and dramatics. From 1936 to 1940, she worked in the employment department of the Y.W.C.A. on West 137th street, New York City. From February 1940 to September 1941, she was a secretary in the New York Protestant Episcopal Mission Society. Since November 15 last year, she has been a case worker for the State Charities Aid Association in New York City. This work is primarily devoted to investigation of families in connection with child adoption. Miss Wills was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on October 8, 1916.

Miss Freeman is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Freeman of Roxbury, Mass. She attended Roxbury Memorial high school, gradu-

No Jim Crow Units At New Training Posts

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
10-28-44

WASHINGTON.—President Roosevelt approved last week plans submitted by the Navy for the acceptance of Negro women in the Women's Reserve Corps of the Navy.

Following close on the heels of the Navy's announcement of this new policy, the Coast Guard gave notice that it would adopt the Navy policy and accept Negro women in its reserve units. The Marines, which like the Coast Guard is an official branch of the Navy, has not announced its plans.

Navy officials assert there will be no Jim Crow units established in the training centers for the newly recruited personnel. The first enlistments are scheduled for shortly after Jan. 1.

The Navy in announcing the shift in policy regarding the WAVES offered no further explanation than the matter "has been under consideration for a long time." 10-28-44

The plan calls for the immediate commissioning of a limited number of "especially qualified Negro women" to serve as administrative officers. They will assist in the subsequent planning and supervision of the program for Negro women which will be administered as an "integral part of the Women's Reserve."

Enlistment of Negro women will be undertaken as soon as these plans are completed.

Officers' candidates and enlisted women, the announcement states, will be trained in "existing schools" for the training of WAVES. The number of women enlisted for both the WAVES and the SPARS will be determined, Navy officials say, "by the needs of the service."

The Navy's decision came after a long fight by women's groups throughout the country, among them the National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority under the leadership of Thomasina Walker Johnson, legislative representative. 10-28-44

The plan finally adopted followed very closely that of the outline presented by Mrs. Johnson to Secretary of Navy Forrestal, in which she stated that her organization was deeply concerned about the urgency of establishing a completely non-racial and unsegregated policy in the utilization of qualified women in the WAVES, SPARS and Marines.

Comments from women's organizations on this newly announced Navy policy are as follows: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president, National Council of Negro Women, "The National Council of Negro women rejoices with the women of America in the democratic admission of Negro women into the WAVES and the SPARS. It is another demonstration of what a united, continuous effort on the part of a minority group can do in pressing for justice and in meeting the opportunity for service to the country and to the world.

"We feel that Capt. McAfee's heart has always been on the right side, and her efforts in helping to bring this recognition of justice to our group will not be forgotten by us. 10-28-44

"We pay our tribute of gratitude to the persistent efforts of our National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the AKA sorority for the gigantic work that they have done in helping to see this bill through.

"Our untiring President was only waiting for the opportunity to extend further the long arm of democracy to Negro women in this instance, and accord them the rights of other women. 10-28-44

"It is our task now to select the finest and best women among us to give representation to Negro women in the fine set-up of the Navy."

FDR Okays Negro Women in Naval Reserve

Daily Mirror — New York, N.Y.
WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 (UP)—The Navy tonight announced that the President had approved a plan for acceptance of Negro women in the Women's Naval Reserve.

The plan, submitted by the Navy, calls for immediate commissioning of a limited number of specially qualified Negro women to serve as administrative officers. They will assist in further planning and supervision of the program for Negro women which will be administered as an integral part of the WAVEs. 10-20-44

47j-1944

Negro Naval Personnel Is Praised For 'Coolness - Braveness' During Blast

By Stander — Des Moines, Iowa
7-27-44.

Praises Negro Personnel

Washington — Negro Naval personnel attached to both the Naval magazine at Port Chicago, California, and the Naval ammunition depot at Mare Island Navy Yard, California, acquitted themselves with "great credit," during the explosion at Port Chicago Monday night, according to Captain Merrill T. Kinne, U.S.N.R. Commanding Officer.

"Under those emergency conditions," he said, 'regular members of our complement and volunteers from Mare Island displayed creditable coolness and bravery."

Captain Kinne said it was difficult to single out individuals who participated in rescue and preventive operations at Port Chicago. Four Negro enlisted men did, however, move boldly into a danger area around boxcars loaded with ammuniiton and quell flames, he said. 7-27-44

They were: Richard L. McTere, Seaman, First Class, of Detroit, Michigan; William E. Anderson. Seaman, First Class, of Chicago, Illinois; E. S. Allen, Seaman, First Class, of Detroit, Mich.; John Andrew Haskins, Pharmacist's Mate, Third Class, of Washington, D. C.

Some 200 Negro sailors volunteered at once at the Ammunition Depot, Mare Island, for service at Port Chicago during the emergency Monday night.

Rear Admiral Carleton H. Wright, U.S.N., Commandant of the Twelfth Naval District, stated July 20:

"I am gratified to learn, as was to be expected, Negro personnel attached to the Naval magazine, Port Chicago, performed bravely and efficiently in the emergency at that station last Monday night. 7-27-44

"These men, in the months that they served at that command, did excellent work in an important segment of the District's overseas combat supply system. As real Navy men, they simply carried on in the crisis attendant on the explosion. in accordance with our service's highest traditions."

Navy Lists 213 Dead

The Twelfth Naval District of the Navy Department this week made public the names of 213 Navy personnel missing and presumably dead in the explosion of the U. S. Naval Magazine, Port Chicago, Calif.

The list contained the names of nine Naval officers, 203 Naval enlisted personnel and one Marine enlisted man. It did not include merchant ship, naval armed guard, Coast Guard or civilian personnel. No Iowans were listed. 7-27-44

Declaring their conduct outstanding, Captain Kinne named the following men as having been observed in courageous pursuit of their duty: Richard E. Webb, Gunner's Mate, Second Class, of Chicago; Bernard N. Clagett, Gunner's Mate, Second Class, of Los Angeles; Ivan A. Hoyle, Motor Machinist's Mate, Second Class, of Chicago; James A. Martinez, Carpenter's Mate, Second Class, of Shreveport, Louisiana; Floyd E. Scarborough, Motor Machinist's Mate, Third Class, of Washington, D. C.; Harry Fortune, Seaman, First Class of Philadelpha, Pennsylvana; Wayman R. Nelson, Motor Machinists's Mate, Third Class, of Kansas City, Kansas; Robert Lee Williams, Electrician's Mate, Third Class, of Lexington, Kentucky; William T. Haris, Shipfitter, Third Class, of Bloomfield, New Jersey; William H. DeWitt, Seaman, Secosd Class, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts; Edward Harrington, Pharmacist's Mate, Third Class, of New York City; Archie B. Covington, Hospital Apprentice, First Class, of Chicago.

7-29-44

The California Eagle newspaper published at Los Angeles estimated "at least three hundred and eighty-eight Negro sailors were among those killed" in the explosion on July 17.

"Port Chicago, formerly Bay Point, is about 19 miles from Oakland, and houses about 1,500 Negro sailors. The entire town consisting of the barracks, one theater, two beer taverns, a post office, and the railroad station, was demolished. A new mess hall and three new barracks just comlpeted were also destroyed. No Negro families live in the town itself," the California paper revealed.

NAVY PHYSICAL TRAINING INSTRUCTORS

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 7-29-44

7-29-44

7-29-44

The staff of the physical training and recreation department of the 14th regiment, Camp Moffett, Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Ill. Seated: Ensign Samuel E. Barnes, Oberlin, Ohio; standing, left to right: Wilbur C. Wallace, Sp(A)3c, Washington, D. C.; Kenneth O. Wilson, Slc, St. Paul, Minn.; Ozzie Simmons, Sp(A)3c, Chicago, Ill., and Floyd Bates, S2c, Flint, Mich.

Treated Without Discrimination

Lt. Edward Swain Hope Shatters Navy Tradition

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
7-8-44

By EVELYN SHERRER, New York Bureau

CAMP ENDICOTT, R. I.—With quiet and unassuming strength, Lt. Edward Swain Hope, of Civil Engineer Corps in the Volunteer Service of the U. S. Naval Reserve, is shattering a tradition which, for more than a century, tabooed the existence of a Negro naval officer. He is the highest ranking Negro in the Naval service. He has been for six weeks. He is not a curio or a monstrosity. He is not being given the "silent treatment." He is not being patronized. Happily, for the portunities. I'm just being paid taneous announcement was made as hydro-electrical engineer with Naval Reserve and the Negro. he off on what I've preached for that 10 staff officers were needed the Electrical Bond and Share is primarily a naval officer, nothing years." company. 7-8-44
more, nothing less. 7-8-44 How did he get into the Navy? How did he become an officer? in the Naval Reserve, Lieutenant was superintendent of build-
MADE OWN "BREAKS" Why is he in the Navy? Lt. Hope puts it this way: Strangely, significantly, he qualified for the job, sought it and got it. ings and grounds at Howard uni-
"Negroes ought to enter fields, take advantage of new op- In February, when the Navy an- there since 1931, when he had re-
turned to the commissioning of a group of Negro ensigns, a simul- at the time. He had been about enlisting wasn't too easy.
nounced the Reaching a definite decision to this country from Ha- Lieutenant Hope said. "My wife
wii. In Brazil he had been employed out how we and the two boys could get along on a junior grade salary. We finally decided we could, and I filed the initial papers." From that point on, Lieutenant Hope says, there were papers and papers and more papers to be filed; letters of recommendation, birth certificate, etc. Somewhere along the line, an officer said, "he looks good, but his eyes!" Lieutenant Hope wears glasses and his vision is not exactly 20-20. But he was granted a waiver on this score, and finally the phone call came. The one telling him to report at Indoctrination school at Camp Endicott May 20.

OPPORTUNITY FINALLY COMES

Seated in the office of Com. L. M. Blanche, USNR, personnel officer here, Lieutenant Hope spoke modestly, even reticently, of a distinguished background and career. He is soft-spoken, warm, gently humorous and gracious. He de-

TOP NAVY MAN — Lt. Edward Swain Hope, CEC-V (S), USNR, is the highest-ranking Negro in the Naval Reserve. Presently stationed at Camp Endicott in Rhode Island, he is completing officer's training courses to qualify for one of any number of assignments open to him. In civilian life, Lieutenant Hope distinguished himself here and abroad in the field of civil engineering.—Solomon Photo.

emphasizes his own importance and emphasizes the importance of Negroes trying their wings over new fields, equipping themselves for new jobs. "And if a man is equipped for a job that isn't usually allotted to Negroes, it's his duty to get out and get that job," he feels. 7-8-44

GOOD FAMILY MAN

Frequently, and at the most unexpected moments, Lieutenant Hope made references to his wife and the two boys, Edward, Jr., and James Lynn. It would seem that his whole naval career was devoted to them. Mrs. Hope is the former Marion Conover, of Boston.

Despite his intensive training and experience in civil engineering, Lieutenant Hope, like thousands of others, is attending officers training school to qualify for duty on the station force. He is studying naval regulations, seamanship, physical training, among a host of other courses. The entire course should be completed in 12 weeks. Wherever he is finally placed depends upon his marks. Commander Blancke indicated that at present, Lieutenant Hope is near the top of his class.

PLENTY OF STUDY

The lieutenant and everyone else at the station "hit the deck" at 6:30 a. m. From 6:45 to 7:30 is breakfast. Classes are held from 8 'til noon. After lunch, from 1 'til 5 o'clock, there are more classes. From 5:30 to 6:30 is supper. Thereafter, the men's time is pretty much their own. But Lieutenant Hope finds that most of this "free" time is spent in study. There is a great deal of studying to be done. For instance, his class covered naval regulations, which are incorporated in a huge volume, in a one-week period. 7-8-44

INEXPENSIVE SETUP

Lieutenant Hope is tremendously impressed by the food at the station. It costs him only 70 cents a day for his meals. (Officers pay for their own meals. However, married officers do not pay for their rooms.) He lives with the officers in a two-story barracks in a double-decker bed.

The lieutenant exhibits little-boy enthusiasm when he talks of the varied recreational facilities at the station. "Why, we have good, first-run movies quite often—and there's tennis." 7-8-44

Of his role in the Naval Reserve, superior officers are unanimous in their opinion that "he is carrying a burden and carrying it well."

Urges Review Of Mutiny Trial

11-6-44

Convinced of the innocence of the 50 Negro sailors charged with mutiny for failure to load ammunition last August 9 at the Mare Island depot in California, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will request opportunity to file a brief to be heard before Rear Admiral Carlton H. Wright, C. O., Twelfth Naval District. In addition, it will also file a brief and appear personally when the case is referred to the Judge Advocate General's division of the Navy Department for review in Washington. New York, N. Y.

STEAMROLLER

The fact-finding board deliberated only 45 minutes in finding the men guilty. The particular charge of which they have been convicted or the length of the sentences imposed has not been announced and probably will not be until Rear Admiral Wright and the Reviewing Board in Washington has examined the record for legal sufficiency. The evidence in mitigation, however, reveals that 44 men on trial had perfect conduct ratings of 4.0 and that over half of them were under 21 years of gae. 11-6-44

Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall of the NAACP spent 12 days investigating circumstances and reviewing testimony of the seamen during their trial at Yerba Buena Island, Calif. It is his opinion that the men are innocent of the charge of mutiny. Daily Worker

160,000 Negroes in Navy

L.A. Calif. Tribune

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—There are more than 160,000 Negroes in the Navy, most of whom received their basic training at Great Lakes. 11-3-44

Forrestal Gets Queries Raised By Legal Counsel

World-Memphis, Tenn. 10-24-44

Asserts Real Cause Of Trial Is Not Apparent

NEW YORK — (SNS) — As a result of the action of the Twelfth Naval District in singling out an even fifty Negro sailors to be charged with mutiny for refusal to load ammunition at the Mare Island depot, August 9, Special NAACP Counsel, Thurgood Marshall, has requested through and impartial investigation by the Navy Department, in his letter to Secretary, James V. Forrestal.

After spending twelve days investigating circumstances and reviewing testimony of the Seamen being at Yerba Buena Island, California, Mr. Marshall declared "These men are being tried for mutiny solely because of their incidental."

CAUSE HIDDEN 10-24-44

Not spare in his commendation, however, of the splendid defense being made on behalf of the defendants by Lieutenants Gerald E. Veltman, Mr. Marshall alleged that the most significant factors underlying the real cause of accusations brought against the Negroes, were not apparent. Mindful of the issues at stake, Mr. Marshall said in his letter to Secretary of the Navy, Forrestal, "In addition to attending the trial, I made an investigation as far as possible into the incidents leading up to the Port Chicago explosion and conditions immediately prior to the alleged refusal to obey orders, resulting in the present trial. I, of course, realize it would be impossible to make a thorough investigation since I am a civilian."

ASKS PROBE

"There are many factors involved in the working conditions in the Twelfth Naval District which could not be brought out in the court martial.

I am convinced that there are sufficient facts involved to warrant a thorough and complete investigation by your office as to the following conditions, which existed in the Twelfth Naval District; 10-24-44

"1. Why is it that the only Naval personnel loading ammunition regularly were Negroes with the exception of their officers and petty officers?

"2. Why is it that Negro seamen, many of whom have had special training in such schools as gunnery schools, were nevertheless relegated to the duty of loading ammunition?

"3. Why is it that these men were not given any training whatsoever in the dangers to be found in loading ammunition?

"4. Why is it that men with no prior experience whatsoever were given the duty of handling winches in the loading of ammunition when civilian longshoremen were not permitted to handle winches on ammunition unless they had had several years' experience in winch handling.? 10-24-44

"5. Why is it that Negro seamen with no prior experience in ammunition were given the job of hatch tender in the loading of ammunition?

MEN WERE RACE

"6. Why is it that officers 'raced' their gangs in contests in the loading of ammunition?

"7. Why is it that one of the accused, Seamen Green, while suffering with a broken wrist, despite the fact that the Navy doctors ordered him on the sick list, was not placed on the sick list, but was ordered to load ammunition?

"8. Why is it that Negro seamen who had been loading ammunition and who were at Port Chicago at the time of the explosion were not given any leave whatsoever as a result of this explosion, but were forced to return to the duty of loading ammunition? A Psychiatrist from the United States Navy testified at the court martial proceedings that such an explosion as occurred at Port Chicago would have a lasting effect upon the minds of the men who were near the explosion. 10-24-44

GIVEN MENIAL TASKS

"Practically all of the Negroes at Port Chicago were trained at great length and were led to believe that they were being trained to serve as regular seamen. This they are anxious to do. When these men were assigned to Port Chicago instead of being given an opportunity to serve in whatever branch of the service they might find themselves fitted, they were, solely because of their race or color, restricted to the task of loading ammunition and other menial tasks.

"As a result of the action of the Twelfth Naval District in releasing some of the men who allegedly refused to obey orders, shipping 150 of the men to the Pacific around the middle of August, the giving of summary courts to some of the men and the singling out of an even 50 to be charged with mutiny, Negro members of the armed forces, as well as Negro and white civilians, believe that a thorough, complete and impartial investigation by your office is essential at this time.

"We have been receiving reports in this office for several months and my investigation in the Bay Area seems to justify all of the complaints we have received concerning the discriminatory policies being practiced by the Twelfth Naval District. 10-24-44

"In this request for an impartial investigation we by no means wish to reflect at all upon the manner in which the actual court martial proceedings are being conducted. It is for that reason we believe the investigation is necessary."

Navy Negroes In Sea Battles

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5. — The Navy Department's announcement last week that there were 148,749 Negro enlisted men and 22 officers, the largest in United States history, has started speculation here as to how many actually man ships in combat. Negro Navy personnel has previously been confined to the steward's department. 11-6-44

500 IN BATTLE AREA

About 500 Negroes are currently assigned, both as petty officers and as non-rated men, to ships now participating in the naval battles around the Philippines, according to the announcement. The vessels are of the type of store ships, ammunition ships, cargo ships, oilers and miscellaneous auxiliaries.

Negro petty officers aboard these ships include coxswains, gunners' mates, quartermasters, carpenters' mates, yeomen, machinist mates, electricians' mates and shipfitters.

47j-1944

They Guard Sea Lanes

Tribune – Philadelphia, Pa. 9-23-44

9-23-44

The safety of a ship or its success in battle often depends on the skill and alertness of a radio operator. Here we see Bluejackets of the Camp Roberts Smalls Service Schools, Great Lakes, Ill., receiving and recording messages. These students are future radiomen of our Navy. Left to right, Lyndall Elliott, RM2c, 804 east 3rd street, Metropolis, Ill.; Charles Ballard, S2c, 304 west 121st street, New York City; Leroy Austin, S2c, 524 Monroe street, Buffalo, N. Y.; Alwyn Griffith S2c, 2402 Acushnet avenue, New Bedford, Mass., and William Patton, S2c, 551 South Orange street, Media ,Pa. (Official U. S. Navy Photo).

Camp Smalls Trains 300 Radiomen In Two Years

9-23-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—In the past two years, Camp Robert Smalls Radioman Service School here has turned out over 300 colored Radiomen giving them 19 weeks of intensive training that would normally cost approximately $1,000.

Prospective Radiomen, in addition to learning to send and receive the International Morse Code, are required to type a minimum of 40 words a minute, and are taught how to operate and maintain the intricate radio equipment found aboard modern Men-O-War. Their course includes instruction in elementary electricity wave propagation and an explanation of the electron theory. They are acquainted with construction and operation of batteries, generators, vacuum tubes and all the machines with which they work. . . for radiomen must be able to make minor repairs on the apparatus they use.

Each man entering his fifteenth week of school is assigned each day to a four hour watch on the Ninth Naval District Training circuit. While on this watch he sends and receives messages in code.

The Radio School in Camp Smalls is supervised by Lt. (jg) F. H. Lemmon, USN, under the direction of Captain H. R. Harris, USNR, Commanding Officer of the Service Schools Command.

9-23-44

In commenting on Radiomen trained at Camp Smalls, Captain Harris states: "With the training they have received here, our graduates have creditably handled the jobs assigned to them afloat and ashore. The skills they have learned have enabled them to make a valuable contribution to the winning of the war. I am sure they will find these same skills as useful when they return to civil life and peacetime conditions."

Hope Made First Naval Lieutenant

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Edward S. Hope, civil engineer and superintendent of buildings and grounds at Howard University, became the Navy's first colored lieutenant following his swearing in at the Navy Department and assignment to the Civil Engineer Corps on Monday.

Lieut., Hope was sworn in by Lieut. Com. H. B. Atkinson, USNR, executive officer of the Office of Naval Officer Procurement, at exercises attended by his wife, Mrs. Norma C. Hope, and his two sons, Edward, Jr., 9, and J. Lynn, 5.

5-20-44

Lieut. Hope, who holds a degree of doctor of education in personnel administration, is the first of the ten staff officers whose pending appointment was announced several weeks ago by the Navy Department.

Three Years in Brazil

He served for three years in Brazil as hydro-electric engineer for the Brazilian subsidiary of the Electric Bond and Share Co. of N.Y. and as junior engineer with the highways division of the New York State Department of Public Works.

6-20-44

He also holds degrees of A.B. from Morehouse College and B.S. and M.S. in civil engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He is a member of the American Association of Engineers, the National Technical Association, and Kappa Delta Pi of Columbia University.

To Report to R.I.

After he was sworn in, Lieut. Hope was ordered to report to Davisville, R.I., for indoctrination and assignment to duty in connection with Seabee training.

His appointment follows the commissioning at Great Lakes, Ill., of eleven ensigns from enlisted personnel. The other nine staff officers will include two each in the chaplain, dental, medical and supply corps and one more in the civil engineer corps.

Intimidation Is Charged To Prosecution

Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.

10-12-44

Men Say They Were Threatened With Execution

SAN FRANCISCO—(A N P)—Fireworks in the mutiny case, involving 50 Negro seaman who are facing death for refusing to load ammunition after 300 seamen died in the Port Chicago naval explosion, were started last week when opposing counsel clashed over defense testimony.

The fireworks started when Alphonso MacPherson, a defendant, took the witness stand and pointed to Lt. Comdr, James F. Cockley, prosecutor, saying:

"That man, during pre-trial questioning, told me to 'come clean' and added that if you don't you probably will get shot."

COCKLEY STIFFENS

10-12-44

Cockley stiffened and charged that the defense was attempting to inject statements to show that he was unfair and said the testimoney was "hitting below the belt." In defending the testimony of his client, Lt. Gerald Veltmann, defense counsel, denied the witness had been influenced. MacPherson confirmed the statement.

Read Adm. Hugo Osterhaus, president of the courtmartial board, broke the row by remarking that MacPherson had not been shot and suggested "let's get some lunch."

Cecil Miller, a section leader at Port Chicago, testified that he would not obey an order to load ammunition if he were to receive it.

10-12-44

"LOOKING DOWN BARREL"

"You know you are looking down the barrel of a gun right now," said Miller Matthews, seaman second class, in telling about the remarks of an officer at Camp Shoemaker who was taking statements of men charged with refusing to load the ammunition. "If you don't want to tell me the truth about what you know, I'll put you down as a ringleader." The prosecutor, Cmdr. Cockley, took exception to this testimony, charging the defense with again bringing insinuations of intimidation of the prisoners into the trial.

Seaman 2/c Freddie Meeks, the 25th member of the accused group to take the stand, testified that he had made a statement to the effect that he was willing to obey any orders that would help "this country win the war, and would go to the front," but that he was afraid to load ammunition.

"You have a 50-50 chance when you are loading ammunition,' Meeks said he told an officer at Camp Shoemaker.

10-12-44

EXPRESS FEARS

Charles S. Wideman, seaman 2/c, testified that he told an ensign at Camp Shoemaker where the alleged mutineers were held that he did not know exactly what mutiny was, but that he could be shot for "making mutiny."

Wideman, a baker escaped the Port Chicago explosion because he was confined to sick bay eight days before the tragedy with a rupture from injuries he received while loading the munitions.

When authorities asked Widemen if he would return to loading ammunition after he recovered, he replied that he was undecided, he testified. He was ordered to join the group of alleged mutineers for his indecision. He made a written statement expressing his fears of the task, he said.

A conviction of mutiny carries a penalty of death before a firing squad.

NAACP Hits Navy In Mass Trial Of Fifty

Houston Informer 9-30-44

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—Warning that the Navy's ing ammunition, the NAACP wired 50 Negro enlisted ng of bitter resentment over the Forrestal last week, urging that V. in California last avy policy of segregation and as- ment at Mare Island, Cal., over cin- igning Negroes exclusively to haz- in naval history, as hear- tinued policy growing out of seg- ardous jobs of loading and unload- every precaution be taken to pre- vent increased feeling and possible strife in the mass courtmartial of ing charges of disobedience of ord- regation and of assigning Negroes

exclusively to hazardous jobs o loading and unloading ammunition Further informed that proposed mass court martial of 50 Negro sailors who allegedly refused assignment will greatly aggravate situation. In view of previous conflict in that area, particularly at Vallejo, urge every necessary precaution be taken to avert strife."

Winners of Petty Officers' Award at Great Lakes

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 7-1-44

Company Commander John H. Dobbins, seaman 1c, of Corpus Christi, Tex., and his staff of apprentice petty officers of "Rooster" award at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. The award, given to the best company in a battalion five times in succession, qualifies members of the unit for the Hall of Fame. The "A" flag shown in the photo was award for superiority in athletics. In the group, left to right are, front row, Earl Parke, Portsmouth, Va.; James A. Brown, Washington; James B. Hardy, N.Y.C.; and Hezzie Williams, Chicago; back row, Alexander M. Baynard, Norristown, Pa.; Raymond Logan, Philadelphia; Edward D. Walton, Sp(A)2c, (sub-commander), Chicago; John H. Dobbins, S/, Corpus Christi, Tex., Co. Commander; Jesse Perry, Chicago, and George W. Walker, N.Y.C.

LOADERS OF TNT PROTEST ON DANGEROUS JOB;

Plaindealer — Kansas City, Kan.

"ONLY NEGRO" SAILORS WORK

9-22-44

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

San Francisco.—It was reported here this week that fifty Negro sailors, who refused to go back to work to the dangerous "For Negroes Only" job of loading lethal navy ammunition following the disastrous Port Chicago explosion which claimed 323 lives went on trial for their lives in a navy court-martial, facing a charge of mutiny.

They made clear that they were not protesting the loading of ammunition but the fact that they were segregated and that only Negroes are assigned to this most dangerous work.

A military court on Yerba Buena island in San Francisco bay is hearing the mutiny charges against the men for which the maximum penalty is death. It is expected the trial will last a week.

9-22-44

Hastings, Neb.—Eight Negro sailors were dead or missing and 47 others injured in the tragic explosion here on Friday that rocked this 48,000-acre naval ammunition depot, blowing out a huge hole, 550 feet long and 25 feet deep.

The dead or missing, as listed by officials of the Ninth Naval District in Chicago, are as follows:

Leslie Williams, S-1c, Route 3, Box 233, Atmore, Ala.

Freeman Lorenzo Tul, S-1c, 513 Young street, Poconoke City, Md.

Willie Williams, S-2c, General Delivery, Atmore, Ala.

Daniel Casey, S-2c, 530 Roosevelt avenue, Carteret, N.J.

Frank William Davidson, S-2c, Lincolnton, N. C.

Samuel Burns. S-2c, Route 3, Box 65, Delhi, La.

Clarence Randolph, S-2c, Route 1, Box 201, Bartow, Fla.

Ulysses Cole Jr., S-2c, Box 663, Ida Bell, Okla. 9-22-44

A ninth sailor victim among the dead or missing was Bert Edward Huton, S-2c, (white), of Hastings

When first aid was rushed to the scene following the terrific blast, 27 civilian employes of the depot were given medical attention. It was expected that all but four of the civilian casualties would be discharged by Tuesday.

Of the others hurt by the explosion, 20 enlisted men were given medical attention but their injuries were reportedly not serious. Two of this number were Negroes.

Heard 100 Miles Away

The detonation was heard at McCook, 125 miles from Hastings and also at Jamestown, Kans., 100 miles distant. Window panes in 23 downtown Hastings stores were broken and the Spencer Park school, a war workers' housing project, suffered "considerable damage."

9-22-44

Concerning the cause of the blast, Gunner L. C. Anderson, officer in charge of the station, said that he and several other men were loading ammunition into a box car when they noticed a small fire. He said:

"We attempted to fight the fire with a hose, but it quickly got out of control and we ran for the safety barricade.

"Just as we jumped behind the barricade the whole building blew up. It sounded like all hell had broken loose. Had it not been for that barricade, the whole plant might have gone up."

Negro WAVES

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

9-22-44

The Navy's acceptance of Negro women to the WAVES is a long overdue step and will be welcome by all of us involved in the fight against color and racial discrimination, both in the armed forces and in civilian life.

It is announced that a limited number of specially qualified Negroes will be commissioned immediately and that enlistment will begin shortly after the first of the year. Negro WAVES will be trained in existing establishments, where we fondly hope, no segregation will be practiced. In this move, the Navy has a golden opportunity to attack this policy of Jim Crowism by deciding to integrate new recruits after they are trained, in existing units.

The Coast Guard has announced that the Navy includes enlistment in the SPARS. Now let us hope that the Marine Corps will follow suit and begin opening its doors to qualified Negro women on an unsegregated basis.

First Chaplain In Navy Is Assigned

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

9-22-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—(SNS)—Lt. (jg) James Russell Brown, Navy's first Negro Chaplain reported for duty at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes.

Shortly after his appointment in June, Chaplain Brown was sent to the Chaplain's School at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va., for an indoctrination course. After completing the eight-week course at William and Mary, he was sent to the Bureau of Personnel in Washington, D. C., for short while and was subsequently attached to Naval Procurement Offices in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Detroit, before reporting to the Great Lakes.

Lt. (jg) Brown, one-time pastor of St. Luke's AME Church, Kansas City, Kansas and former Dean of Bishop Williams School of Religion at Quindaro, Kansas, has been assigned for duty as the Protestant Chaplain at Camp Robert Smalls, one of the two camps where Negroes are trained at this time.

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, together with a number of other organizations, are to be congratulated in their fight for this achievement. The action of the Navy has, thus opened up a new frontier for Negro women and likewise presents them with definite challenge.

47j-1944

First Colored-Manned Subchaser Prepares for Action Against U-Boats

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

6-3-44 6-3-44 6-3-44

First members of their race to man a submarine chaser, the crew of the U.S.S. PC-1264 is shown receiving instruction in gunnery, depth-charge attacks, and deck and engineering duties on the shakedown cruise of the new 173-foot escort vessel which was commissioned April 25, 1944. At top left, several crew members hold rifle practice on deck. In the top center, two lookouts, Seaman 1st Class J. Boggs (far left) and Seaman 2d Class A. Richards, scan the horizon with officers on the flying bridge. While at top right, Yeoman 2d Class P. J. Davis takes the wheel in the pilothouse as Quartermaster 3d Class A. R. Cork makes an entry in the rough log. At bottom left, a few crew members relax from their heavy duties at chow time in a corner of the general mess. In bottom center, Quartermaster 3d Class A. R. Cork (rear) exchanges blinker messages with another ship, while Seaman 2d Class M. Coleman reports to the bridge by battle telephone. At lower right a depth charge which has been rolled off the fantail explodes astern during a practice submarine attack. The U.S.S. PC-1264 includes 53 colored seamen and eight white petty officers in its crew. It Will be eventually manned by an all-colored crew.

3500 Colored Sailors Train at Stewards' School in Md.

Do Work of Petty Officers, Refused Ratings; No Colored Papers, Whites Use Libraries

AFRO-AMERICAN - Balt., Md. 5-27-44

5-27-44

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA Correspondent

BAINBRIDGE, Md. — Hard by the Susquehanna River and spread out over some 1100 acres is the Bainbridge Naval Base where approximately 3500 colored sailors are in training for duties as stewards and stewards' mates.

It is the only steward's school in the country and only colored men are in attendance. The white enlisted personnel here is studying for assignments in radio and signal work.

As steward's mates our men will learn to serve table in the officers' mess and take care of the officers' quarters and laundry.

Those who make the grade of steward will, besides supervising the work of the steward's mates, take charge of the officers' mess, arrange menus, prepare food, supervise the purchase and service in general and keep this department ship shape.

Finds Dissatisfaction

This installation, under the command of Capt. C. F. Russell, is unlike others that I have visited in that the majority of the colored personnel have a gripe which the base cannot eliminate because it is one for the Naval high command to consider. 5-27-44

The gripe concerns the status of one who must serve as a steward or steward's mate. This branch of the service offers the same amount of pay as the seaman's complement, but does not carry ratings which give authority and privileges.

A third class petty officer in the seaman's branch rates over a chief steward regardless of the steward's years of service.

A few exceptional cases have been transferred to the seaman's branch and the privilege of "wearing the eagle" has done much to improve the morale. 5-27-44

An example of what follows from such a system can be seen in the physical conditioning program, for instance, where colored steward's mates, having finished the course for physical instructors, are serving as assistant or substitute instructors for both colored and white but without ratings.

White Only Get Ratings

All the rated staff is white (petty officers) and the colored assistants are first, second and third class steward's mates.

George Bragg, StM 2/c, Stanford, Conn., high honor man in his class here, graduated some eleven weeks ahead of O. S. Wilson, white, formerly an AS 2/c, who is now an instructor Spt. (A). Bragg taught Wilson and graded him during his fifth week of service. 5-27-44

Today as a petty officer, Wilson has authority at $96 per month, and Bragg continues to do a good job at $54, with no advanced rating.

Similar cases are those of Albert Sheridan, StM 2/c, of Indianapolis, and Jesse Spaights, StM 2/c, of Helmar, N.J., both of whom were professional boxers in civilian life, graduated from physical instructor's school and are also doing a very capable job as assistants, but with no ratings which carry authority.

Jim Crow in Mess Hall

The two units comprising the steward's complement have equal but not the same sleeping mess and recreational accommodations.

In one chow hall where colored and white (the few here belonging to the seaman's branch) petty officers dine and where the steward's mates get practical experience in serving officers there is segregation between the two races and rank does not appear to be the reason.

Going through the library I noticed that there were no colored newspapers, journals nor digests, that the library personnel was white and that white sailors were lounging around on the settees in the "colored library." I was informed authoritatively that colored men "do not, as a rule, frequent the white library."

The canteen employees in the colored unit are also white. Those here in training feel that since "it has been deemed best" for them to have such segregation that colored employees would be more in keeping with the "old line" policy.

Stewards' School Staff Colored

For the purpose of general instruction there are white, rated instructors in charge of the new recruits. However, the staff of the stewards' school, headed by Walter J. Douglass, CSt, of Corona, N.Y., and a veteran of forty years' service, is colored.

The colored personnel stand watch as units and because of this the men get only two out four opportunities for liberty. The white watch, not having a segregated section, gets three out of four opportunities for liberty on the basis of a four-week month.

Each of the regiments has a band, but the white band only is recognized and rated as such. The colored band also has the "duties" of a bugle corps, but is not considered as the colored regiment's band because no regiment can have two bands and the white has already been designated as such.

No Segregation Found at Staten Island Naval Base

Afro-American Balto. Md. 5-27-44

Third of 4000 Men There Are Colored; All Live, Eat, Work and Play Together

By HERMAN T. SMITH
NNPA Pool Correspondent

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — Democracy really works at the U.S. Naval Frontier Base at Thompkinsville, located under the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, a short 20-minutes, five-cent ferry ride from downtown New York City.

Tompkinsville is a working and not a training base, and according to Captain John M. Gill, commanding officer, nearly one third of the approximately 4000 men here are colored.

Colored and white seamen here live in the same quarters, eat together, use the same recreational facilities, and work together according to their ratings and skills.

Race's Handicap

Captain Gill, who is about 60 years old and a native of Oswego, N.Y., said he thought the main handicap of colored men in the Navy was that their race "has not been a sea-going people."

"To be around boats is to know them," he said, "and time, training and experience plus hard work are the only factors on which a man can advance in the Navy." 5-27-44

The commander was emphatic in saying that there shall be no segregation or discrimination on his base other than what the men themselves work out.

Work in All Capacities

I found colored men operating tugs, high-powered cranes, and other machines. There are colored yeomen such as Y/3c Benjamin Fry, from Cleveland, Ohio, and storekeepers, including SK/3c Eddie Bernard, Indianapolis, Ind., and SK/3c Warren W. Mariner, Brooklyn, N.Y.

In the machine shop, where colored men number about 9 per cent of the total personnel, are Theodore Pack, MM/2c, East Liverpool, Ohio; Ellis W. McCauley, MM/2c, Port Arthur, Tex., and Wilbur Tucker, MM/2c, Enterprise, Ala.

In the ship fitting and metalsmith shop, I met Louis Durald, M/2c, a former carpenter from New Orleans, La., and Stanley McMullin, M/2c, Trenton, N.J.

Twelve of the seventy-five workers in the electric shop are colored including Ashton J. Bird, EM/2c from Baton Rouge, La., who works on batteries and the wiring of motors.

Easterners on Tugboat

On board a net tender I talked with Willard Bland, MM/1c, of Chicago, and five other colored men.

On a Navy tugboat I found colored men performing almost every task. Frederick D. Dennis, QM/2c, of Brinkley, Ark., a former school teacher, keeps the ship's log, ship's charts corrected, files crew's weekly muster and keeps crew's pay accounts. On this same boat are Lester E. Honey, S/1c, from Camden, N.J.; Robert Gadson, S/1c, NYC; and Ferrol Gibbs, F/1c, Washington, D.C.

Michigan Grad at Base

The most highly trained seaman I met on the base was Henry A. Martin, Spo/2c, of Chicago, whom Captain Gill classed as one of the most important men on the post.

As oil specialist second class, Mr. Martin's duties are to test all oil used in the motors of ships and other machines operating in or out of the base. He has a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan.

One Commissioned

J. E. Hare of Fort Pierce, Fla., recently was recommended for a commission from this base, and is now serving temporarily as ensign at Great Lakes.

The P.C. 1264, recently commissioned Naval patrol chaser with large colored crew, was out firing at the time of my visit but I glimpsed her coming in the harbor as I was leaving the base.

All-Colored Staff Mans Steward's Mates' School

Afro-American 5-27-44 Balt. Md.

121 Companies Complete Courses Taught by College-Trained Men at Bainbridge

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA Pool Correspondent

BAINBRIDGE, Md. — Among the remedial schools established here to teach the inductee the fundamentals of education in the shortest possible time, the school for steward's mates with its all-colored staff is outstanding.

All incoming steward's mates are given a literacy test of approximately fourth-grade level. Men requiring instruction are then divided into two groups, "literate but handicapped" and "illiterate or nearly so."

The instructors, most of whom have college degrees or records are volunteers from companies in training and hold all classes after regular hours. Wherever possible, they work with the same groups throughout the course.

A Pure Navy Course

The course of instruction is based entirely on Navy indoctrination and Navy terms are used almost exclusively. Visual education has been found to be an invaluable aid in the courses.

From September, 1943, to the middle of April, 12,094 men had been tested and 121 companies had completed the course. Of the total 2,407 were literate but handicapped and 2,180 were illiterate or nearly so.

Most from Southern States

Most of the men tested represented nine Southern States, Pennsylvania and New York. The majority of them were single with an average age of 18-20 years.

A brief of the roster appear as follows:

Specialist-Teacher

H. M. Jefferson, Sp (T) 2/c, New York, graduate of Johnson C. Smith College; and F. E. Lewis, Sp (T) 3/c, Marshall, Tex., graduate of Wiley College, both petty officers transferred from the steward's to the seaman's branch;

S. L. Coffee, Ck 3/c, Kansas City, Kans., who attended Washburn College; V. B. Elwin, StM 1/c. Hamilton, Bermuda; D. M. James StM 1/c, Los Angeles, a typist; 5-27-44

Ex-Teacher in Texas

L. S. Collins, StM 2/c, Houston, Tex., a graduate of Wiley College and an ex-teacher at Booker T. Washington High School in Houston; L. B. Prater, StM 2/c, Orange, Tex., a graduate of Wiley College, with twelve consecutive years of teaching experience, who has taken the exam for petty officer's rating Sp (T);

O. C. Turner, StM 2/c, Dallas, Tex., graduate of Bishop College, and a former State and field supervisor for insurance companies, who is striking for a petty officer's rating;

V. D. Varnado, St 3/c, Los Angeles, who attended Jackson College; B. E. Coln, St 3/c, Philadelphia, who attended Livingston College and took post-graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania.

To gain advanced ratings that carry with it some measure of authority the men will have to transfer to the seaman's branch. They feel, however, that the transfer will not occur now because of the urgent need for their services ashore and at sea.

Act To Halt Navy Ban On Race Women For Service

Chicago, Ill. Defender 5-13-44

By VENICE SPRAGGS

WASHINGTON — Slighting of the Negro woman by certain auxiliaries of the United States armed forces appeared due for a change when a resolution calling for investigation of Negro women's status in relation to those auxiliaries of the Navy, Marine Corp and Coast Guard was introduced in the House last week by Rep. William A. Rowan (Dem., Ill.).

The resolution authorizes and directs the Committee on Naval Affairs to act as a whole or by subcommittee to make a complete study and investigation. It has been referred to the House Committee on Rules.

The resolution was brought about largely through the efforts of the Alpha Kappa Alpha National Non-Partisan Council of which Thomasina Johnson is legislative representative.

In a statement made by Mrs. Johnson last week, she said, "We consider this a definite step toward securing the admittance of colored women in these auxiliaries." She pointed out, however, that it will take a relentless and vigorous struggle to get the measure reported favorably by the House Rules Committee.

47j-1944
Newport News, Va. Press
April 7, 1944

Negro Applicants Sought By C. G.

Negro applicants between the ages of 17-18 are being sought by the U. S. coast guard for a limited number of vacancies in the rating of steward's mate. Those accepted will be enlisted as a steward's mate third class and later may attain petty officer status.

Base pay is $50 per month and upon enlistment each recruit is given $136.66 clothing allowance. Free medical attention is provided members of the service and their dependents. Each man is eligible for 30 days leave of absence with pay yearly besides regular liberty.

Negro applicants may enlist in the coast guard at the recruiting office, room 203, new postoffice building, Norfolk, or postoffice building, Baltimore, Md.

Enlistment For Negroes Opened By Coast Guard

News-Post-Norfolk, Va.

The Coast Guard announces the opening of volunteer enlistments of Negro boys between the ages of 17 and 18 years, for immediate training. 4-30-44

Applicants who are accepted for enlistment will be sent to Curtis Bay, Md., for their basic training. Advancements in ratings are encouraged since theer are now many Negro officers and chief petty officers in the service. Applicants for enlistment in the Coast Guard must present a birth certificate.

For further information, call in person or write to the U. S. Coast Guard Recruiting Office, 1808 Third Avenue, North.

Coast Guard

Coast Guard Boasts

Daily World. Atlanta, Ga.

First Negro Officers

5-28-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—The first branch of the Naval Service to commission Negroes, the U. S. Coast Guard now has the highest percentage of commissioned and non-commissioned Negro officers in the armed forces, U. S. Coast Guard Headquarters reported this week.

With approximately 4,000 Negroes on March 31, 1944, a total of 968 colored men were officers. Two of these officers had been commissioned as lieutenants and another as ensign. The others included warrant officers, chief petty officers, and first, second and third class petty officers.

The high percentage of Negro officers was revealed by Coast Guard Headquarters in connection with the current drive for the volunteer enlistment of 1,700 Negro youths, 17 years of age, in the Steward's Mate branch of the service.

Pointing out that promotions will be rapid in this branch, and that Negroes work and fight side by side with ather Coast Guardsmen, the Coast Guard stressed the fact that steward's mates may work themselves up through the ranks as well as all other Coast Guard recruits.

Proof of such advancement was cited in the case of Lt, Clarence Samuels, the first Negro commissioned officer in the Naval Service. Lieutenant Samuels entered the Coast Guard service originally as a steward's mate. In the years which followed, he advanced steadily through the ranks until he became warrant officer and boatswain at the Manhattan Beach training station. Appointed to the board of education there ,he served as instructor in practical seamanship and regulations. Following a recent tour of duty in the active war zones, Lieutenant Samuels is now studying for further advancement at Fort McHenry, Md. 5-28-44

The other two commissioned Negro officers in the Coast Guard, Lt. Joseph J. Jenkins of Detroit, Mich., and Ensign Harvey C. Russel, Jr., of Louisville, Ky., are both graduates of the United States Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn., where both entered through competitive examinations. Both are now on active duty.

Negro officers in the U. S. Coast Guard on March 31, 1944—the majority of whom entered the service as steward's mates included:

Commissioned Officers	
Warrant Officers	
Chief Petty Officers	4
First Class Petty Officers	20
Second Class Petty Officers	28
Third Class Petty Officers	43
Total 5-28-44	96

In urging 17-year-old Negro youths to visit the Coast Guard recruiting offices in their local communities for possible enlistment headquarters listed the following advantages: fast advancement valuable training for a postwar job and action aboard ship at battle stations.

Because the size of the Coast Guard is limited by law, only 17-year-old youths volunteering for the Steward's Mates branch can enter the Coast Guard at this time. It is impossible, at present, to join the Coast Guard in any other way, either by draft or enlistment: In ,the future the Coast Guard may open 17-year-old enlistments in other branches of the Service.

Coast guardman paints Negro invasion scenes

Los Angeles, Calif.—Tribune
6-26-44

WASHINGTON — Exploits of Negro coast guardsmen on dangerous and essential missions — including landing operations in Europe and other invasion points —are being vividly recorded by a Negro combat artist now serving on a North Atlantic patrol vessel, U. S. Coast Guard headquarters announced in Washington.

The fighting painter is Coast Guardsman Jacob Lawrence, steward's mate second class, who before his enlistment was one of the most celebrated artists in New York City. Of the 26-year-old youth, Coast Guard headquarters said:

"He simply paints vividly and proudly of the work his race is doing aboard ship on dangerous and essential missions all over the seven seas to speed the winning of the war Lawrence is a quiet, intelligent and extremely modest person—he lives to paint—but is not impressed with this assignment as a combat artist to the exclusion of all else. He quietly and efficiently fulfills the duties of his rate, that of steward's mate second class—attached to the officer's mess." 6-26-44

Lawrnece won unusual acclaim in his field prior to entering service with the U. S. Coast Guard. His labor migration portfolio, which a magazine reproduced in color in 1941, brought him national prominence and was followed by a one-man show of watercolors titled "Harlem" at the Downtown Gallery in New York City.

Lawrence has painted since childhood, but obtained his first recognition on a WPA art project. Later he studied under Charles Alston, former OWI artist now in the armed services, and received several fellowships and a scholarship at the American Artist school in New York.

Negro Youths Wanted For Coast Guard

Daily Times
Valdosta, Ga.

Headquarters of the U. S Coast Guard in Washington, D C. has announced that the opportunity for Negro youths of seventeen years of age to enlis

in the Coast Guard and serve as steward's mates has been extended for at least another month. The Coast Guard announcement stated that, while a large number of young men had already enlisted for this service the need for men for this duty had increased so greatly both at sea and at the Coast Guard stations, that there were still many openings and still ample opportunities for rapid advancement in the service. 5-25-44

Information on the service and application for enlistment is available at the Coast Guard Recruiting Station, Room 203 Federal Building, Jacksonville Florida. The recruiting office is remaining open until six o'clock in the evening during the next several weeks to accommodate Negro youths employed in the daytime.

The young men receive three months basic training at the Coast Guard Training Station, Curtis Bay, Maryland, near Baltimore and are then assigned to their stations as steward's mates, from which they may advance to Chief Petty Officer or may become commissioned officers if their service proves them to be exceptionaly well qualified. 5-25-44

Negroes have played a part in heroism and service in the Coast Guard in this war out of all proportion to their numbers. They have featured prominently in several of the Coast Guard's dramatic surface battles with enemy submarines and in several instances were principally responsible for the reserve of torpedoed merchant seamen.

SETTING A TREND for post-war Democracy, this interracial quartet, composed of U. S. Coast Guardsmen, is fast making a national name for itself. Directed by Homer Smith of Southernaire fame, the four men plan to continue their musical unit after the war. They are in demand for high-class entertainment and especially for morale-building performances for Uncle Sam. The boys have started a fund for themselves, each one chipping in from his own pay envelope, for they cannot receive compensation for their services. The fund has now reached $1,000. It is reserved to tide them over a training period at the close of the war. They are left to right: Frank Boyle, pianist; Homer Smith, tenor; Martin Boughan, second tenor; Thomas Lockard, baritone, and James Lewis, bass.

Peoples Voice-New York, N.Y. 2-15-44

CHARLES W. DAVID JR.
Call-Kansas City, Mo.

Coast Guard Hero Acclaimed

Loses Life After Saving Officer

3-10-44

U. S. Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D. C., this week related in detail how a Negro mess attendant aboard a Coast Guard combat cutter gave his life to save his executive officer and others during dramatic rescue operations in the North Atlantic.

The central figure in the story, one of many heroic incidents that followed torpedoing of a transport last year, was Charles W. David Jr., 26, of 1324 Prospect Ave., New York city, a mess attendant, first class, aboard a Coast Guard cutter. He died of pneumonia following his exertions and exposure.

David dived repeatedly into icy seas, in total darkness, to haul survivors to safety and finally rescued Lt. Langford Anderson, the executive officer, who had gone overside to set an example for his rescue crews. The air temperature was below freezing at the time, and the water temperature only slightly above. The sea was building up before a rising wind.

Shadowed by Submarines

Four or five submarines were known to have been shadowing the convoy at the time the transport was hit and sunk, and the rescue operations were conducted under the ever-present hazard of a new attack. During her own rescue work, the cutter acted as a screen for another cutter similarly engaged. 3-10-44

Many of the survivors, on life rafts, in life boats that were awash, or buffeted in life jackets, were unconscious or semi-unconscious and unable to aid themselves. The rescue crews went overside on cargo nets, working in the pounding seas to snatch men from boats and rafts, and to rig bowlines with which they could be lifted to the deck. The nets from which they worked steadily iced up.

"David was over the side on at least three occasions," Lt. Anderson said, "and due to his extreme strength he facilitated the task of getting survivors aboard who were frozen to such a degree they were like logs."

Breaks Strangle Hold

Lt. Anderson, slight of build, was working on the lower net when he was siezed by a desperate drowning man and pulled under the water. David sensed the situation, dived from the net, succeeded in breaking the survivor's strangle hold on his officer, and rescued both. The cutter picked up 49 living men from the torpedoed ship.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles David, Bronx, New York, the Coast Guardsman was a graduate of the Bronx Vocational high school. His wife, Kathleen W. David, lives at 343 W. 122nd St., New York city, with their only son Neil Adrian.

The cutter at the time of the story, was in command of Lt. Comdr. Ralph R. Curry of the Coast Guard. 3-10-44

The officer David rescued, Lt. Anderson, later became commanding officer of the cutter. He figured in the news recently when, as skipper of the Comanche, he was instrumental in saving the lives of 29 men from the foundered army ship Nevada.

Harvey Steele, 26, and Isaac G. McNatt, 27, both living in New York the grounds of unfitness. This prejudicial type of discharge has denied them mustering out pay and other rights and privileges provided for veterans of this war. It has for veterans of this war. It has also made it impossible for them to resume their normal place in civilan life, barring them from many schools and opportunities for employment. Steele, after passing all his examinations for a civil service job, was told he could not be hired because of his type of discharge. McNatt, who is studying law at night, can not be admitted to the New York Bar because of it.

Eulace Peacock, Now in Coast Guard Is Praised by 'Beating Gun' Man

Call-Kansas City, Mo. 7-14-44

By AL MOSES

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — He's a member of the United States' coast guard and a fine brother-of-a-laddie he is . . . bee-jabbers (pardon my Irish or Gaelic) racing for the BHT subway trains, of a busy mawning (morning.) . . . Eulace Peacock, an immortal of Temple (Philadelphia) university, is the subject who seems to go on forever and forever. 7-21-44

Time was when track authorities were saying that the one man in the world who appeared to have the well-known "Indian sign" on incomparable Jess Owens. . . . was this same . . . Eulace Peacock. That was back in 1936, the year when Herr (Schicklegruber) Hitler, of Chermany (Germany), was calling America's brilliant Negro athletes who were showing up his Nazi-murderers-protem, "black auxiliaries."

No greater sprinter or broad-jumper than Eulace Peacock ever breathed, unless it was, as I've often stated, Owens.

In this year of 1944, we find Peacock being crowned . . . National AAU Pentathlon Champion, piling up 2,852 points in winning three of the five major events at Elizabeth, N. J, Peacock won the broad jump, javelin throw, and 200-meter dash. Eight years since the Berlin Olympic games and this classy brown hercules continues to stand out in the athletic firmament . . . like a sore thumb. Highly intelligent, personable and a hale fellow well met, Eulace Peacock is a definite credit to his race and to the branch of his country's services.

SHOWED SCOFFERS

For years a lot of self-styled white writing experts, have poked fun at Leroy (Satchel) Paige. Paige, sort of a legendary figure in the annals of Negro baseball in this country, has been made the brunt (supposedly good-natured), of most of the whimsies some writers can conjure up. 7-21-44

But during the first week of July, the elongated one who toils in the livery of the Kansas City Monarchs team, won what amounted to rave notices from New York writers of—all stature.

Discharged Seabees Ask For Review Of Cases Under New Act

Age-New York, N.Y. 9-2-44

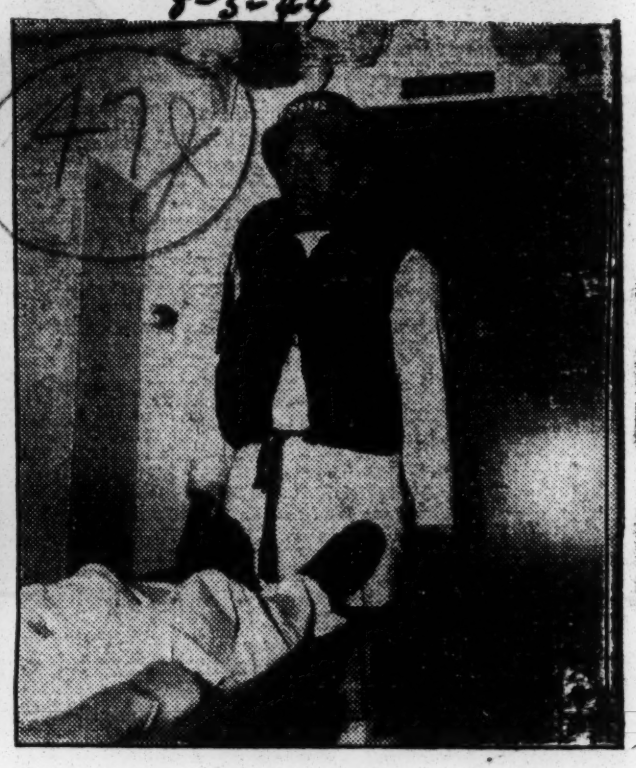
In one of the first, if not the very first, requests for a hearing as provided for under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, more Forces announced Monday.

The Lynn's Committee is handicommonly known as the G. I. Bill of Rights, two of the 19 Seabees who were discharged without hearing last October after they had complained of intolerable jim crowing conditions at their Caribbean base, had their cases and will provide counsel for them at the hearings. All previous appeals, including letters to President Roosevelt proven by no avail 9-2-44

17-Year-Old Negro Youths Urged to Join U. S. Coast Guard

Washington Tribune Washington, D.C.

8-5-44



8-5-44

SEEKING THE VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENT of 1,700 Negro youths in the steward's mate branch, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters recently called attention to the fact that 17-year-old volunteers in this branch will also get a crack at the enemy. At left, top, Coast Guardsman Excell McGee, seaman first class, of Chicago, does a quick change from his job in his ship's tailor shop to his battle station as a stretcher bearer in sick bay. At left, bottom, Coast Guardsman Browning Lutter, steward's mate third class, Chicago, is shown making the flash from galleyman to gun-talker when general quarters alarm is sounded aboard his Coast Guard assault transport somewhere in the South Pacific. At right top, Steward's Mates James Spruill, Elizabeth City, N.C., and J. D. Chambers, Baltimore, are shown with three other members of their 20 mm. anti-aircraft gun crew aboard a Coast Guard assault transport in the South Pacific. At right, bottom, two other fight Coast Guardsmen, Coxwain John Wyatt, left, St. Louis, Mo., and Gunner's Mate Sterling Parker, Camden, N.J., help themselves to generous portions when "Chow Down" rings over their combat cutter in the sub-Artic. Seventeen-year-old Negro youths who want a real crack at the enemy are urged to visit their local Coast Guard Recruiting Offices immediately.—Official U.C. Coast Guard Photos.

Coast Guard Hails New Hero As Crack Shot

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

8-6-44

Negro Gun Crews Draw High Praise Of Ship's Officers

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Coast Guard Headquarters this week hailed a new hero—a fighting steward's mate who took his crack at the enemy by downing one Junkers 88 during the Allied invasion of North Africa and assisting in the destruction of a second Nazi plane in the same engagement.

The fighting steward's mate was John R. Smith, 21- year-old former cook's helper of Cincinnati. His exploit was confirmed this week by Lt. Comdr. J. W. Paine, who, at the time of the North African invasion, was serving as fire control officer on the famed U. S. S. Samuel Chase, Coast Guard-manned transport.

8-6-44

SCORES DIRECT HIT

According to Commander Paine, Smith was manning a gun on the CHASE when the transport approached Algiers. Attacked by Nazi planes, the youth scored a direct hit, downing one Junkers 88, and then directed his fire towards a second plane, which also drew the fire of another gun crew before crashing into the ocean.

Discussing the engagment, the fire control officer said:

"The gun crews composed of Negro stewards' mates were a revelation and cannot be praised too highly for their enthusiasm, alertness and proficiency. Apparently they also posses better visual acuity in semi-dark conditions inasmuch as many of the attacks occurred during twilight, and the colored crews always detected and reported approaching enemy aircraft before the other crews, increasing considerably the possibility of a successful defense against such attacks."

FAMOUS SHIP 8-6-44

The U. S. S. Samuel Chase, on which Smith was serving, is one of the most famous ships of this war. The Coast Guard-manned transport, which served as flagship in the Sicilian invasion, as participated in hundreds of actions. Because it has always landed all of its troops without the loss of a single man, it has been nicknamed the "U. S. S. Lucky."

In announcing Smith's achievement, the Coast Guard called attention to its current campaign for the volunteer enlistment of 1,700 Negro youths in the Steward's Mates Branch. These volunteers, like Smith, will have a battle station, the Coast Guard pointed out and will play an active part in all engagements.

Coast Guardsman Smith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, who live at 3119 Borrman Avenue, Avondale, Cincinnati, Ohio. His wife, Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Smith, lives at 543 West Ninth St., Cincinnati. Born April 6, 1923, he attended Lincoln Public School in that city and worked as porter, a construction laborer and cook's helper in a restaurant before joining the Coast Guard. 8-6-44

HITS THE TOP

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ensign Harvey C. Russell, Jr., is the first Negro of Kentucky and the third Negro in the United States to attain the rank of commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was the only Negro graduated from the Coast Guard academy, New London, Conn., February 23. 4-1-44

The son of Prof. and Mrs. H. C. Russell, Sr., Louisville, Ky., the Coast Guard ensign is a graduate of Kentucky State college. He has done graduate work at the University of Michigan.—Spain and Sydnor Photo.

5 Who Tried Jimcrow Banned From U. S. Ships

Daily Worker—New York

Five Klu Klux Klannish disrupters who turned a merchant ship into a hell role for two Negro seamen will never sail again. N.Y.

The U. S. Coast Guard has lifted the seamen's papers of two of the men already and the other three will be dealt with promptly, the National Maritime Union reports.

The announcement was made yesterday by Thomas Christensen, director of the NMU's Foreign Flag Department. He helped bring the charges. 10-2-44

The two Negro seamen were threatened with lynching. Their possessions were stolen and wrecked and they were insulted daily.

One of the Negro seamen was the bosun—the foreman of the deck gang. The other was an ordinary seaman. They had made a couple of trips with the S. S. Ormandale, a Panama flag tanker of the Keystone Shipping Co. All was going well. The two men were getting on splendidly with their shipmates till a quintet of loud-mouthed "White Supremacy" propagandists signed on.

HANG NOOSES

The five Ku Klux hoodlums refused to take orders from the Negro bosun.

They hung hangmen's nooses over the door when the Negro seamen turned to. When the captain cut down the nooses the hoodlums hung them up again. This happened several times. 10-2-44

The captain, however, didn't take any steps against the disrupters. And day by day the Negro seamen saw a new noose staring them in the face and ran into anti-Negro slogans scrawled all over the ship.

One of the Ku Kluxers even used the bosun's bunk for a toilet and his passport and Coast Guard pass were slashed to ribbons by someone who broke into his suitcase.

WASHINGTON ACTS

The Coast Guard merely asked the captain to pay off two of the trouble makers when the union first took up the matter after the ship came to port.

But the union asked Coast Guard headquarters at Washington to take stronger action. And the papers were lifted. 10-2-44

"The men working on the foreign flag ships have shown wonderful unity in keeping the ships sailing against Hitler and Japan," said Christensen. "The Union will protect them against any one who tries to disrupt them."

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga 1-2-44

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Daily World - Atlanta, Ga 1-2-44

NAVY PROMOTIONS ARE ON THEIR WAY

Secretary Of Navy Approves Jim Crow By Naval Stations

AQC - New York, N.Y. 1-1-44

In a letter to the NAACP, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox in effect approves of jim crow within the limits of naval stations.

On November 19 the NAACP wrote Knox reporting complaints from the Norfolk, Va. Naval Air Station that buses running within the station for the convenience of Navy personnel compelled Negroes to sit in the rear and whites in the front. Knox in his reply, said:

"With regard to the matter of alleged segregation on buses at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, the Navy Department is making every effort to handle matters pertaining to enlisted personnel so that there will be a minimum of embarassment to both white and Negro. In all cases, however, the procedure which will best further the interests of the Navy is of primary importance, and the administration of personnel will always be handled with this primary objective in mind."

Secretary Knox also admitted that he had received several complaints on the insignia for chief cooks and stewards, who are either Negro or Filipino. This insignia, which heretofore has been the same as other chief petty officers in the Navy, has been changed so that men in these ratings are wearing a small "c" on their sleeves with three short straight bars underneath. The regular chief petty officers of the Navy have three chevrons and an eagle. Secretary Knox declares: "Obviously the purpose has not been to differentiate between white and Negro Chief Petty Officers as there are many Negro Chief Petty Officers in various ratings other than Chief Cooks and Chief Stewards, all of whom wear the Chief Petty Officer uniform."

Secretary Knox, in addition, makes the following astonishing statement: "In addition, Negroes are eligible for advancement in any of the many ratings in the Navy and all those who reach the status of Chief Petty Officer will wear the uniform of their rating."

FIRST NEGRO ENSIGNS
[illegible], New York, N.Y.

Sirs:

I was shocked to see your picture of a group of Negro naval officers (LIFE, April 24). MAY 15 1944

Every real American will bitterly resent the breaking down of our great naval traditions.

There is no place for the black man in our white Navy, and there is moral and political dynamite in trying to mix the white with the black.

It is hard to realize that there could be any one person in this country powerful enough to force this thing down our throats, but the day of reckoning isn't so far off.

J. L. JONES

Great Neck, N. Y.

Sirs:

Your picture of the 12 commissioned Negro naval officers was an inspiration to many who hope that America can and will be a mean absolute democracy

I know that I would be proud to salute any of them.

RONALD SPIERS, USNR
Naval Training Unit, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.

Ensign Assigned To SS Booker Washington

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, first Negro to graduate from the U. S. Merchant Marine Cadet Corps, has been assigned to active duty on the SS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, first Liberty ship named for an outstanding Negro American, the War Shipping Administration announced this week

Mr. Williams, who received his diploma at the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N. Y., in June 3, 1944, was sworn in as an ensign in the United States Naval Reserve on July 3, 1944, and was assigned to active duty on his own request.

Mr. Williams graduated from Hampton Institute before receiving appointment as Cadet—Midshipman of the U. S. Merchant Marine Cadet Corps. After completing the basic course, he was assigned to the SS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON for sea training. During the period from December 20, 1943 to March 13, 1944, and while in training as Cadet—Midshipman, he served as Acting Third Officer of the SS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, first ship of its kind with a Negro skipper, Capt. Hugh Mulzac, of Brooklyn, N. Y

be trained and qualified. They will replace the white ratings in their specialized billets, so that the entire were eventually will be Negroes.

Governor of Saltonstall and Mayor Tobins spoke briefly after the impressive ceremony as did Julian D Steele director of the Armstrong Homenway Foundation and local president of the NAACP who previously had presented the crew with a member of musical instruments, for which he was warmly thanked. 3-22-44

of Seattle

ckford, USNR, gton, assumed command of as soon as Captain Grady d the commissioning orders hen department. His crew y consists of 169 Negroes e first U. S. Naval vessel rew, the Destroyer Escort full commission Monday at Roman C. Grady, U. S. N., arger of the two new anti-submarine vessels largely composed of Negroes.

First War Ship With Race Crew Put Into Service

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga 3-22-44

By JIM HEWLETT

BOSTON, Mass.—(ANP)—With a cold bitter wind ac- M. Blackford companying a steady snowfall on this first day of spring Washington, he first U. S. Naval vessel with a predominantly Negro the ship as s crew, the Destroyer Escort U. S. S. Mason, was placed in ublished the full commission Monday at Boston Navy Yard by Captain of the then Roman C. Grady, U. S. N., captain of the yard. This is the presently com arger of the two new anti-submarine vessels with crews and 44 white largely composed of Negroes. Lieutenant Commander William as soon as Negro personnel can New York.

There was a moistness in the eyes of some of the colored workers who with their white comrades braved the bitter cold to witness the ceremony but above and beyond all a note of pride for absenteeism is low among them and they had kept this secret.

They sensed that not only was this something they had helped fashion with their own hands and skill to be manned by their own boys but that this was their opportunity to show the world they were just as capable under a welder's hod as machine gunning an enemy plane and just as efficient at turning lathe as running down an enemy submarine.

New Sub Hunter Launched, Crew Has 53 Negroes

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
4-26-44

The second naval vessel to be manned by a predominantly Negro crew, the PC 1264, was placed in commission yesterday at a Navy pier in New York City and soon will be on the high seas hunting down Axis submarines.

A sleek 173-foot sub hunter of a type used largely for escort duty, the vessel carries 53 Negroes in her ship's company, including several rated as first and second class petty officers.

Like the destroyer escort Mason, recently commissioned in Boston with a largely Negro crew, it is officered by whites and the crew includes eight white petty officers classed as instructors. As soon as Negro sailors qualify through experience and training they will replace these white petty officers, the Third Naval District asserted. Negro officers are not yet available, the Navy added, but a number of Negroes have been commissioned in the Navy in recent months.

The PC 1264 was placed in full commission by Commander H. F. Sasse, U. S. N. (Ret.) assistant to the Captain of the Yard, Navy Yard, Brooklyn, N. Y, He head the commissioning orders of the Navy Department in the presence of the entire ship's company mustered in dress uniform on the fantail of the ship, and Lieut. Eric Purdon, U. S. N. R., commanding officer, then assumed command.

Yard, Brooklyn, N. Y. He read the tional ensign at the mainmast, the Union Jack at the jackstaff at the bow, and the commission pennant were broken simultaneously and the ship's watch was set.

The crew members have been especially trained for their duties at the Submarine Chaser Training School, Miami, Fla. 4-26-44

In connection with the commissioning of the PC 1264, the ship's crew has been "adopted" by the Harlem Branch, New York City, Defense Recreation Council, in accordance with a policy originated last year for the crews of amphibious craft.

They're Appointed Ensigns Of The Navy

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
3-21-44

Above are nine of the men appointed to the temporary rank of Ensign D-V (S), U. S. Naval Reserve, to rank from February 23, 1944, and directed to report to Great Lakes for temporary duty under instruction. They are, left to right, front row: Graham Martin, Indianapolis; Jesse Walter Arbor, Chicago; John Walter Reagan, Los Angeles; Back row, Reginald Goodwin, Washington, D. C.; Dennis D. Nelson, Nashville, Tenn.; Phillip G. Barnes, Washington; Samuel E. Barnes, Trenton, N. J.; and Dalton L. Baugh, Little Rock, Ark. (Navy Photo.)

Fourteen Appointed Ensigns And Warrant Officers In U. S. Navy

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.
3-21-44

Ordered To Report To Great Lakes For Temporay Duty

WASHINGTON— (SNS)— The Navy Department here announced names of fourteen Negroes appointed to temporary rank of ensign and warrant officers at Great Lakes, following up the recently announced policy of selecting candidates for commissioning as line officers in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

The twelve ensigns, all deck volunteers specialists, U. S. Naval Reserve, include Jesse Walter Arbor, Chicago; Dalton L. Baugh, Little Rock, Ark.; James E. Bare, Jacksonville, Fla.; Samuel E. Barnes, Trenton, N. J.; Frank E. Sublett, Chicago; John Walter Reagan, Chicago; Dennis D. Nelson, Nashville, Tenn.; William S. White, Jr., Chicago; George C. Cooper Richmond, Va.; Phillip G. Barner, Washington, D. C.; Graham Edward Martin, Indianapolis, and Reginald E. Goodwin, Washington, D. C. Two Saturday warrant officers are Boatswain Charles Byrd Lear, U. S. N. R., Canton, Mo., and Acting Pay Clerk Willie Powell, U. S. N., San Diego, Calif. 3-21-44

All were ordered to report to the commanding officer at Great Lakes for temporary duty under instruction. Upon completion of this course of training the officers will be assigned to duty initially either at the U. S. Naval Training School, Great Lakes, the ship's authority to whom all officers and enlisted men turn when they want the name of "some good reading," as he puts it.

More Books For Ship's Librarian

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
4-26-44

librarian and chaplain's assistant.

ABOARD A U. S. COAST GUARD TROOP TRANSPORT

(SPECIAL) — When someone asks the timeworn question, "Read any good books lately?," Ernest B. Lewis, seaman, second class, has them in his spare time—and is all ready with the answer when the ship's officer asks him: "All of them."

For Lewis, one of the many Negro Coast Guardsmen contributing so much to the war effort, has an opportunity to read every bestseller that comes out. He is ship's

Born in Marion, S. C., but now a resident of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., Lewis started his career in the Coast Guard as a mess hand, but soon after the ship's officers learned of his excellent education, they gave him the library to supervise with additional duties as assistant to the chaplain. 8-3-44

Lewis, who is 30 years old, took his boot training at Manhattan Beach Training Station, N. Y., and also served with the Port Security Detail in New York. He worked at Ellis Island, N. Y., as hospital guard, taking care of neuropsychiatric patients.

Lewis is married to the former Lila Davis of Mt. Vernon, and lives at 350 Union avenue, Mt. Vernon. He enlisted in the Coast Guard Aug. 30, 1943, and has two brothers, George and Clark Lewis, in the Army.

He was educated at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., and Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga., majoring in sociology, and he hopes to be able to get into social work after the war. "There's a big field in this," he said, "and the need for trained workers will be great."

MOREHOUSE ALUMNUS

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Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 47
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Moorehouse Grad Ship's Librarian

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
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ABOARD A U. S. COAST GUARD TROOP TRANSPORT

CATALOGUES BOOKS

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MOREHOUSE ALUMNUS

473-1944

GENERAL

No Segregation At Seattle, Washington Naval Station

World-Memphis, Tenn.

6-23-44

Active Base Called 'The Country Club Of The Navy'

By HERMAN T. SMITH
(Correspondent on Tour of U. S. Naval Bases for NNPA)

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION, Seattle, Wash.—"The Country Club of the Navy," is the name most often used by naval personnel in this section when referring to this active base. After visiting here I can easily understand why the name is applied.

The base is located in Sands Point, a suburban section of Seattle, and long before Pearl Harbor was a bustling naval outpost from which many of our important aircraft took off for peaceful missions throughout the world.

The atmosphere of the base though cloaked in war-time secrecy, resembles that of a college campus. Being a permanent base, most of the buildings are constructed of brick with a design of attractiveness as well as comfort.

FINE FACILITIES

Recreational facilities here rival that of the most exclusive country clubs in America. There is a lovely swimming pool in which swimming classes are held and water shows put on regularly; a bowling alley for all base personnel, where the pin boys are service men who receive the ten cents a line charge for the alleys. Many a service man in need of funds has replenished his purse in this manner. There is a completely equipped gymnasium where classes in the art of self defense are taught, several baseball diamonds and two soccer fields. For the officers there is even a nine-hole golf course.

A combination canteen, service club and naval post-exchange is complete in every detail and offers for sale almost any article that can be had in civilian life. The only difference being that the cost of most things is at least one third cheaper than on the outside.

6-23-44

In an attractive theatre, free movies are shown twice a week amateur shows are put on. Visiting shows and USO units also appear here frequently.

NO SEGREGATION

There is absolutely no segregation on the base and the approximately four hundred Negroes stationed here enjoy all of the base facilities without discrimination of any kind. The men all eat, sleep, play and work together according to their rank and rating in perfect harmony and seeing this unity makes you feel that if such were the case throughout America, no power on earth could threaten our happiness.

Most of the Negroes stationed here at Sands Point, have been to service school at Great Lakes or the U. S. Aviation Machinist School at Memphis, Tenn. All of the men with whom I talked are working at the trade they learned in service school and according to them, naval law makes it mandatory that a man be given a chance at the thing he has been trained for.

6-23-44

Instead of a series of different kinds of shops, this base being a working air base, is actually one huge aviation repair base. So although there are several separate repair shops here, each shop works on some part of a plane and are all housed in one large building.

SHOP EMPLOYMENT

Negroes are employed in most of the shops and according to the officers are doing very well. The type of work the men are doing is highly skillful and they are optimistic about the usage of their training and experience in civilian life after the war.

In the Assembly Repair Shop where planes are assembled and repaired a youthful Negro, Edmund Dudley, Cox 3c, from Harrisburg, Pa., is a supervisor. In addition to his duties in the repair shop Cox Dudley is in charge of the base Post Office.

While in the Assembly Repair Shop I talked with some of the other Negroes working there. They are Ottis D. Holland, S2c, Detroit; Ezell C. Hairston, S2c, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Hiram Johnson, S1c, Riverton N. J.; George Wilbur, S1c, Detroit; James Johnson, S1c, Phila.; Hugh E Jones, S1c, N. Y. C., Loye R. Waters, S1c, Atlantic City, N. J.; J. A. Scott, S1c Buffalo, N. Y.; Phillip Dennis, S1c, Pennsgrove, N. J.; Albert Thompson, S1c, North Bergen, N. J.; Charles E. Cummings, AM3c, Old Orchad Beach, Me.; Leon Penneck, S1c, Philidelphia; Frederick Brown, S1c, Chicago, Ill., George Crunklaton, S1c, New Castle, Pa.; Eugene Johnson, S2c, Washington, D. C.; Alvin N. Morrison, AMM3c, Martinsburgh W. Va., and James N. Maynard, S1c, Pittsburgh.

6-23-44

Due to the Navy's policy of trying to send boys from the south to northern bases and vice versa, the fellows listed above are typical of the men on the base. One of the most interesting men I met here is Richard Wilbangs, Sp (a) 2c of Chicago. Wilbanks is considered one of the most efficient physical education instructors on the base and is an expert at Judo.

No objection to Publication for Naval Security Reasons. Office of Public Relations, U. S. Navy. Review Section OH S-26 Lt. Cmdr. H. B. Lay, USNR.

Navy Drops Color Bars; To Commission Negroes

Tribune-Washington, D.C.

2-26-44

After long months of planning, the Navy Department announced on Wednesday that steps are under way to select Negro candidates for commissioning as officers in the U.S. Naval Reserve to fill approximately twenty-two available billets, thus breaking its traditional lily-white policy.

Twelve colored men, after a period of training, will receive commissions as line officers, with the rank of ensigns. Ten others, selected from civilian life, will become staff officers, receiving the rank of either ensign or lieutenant, junior grade, depending on their age and qualifications.

Two officers will be selected for each of the following Naval staff duties: Chaplain, Dental, Medical, Civil Engineer, and Supply Corps.

To Man Two Vessels

The Navy also announced plans for the manning of two new anti-submarine vessels "predominantly by Negro crews." One is a destroyer escort, now under construction at the Boston Navy Yard. The other is a patrol boat.

The first vessel, when commissioned, will carry an enlistment of 160 colored and 44 white men, the latter assigned to tasks requiring special training. They will in time be replaced by colored men who have been qualified meanwhile. The ship is to be placed in service within a few weeks.

2-26-44

The second ship, a patrol chaser (PC), building at the Consolidated Shipbuilding Corporation, Morris Heights, N.Y., will have an initial crew of 52 Negroes and nine whites, and be commissioned late in March. If will be manned eventually by an all-Negro crew, says the Navy.

Colored candidates for commissions as officers of the line are now being selected for officer schools, for three to six months' specialized training. After graduation they will be assigned to duty at the naval training school at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., and the Great Lakes (Ill.) School.

A Limited Naval Victory

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-4-44

We are happy to see that the fight which The Pittsburgh Courier started over five years ago for greater integration of the Negro into the United States Naval establishment has ended in a limited victory.

Twenty-two Negroes are to be commissioned officers and a destroyer escort and a patrol vessel are to be manned by Negro crews.

3-4-44

This is a considerable advance in the direction of democracy when we reflect that less than two years ago Secretary of Navy Frank Knox was telling us that there would be no Negro officers.

That the Navy has yielded this much is due to the tremendous pressure put on it by the Negro press, the NAACP and similar organizations.

The victory is only a limited one, however, because in accordance with what seems to be a set government policy in "democratic" America, the Negro officers and men will be permitted to serve only on separate jim-crow vessels as if they were afflicted with leprosy.

3-4-44

It is the same old story of "The time ain't ripe," with Naval officials placing the blame for the necessity of maintaining jim crow on the white rank-and-file who will "not stand" being mixed with Negroes on board ship and taking orders from colored superiors.

3-4-44

The truth of the matter is that high naval officials are themselves responsible for color discrimination and segregation in their branch of the service which they deliberately made more widespread as late as 1922, when Negroes were restricted to service in mess departments.

With the expansion of the Navy five years ago, they could have easily eliminated all separation and discrimination based on color, and by this time the color question would have been ended in the Navy.

If colored and white Americans served in the U. S. Navy unsegregated for 150 years, there is no reason why they cannot do so today.

We believe the fault lies at the top rather than at the bottom.

Lt. Samuels Head Officer On Caribbean Sub Patrol

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

7-22-44

LT. (j.g.) CLARENCE SAMUELS

Defender - Chicago Ill.

By ALFRED E. SMITH
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — For the first time in modern Navy history, a Negro officer will shortly take over full command of a Coast Guard patrol craft with an all-white crew of officers and men. 7-22-44

He is Lt. (j-g) Clarence Samuels, first Negro commissioned officer in the Navy in World War I.

His orders call for Lt. Samuels to command a vessel in the Caribbean and his all-white crew will include four officers and 110 men.

The modest quiet-spoken officer who rose from the ranks, and who is the senior and ranking Negro line officer in the Navy, regards his new assignment as "ordinary." He foresees no particular problems or difficulties.

"Democracy of the Coast Guard high command," he says, "makes this possible."

The lieutenant once commanded a cutter in Savannah harbor, and has recently been assigned to the escort vessel "Sea Cloud." Aboard the "Sea Cloud" he was in charge of racially mixed personnel among other duties, but his particular pride was an all-Negro gun crew under his immediate direction.

Also aboard the "Sea Cloud" are the other two Negro Coast Guard officers, Lt. (j-g) Joseph Jenkins, and Ensign Harvey Russell, both war-time graduates of the Coast Guard academy. For them Lt. Samuels has high praise. "They are splendid officers and a credit to service and race." 7-22-44

With characteristic candor, he adds: "Of the three of us colored officers, Ensign Russell is by far the superior, and lacks only time and experience to prove it."

Just returned from dangerous escort sub-chasing work, Lt. Samuels is having his ten-day leave spoiled by the dentist, for whom he admits a healthy fear. He looks forward to proceeding to his new post within a week.

Panama-born, 40 years old, small, wiry and tough, the lieutenant is now greying at the temples. He is known throughout the service for his excellence as a signalman and marksman. His ribbons indicate pre-Pearl Harbor service, Pearl Harbor action, American Theatre of War action, African mid-eastern campaign, expert pistol shot and his good conduct ribbon has four bars.

Ensign Joseph Williams First Negro To Graduate From Merchant Marine Academy

Age - N.Y., N.Y. July 22, 1944

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, of Maryland, first Negro to graduate from the U. S. Merchant Marine Cadet Corps, has been assigned to active duty on the ss. Booker T. Washington, first Liberty ship named for an outstanding Negro American, the War Shipping Administration announced this week.

Mr. Williams, who received his diploma at the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N. Y., on June 3, 1944, was sworn in as an ensign in the United States Naval Reserve on July 3, 1944, and was assigned to active duty on his own request.

Mr. Williams graduated from Hampton Institute before receiving appointment as Cadet-Midshipman of the U. S. Merchant Marine Cadet Corps. After completing the basic course, he was assigned to the ss. Booker T. Washington for sea training. During the period from December 20, 1943 to March 13, 1944, and while in training as Cadet-Midshipman, he served as Acting Third Officer of the ss. Booker T. Washington, first Liberty ship to be named for an outstanding Negro American, and also the first ship of its kind with a Negro skipper, Capt. Hugh Mulzac, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

First Negro Navy doctor commissioned

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif. 7-31-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Lt. (jg) Arthur Lee Thompson, 28, of Detroit, Mich., the first Negro to be commissioned in the Medical Corps of the U. S. Naval Reserve, has reported to U. S. Naval Training Center here for duty. He was sworn in July 12 in Detroit.

The newly commissioned officer attended Fisk University and received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in 1942. In graduating from Meharry, Lt. (jg) Thompson received an award as the most outstanding student in surgery and was an honor graduate. He served his internship in the Hubbard Hospital, Nashville, Tenn., and specialized in pediatrics for nine months while a resident physician. 7-31-44

Lt. (jg) Thompson is married, and he is the son of Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Thompson of Detroit. He is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Graduate Gets Appointment

Age N.Y., N.Y.

July 22, 1944

Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, of Maryland, first Negro to graduate from the U. S. Merchant Marine Cadet Corps, has been assigned to active duty on the ss. Booker T. Washington, first Liberty ship named for an outstanding Negro American, the War Shipping Administration announced this week.

Official WSA Photo from OWI

New Navy Officer

8-31-44

LIEUTENANT J. G. MARRON

William Fort, 16 Arington street, Newburyport, Massachusetts, was appointed last week as an officer in the Supply Corps of the U. S. Navy. The new appointee is a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received his B. S., M. S., and PhD. degrees. He has reported to the Navy Supply Corps School Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard Dunne Taylor of St. James enter- University for indoctrination.

(OFFICIAL U. S. NAVY PHOTO)

No Bias at Oakland Naval Supply Depot, Says Officer

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 7-29-44

SAN FRANCISCO. — Charges that discrimination is shown in giving work assignments to colored seamen at the Naval Supply Depot at Oakland were denied last week by a Navy public relations officer here.

A seaman at the depot had reported that colored men at the depot worked eight to ten hours a day and then three or four hours at night while white sailors did not have this extra work.

He also said that on night shifts the colored sailors worked from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. while white men had two shifts, 3:30 to 12 and midnight to 6 a.m.

Explaining the extra work about which the seaman complained, the officer said that all men, regardless of race, are assigned to duty sections and each section has a standby watch every fourth day which usually is over by 10:30 p.m. 7-29-44

Men in the duty section, he said, are available for necessary work at any time that their section has the day's duty. These duties are special tasks in addition to the men's regular work.

Seamen Praised

There are 1,209 colored bluejackets unloading freight cars and storing material at this depot which handles 76 per cent of all the provisions—meat, flour, and vegetables—shipped from the Pacific Coast for use by the Navy.

Lieut. Com. Bassett praised the work of these men and said they are well thought of at Oakland and have earned a respected position for themselves.

"Hours Same for All"

In a letter to the AFRO, Lt. Com. James Bassett, Jr., public relations officer, Twelfth Naval District, said: "The hours are the same for all enlisted men regardless of color, depending upon the shift to which assigned."

He said that the colored men are required to work on the night shift which is ten hours, but only for two weeks at a time.

Extra Duties for All

try through experiences that might have caused a less resolute people to waver.

One by one the various branches of armed service are being opened for Negro youth. The Army Air Corps experimented before Pearl Harbor and its Negro pilots have been flying in combat since last June.

The Marine Corps opened its ranks and now there is a contingent of colored Marines somewhere in the Pacific, although as far as the press releases have indicated they have not been used as assault troops against any of the Jap island strongholds. 1-29-44

In 1942 the Navy abandoned its policy of long standing which limited Negro enlistees to service as messmen, and began training them as specialists at Hampton Institute and Great Lakes.

Now comes the prospect of Negro commissioned officers, and colored crews manning warships on combat missions. It is a healthy and an inspiring prospect. It represents for the United States a major victory right here at home. Let Goebbels put that in his microphone and play it.

Negro Commissioned Officers In Navy

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va. 1-29-44

THE appointment of Negro officers in the Navy and the assignment of some of the large numbers who have been trained as specialists to a warship for combat duty, possibly with Negro officers in charge, will be one of the most significant and compelling representations this government can make to the minority peoples of the world that its proffers of benevolence to them might conceivably be sincere.

That such appointments are imminent was learned by The Journal and Guide this week from sources it considers highly authoritative. An official announcement by the Navy is expected momentarily. It is awaited nervously and anxiously by millions of Negro Americans who want to believe that fascist practices long adhered to by our Navy are being scuttled as we make other gains on the democratic front.

It is known that Negro physicians in several large cities have been considered for commissioning as Navy officers. Moreover, it is reliably reported that commanding officers throughout the Navy have been asked to recommend promising petty officers for commissions.

It has seemed pretty obvious all along that the tempo of training at Great Lakes and Hampton Institute where hundreds of specialists have been trained was indicative of some well considered plan to use these colored seamen in the jobs they are being fitted for. 1-29-44

Now comes the report that one of Uncle Sam's warships is to get a Negro crew, including, perhaps, Negro officers, and be assigned to some combat task on the high seas. That is heartening news. Far greater than any presumed boost to the morale of other minorities will be its impact on the spirit and ambitions of millions of Negroes here at home.

Sometimes the outlook has been very gloomy, but the colored American has remained loyal to his coun-

No Segregation At Seattle, Washington Naval Station

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 6-20-44

Active Base Called 'The Country Club Of The Navy'

By HERMAN T. SMITH
(Correspondent on Tour of U. S. Naval Bases for NNPA)

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION, Seattle, Wash.—"The Country Club of the Navy," is the name most often used by naval personnel in this section when referring to this active base. After visiting here I can easily understand why the name is applied.

The base is located in Sands Point, a suburban section of Seattle, and long before Pearl Harbor was a bustling naval outpost from which many of our important aircraft took off for peaceful missions throughout the world. 6-20-44

The atmosphere of the base though cloaked in war-time secrecy, resembles that of a college campus. Being a permanent base, most of the buildings are constructed of brick with a design of attractiveness as well as comfort.

FINE FACILITIES

Recreational facilities here rival that of the most exclusive country clubs in America. There is a lovely swimming pool in which swimming classes are held and water shows put on regularly; a bowling alley for all base personnel, where the pin boys are service men who receive the ten cents a line charge for the alleys. Many a service man in need of funds has replenished his purse in this manner. There is a completely equipped gymnasium where classes in the art of self defense are taught, several baseball diamonds and two soccer fields. For the officers there is even a nine-hole golf course.

A combination canteen, service club and naval post-exchange is complete in every detail and offers for sale almost any article that can be had in civilian life. The only difference being that the cost of most things is at least one third cheaper than on the outside.

In an attractive theatre, free movies are shown twice a week amateur shows are put on. Visiting shows and USO units also appear here frequently.

NO SEGREGATION 6-20-44

There is absolutely no segregation on the base and the approximately four hundred Negroes stationed here enjoy all of the base facilities without discrimination of any kind. The men all eat, sleep, play and work together according to their rank and rating in perfect harmony and seeing this unity makes you feel that if such

School a... kinds of... the men... working... in service... them, na... tory that... at the t... for.
Instead of a series of different... ds of shops, this base being... working air base, is actually one... e aviation repair base. So al... ugh there are several separate re... r shops here, each shop works... some part of a plane and... housed in one large building.
SHOP EMPLOYMENT
Negroes are employed in most... the shops and according to the... cers are doing very well. The... e of work the men are doing... highly skilful and they are opti... tic about the usage of their... ning and experience in civilian... after the war.
In the Assembly Repair Shop... re planes are assembled and... aired a youthful Negro, Edmund... dley, Cox 3c, from Harrisburg, ...ing to send boys from the south... E. Jones, S1c, N. Y. C., Loye R. Waters, S1c, Atlantic City, N. J.; J. A. Scott, S1c Buffalo, N. Y.; Phillip Dennis, S1c, Pennsgrove, N. J.; Albert Thompson, S1c, North Bergen, N. J.; Charles E. Cummings, AM3c, Old Orchad Beach, Me.; Leon Penneck, S1c, Philadelphia; Frederick Brown, S1c, Chicago, Ill., George Crunklaton, S1c, New Castle, Pa.; Eugene Johnson, S2c, Washington, D. C.; Alvin N. Morrison, AMM3c, Martinsburgh W. Va., and James N. Maynard, S1c, Pittsburgh.
Due to the Navy's policy of try-

...northern bases and vice versa, the fellows listed above are typical of the men on the base. One of the most interesting men I met here is Richard Wilbanks, Sp (a) 2c of Chicago. Wilbanks is considered one of the most efficient physical education instructors on the base and is an expert at Judo.

No objection to Publication for Naval Security Reasons. Office of Public Relations, U. S. Navy. Review Section OH S-26 Lt. Cmdr. H. B. Lay, USNR .

Men Prefer Full Participation; Working For It

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
5-21-44

Look Forward To Becoming Petty Officers

LITTLE CREEK, Va.— India — Colored enlisted personnel stationed here at this section base are enthusiastic about the phase of the naval training program which permits them to perform duties other than those of messmen. Even though segregation and discrimination exists in various forms—the command claimng that it makes for better ship efficiency (which of course is open to question) those who by reason of their educational or service school qualifications are working at their trades in machinery, metalcraft, carpentry, and allied fields feel that the "half a loaf" is better than nothing at all.

They prefer full participation with all of the rights and privileges, but realize that with a trade under their belts they will be better fitted for post-war employment. There are some who are actually saving money with the idea in mind of going into business for themselves.

The men are putting into practice those things learned in the class room. They must master the Diesel engine, know its many intricate parts and how to make and repair it; it is the same for the gasoline engine.

BECOME MASTER MECHANICS 5-21-44

Motor machinists's mates operate, maintain, make adjustments, and overhaul Diesel and gasoline engines and their parts.

Those that I talked with, among them John T. Smith, MoMM 2-c, Philadelphia; Oscar Almond, MoMM 3-c, St. Louis, an ex-drysmith during his civilian days; Herman B. Spriggins, MoM M2-c, Galveston, Texas, and Ishmael Lott, MoMM 3-c, Detroit; and all Hampton Service School graduates expressed high hopes for the future and were eager to try their hands at jobs with fleet.

One of the most important jobs that our boys are trained to do is that of electrician's mates. The EM stands watch on the main switchboard (at sea), main control room of electrically driven ship, the main gyro compass, besides maintaining and repairing electrical circuits and electrical equipment.

PETTY OFFICERS WHITE

It was observed that in general the majority of the ranking petty officers in the shops were white, but Commander R. E. Davenport stated that he believed he would not be long before such ratings would eventually be conferred upon the colored men who warranted it by reason of ability and tenure. It was further observed that the colored and white working side by side in the shops appared to get along well together.

Frank M. Walker, S1-c from Brunswick, Ga., who is striking for advanced rating in the carpenter's shop is preparing to be able to do carpentry and joinery work, replace deck planking and other woodwork, lay and repair, tiling repair and maintain small boars and caulk seems better than any man here. Then he feels that he will be ready to take his place as CM anywhere in the Navy. These men do have amibition.

John H. Steele, yeoman 3-c Chicago, Ill., and a former U. of Illinios and Kent Law School student and Ira E. Sells, yeoman 3-c, Greenport Long Island, N. Y are standouts in the education department here. 5-21-44

It is hoped that as many of the colored sailors as possible receive their advanced ratings when they have qualified for them, as it does more than just bolster morale. It proves that the Navy is sincere in giving them some recognition. Without such recognition for a job well done, it will not be long before much of this newly acquired enthusiasm is replaced by hopelessness, mired in the muck of despair. The Navy is on the right track. It must keep going to the end of the line. It will bring V-day that much closer.

Here's One for You to Play with by Yourself

News Item: Navy Department to man ONE warship with an all-colored crew.

Largest Class Of Bluejackets Graduates At Great Lakes, Ill.

Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va.
2-26-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Numbering 301 Bluejackets, the largest Negro class ever to complete instruction in the Navy's service schools was graduated at the U. S. Naval Training Station here last week. Last month's class of 263 men was the previous high.

Principal speaker at the exercises was Brig. Gen. Spencer C. Dickerson, U.S.A. (ret.), senior surgeon emeritus at Provident Hospital, Chicago, who was a captain in the Army Medical Corps, 370th Infantry, A. E. F., during the last war.

GEN. DICKERSON

General Dickerson, who became a colonel in the Eighth Illinois National Guard in 1929 and was retired as brigadier general in 1930, told the graduates:

"It should be the duty of all peoples to live harmoniously together, to allow each group to rise to the highest level of its capacity regardless of race, creed or color, that the promise of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness may be fulfilled.

"The eyes of 130,000,000 Americans are on you graduates today. The hopes and aspirations of 15,000,000 persons of your race depend on you.

PRESENTED CERTIFICATES

At the conclusion of his address the members of this fifteenth Negro class were presented certificates. They completed courses in one or another of the schools for machinist's mates, gunner's mates, radiomen, aviation machinist's mates, aviation metalsmiths, quartermasters, signalmen, storekeepers, yeomen, short patrolmen, and cooks and bakers. 2-26-44

Six were singled out for special recognition, having been selected honor men of their respective school groups. They were Carl C. West, 18, of 516 Cleveland, ave., Anderson, S. C.; Otis Hill, 30, 717 Denny street, Richmond, Va.; David E. Bryant, 21, 939 Sutter ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Arthur Middlebrooks, 27, of 11405 Mitchell street, Detroit, Mich.; Benjamin King, 19, of 804 Berkley avenue, Norfolk, Va., and Herbert L. Houston, 27, of Route 1, Burlington, N. J. 2-26-44

Principal speaker at the January exercises of a class of 236 men was Brig. Gen. Anton F. Lorenzen, USA (Ret.), president of Lorenzen and Thompson, Inc., publishers' representatives, and a veteran of the Spanish-American War. General Lorenzen, whose home is in Chicago where he is a member of the Chicago Crime Commission and various other civic and social organizations, told the graduates:

"Remember, we are all in this fight together, all as Americans regardless of color or creed and no matter where our ancestors came from or where they worshipped. What we are fighting for is equality for all—large or small, high or low, all Americans. We are fighting for our country, our flag and what it represents, our Bill of Rights and our Constitution—under our commander-in-chief."

Members of this fourteenth Negro Service School class completed 19 Steelton, Pa.; Archie Haynes, Wichita Falls, Texas; James 21, Cleveland, Ohio; Robinson, 22, New York City Negron, 22, Los Angeles, gunner's mates, radiomen, aviation machinist's mates, aviation metal- and Jack McCoy, 36, Los smiths, quartermasters, signalmen, Calif. storekeepers, yeomen, and cooks and bakers. Five were singled out for special recognition, having been selected honor men of their respective school groups.

47.j-1944 General

They'll Be Back, Wanting Jobs and Security

PM—New York, N. Y.
8-15-44

The arrow points to President Roosevelt, having lunch with the personnel of the isolated Naval base at Adak, in the Aleutian Islands, during a brief stop in his recent tour of Pacific bases. The men are soldiers, sailors and Marines along with two commanding officers who share the head table with the Commander-in-Chief.

U. S. Army Photo

Bias Mars Navy School

People's Voice 8-26-44
New York, N. Y.

With the very life of our nation and that of all the democracies engaged in the present sanguinary struggle for survival dependent on the "on time" delivery of men, planes, tanks, and supplies, the New York State Maritime Academydemydemy apparently is practicing a policy of discrimination, which denies our merchant marine the fullest use of available manpower needed to officer our ships.

Our attention has been called to the case of William Greaves, an upstanding youth who is a math major at City College and who posted an average of ninety or better in his regents exams.

Greaves, who lives at 810 Dawson st, the Bronx, has long had a yen to be a marine engineer and when he learned about the officer training at the Maritime Academy immediately made application for admittance. 8-26-44 Graduates from the Maritime Academy have their choice on graduation of accepting either a license as a Third Officer in the Merchant Marine deck or engine department or a commission as Ensign (Naval Reserve) in the U. S. Navy. Greaves' application was accepted and he was

8-26-44

GREAVES

then sent the formal application which went to other references.

July 14 he was interviewed for his mental exam at the Naval Officer school and passed. He subsequently went to Fort Schuyler for his final exams. At both places he was the lone Negro candidate and was seemingly the cynosure of all eyes. He was given a written test and went to lunch. On returning his name was read out as among those entitled to go before the examining board having passed the written exam. Here he met his first irregularity. He was told he'd failed the exam when passing was a pre-requisite for appearing before the board. 8-26-44

Feeling that he was victim of a discriminatory policy he appealed to the National Maritime Union and the NAACP to review his case, as well as writing to the Secretary of the Navy Forrestal. Both organizations have been advised that Greaves did pass the entrance exam, but had been turned down because he had passed both the Army Air Corps and Army Student training program and failed to enter either service. Therefore he lacked "fixedness of purpose."

Meanwhile our Merchant Marine has a most urgent need for officers in the wartime emergency.

Great Lakes Graduates Largest Class

Tribune—Philadelphia Pa.
4-15-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—For the fourth successive month, the class graduated last week was the largest, 339, ever to complete instruction in the Navy's Service Schools at the U. S. Naval Training Station, the Navy Department has announced.

Principal speaker at the exercises was the Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Evans, pastor of the People's Church of Christ and of the Metropolitan Community Center, Chicago, Illinois who was introduced by Capt. H. R. Harris, Service School Officer, who presided at the commencement.

4-15-44

They were John R. West, Jr., 20, of Amelia, Va.; Edward L. Gibbs, 28, of Aliceville, Ala.; Boston Payne, Jr., 18, of 2653 Hendricks street, Detroit, Michigan; Floyd E. Johnson, 27, of 60 north 20th street, Columbus, Ohio; James W. Proffit, 20, of 1407 south 16th street, East St. Louis, Illinois, and William H. Jordan, 29, of 312 Division avenue, N. E., Washintgon, D. C.

Jim Crow is Not Dead in Navy

Tribune—Washington, D.C.
4-1-44

By WILFRED H. KERR

The old spirit still rules in the Navy as well as in the Army. This is true despite all the propaganda recently emanating from the Public Relations Division of the Navy and certain elements in the Negro Newspapers Publishers' Association. After two days of being wined and dined and flattered at Great Lakes Naval Training Station some of our Negro editors, notably Adam C. Powell, Jr., of the People's Voice, have catapaulated into the camp of the appeasers and apologists for Old Man Jimcrow and have brazenly sought to whitewash the rigid segregation policy of the Navy.

4-1-44

The whole policy of the Navy is to build a black auxiliary Navy which will be the labor force of the regular Navy. These men are to be used in patrol and in shore craft work and shore activities which means building and guarding naval bases, amunition dumps, warehouses, and doing guard patrol work over bases when Negro sailors are taken to witness a basketball or hockey or football game. They are permitted only to see their fellow white sailors on the opposite benches. They never participate in games together.

RACE SEPARATION RIGID

In the Great Lakes Station, rigid separation of Negro and white enlisted men is the policy. No intermingling of the races is permitted either in training or recreation. There are times when Negro sailors are taken from the Pacific. Negroes are discouraged from applying for special service. For whites, special service means a petty officer's rating as ma-

chinist, boatswain, coxswain, athletic instructor, or numerous other specialist work; for Negroes it means only messmen and seabees, and there are enough messmen.

OVERSEERS OVER BLACK LABOR NAVY

The once much publicized seabees program is being curtailed, for the black Navy is slated to do this work. The Negro enlisted man is being told on arrival at the station that only one out of ten sailors ride on ships. This is to prepare him for his laboring job. The twenty-two (????? Ed. note) commissioned Negroes which seems to have struck such emotional people as Powell as the "Emancipation" will be nothing more than overseers in the black labor Navy. Jim crow in gold-braid is still Jimcrow.

POLICY DICTATES JIMCROW WAVES

4-1-44

Negro Waves will soon be accepted. This is in line with the basic policy. They will be segregated as the Wacs are. Also the quota for Negro dentists and chaplains and nurses will be increased. The reason Powell gives for this is illuminating because "until the change is made it will mean that white nurses will be forced to work under Negro doctors and dentists."

This cannot be permitted. In a war allegedly fought for democracy, in a camp which Powell tells us represents the "best atmosphere of democracy to be found in any of our service camps," it is unthinkable for a white nurse to serve a Negro doctor.

SWEET TALK AIMED TO DECEIVE

Jimcrow in uniform is the war's greatest scandal. No Army or Navy camp which practices it and glorifies it can approach the spirit of democracy. Men are segregated only because they are thought to be different and inferior. 4-1-44

The sweet talk of the Navy's Public Relations Division is calculated to fool the people. Any Negro given a big job in this division will be just another office-boy paid off to mislead the people. Jimcrow in uniform must be fought! Jimcrow in uniform must go!

Mutiny Trial Prosecutor Charged with Prejudice

Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa

10-26-44

San Francisco, Cal.—The mutiny trial of the 50 Negro seamen, at which Thurgood Marshall, chief counsel of the NAACP has been an observer since last week, developed a charge of prejudice, levelled against Commander James F. Coakley, senior Judge Advocate, in charge of the prosecution by Marshall.

Coakly, who served as an assistant district attorney of Alameda county under Governor Warren, has, throughout the trial, deliberately avoided bringing out information relative to the education, birth place and background of the Southernborn Negroes, concentrating instead on the Northern born defendants.

During the cross examination of seaman Frank L. Henry, Coakly became angered when Henry failed to address him as "Sir." 10-26-44

"Don't you know you are guilty of insubordination for not addressing me as 'Sir?'" he asked.

Henry seemed bewildered by the question, and Navy defense attorneys jumped to their feet offering objections which were sustained without comment by Admiral Hugo Osterhaus, president of the trial board.

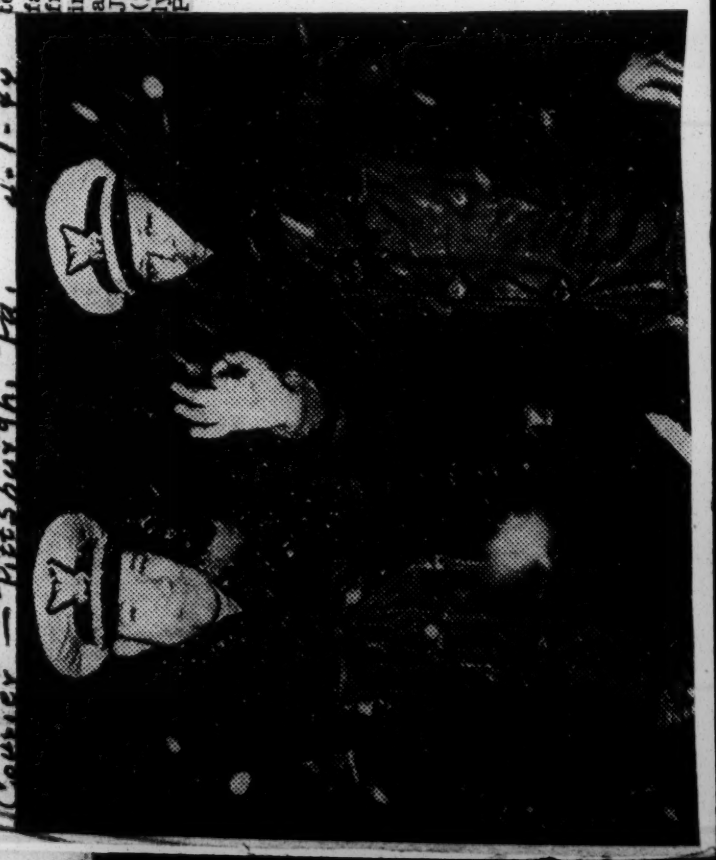
Seaman 2 — C. William E. Banks, testified that he had three reasons for not working. He was a compartment cleaner prior to the explosion, he did not receive an order to load ammunition and he was afraid to load ammunition. Melvin Ellis, seasan 2-C testified that he had also been a compartment cleaner, and although he had done some ammunition loading, he disliked it very much. He said he did not know the gravity of the charges against him until he was told by the Chaplain at Vallejo.

All of the men testified that they did not refuse to obey a specific order to load ammunition, but objected to the job in general because of the danger involved, and because only Negroes were assigned to the task. They said that they signed the statement which is in evidence against them because they thought they had to do so when they were ordered by an ensign.

10-26-44

No Reason for Charge

Marshall who flew to the scene of the trial on a Navy priority, and who will make his report directly to the Navy Department, stated that after investigation and conversations wit hthe 50 men on trial; he was convinced that there is no reason for the men to be tried on mutiny charges, which imply a mass conspiracy; that the charges should be individual insubordination.



BRAVING WINTRY BLA

7j-1944

Great Lakes, Illimois

First Chaplain Is Sworn In By Navy Officials

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
7-7-44

Kansas City Pastor Breaks Old Color Bar

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—(SNS)—It was announced at the Headquarters, Ninth Naval District Thursday that James Russell Brown, 34, of 532 Washington Boulevard, Kansas has been sworn into the Naval Reserve as Chaplain with the rank of Lieutenant, junior grade.

Lt (jg) Brown is the first Negro to hold that position. He has been ordered to report to the Chaplain's school at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia for indoctrination.

The new Chaplain was Dean of Bishop Williams School of Religion at Quindaro, Kansas, and was pastor of St. Luke's African Methodist Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Kansas. He holds an A. B. degree from Friends University; a B. D. degree from Howard University and he has done further graduate study at Chicago Theological Seminary.

7-7-44

Lt. (jg) Brown is married to the former Miss Melba Long of Witchita, Kansas. He has a brother, Edwin C. Brown, practicing law in Alexandria, Virginia, and another brother, Mozel O. Brown who is a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army.

His father Ellis Brown resides at 1351 East 48th Place, Los Angeles, California.

7-7-44

The appointment of a chaplain is part of the plan announced a few months ago by the Navy when the first Negroes were commissioned in that branch of the service during this war. Besides the commissioning of several line officers, the Navy announced that selection would be made from civilian life to fill commissions in technial branches of the service.

Lieutenant Edward Hope was the first such appointment in the Engineer Crops. He was given the highest rank yet conferred on a Negro, Lieutenant Senior grade.

Dean William West of Howard University said, "we were very proud, when we learned of the Brown."

Great Lakes has 1st Negro in Public Relations

Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—The Public Relations office at the training center here announced this week the assignment of Ensign W. S. White of Chicago to the headquarters staff of the Public Relations office of the 9th Naval District. The first Negro to be assigned to the Public Relations office in this district, Ensign White's job will be to facilitate the dissemination of news of the Negro in the Navy, particularly to the Negro press.

7-10-44

GREAT LAKES TRAINING STATION

It was the writer's privilege to visit the Great Lakes Training Station, which of course, includes Camp Small, Camp Moffett and Camp Lawrence. The three camps mentioned above serve the Negro sailors, both seamen and petty officers.

3-10-44

It was not the fact that the Negro newspaper representatives were guests, for our national broadcast in connection with our National Newspaper Week, nor the entertainment features that impressed us most; but it was the educational and training program that left its lasting impression upon us. The young men of our race who finish their boot-training at Great Lakes Training Station and follow up by taking one or more of the educational courses offered, will in a short time find himself a different man which is reflected in his thinking and conduct.

The Navy, unlike the Army stresses the technical training of the man and it doesn't take long for one to find out what he is capable of doing. While it is true that it was a long time before the doors of the Navy were opened to Negro youth of seamen, petty officers and commissioned officers, it may be stated that the Navy is outdoing the Army in providing services for colored boys.

We were favorably impressed with the sincerity of purpose of Commander Armstrong to help not only the Negro officers and sailors in their effort to make good, but we also believe in his purpose to help the race in civilian life through the boys who are under his command at Great Lakes, Ill.

3-10-44

Commander Daniel W. Armstrong, we are told, is the son of General Armstrong who for many years was president of Hampton Institute, Va. His sympathetic interest in our group will, we believe, go a long way toward helping the morale of the thousands of young men under his care.

Publishers Visit Great Lakes

Call-Kansas City, Mo.

Confer with Navy Officials; Tour Training Camps

3-10-44

By FRANK A. YOUNG

GREAT LAKES NAVAL TRAINING STATION, Ill—Officers and representatives of the Negro Newspaper Publishers association were the three-day guests of Great Lakes Naval Training station and Commander D. W. Armstrong, son of the founder of Hampton institute, here on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 2 through March 4.

The trip here was a feature of National Negro Newspaper week. While highly educational and fruitful, the visit here climaxed the week of activity and ended with conference sessions of the publishers.

30-Minute Broadcast

The three-day activities got under "full sail" at 1500 o'clock (3 o'clock to you landlubbers) on Thursday when a round-table discussion between four of the publishers and Commander Armstrong was broadcast for 30 minutes from the Ross auditorium over the Blue Network.

Joining Commander Armstrong in the discussion were Frank L. Stanley, Louisville, Ky., Defender; J. E. Mitchell, St. Louis Argus; Roscoe Dungee, Oklahoma Black Dispatch, and Miss Olive Diggs, Chicago Bee.

3-10-44

Also featured on the broadcast were Rear Admiral Louis E. Denfield, assistant chief of Naval Personnel from Washington, D. C., and Capt. Robert R. M. Emmett, commanding officer. On the program were the Negro regiments' band, Len Bowden, directing, and the octet, under the direction of Musician Wayman Hatchcock of Chicago. Announcer was Charles Anderson, who is now seaman first class.

Friday, the publishers were guests at the regimental review at 1400 o'clock (2 o'clock civilian time) in building 1400 which is the drill hall and recreation building. Friday afternoon, an open discussion took place with Commander Armstrong, Lt. Commander White, public relations officer; Lt. Commander Van Ess, Lt. Commander Allen, Washington, D. C., and several other officers from the Great Lakes station answering questions of the publishers.

3-10-44

On Friday night was "Happy Hour." At no time was there any special effort made to entertain the publishers. While they were guests of the navy, it was specifically understood that what the guests were being given was a "look in" on the regular activities of the camp, its recreation, work, induction, graduation and food. No program, other than the broadcast, had been previously arranged.

The band, chorus, glee club and octet all took part in the "Happy Hour" program. Also entertaining were men with special talents from the various companies.

Musician Smith Honored

Highlight of this program was the presentation to Willie Smith saxophonist, clarinetist and soloist in the band of a trophy and a $100 war bond by Esquire's jazz expert, Paul Miller of New York City, for being one of the outstanding jazz artists in the country. Smith formerly played with several leading orchestras.

Saturday, a tour of the service schools, the induction center, hospital and barracks occupied the morning. In the afternoon, the Great Lakes Negro Varsity basketball team, sparked by the 1943 Toledo university star, Charley Harmon, who made 12 field goals and two free throws, defeated the Chief Petty Officers quintet with Forrest Anderson, former Stanford university of California great in the lineup, 64 to 48. Anderson is coach of the Negro team and is assisted by Ozzie Simmons, former grid stae at the University of Iowa, and "Windy" Wallace, former Michigan State cager. Wallace was one of the officials of the game. The Negro team has a record of 20 victories and three defeats this season.

Eat Regular 'Chow'

3-10-44

The visitors were dined in the chief petty officers' mess hall. The food, well cooked, was the same as served all the sailors. There is a special effort made to see that all meals are well balanced.

The publishers were brought here in a navy bus and returned to Chicago the same way.

Negro training quarters here include Camp Robert Smalls, Camp Moffett and Camp Lawrence. Commander Armstrong is assistant recruit training officer and in charge of Negro recruit training. Comfortable quarters were furnished the men in barracks building 1811. Women officer, guests were taken to homes of friends in Waukegan, Ill. Members of the Publishers' association who made the pilgrimage here were: Thomas and P. B. Young Jr., Norfolk Journal and Guide; Miss Lucile Bluford, Kansas City Call; Eustace Gay, Philadelphia Tribune; Roscoe Dungee, Oklahoma Black Dispatch; J. E. Mitchell, St. Louis Argus; Mr. and Mrs. Sweets, Minneapolis Tri-State Bee; Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Stafford and J. Arthur Turner, St. Paul Recorder; Cecil Newman, Minneapolis People's Voice; Louis Powell, People's American; John H. Sengstacke, Chicago Defender, and William Walker and Frank L. Stanley, Louisville Defender, and William G Parker, Cleveland American newspaper; Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Galloway, Kansas City, Kas.; C. Hamlett, Nunn, Houston Informer; Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Murphy and William Mitchell, J. E. Cook and Bige Wynn, Pittsburgh Courier, Omaha Guide; Mr. and Mrs. N. A.

hey Combat Illiteracy At Great Lakes

Piney Woods Mississippi August 12, 1944

Above is shown the staff of the Great Lakes Naval Training Center's Remedial School where illiteracy is combatted. Officers-in-Charge is Ensign D. D. Nelson, II, graduate of Fisk and Howard Universities, shown in center of front row. Staff members are from principal colleges and universities of the land. (Official U. S. Navy photo)

Makes Petty Officer First Class

Weekly Review — Birmingham, Ala.

7-22-44

ROBERT DURR, Jr., son of Editor and Mrs. Robert Durr who recently finished Boot Training at Great Lakes Naval Training Station visited Piney Woods School, friends in other parts of Mississippi, Illinois and his family in Birmingham las week. Young Durr was made a Petty Officer shortly after his arrival at Great Lakes. This promotion came to him because of his educational record. He returned to Great Lakes early this week for further training and reports he likes the navy.

311 in Largest Great Lakes Class

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

GREAT LAKES, Ill. —The class of 311 Bluejackets graduated this month from the U.S. Naval Training Station here was the largest by ten to complete instruction in the navy's service schools, the Navy Department announced this week. 8-26-44

Selected honor men of their respective school groups were Paul W. Daniels, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Lucious Littlejohn, Gaffney, S.C.; Harry J. Jackson, of 1924 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore; Samuel L. Caesar, Dalton, Miss.; John E. Smith, Memphis, Tenn.; and William Beard, Jr., Springfield, Ohio.

Participating in the exercises were Commander Thomas F. Cullen, Ninth Naval District Intelligence Officer, who addressed the graduates; Capt. Robert R. M. Emmet, commanding officer of the training station, and the regimental band and octette.

47j-1944
Savannah Tribune

Liberty Ship Will Be Named After Negro Savannah Fireman, Ga. 12-28-44

WHO LOST HIS LIFE WHEN HIS SHIP WAS TORPEDOED IN 1942

Mrs. Cox of Savannah Will Act As Sponsor For Vessel

A number of Savannahians will leave here 6 p. m. Saturday for Brunswick, where they will attend the ceremonies planned for the launching of the SS William Cox, first Liberty ship named for a Negro and built at the yards of the J. H. Jones Construction company.

The launching ceremonies are scheduled to be held Saturday night at ten o'clock. The Savannahians who will attend the launching will form a motorcade Saturday at 5:30 at the Monroe Funeral Home where it will leave promptly a half hour later—6 p. m.—for Brunswick. All persons intending to drive down to the ceremony are invited to join this caravan.

The launching of the SS Cox is of particular interest to Savannahians because the ship is being named for the husband of Mrs. Arlee Cox, a Savannahian, invited by the builders of the vessel to christen her. Mrs. Cox left here last week for this epoch-making event in the history of shipbuilding in the deep south and will break the champagne on the bow of the SS Cox as she slides down the ways.

Among the Savannahians who will make the trip in this motorcade will be Dr. Milton S. J. Wright, Ph. D., a former Savannahian, now dean at Wilberforce university, who will be the principal speaker at the launching ceremonies.

William Cox, in whose name the ship will be christened, was a Negro fireman who lost his life when the S. S. David A. Atwater was shelled and sunk on April 2, 1942. Cox, a native of Cairo, Ga., was born March 29, 1898. 12-28-44

So that the ship might be ready for launching on December 30 more than 500 workers at the Jones Construction company volunteered to work without pay Xmas day and hus speed up the means by which munitions might keep flowing to our armed forces and also pay heed to Pres. Roosevelt's plea of Friday, December 22 to war workers:

"We can best help the Christmas season of our fighting men if we carry on our respective tasks, doing those things which will contribute to winning the war at the earliest possible moment.

"Therefore, I urge that each of us resolve to keep on the job and maintain the steady output of supplies needed by our men on the fighting fronts."

Launching of Ships

VD Nurse Presented $1,000 Bond at Ship Christening

CHESTER, Pa.--Mrs. Mary S. Henderson, R. N., of 311 Wharton Street Philadelphia, was presented a thousand dollar war bond last Thursday afternoon after she had christened the S. S. Marine Angel at the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, No. 4 yard, by John Pew, Jr., vice president.

Mrs. Henderson's husband, Nathaniel E., has been with the company for eight years and is the oldest shipfitter in that yard.

She is a city nurse with the Frederick Douglass Memorial Hospital VD Clinic, at 16th and Lombard streets. Mrs. Henderson also received a bouquet of red roses.

Tribune--Philadelphia, Pa. 11-25-44

Negro Marines Knock Out Japanese Machine Guns In Hot Saipan Battle

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 8-12-44

By SGT. CHAS. R. VANDERGRIFT
(Marine Corps Combat Correspondent)

SAIPAN, Marianas Islands (Delayed)—"Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition" became an actuality here when a Negro Marine unit including two men whose ambition it is to enter the ministry and who conduct religious services for the unit moved in with the assault troops to set a record in unloading artillery shells for the front lines.

The Negro Marines suffered their first battle casualties of the war when one was killed and four were wounded. They were thrown into front line fighting when Japanese threatened American lines and knocked at least one Jap machine gun out of action and killed several of the enemy—the first Japs sent to their ancestors by Negro Marines in this war.

Members of the unit stacked the "big stuff" in neat rows and dived into over-regulation foxholes when the Japs pattern-fired the beach with mortar and artillery shells.

Prays Day And Night

"I haven't got time to think about anything but the Lord," said 19-year-old Private Edward H. Seals, son of Mrs. Emma Calhoun, Dayton, Ohio. He explained that this was prompted by the crash of a Jap plane—bested in a dog-fight with Naval aircraft—150 feet from him the night of D-day.

"I prayed night and day after that," he said.

Here's a sample of the experiences others had.

Private First Class John M. Jenkins, 20, son of Mrs. Berlina Jenkins of Washington, D.C., knocked out a Jap machine gun with a hand grenade.

"They moved us up to the front to help halt a counter-attack," he said. "This gun opened on me from close range. It must have thrown 20 shells as I jumped into a ditch.

"I could see three Japs moving about the gun. After pulling the pin on a grenade, I got to thinking they'd have time to throw it back, so I held it a few seconds and let it go. It landed right on the gun. Guess it got 'em all."

Former Fighter

Back in 1942, at New Orleans, another of the Marines, Leo Mann, knocked out Lew Jenkins, former welterweight champion. Mann, 21, son of Mrs. Daisy Mann of Houston, Texas, is now a sergeant. He directed one of the unloading groups.

"I jumped into my foxhole when the mortar shells began moving in, for about the 10th time," he said. "One thudded down right beside me. I covered my head. When I looked up, I was lying outside the foxhole. Guess I was blown out."

Sergeant Mann, who fought variously as a light, welter, and middleweight, won 24 of his 27 professional bouts.

The Negro Marines set what Second Lieutenant Howard E. Tucker, son of Mrs. J. E. Deardoff, of Salt Lake City, Utah, a platoon leader, believes to be a record of unloading several thousands of tons of ammunition in 38 hours.

Besides the two prospective pastors, Private First Class Fred Washington and Private First Class Augustus Witcher, the unit contained a former professional boxer, a dance band leader, several defense plant workers, a former electric washing machine salesman, and others with a wide variety of pre-Saipan occupations.

Win Praise

"I'm very pleased with the way they worked," said Captain Louis P. Shine of Osage, W. Va., unit commanding officer.

Said the 26-year-old Guadalcanal veteran:

"I was plenty scared myself. We'd dig in our foxholes when the firing got heavy. Sometimes the men were almost completely buried in showers of sand.

"I'd kid them and tell them, 'What are we doing here! Come on, let's get back to work where we belong.' Then I'd sart back to the boats. They came right after me.

"They worked around the clock and did a swell job. Several officers congratulated us on the way we had the ammunition they wanted when they wanted it."

Neither Private First Class Washington nor Private First Class Witcher is actually an ordained pastor, but both hope to be after the war.

Conducts Services

Washington, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Washington, Magnolia, Ark., conducts regular Sunday night services, reporting an average attendance of 60 to 70. Witcher leads the singing for the Sunday service and holds a prayer meeting and song service each Wednesday evening.

"I held first services here on D-plus-10," said Washington, "using the story of Daniel, because I thought it fit in best, both from a morale standpoint and because it showed that protection is simultaneous with danger."

Washington lived in Los Angeles, Calif., and worked as a welder for the California Shipyard before entering the service October 10, 1943. For several months, he was an assistant pastor at the Zion Hill Baptist church, conducting services at least once each month. He was studying prior to entering the Baptist Seminary Theological school at the time of his induction.

"Everybody was happy — it seemed kind of like a big football game," said Witcher of his D-day landing. "When we were near shore a Jap mortar shell landed in a nearby 'alligator.' The singing and joking stopped.

Dig Foxholes

"We dug foxholes and then started unloading ammunition. When the explosions got too close, we'd dive into the holes until it slackened up. My foxhole was only about two feet deep to start with, but it was double that depth before the first night was over."

Witcher, 20, son of Mrs. Olive Witcher of Charlottesville, Va., hopes to enter Virginia Union University, Richmond, after the war to study for the pastorate. For three years before entering the Marine Corps, September 26, 1943, he worked with the Rev. E. Lord Jamerson, pastor of the Mount Zion Baptist church, Ridge and Main streets, Charlottesville, leading the junior choir and heading the Young Peoples' Training Union. During the week he sold electric washing machines.

Not One Officer in Marines

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
8-12-44

Refused Commissions, Combat Unit Busted

MANY COMPLAINTS

Saipan Battle Proves Training Inadequate

8-19-44

By W. A. BROWER
Editor, Richmond AFRO

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — Last October when an AFRO representative visited this training center for Marines, he found many colored members of the 18,000 in the corps in an agitated state over the treatment accorded them.

Unfolding a cluster of complaints, they charged:

That the training they were getting was not the same given other men in their branch of service and that the training they had received was inadequate;

That a limited number of men had been assigned to units in training for combat duty and all others had been shunted into the steward's branch or depot and ammunition companies, described as "oversized working parties";

Denied Chance to Qualify

That they were denied opportunity to qualify for commissions or the warrant officer grade and that they are barred from Marine Corps specialist schools;

That a scheme had been devised to have white NCO's assigned to colored units outranking all colored non-coms, and

That colored MP's were given token assignments only outside the camp in the jim-crow sections of Jacksonville, nearest town to Camp Lejeune.

Most Charges Still Stand

Although mitigated somewhat, most of these charges still stick, according to the best sources among the men. 8-19-44

The most illuminating tipoff on the quality of training some of the men received before being shipped overseas is discernible in a recent article in Time Magazine.

Referring to the Battle of Saipan, the article recorded an incident of a colored marine who jumped into a fox hole beside a wounded white comrade.

He Learns in a Foxhole

The white marine handed his buddy a grenade and told him to toss in the direction of a Jap machine gun command post. Sadly, the colored marine, according to the article, told his comrade that he didn't know how to handle a grenade. 8-19-44

The white marine taught him, and he learned the lesson well enough to toss the "pineapple" in a group of the enemy and killed three of them, the article said.

The article went on to say that colored marines acquitted themselves well in the battle. Some came on in the first assault wave and one group accounted for fifteen Japs.

Trained for "Service, Supply"

But, the article pointed out, as well as the colored marines did in liquidating Japs they were even which they were trained—as service and supply troops.

The only bonafide colored combat unit overseas is a defense battalion, which is doing anti-aircraft work.

Part of this particular organization— a seacoast unit, which, using the 155-mm. gun, established several marine corps records for long distance firing while in training here—has been dissolved.

A similar defense battalion is now in training.

Colored marines are still barred from applying for training as commissioned officers. The most reliable signs indicate that this taboo will stick.

One Happy Development

Perhaps the happiest development since last October has been the advancement of four men to the first pay grade and the top rank of non-commissioned officers.

Those who have been rated as sergeant majors are John Hugey of Daytona Beach, Fla.; Andrew Anderson of Birmingham, Ala.; Gilbert H. Johnson, and Theodore W. Gilliam, both of New York.

Several other men have been upped in rank to ratings of platoon and gunnery sergeants. Whether similar advancements have been accorded men overseas is not known here. 8-19-44

Barred from Tech Schools

Colored men are still restricted from specialist and technical schools and in this case, too, there are no signs that this prohibition will be lifted.

There has been a gradual transfer of all white NCO's. Those that remain are assigned mainly to the paymaster's office. They will eventually be replaced.

As for colored military policemen, their assignments remain on token basis and they have no actual authority to handle white marines.

Steward's Branch a Terror

There is still a feeling here that such organizations as the steward's branch and depot and ammunition companies were designed exclusively to absorb colored men.

Especially disturbing is the steward's branch, which many feel is simply a hangover from the Navy's traditional policy of restricting colored men to servile capacities.

Depot and ammunition companies, although engaged in vital service and supply jobs, have been described as "glorified working parties." 8-19-44

Aside from that, they are performing perilous tasks and are exposed to as much or more hazard as are combat troops.

47j-1944

NEGRO MARINES FIGHT IN PACIFIC

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
March 3, 1944

(The following story, distributed by The Associated Press, was written by Sgt. John R. Hurley, formerly of New York City and Hollywood, Calif., a Marine Corps combat correspondent.)

* * *

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — (Delayed) — Negro Marines are undergoing almost constant air attacks as they help man this island, a key supply base for American forces fighting the Japanese.

The Negroes, trained at Camp Lejeune, New River, N. C., received their baptism of fire at Guadalcanal, where ships they were aboard were raided by Jap planes.

From Guadalcanal, they moved forward into more active combat zones. Japanese bombers made regular nightly runs over the areas but the Marines grew accustomed to the air raids.

Coming from all parts of the Eastern and Southern United States and the first Negroes to be recruited by the Marines, there are two groups. One is commanded by Marine 1st Lt. Cade Strickland, of Kentwood, La., and Marine Capt. Edward C. Apperson, native of Atlanta, Ga., who resides at New Orleans, La. Lt. Strickland recently replaced Marine Capt. Jason M. Austin, Baltimore, as commanding officer of one of the groups.

Trained as infantrymen with some later specializing in anti-aircraft artillery, other special weapons and tanks, they are nearly all volunteers. Retaining marked good humor and spirits under the trying conditions imposed by remoteness and tropics, they work hard at their assigned duties, taking the good with the bad.

The former cooks and clerks, mechanics and drivers, carpenters and farmers are from Alabama, Mississippi, New York, Michigan, Florida, Tennessee, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Illinois, Arkansas, Virginia and California. They average about 20 years of age.

Birmingham, Ala., is the best represented with 17 men from that town. From Birmingham are Corp. Jesse L. Craig, Pfc. Jesse Williams, Fairfield; Pvt. Nathaniel Booker, Pvt. Riley Wilkins, Pvt. Clarence J. Collins, Pvt. Walter C. B. Bolden, Jr., Pvt. Milton A. Williams, Corp. Frank W. Ishman, Pvt. Willie Moore, Pvt. Jesse Riddle, Pfc. Simpson Norris, Pvt. Kit Bibbs, Pvt. Elijah Durden, Pvt. Melvin G. Cooper, Pvt. Earl L. Davis and Pvt. George C. Matthews.

Pocket-size grammars help the Marines eliminate the language problem in their trade with natives. They vent their souvenir craze by dickering with the natives, later sending home grass skirts, sea shells, war clubs and canes, and other curios. The natives take money first, then cigarets, tobacco, pipes, soap, junk jewelry, etc. The visionary brought along ample supplies of the latter from dime stores.

At night, when air raid sirens are not blowing, can be heard the moan of spirituals such as "Join the Band," "Bread of Heaven" and "Father Prepare Me," mingled with livelier modern tunes.

Barracudas, Negro Marines, Win Praise Of White Officer

Age-Herald - B'ham, Ala.

BY SGT. ROBERT RYAN
Yank Staff Correspondent
(Condensed From Yank, The Army Weekly)

A PACIFIC PORT — (AP) — The Barracuda Leathernecks are the something new that has been added to the Marine Corps. 3-10-44

The men in this Negro outfit, commanded by white officers and trained by veteran white noncoms, know the traditions of the Marine Corps from Tripoli to Tarawa. They aim to add their own chapter to the annals of the corps.

Lt. James T. Wilson, of Jacksonville, Fla., one of the Barracuda officers, is confident of the results. "They're damned good jungle fighters," he says, "they've shown that they are bushmasters when it comes to camouflage, stealth and patience.

"They can lie in wait for hours without getting restless. That is their outsanding combat efficiency and one that will stand them in good stead."

The average Barracuda Leatherneck is 19 years old, weighs 155 pounds and is five feet 10 inches tall. He is tough, too, usually with a couple of years behind him at some job that has given him broad shoulders and a solid physique.

One Is Champion Boxer

Take Charley Nesbitt for example. He was light heavyweight champion in the Golden Gloves Tournament held at Memphis, Tenn., his home town, in 1941 and 1942. Between bouts, Nesbitt made his living as an electric welder.

"I liked the glory behind the Marine Corps," said Nesbitt. "I thought I'd like to fight the Japs, and this is the best outfit to do it in. This service training is a lot more rugged than my ring experience, but we're certainly in great shape now, and when we go into action, watch some Jap blood flow."

Frederick E. Gartrille was driving a truck around Detroit, when he saw a pal passing on the sidewalk and screeched to a stop. "He told me about some of our boys joining the marines," Gartrille said. "I thought, since it was a new outfit, I'd like to be a part of it, so the next day I quit my job and enlisted." Gartrille is now a platoon sergeant and helped train the boys who joined up later.

But not all the Barracuda Leathernecks were construction crewmen, prize fighters or truck drivers. Pierre A. Clarke, of Chicago, Ill., was an accomplished violinist, majoring in music at the University of Chicago, when he quit last March to join the Marines. Pvt. Clarke has added 10 points to his sound frame since he enlisted.

Before they were sent overseas these men and all the other Barracuda Leathernecks were given boot training at Mountford Point Camp, Camp Lejeune, New River, North Carolina. 3-10-44

Personal Combat Taught

They were taught the basic principles of attack and defense with special emphasis on the bayonet, the knife, street fighting, jiu jitsu and dirty wrestling, so they'll be able to come out on top in the toughest kind of personal combat.

They learned the lowdown on the care and firing of combat weapons, and their work was found "conspicuously outstanding."

As for close order drill, 1st Sgt. Olin V. Carey, of Wilmar, Ark., a white marine with 10 years in the corps, said: "There's only one outfit better, a picked group that was on exhibition at the World's Fair." The Barracuda Leathernecks are particularly hot on fancy drill steps involving timing and rhythm.

They have exhibited the best of conduct. The shore patrol has commended the men on their deportment every place they've been. It's this discipline coupled with the fine physical condition and training that enables the men to do 22 miles in a little better than four hours, said Lt. Wilson.

"If we want to take the governor off and let them go all out, I'm sure they could break any existing records for forced marches. I've seen some of the best outfits and they can stop them cold."

Marines

Young, Tough And Cocky, They've Won Admiration

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
3-21-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

ADVANCE BASE, SOUTH PACIFIC — (By Couried) Negro Marines, upholding a tradition which has blased from the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli, have the siituation well in hand in the Pacific perimeter.

Young and tough, cocky yet serious, these United States Marines have landed, dug in, and won the admiration from battle-scarred veterans who expressed surprise at seeing Negroes wearing the coveted green of the Corps.

The newest unit shoved into a Pacific post during the rainy season and has shown such boyish enthusiasm in living and working in ankle-deep mud, the commandant found it necessary to warn against over-confidence.

Trained especially for combat, and with the commendations of Navy Secretary Knox and Admiral Halsey behind them, they wait the order to plunge into battle and defend the title of "the finest bunch of fighting men in the world."

The schoolish-looking marines are aware they're the Negro's first to wear the red, white, and blue of the 169 year-old branch of the service. Fully trained in the use of automatic weapons, small arms, invasion tactics and assault, they want to justify of strenuous training and hard living during the "boot" days at Camp Lejeune, N. C. 3-21-44

Jhard s

LITTLE HOMESICKNESS

Led by the highest ranking Negro marine in the South Pacific, First Sergeant Nolan A. Marshall, of New Orleans, over half of the unit volunteered for the service and expect thirty months overseas duty. Homesickness has not filtered through the ranks and the novelty of battle looms for the youngsters they are, the average age being 19.

Somewhere along the jungle fested shore of an isle of mud and coconuts, where the sun neglects to penetrate the soil, where frogs and lizards play, hundreds of Negro marines are stationed. It is the largest and most important marine supply depot in the upper perimeter. Landing on January 31, of this year, they work side by side with white marines in the initial mission of extending supply lines.

Negro Marines In Thick Of South Pacific Fighting; Bravery Lauded

Chicago, Ill.
Bee
1-2-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
Representing Combined Negro Press

HEADQUARTERS, SOUTH PACIFIC COMMAND— (Via Airmail)—Negro Marines are here, and after watching them underfire it is the spoken opinion of commanding officers that they have "proven an important addition to the finest body of fighting men in the world."

Side by side with other American units in the South Pacific, the first contingents of Negro marines to reach this advance base in the combat zone are to join the corps, and the first helping build it into a key sup- to see services overseas.

There are two groups, sections of a base depot unit, commanded by Captain Edward C. Apperson, of Monroe, La., and Lieutenant Cade Strickland, of Kentwood, La. The latter recently replaced Captain Jason M. Austin, of Baltimore, Md., as commanding officer of one of the units. These two officers are "good marines" who have proved themselves regardless of hazard or fatigue while subject to almost unrelenting enemy bombing attacks.

Trained as Infantrymen. 1-2-44

Former clerks and cooks, teachers and mechanics, carpenters and farmers, and the "kid" who used to play around

Trained as infantrymen, specializing in sea coast and anti-aircraft artillery, automatic weapons and tanks, they are "good marines" who have proved themselves nearly all volunteers. The majority, including one whole unit, of one of the two officers are "good marines" who have proved themselves regardless of hazard or fatigue while subject to almost unrelenting enemy bombing attacks. These two officers

Negro Marines Want To Reach Tokyo First; Set A Dizzy Pace

The Informer - Houston, Texas
1-1-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
Representing Combined Negro Press

Headquarters, South Pacific Command — (Via Airmail) —Negro Marines are here, and after watching them under fire it is the spoken opinion of commanding officers that they have "proven an important addition to the finest body of fighting men in the world."

Side by side with other American units in the South Pacific, the first contingents of Negro Marines to reach this advance base in the combat zone are helping build it into a key supply and defense front from which the push can continue Northward. Stationed at Russell Islands, in the Solomons Group, they represent the first Negroes to join the Corps, and the first to see services overseas.

Two Groups

There are two groups, sections of a base depot unit, commanded by Captain Edward C. Apperson, of Monroe, Louisiana; and Lieutenant Cade Strickland, of Kentwood, Louisiana. The latter recently replaced Captain Jason M. Austin, of Baltimore, Maryland, as commanding office of one of the units. These two officers agree that their men are "good Marines" who have proven themselves regardless of hazard or fatigue while subject to almost unrelenting enemy bombing attacks. 1-1-44

Trained as infantrymen. specializing in sea coast and antiaircraft artillery, automatic weapons and tanks, they are nearly all volunteers. The majority, including one whole unit, volunteered for their present assignments. Former clerks and cooks, teachers and mechanics, carpenters and farmers, and the 'kid' who used to play around the corner in Michigan and Mississippi, New York and Alabama, Ohio and Pennsylvania, Illinois and Arkansas, Virginia and California, they now opera as a potent unit and are unanimous in wanting to get to Tokyo first, and fast. Then home and back to civilian pursuits.

Retaining marked good humor and spirit under trying conditions imposed by remoteness and tropics, they soldier har, taking the good with the bad—like Marines. Humorously, they refer to themselves a. "material maneuvers."

The baptism of fire came early. Following "boot camp" training at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, New River, North Carolina, they headed West across the vast Pacific. The ship docked at Guadal Canal enroute to where Admiral William Halsey, United States Navy, rules and reigns. On arrival at "the canal" they witnessed and felt the first thrill of raiding enemy planes while stil aboard ship. It was a new experience, deadly and exciting.

Once ashore they became accustomed to the regular nightly rounds of Japanese bombardments. Finding the need of fox holes urgent, each man dug his own or participated in digging a group haven from aerial attacks. They found that this was an essential MUST on the 'We hope to stay alive' list. 1-1-44

Learned French

Enroute to this outer defense post, the new Marines first stopped at New Caledonia, a quaint little French island in the South Pacific. Picturesque with its French-flavored buildings, missions, beautiful dull blue-topped mountains, winding streets, and hospitable people who knew how to speak very little English. The men felt the acute need of learning French. Pocket-size grammars helped eliminate the language problem. It was interesting to watch facial expressions as the French poured forth from these towering husky Marines.

Trade started immediately, once the international language of commerce was used as a basis, the relations between the French and these Americans became more heated at each transaction. Sent home were grass skirts, sea shells, war clubs and canes, and other indiginous curious which fetch for the natives, money (first), cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, soap, jewelry, etc. The visionary brought along ample supplies of the latter from dime stores at home. 1-1-44

Once settled on the Russell Islands, promotions came fast and furious as the men kept the standards of the Marine Corps flying high. Fully realizing that they were the first in the service, and would have to set the pace for others who would follow, and the men set out to do the job the hard way. Several rose quickly to the coveted rank of sergeant in very short time. The sergeants and corporals, in the words of commanding officers "have demonstrated themselves to be competent men."

Plain but nourishingly wholesome food keeps them fit. Everyone does his own laundry, cleans his own living quarters and area. Four men usually live in a tent. There is a barbed, cobler and tailor available, themselves Marines too. 1-1-44

The only general complaint is the torrid sun, but once in a while there are kegs of cold beers and soft drinks.

'That's more than can be said for many outfits this correspondent has visited in the Southwest Pacific. Life here is "rugged but righteous" as one New Orleans man expressed it.

One of the strangest, and yet not so strange, contributions of Negroes in this war is music. No matter where the camp, the music closest to our hearts can be heard coming from the strangest places, and at the oddest times.

One unit, the Rhythm Kings, who double on spiritual and swing, is composed of Sergeant James Harper, Philadelphia; Corporal Earnest H. Lyons, Atlanta, Georgia, former photographer for the Atlanta Daily World; and Corporal Ira L. Blackwell, Vaux Hall, New Jersey.

Birmingham Leads

Birmingham, Alabama is represented by 17 men, the largest number from any one city. Detroit, Michigan, and Atlanta, Georgia, rank next in number, but hardly a corner of the country is absent. Little towns in Texas and California send representatives to rank alongside the "big city" men from Boston, Chicago, Pittsburg, and New Orleans. 1-1-44

From Birmingham are: Corporal Jesse L. Craig, Private First Class Jesse Williams, Private Nathaniel Booker, Private Riley Wilkins, Private Clarence J. Collins, Private Walter C. B. Bolden, Jr., Private Milton A. Williams, Private Frank Ishm[illegible], Private Willie Moore, Private Jesse Riddle, Private Robert Ward, Private First Class Simpson Norris, Private Kit Bibbs, Private Elijah Durden, Private Melvin G. Cooper, Private Earl L. Davis, Private George C. Matthews.

Other men making up the outfit are: Private Thomas Roy, New Orleans; Sergeant Ulysses J. Lucas, Lockland, Ohio, a former hotel cook in Cincinnati; and Private Willie King, Detroit, Michigan, who remains one of the few undefeated boxers overseas.

New York contributed Corporal Nathaniel C. Lewis, who was working as a linotyper on the New York Age when he enlisted. Private Roderick J. Bernard, also of New York, was employed in the Navy Yard. From Brooklyn came Private Thomas Fulcher, who was employed by the Winchester Arms Company prior to his enlistment.

Two Louisianians

Former mail clerk Corporal William E. Blakely, of Richmond, Virginia; Private First Clas Cosmos D. Eaglin, who formerly taught school at New Iberia, Louisiana; Private First Class Robert C. Claverie, of New Orleans, Louisiana, who clerked at the Dryades Street Branch, YMCA. 1-1-44

These are but a small portion of the men. New to the Marine Corps, but excellently carrying out their duties with the Seabees, on the docks with soldiers and other Marines, doing guard duties and making regular watches, again in the words of a commanding officer they have proved "an important addition to the finest body of fighting men in the world."

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the corner in Michigan and Mississippi, New York and Alabama, Ohio and Pennsylvania, Illinois and Arkansas, Virginia and California, they now operate as a potent unit and are unanimous in wanting to get to Tokyo first, and fast. Then home and back to civilian pursuits.

Retaining marked good humor and spirit under trying conditions imposed by remoteness and tropics, they soldier hard, taking the good with the bad—like marines. Humorously, they refer to themselves as "material maneuvers." 1-2-44

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It was a new experience, deadly and exciting.

Dig Own Foxholes.

Once ashore they became accustomed to the regular nightly rounds of Japanese bombardments. Finding the need of foxholes urgent, each man dug his own or participated in digging a group haven from aerial attacks. They found that this was an essential MUST on the 'We hope to stay alive' list.

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Keep Up Standards.

Once settled on the Russell Islands, promotions came fast and furious as the men kept the standards of the Marine corps flying high. Fully realizing that they were the first in the service, and would have to set the pace for others who would follow, and the men set out to do the job the hard way. Several rose quickly to the coveted rank of sergeant in very short time. The sergeants and corporals, in the words of commanding officers "have demonstrated themselves to be competent men."

The camp sight is impressive. Clean and well-hidden in the bowels of jungular terrain, concealed by towering palms, the tents are expertly put up, having palm plank flooring, built-up sides, etc., have been completed by the extra-ambitious.

Plain but nourishingly wholesome food keeps them fit. Everyone does his own laundry, cleans his own living quarters and area. Four men usually live in a tent. There is a barber, cobbler and tailor available, themselves marines too.

47j-1944 Marines

Marines In Pacific Bravely Perform Vital Tasks

First members of Negro Marine units to reach the front lines, sturdy recruits from all over the U. S., brave Jap fire to perform vital tasks at advanced bases in the Pacific. But it's not all work, and the duties to which they are assigned, though arduous and dangerous, are routine. 3-4-44

Waiting to follow Pvt. Roosevelt Murphy, USMC, of Augusta, Ga., to the barber chair are Marines Pfc. Collis C. Kennedy, Bessemer, Ala., Pvt. David Walker, Huntington, Tenn.; Corp. Lafayette Anderson, Cincinnati, Ohio; Sergt. Donald L. Ambeau, New Orleans, La., (left to right, top); Sergt. Norman L. Sneed, New York, N. Y., and Sergt. Charles Mosley, Detroit, Mich., left to right, bottom.

Marines Under Attack From Air Constantly

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 3-4-44

EDITOR'S NOTE: (The following story was written by Sergeant John R. Hurley, formerly of 136 West 109th street, New York City, and 1708 North Vine street, Hollywood, Calif., a Marine Corps Combat correspondent.) 3-4-44

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—(Delayed)—Negro Marines are undergoing almost constant air attacks as they help man this island, a key supply base for American forces fighting the Japanese.

The Negroes, trained at Camp Lejeune, New River, N. C., received their baptism of fire at Guadalcanal, where ships they were aboard were raided by Jap planes. From Guadalcanal, they moved forward into more active combat zones. Japanese bombers made regular nightly runs over the areas but the Negro Marines grew accustomed to the air raids.

Coming from all parts of eastern and southern United States and the first Negroes to be recruited by the Marines, they are a part of America's fighting forces in the Southwest Pacific area.

There are two groups, one commanded by Marine First Lieutenant Cade Strickland, of Kentwood, La., and Marine Captain Edward C. Apperson of Atlanta, Ga.

INFANTRY TRAINED

Trained as infantrymen with some later specializing in anti-aircraft artillery, other special weapons and tanks, they are nearly all volunteers. Retaining marked good humor and spirits under the trying conditions imposed by remoteness and tropics, they continue to work hard at their assigned duties, taking the good with the bad.

The former cooks and clerks, mechanics and drivers, carpenters and farmers are from Alabama, Mississippi, New York, Michigan, Florida, Tennessee, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Illinois, Arkansas, Virginia and California. They average about 20 years of age.

One singing group, the Rhythm Kings, who double on spirituals and popular songs, is composed of Sgt. James P. Harper, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Cpl. James E. Master, Crockett, Texas; Pfc. William F. Brazziel, Munford, Tenn.; Cpl. Ernest H. Lyons, Atlanta, Ga.; former newspaper photographer, and Cpl. Ira L. Blackwell, of Vaux Hall, N. J.

Pfc. Nathan Alexander, Barracksville, W. Va., heads another group, comprising Pfc. James W. Todd, Lawrenceburg, Ind.; Pvt. Arthur Lee Moss, Cleveland, Ohio; and Cpl. Lafayette Anderson, Cincinnati, Ohio. They also sing both types of music.

Birmingham, Ala., is the best represented with 17 men. Detroit, Mich. and Atlanta, Ga., rank next. From Birmingham are, Cpl. Jesse L. Craig, Pfc. Jesse Williams, Pvt. Nathaniel Booker, Pvt. Riley Wilkins, Pvt. Clarence J. Collins, Pvt. Walter C. B. Bolden Jr., Pvt. Milton A. Williams, Cpl. Frank W. Ishfan, Pvt. Jesse Ridlle, Pvt. Robert Ward, Pfc. Simpson Norris, Pvt. Kit Bibbs, Pvt. Elijah Durden, Pvt. Melvin G. Cooper, Pvt. Earl L. Davis, and Pvt. George C. Matthews. 3-4-44

Pocket-size grammars help the Negro Marines eliminate the language problem in their trade with natives. They vent their souvenir craze by dickering with the natives, later sending home grass skirts, sea shells, war clubs and canes, and other curios. The natives take money first, then cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, soap, junk jewelry, etc.

Some others of the two groups are: Pvt. Thomas Roy, New Orleans, La., Sgt. Ulysses J. Lucas, Lockland, Ohio, former cook at the Sherry-Netherlands Hotel, in Cincinnati, and now a field cook, and Pvt. Willie King, Detroit, Mich., a former fighter, who puts on boxing exhibitions and, so far, remains undefeated here.

New York City contributed Cpl. Nathaniel C. Lewis, formerly of Rocky Mount, N. C., Pvt. Roderick J. Bernard another New Yorker, was employed at the Navy Yard in Brooklyn when he joined the Marines. From Brooklyn came Pvt. Thomas Fulcher Jr.

Others are: Cpl. William E. Blakely Richmond, Va.; Pfc. Comos D. Baglin of Opelousas and New Iberia, La.; Pfc. Robert C. Claverie, New Orleans, La. From Pass Christian, Miss., came Cpl. Elisha Lewis Jr., formerly of New Orleans, La., Pfc. William Matlock of Nashville, Tenn., was a stock clerk for the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad, Pvt. James D. McFadden, of N. J., was a truck driver.

Negro Marines Pacific Heroes

People's Voice New York, N. Y.

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From Guadalcanal, they moved forward into active combat zones. Japanese bombers made regular nightly runs over the areas.

Coming from all parts of the eastern and southern United States, they were the first Negroes to be recruited by the Marines.

Trained as infantrymen with some later specializing in anti-aircraft artillery, other special weapons and tanks, they are nearly all volunteers. Retaining marked good humor and spirits under the trying conditions imposed by remoteness and tropics, they continue to work hard at their assigned duties, taking the good with the bad.

Photos Reveal Negro Marines Out On Saipan

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Security Unit May Be Actually In Real Combat

7-13-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (NNPA) —Pictures taken by the United States Coast Guard have revealed that Negro marines are participating in the battle of Saipan America's bloodest struggle in the South Paific so far in this war.

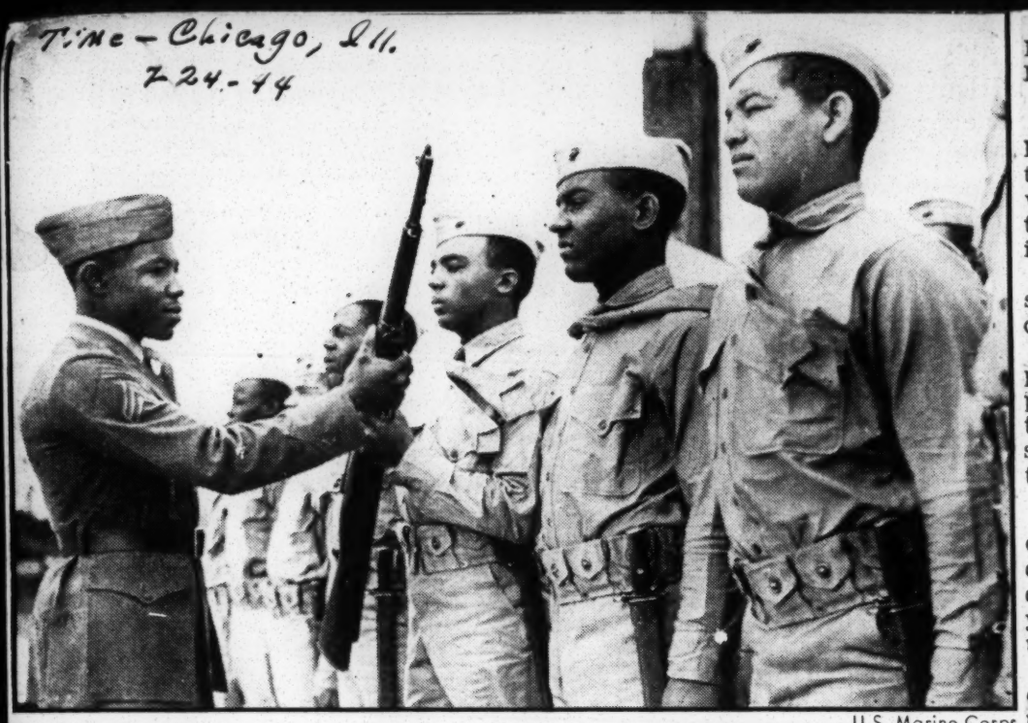
The fact that fighting is still going on at Saipan leads to the belief that these marines are not a "security' group, but real combat fighters. According to a Marine Public Relations officer, "anybody out there now is fighting."

The Japs are now massing for a last ditch stand on the island. The airfields here will place the American forces on a land base just 800 miles south east of the Phillippines.

Another revelation that Negro marines were on the island came from Capt. John N. Popham, Marine Corps public relations officer, in an article appearing in the Sunday Times of New York. He described a detachment of Negro marines digging in near by where American forces were hammering out a beachhead, and setting up a security area in the event of night attack. 7-13-44

According to Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, the Saipan engagement has cost the greatest sacrifice in human blood of any Pacific thrust against the Japanese thus far. Last reports show the American casualties totalled 1474 killed, 278 missing, and 7400 wounded.

Time – Chicago, Ill.
7-24-44



U.S. Marine Corps

NEGRO LEATHERNECKS
On Saipan, they rated 4.0.

MARINES

Combat Report

Time – Chicago, Ill.

Since June 1942, when the Marine Corps broke with 167-year tradition, and began recruiting Negroes, the marines, white and black, have carried on with none of the public race troubles that beset the vastly larger U.S. Army (TIME, July 10). Said one white Marine officer of this phenomenon: "We take only the cream of the crop, and they are all so damn proud to be marines." 7-24-44

The Corps still has no Negro officers. But it has 16,000 strapping Negro enlisted men. Some of them have become hard-boiled drill instructors in the classic mold and some have reached the top enlisted grade—sergeant major.

Most Negro marines are in service companies, but all marines are combat-minded. Last week, as a footnote to the invasion of Saipan, TIME Correspondent Robert Sherrod wrote about the first to see action:

"Negro marines, under fire for the first time, have rated a universal 4.0* on Saipan. Some landed with the assault waves. All in the four service companies have been under fire at one time or another during the battle. Some have been wounded, several of them have been killed in action.

Cool in Combat. "Primarily they were used as ammunition carriers and beachhead unloading parties, but on Saipan some were used for combat. When Japs counterattacked the 4th Marine Division near Charan Kanoa, twelve Negroes were thrown into the defense line. Their white officers said they accounted for about 15 Japs. 7-24-44

"One Negro jumped into a foxhole already occupied by a wounded white marine, who handed him a grenade. 'I don't know how to use this thing,' said the Negro. The wounded man showed him how. The Negro—named Jankins—threw the grenade, knocked out three Japs manning a machine gun.

"Said Lieut. Joe Grimes, a white Texan: 'I watched those Negro boys carefully. They were under intense mortar and artillery fire as well as rifle and machine-gun fire. They all kept on advancing until the counterattack was stopped.'

Normal Duties. "But Negro marines were at their best while performing their normal duties. Credited with being the workingest men on Saipan, they performed prodigious feats of labor both while under fire and after beachheads were well secured. Some unloaded boats for three days, with little or no sleep, working in water up to waist deep. Some in floating dump details were the first men to pile off their ship toward the beach. 7-24-44

"On an open transport, where a detachment of Negroes was left to load small boats, they volunteered to unload and tend the wounded who were brought back to the transport. They handled stretchers, washed the wounded and even wrote letters for them."

* Annapolis mark of perfection.

BY SERGEANT GILBERT R.

By Sergeant Gilbert R. Bailey, of Delphi, Ind., a Marine Corps Combat Correspondent.

SAIPAN, Marianas Islands—(Delayed)—The Corps' proudest tradition and a Negro Marine Corporal who believed in it stood the acid test together eight days after this island was officially secured.

The Corporal was Joseph Gogins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Gogins, of 4519 Evans Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

A cave full of Japs staged a surprise attack on an Army working party north of Garapan. A volunteer group of Marines and sailors, some armed only with rocks, went to their rescue.

The unarmed members of the conglomerate group decided to withdraw after a Marine was wounded on the arm by rigle fire. Nineteen-year-old Corporal Gogins, himself unarmed, rose to the occasion.

"You come back here," he shouted. "Don't you know the Marines never retreat?" 8-25-44

Soldiers, sailors and Marines stood their ground together killing 18 Japs and capturing two before they ran out of ammunition.

Stands Acid Test Of Corps In Encounter

Daily Worker – Atlanta, Ga.
8-25-44

Armed Only With Rocks, Group Kills 18 Japs

OUR BLACK MARINES

Defender – Chicago, Ill.

The Annapolis mark of perfection, 4.0, is the term used to describe the Negro marines on Saipan. Although trained primarily to perform service duties, these marines were thrown into combat when the Jap counter-attack was gaining headway. Their white officers, according to Time Magazine, reported that, "They were under intense mortar and artillery fire as well as machinegun fire. They all kept on advancing until the counterattack was stopped." 8-12-44

The report further stated, "One Negro jumped into a foxhole already occupied by a wounded white marine, who handed him a grenade. "I don't know how to use this thing," said the Negro. The wounded man showed him how. The Negro marine threw the grenade, and knocked out three Japs manning a machine gun." The rest of the Negro marines on Saipan were also strictly a service unit, but under the crucial test they conducted themselves like veterans in repelling the attack of the enemy.

Why must Negroes, no matter what branch of the service they are assigned to, be almost uniformly relegated to service groups? The erroneous statement that "they cannot master the intricacies of modern warfare," has been disproved by the heroic deeds of untrained Negro messmen in the navy, shattered by the unparalleled success of the Negro flyers in Europe and buried by the fighting quality of the Negro marines on Saipan. If service-trained Negroes equal their white combat-trained comrades under fire, is there a fear that if equally trained the Negro would far surpass the white soldier?

8-12-44

The duty of a good soldier is to perform the particular task assigned to him, to the best of his ability. Being assigned to work units, the Negro marines on Saipan performed a herculean feat in keeping the supplies moving to their comrades. Some unloaded boats in water waist deep for three days with little or no sleep. When the battle of Saipan is recorded for history it will not be complete unless these Negro marines are given full credit for their contribution to the victory. 8-12-44

After the battle subsided, these same Negro marines, despite their own fatigue, "volunteered to load and tend the wounded that were brought back to the transport." They carried stretchers, lit cigarettes for those unable to do so and wrote letters to loved ones for wounded white marines.

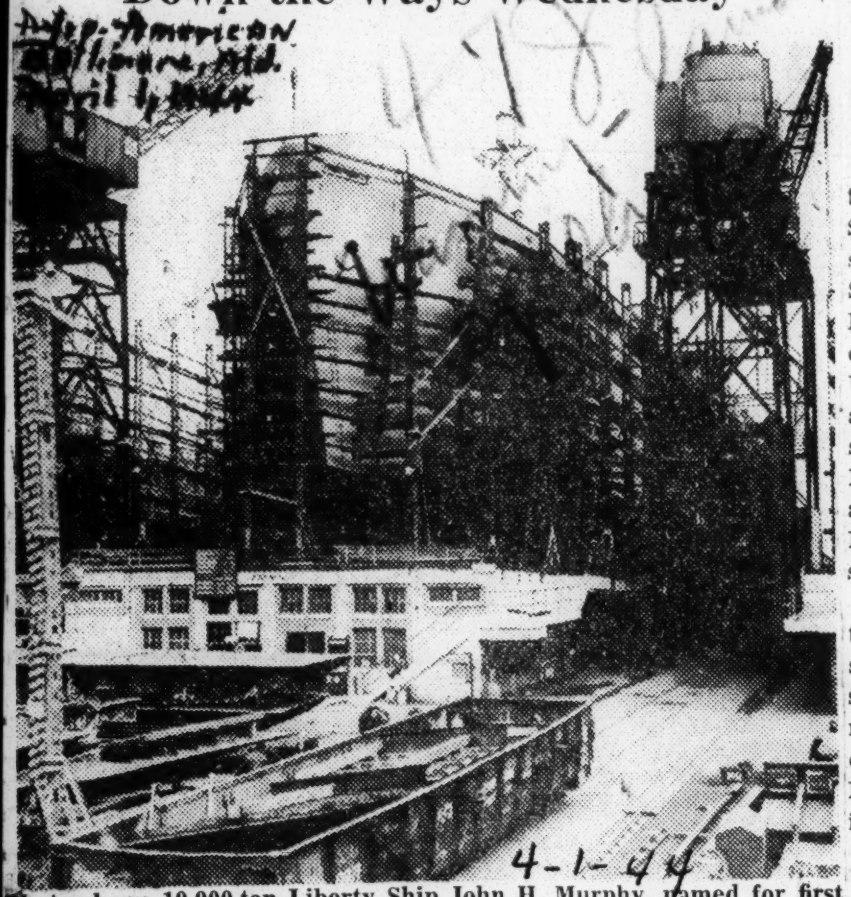
The Negro marines on Saipan rated a 4.0 as fighters, as workers and as humanitarians.

47j-1944

Naming and Launching of Ships

Here's the S.S. Murphy Before Sliding Down the Ways Wednesday

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. April 1, 1944



4-1-44

Photo shows 10,000-ton Liberty Ship John H. Murphy, named for first president of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, launched at 4 p.m., Wednesday at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards in Baltimore.

To Launch S.S. Murphy Wed.

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE—The S.S. John H. Murphy, named in honor of the late founder of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, was launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards here Wednesday at 4 p.m. 4-1-44

Miss Frances Murphy, sole surviving daughter of the founder, sponsored the vessel which is to be commanded by Capt. John Godfrey.

170 Guests Attend

This was the largest launching party at the Bethlehem Shipyard for some time and there were some 170 guests attending.

Recalling that no ships had been named for colored people before the Roosevelt administration, Carl Murphy, president of the AFRO-AMERICAN Company, said in a launching address that a reasonable explanation lies in the statement of Edmund Burke, "to make us love our country, our country ought to be lovely."

"In having this twelfth liberty ship named for a colored person," Mr. Murphy said, "The government is saying, the circle of citizenship is big enough to include you." 4-1-44

Merchant Marines Praised

Capt. Hugh Mulzac of the USS Booker T. Washington and Capt. Godfrey were pointed out as members of a merchant marine which does not merely talk about democracy but practices it.

"With racial separation in the army, navy and in many war plants," Mr. Murphy said, "only the merchant marine promotes colored men to captains and commanders and mixes the crews."

Dinner Follows Launching

A representative of the shipyard also spoke during the launching ceremony, and Father Cedric E. Mills, rector of St. James P.E. Church, said a launching prayer.

Following the ceremony, guests were taken to the Morgan State College Christian Center, where the company and shipyard were hosts at dinner.

Captain Heard

Speakers at the dinner included Captain Godfrey, Captain Mulzac, Lt. J. H. Peck, chief steward for the Murphy; H. D. Mercer, of the War Shipping Administration, and a representative of the State Marine Corporation, which charters the ship. Music will be furnished by Rivers Chambers's orchestra.

First Liberty Ship Named For a Negro Woman

Bystander—Des Moines, Iowa

Washington—The first Liberty ship to be named for a Negro woman, the SS Harriet Tubman, is tentatively scheduled to be launched at the South Portland (Maine) yards of the New England Shipbuilding Company, on Memorial Day, May 30, the United States Maritime Commission announced this week. The name was suggested by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., and the president and founder of the organiaztion, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, will be the sponsor. 5-18-44

Negro women throughout the country are planning to make the occasion an historic one, Dr. Bethune said, and arrangemets are being made to have representatives present from all the affiliated clubs of the National Council. Dr. Bethune, who is internationaly known for her work as an educator, recalled in an interview that Harriet Tubman pioneered in many fields for Negro women.

Best Work

"She did her most effective work in wartime," Dr. Bethune said, "serving as a spy and leader of guerrilla organizations during the Civil War, and was also a scout and guide for Col. James Montomery and his men in their memorable expedition into South Carolina. She also did yeoman work as a nurse and matron for the wounded. 5-18-44

"At the close of the war, through the help of Secretary of State William H. Seward, she was able to found a home for Indigent Aged Negroes in Auburn, N. Y., to which she gave personal attention until 1908.

SS ABBOTT LAUNCHED APRIL 13

Bulletin—Tampa, Fla. 4-22-44

WASHINGTON.—Amid the shrill blasts of horns and the cheers of hundreds of shipyard workers and visiting dignitaries, the SS Robert S. Abbott, third Liberty Ship named for an outstanding Negro publisher, was launched at the Permanente Metals Corporation Shipyard No. 2 at Richomnd, Calif., Thursday afternoon, April 13.

Sliding down the way into San Francisco Bay just nine days after another Liberty Ship was launched in the same yard in honor of another outstanding Negro of the Western Hemisphere, the SS ROBERT S. ABBOTT marked the fourth such vessel built in that shipyard. The SS TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE, honoring the great Haitian liberator, was launched there on April 4.

Thursday's brief launching ceremony was attended by a large delegation of friends of the founder of **The Chicago Defender.** Mrs. John H. Sengstacke, wife of the president and general manager of The Defender, was sponsor of the vessel, and Rebecca Segstacke, sister of the late Mr. Abbott, served as maid of honor. Flower presentations were made by Lula Hammel, a shipyard worker, who sold $80,000 in war bonds in a recent drive.

James Baines, coordinator at Permanente Metals Corporation Yard 2, served as master of ceremonies for the program which preceded the launching. Marcus Hall, protege of Roland Hayes, sang "This is Worth Fighting For." The invocation was offered by the Rev. Roy Nichols, associate pastor of the South Berkley Community church, San Francisco. Greetings were brought by Col. Clifton F. Jones, commander of the 8th Infantry Regiment, Illinois Militia, in behalf of Gov. Dwight H. Green; while James B. Cashin of the Illinois Civil Service Commission represented Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago. Dr. Mertz P. Lochard, editor-in-chief of The Chicago Defender, read messages from promient leaders throughout the nation. 4-22-44 Dr. J. C. Geiger, director of Public Health, spoke for Mayor Roger D. Lapham of San Francisco. Governor Earl Warren of California sent John S. Hassler as his representative, while Judge Matthew Brady spoke for Attorney General Robert W. Kenny of California. The Mayor of Oakland was represented by Henry A. Frazier and Robert S. Murray brought greetings from the U. S. Maritime Commission.

John S. Sengstacke, president and general manager of The Chicago Defender, accepted the presentations and paid a glowing tribute to the memory of Mr. Abbott, his uncle. Mr. Sengstacke characterized the occasion as historical in that it marked the first time that a ship named to commemorate the memory of a distinguished Negro is being financed completely by Negro citizens through the purchase of war bonds and stamps. The citizens of Illinois in a special war bond campaign have set $2,000,000 as their goal to pay for the SS ROBERT S. ABBOTT. 4-22-44

Other Liberty Ships built by the Permanente Metals Corporation and named for Negroes have been the SS George Washington, the John Hope, and Toussaint L'Ouverture.

Thirteen Liberty Ships have been named for Negroes by the Maritime Commission. A destroyer escort was named by the Navy for Leonard Roy Harmon, who was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously, for heroic conduct at Guadalcanal.

NOTABLES CHEER AS BIG VESSEL IS CHRISTENED

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 4-15-44

Mrs. John H. Sengstacke Sends Liberty Craft Down The Ways

By DAVID W. KELLUM
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

RICHMOND, Calif.—(Special)—While a silvery moon heightened the beauty of San Francisco Bay, Wednesday night, the two million dollar Liberty Ship, "U. S. S. Robert S. Abbott" was launched at Permanete Metals Corporation, Shipyard No. 2.

This marked the fourth such vessel to be launched in honor of distinguished Negroes from the Permanete Yard, the others being the "George Washington Carver," sponsored by the famous movie actress, Lena Horne; "The John Hope," sponsored by Mrs. Walter Gordon, and "The Toussaint L'Ouverture," sponsored by Mrs. W. A. Cannon.

Dignitaries of both races cheered wildly as Mrs. John H. Sengstacke, wife of the nephew of the late Robert S. Abbott, founder and publisher of the Chicago Defender crashed a bottle of champagn across the bow of the big vessel, thus dedicating it to the service of the U. S. Maritime Commission. 4-15-44

Mrs. Sengstacke was sponsor of the ship and Miss Rebecca Sengstacke, sister of Mr. Abbott, served as maid of honor. At conclusion of the ceremony, both Mrs. Sengstacke and Miss Sengstacke were presented huge bouquets of the Flower Girl, Miss Lula Mae Hamel of Oakland, Calif. Miss Hamel, a popular employe at the Permanete Yard, has the distinction of leading the shipyard in War Bond sales, having sold more than $80,000 worth.

John H. Sengstacke, president and general manager of the Chicago Defender, declared: "We are grateful Marcus Hall, celebrated singer and protege of Roland Hayes, sang two numbers. First speaker on the program was General Manager Bedyard No. 2. Another disspeaker was Spencer W. n, secretary-treasurer of od of Boilermakers, A-26. honor of Robert S. Abbott, distin-

Ceremony Is Historic

The launching ceremony was historic as it marked the first time a Liberty Ship, named in honor of a distinguished Negro, is being financed completely by colored citizens, through sale of War Bonds and Stamps. An elaborate, patriotic program proceeded launching of the 10,500 ton ship, with the Rev. Roy Nichols representing the Pacific Coast Council of Religion, Berkeley, Calif., offering the invocation. Jim Bains Jourdain, secretary of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, acted as master of ceremonies.

guished pioneer in the field of Negro journalism. 4-18-44

"The citizens of Illinois are so proud of the distinction that they have instituted a drive to raise $2,000,000, to finance construction of the ship being launched here tonight. In paying for the USS Robert S. Abbott, citizens of Illinois will accomplish a feat never before attempted."

Col. Clifton E. Jones of Chicago's 8th Illinois Reserve Militia, brought greetings from Gov. Dwight H. Green. Greetings also came from Governor Earl Warren, and Major John Slavich of Oakland, Calif.

Robert W. Kenny, Atty. General, of California, was another distinguished guest to witness the launching.

Dr. Metz T. P. Lochard, editor-in-chief of the Chicago Defender, read greetings from distinguished men of all walks of life, and from all sections of the country.

Major Roger W. Lathon of San Francisco was represented by Dr. J. C. Geiger, Director of Public Health of the city and county of San Francisco. 4-15-44

Cashin Pays Tribute

Commissioner James B. Cashin, chairman of the board of directors, Robert S. Abbott Publishing Co., in paying his tribute to Mr. Abbott said: "It is symbolic that this ship, which stands as a living memorial to a man who contributed so much towards the extension of democracy in time of peace, should now steam through perilous waters with her hold laden with supplies for our fighting men and our allies in a war for the preservation of that same democracy. With this mighty ship go our wishes for safe voyages and a speedy victory. Carry on—S. S. Robert S. Abbott!"

Rev. Arthur Johnson, pastor of the Ninth and Chester AME church, served as chairman of the interracial citizens committee composed of men and women from Oakland, Berkeley and the Brotherhood of Boilermakers from the Shipbuilders and Helpers Union, headed the labor group. Seventy-five persons attended the elaborate banquet in the shipyard dining room at the conclusion of the launching.

Noted California stars of radio and stage entertained the gathering.

Other Chicagoans at the ceremony included: Captain Euclid Louis Taylor, Major and Mrs. Ruppert Simmons, Dr. Charles Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cole and Mrs. Metz T. P. Lochard.

Ship Honors a Great Man

Launching of the ship honors a man whose career in the field of journalism is without parallel in U. S. history. For Mr. Abbott, starting from scratch and with an idea his sole capital, piloted the Chicago Defender from its first office in the kitchen of a two story frame house at 3159 State street, to its present eminent position with building, equipment and offices valued at more than $1,000,000.

Mr. Abbott, shortly after his graduation from Hampton Institute, came to Chicago in 1896 and worked at his trade at the old Hall Printing Company. He took a night course in the study of law, at Kent college, and in 1900 received the degree LLB.

In 1905, with borrowed capital, confident in his inherent ability and fortified by the encouragement of friends, he published the first issue of the Chicago Defender. Specializing in the names of people, Mr. Abbott in the course of years, adhered strictly to the practice of printing the name of as many of his subscribers and readers as possible. Through his agents, scattered throughout the South and Atlantic states, Mr. Abbott assembled and printed "state news" concerning the activities of the rural inhabitants as well as news of those in Metropolitan centers. Today thousands of persons including agents, representatives, correspondents, and executive staff find employment with the Robert S. Abbott Publishing company. The Chicago Defender editors are nationally known, and the paper has accredited correspondents in all important foreign theatres of war.

Highlights of Mr. Abbott's civic and public career include the following: appointment to the Illinois Race Relations Commission, life member of the Field Museum and of the Art Institute in Chicago, member of the Chicago Historical Society, national exeeutive president of the Hampton Alumni Association, member of the board of directors, Chicago Urban League, trustee of the YMCA, and member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, from which he received the Laurel Wreath for noteworthy and outstanding services.

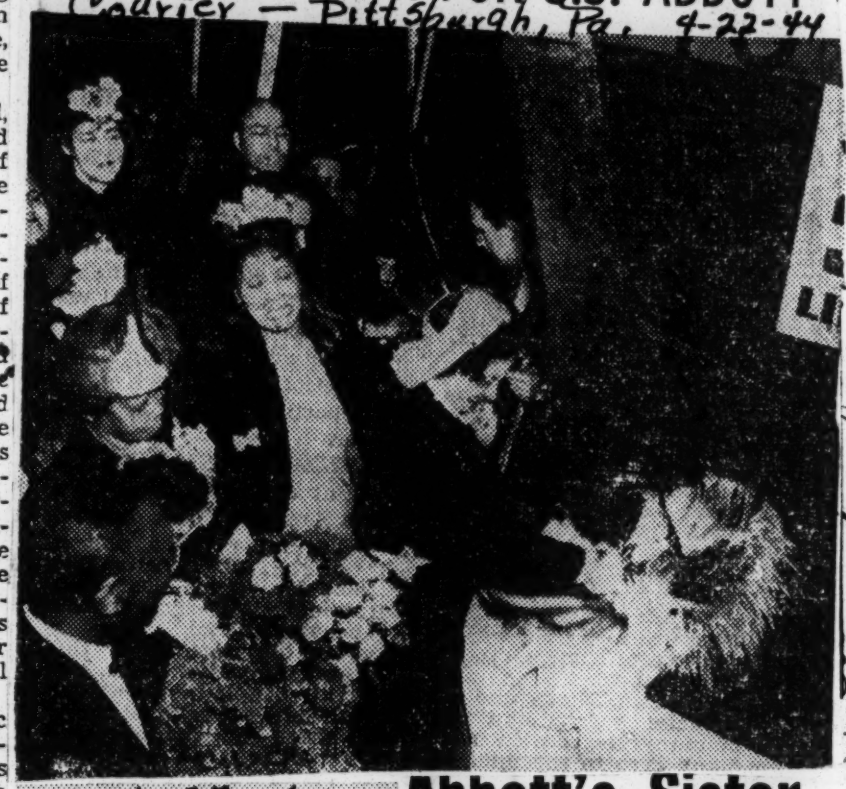
Mr. Abbott was also a member of the Ancient Order of Forrester, the Appomattox club, and Lincoln Memorial Association.

Morris Brown and Wilberforce universities, and Georgia State college conferred honorary degrees on Mr. Abbott.

Robert S. Abbott died February 29, 1940, but the institution he founded and built into a thriving business lives on. The Chicago Defender continues the fight he started for the freedom of all Americans, regardless of color, creed or national origin.

CHAMPAGNE BATH FOR S.S. ABBOTT

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa. 4-22-44



4-22-44

Mrs. John H. Sengstacke, sponsor (shown in top photo), cracks the bottle against the bow of the S.S. Robert S. Abbott, christening the Liberty ship named for the late founder and publisher of the Chicago Defender. Under construction just 18 days, the ship was launched last Thursday at Richmond, Calif. 4-22-44

Bottom scene gives a view of the vessel, built in the Permanente Metals Corporation Shipyards, Richmond. It is the fourth ship bearing the name of an outstanding Negro built in the Richmond yards.—Joseph Photos.

Abbott's Sister Sees Launching

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa. 4-22-44

RICHMOND, Calif.—The S.S. Robert S. Abbott, fourth Liberty ship bearing the name of a Negro leader, launched in the Richmond yards, slid down the ways last Thursday, christened by Mrs. John H. Sengstacke, wife of the nephew of the late Chicago publisher for whom the ship is named.

Other members of the late publisher's family participating in the ceremony were Miss Rebecca Sengstacke, sister of Mr. Abbott and maid of honor for the occasion, and John H. Sengstacke, Mr. Abbott's nephew and trigger man at the launching.

Miss Lula Mae Hamel, a worker in the Richmond yard, who sold $80,000 worth of War Bonds in the Fourth War Bond drive, was the flower girl for the ceremony, and James Bains, Negro co-ordinator of Yard No. 2, was master of ceremonies.

Governor Dwight H. Green, of Illinois, and Mayor Edward J. Kelly, of Chicago, sent greetings, as did also the mayors of San Francisco and Oakland and Governor Earl Warren, of California.

SOUTH PORTLAND, Maine. — The late Bert Williams, one of the greatest comedians of the American stage, was honored here Saturday when a Liberty ship named in his honor was christened at launching ceremonies. 5-2-44.

The third cargo vessel named for an outstanding Negro to be built at Todd's New England Shipbuilding corporation here was sponsored by Mrs. Maxine R. David, wife of Richard David, Negro leadman welder at the yards whose work during the past three years was termed "excellent" by the yard's Labor-Management committee. 4-23-44

Representatives of the Negro actor's Guild of New York, of which Bert Williams was a member, attended the ceremonies. The humorist was a native of New Providence, Nassau, British Bahamas, who came to the states with his parents when four years old.

After working in a traveling minstrel company for several years with Zieafeld and appeared in "The Follies" for 10 years becoming one of the best loved humorists of the era. Williams died in 1922 at the age of 47.

SS Bert Williams Launched Nov. 18 In New England

13th Liberty Ship Named For Woman

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa. 4-8-44

The selection of a name for the thirteenth Liberty Ship to honor an outstanding colored personage of the western hemisphere was announced this week by the Martime Commission.

The SS HARRIET TUBMAN will be the first ship to be named in honor of a Negro woman. It has not yet been officially assigned to a shipyard, but efforts are being made to have it built at the Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyard in Baltimore, since she was a native of Maryland.

Harriet Tubman was born in slavery about 1815 and when she was 25 escaped from her master's plantation in Maryland to New England, where she joined with Garrison Brown and other abolitionists to become an active promoter of the "underground railway." She first rescued her parents and during two decades before the Civil War made repeated journeys into the South, taking 400 or more of her race to the North and into Canada.

During the war she served as a scout and guided Col. James Montgomery and his men in their memorable expedition into South Carolina. At the close of the war, through the help of Secretary of State William H. Seward, she was able to make her home in Auburn, N. Y., where she became engaged in public service in behalf of the poor and aged of her people. Her efforts led to the Founding of the Harriet Tubman Home for Indigent Aged Negroes which she gave personally until 1908. She died in Auburn in 1913.

SS Bert Williams Is Name Chosen For 14th Liberty Ship

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
7-1-44

Coincident with announcement by the United States Maritime Commission that the name of Bert Williams, pioneer comedian and song writer, has been selected for the fourteenth Liberty ship to be named in honor of a Negro, the New York City War Finance Committee this week announced plans for a War Bond rally to cover the cost of construction of the SS BERT WILLIAMS.

The outdoor War Bond show will be held at Lewisohn Stadium, New York City, on the evening of July 4, the Treasury Department said. It is being sponsored by the Harlem-Riverside War Finance Committee, which has set as its goal $2,000,000 in War Bond sales.

7-1-44

The New York City War Finance Division has restricted admission to bond buyers only, seats being available upon purchase of a Fifth Loan Bond in denomination from $25 to $1,000.

7-1-44

Bert Williams was born in the Bahama Islands in 1876, but his parents moved to the United States while he was a child and he spent his youth in California. He was christened Egbert Austin Williams. After attending the Riverside, Calif. High School for a time, he ran away and joined a minstrel show that was touring the mining and lumber camps. In 1895 he met George Walker and they formed a vaudeville team, touring the country and arriving in New York the next year.

In New York they presented the first all-Negro musical comedy with words and music by Negroes. It was called "In Dahomey," and was successfully presented at the Casino Theatre on Broadway. It was later taken to London and presented at the Shaftsbury Theatre, where it ran for eight months.

Returning to this country, Williams and Walker produced and starred in a series of Negro musical comedies Walker died in 1900 and Williams abandoned all-Negro productions and became the leading comedian of Ziegfeld Follies, where his salary was in four figures and his skits and songs were the hit of the show. He left the Follies in 1919 and was starred in Broadway Brevities and "Underneath the Bamboo Tree," in which he was touring when stricken with pneumonia. He died in 1922, and at the time of his death was the outstanding Negro theatrical star.

7-1-44

Harry W. Brown, chairman of the Community Sales Division of the New York War Finance Committee, and Dr. Channing H. Tobias, chairman of Inter-racial Activities, report in a joint announcement that a galaxy of headliners have volunteered their services for the mammoth War Bond Rally.

Stars Raise $2,000,000 to Build S.S. Bert Williams

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
7-15-44

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Lushest take of the gate ever seen in Harlem was Fourth of July evening at Lewisohn Stadium, when a half-filled house paid the startling sum of $2,000,000 to see a four-hour long entertainment-studded bond rally program.

Admission was by purchase of a war bond, as part of the current Fifth War Loan Drive. Earlier rains and a threatening evening cut down production by half, but the house had already been sold out. With the $2,000,000, the Liberty ship "Bert Williams" will be constructed.

Only speaker on program was Adam Clayton Powell, candidate for congress, who made a record two-minute talk and later introduced two army captains, one white, the other Charles Hall of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, who has three Nazi planes to his record.

Others on program included Ralph Cooper and Bert Lytell as masters of ceremonies; Hazel Scott, Jimmy Savo, Mills Brothers, Muriel Rahn, Lucy Monroe, Helen Mencken, Ilene Farrell, Kaye Penton, Tab Smith and band, Charlie Spivack's band, Vincent Lopez and band;

7-15-44

Canada Lee, Cootie Williams, Gene Tennyson, Imogene Carpenter, Phil Regan, Coastguard quartet, Mildred Bailey, Aubrey Pankey, Josh White, Bill Bailey, a camp entertainment outfit from WJZ Victory Group, Ida James and Bob Hawks.

S. S. Harriet Tubman

Star Of Zion — Charlotte, N.C
7-13-44

The good ship, S. S. Harriet Tubman, first Liberty Ship named for a Negro woman, launched at South Portland, Me. June 3rd, memoralizes one of the noblest women in American history. Abolitionist, under-ground railroad conductor, Federal spy, woman suffragist, filled with undaunted courage and great wisdom, Harriet Tubman embodied the zeal and love for her people of a Joan of Arc.

Immortalizing herself by utter disregard for her own safety in the effort to lead thousands of her fellow slaves to freedom, Harriet Tubman exhibited the rare qualities of bravey, intelligence and persistence that are needed in the race and nation today.

7-13-44

Harriet Tubman was a member of the African M. E. Zion Church, as was Frederick Douglass, and her home on the outskirts of Auburn, N. Y., was given to the Connection as a home for superannuated ministers. On the Court House at Auburn may be found a tablet, inscribed to the memory of this great woman.

While visiting at Auburn some years ago with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Freeman we read Mr. Freeman's copy of "The Underground Railroad," and heard from his own lips the familiar story of the life and times of Harriet Tubman as told to him by Mrs. Tubman herself. It was an experience one can never forget.

If Liberty Ships symbolize the war for freedom, and they do, then no Liberty Ship has ever been more fittingly named than this one, dedicated to a brave and honored American woman, whose life was an example of heroic self-abnegation, exceedingly hazardous sacrifice and sustained devotion to a task, voluntarily assumed, but faithfully performed.

The christening was performed by Mrs. E. S. Northup, of Philadelphia, "grandniece of the famed Negro woman abolitionist." Other grandnieces present included: Miss Hilda Proctor, Yonkers, N. Y.; Mrs. Carroll Johnson, of Auburn, N. Y., and Mrs. Thelma Frazier.

7-13-44

At the call of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, founder and president of the National Council of Negro Women, who requested the naming of the ship, members of the organization are seeking to sell $2,000,000 worth of War Bonds to "purchase" the now famous ship.

Launch Liberty Ship Named For John H. Murphy

Chicago Defender
7-8-44

BALTIMORE, Md.—The S. S. John H. Murphy, named in honor of the late founder of the Afro-American Newspapers, was launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards here last week. Miss Frances Murphy, sole surviving daughter of the founder, sponsored the vessel which is to be commanded by Capt. John Godfrey.

After she crashed the champagne bottle across the bow of the ship a gold watch was presented to Miss Murphy by W. C. Reynolds, manager of the shipyard. Father Cedric E. Mills, rector of St. James P. E. church, said a launching prayer.

Some 170 persons from nine states, who traveled in thirty cars with police escort, witnessed the ceremony. This group included ex-Mayor Howard W. Jackson. They were later entertained at dinner at the Morgan State College Christian Center by the company and shipyard.

Carl Murphy, president of the Afro-American Newspapers, served as toastmaster and the keynote of the address was sounded by Dr. O. W. Holmes, president of Morgan State College, who knew Mr. Murphy personally.

Other speakers included:

Ward B. Freeman, of the U. S. Maritime Commission; Leonard Mason, assistant to the general manager of the shipyard; John Morgan, representative of the States Marine Corporation; Congressman Daniel Ellison, William Briscoe, public relations director of the shipyard.

Alfred McPherson, TUMSWA; James Drury, NMU representatives; H. C. (Curly) Byrd, president, University of Maryland; Judge James A. Cobb of Washington; Harry O. Levin, local attorney; State Senator E. Milton Altfeld;

Bishop H. Z. Plummer of Portsmouth, Va.; Ralph Mathews, editor, Washington Afro; Bishop A. P. Shaw of the Methodist church; and the Rev. James Wright of Hartford, Conn.

Days afterward, when the storm had abated, 13 members of the merchant crew returned to live aboard the vessel in shoal water for a month, keeping machinery working to enable the army to salvage most of the vital cargo.

The ship was the SS Robert Erskino. The Erskino was anchored in the Mediterranean sea, preparing to unload when a storm blew up that yanked the anchor chain from its windlass, forcing the mas-

The incident was contained in reports of the War Shipping administration made public Thurs-day.

S.S. Carver Renamed as Hospital Ship

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
6-18-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Two ships named for scientists, the U.S.S. George W. Carver and the U.S.S. William Osler, have been converted into hospital ships and renamed, according to an announcement made last week.

The U.S.S. Carver was renamed the USA hospital ship Dogwood on February 23, while the U.S.S. Osler, named in honor of a white scientist, was renamed the USA hospital ship Wisteria.

Mulzac's Ship Rescues Crew Of Freighter

World — Memphis, Tenn.
6-20-44

Merchant Vessel Had Broken Into Half; Save Cargo

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A night of terror aboard a storm-wrecked American war freighter, whose broken halves ground to-

er to order cruising about to avoid ollision. In the darkness the eighter ran aground on a sandbar nd all efforts to free her failed.

Then the strain broke the ship in two and the forward part, swung abeam by the high seas, ground against the stern section, while the crew awaited a rescue tug from shore. Later, U. S. Army engineers attempted to shoot a line from the beach to enable those still stranded to rig a breeches buoy. This rescue effort failed as the ship parts continued to pound together until in the morning when the storm subsided.

Survivors were then taken ashore by an army boat, given dry clothes, and fed aboard the SS Booker T. Washington.

Liberty Ships Named Robert S. Abbott And Edward A. Savoy

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.

3-18-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The naming of the tenth and eleventh Liberty Ships in honor of outstanding Negro Americans was announced this week by the U. S. Maritime Commission. The S. S. Robert S. Abbott has been assigned to the Permanente Metals Corporation's Richmond, Calif., Yard No. 2. The S. S. Edward A. Savoy has not yet been assigned to a shipyard.

The Abbott will pay tribute to the founder of the Chicago Defender, who died February 29, 1940. Mr. Abbott founded the Defender in 1905 and built it into one of the outstanding weekly publications in America.

Born at St. Simon's Island, Ga., on November 24, 1870, Mr. Abbott was educated at Claflin College, Orangeburg, S. C., Hampton Institute, Va., and the Kent College of Law in Chicago. 3-18-44

During his lifetime, Mr. Abbott was a member of the Illinois Race Relations Commission, president of the Hampton Alumni Association, a life member of the Art Institute of Chicago, life member of the Field Museum of Chicago, a trustee of the YMCA, and donor to the Chicago Civic Opera.

He traveled extensively through Europe, Hawaii and South America, and authored two books, "My Trip Abroad" and "Travels Thru South America."

EDWARD A. SAVOY

Edward Augustine Savoy, whose name will be memorialized on another Liberty Ship, was a well known resident of the Nation's Capital, where he was born May 2, 1855. For 64 years he served as confidential messenger to 22 Secretaries of State. As a reward for meritorious service, President Woodrow Wilson, on the recommendation of William Jennings Bryan, elevated Savoy by executive order to the rank and salary of a clerk. 3-18-44

He reached the zenith of his career in September, 1898, when he went to Paris to serve the United States Peace Commission at the close of the Spanish-American War. His duty was to place the seals upon the Treaty of Peace signed there.

S.S. Tubman Is Launched

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Ship Christened by Abolitionist's Relative

LEADERS ATTEND $2,000,000 Tubman Bond Drive Opened

By CLAY CLAIBORNE

6-10-44

PORTLAND, Me. — In an impressive ceremony last Saturday, the 10,500-ton S.S. Harriet Tubman, first Liberty ship to be named for a colored woman, was launched at the shipyard of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation.

Sponsor of the ship, the 178th to be launched from this yard and the second to be named in honor of a colored person, was Mrs. E. S. Northrup of Philadelphia, grandniece of the great abolitionist whose name the ship bears. The S. S. Robert L. Vann was also built there.

22 Relatives Present

Twenty-two other relatives of Mrs. Tubman, including grandnieces, great-grandnieces and a great-great-great-grandnephew, all of whom were located by the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, witnessed the launching which was supervised by the National Council of Negro Women.

Council officers present included Mrs. Vivian Carter Mason, first vice-president of New York and Norfolk, Va., who presided in the absence of Dr. Mary M. Bethune, president, who was ill; Mrs. Mary C. Terrell of Washington, historian; Mrs. Jeanetta W. Brown, executive secretary, and Dr. Dorothy B. Ferebee, of D.C., trustee of the organization. 6-10-44

The Greek ambassador to the United States, Cimon P. Diamantopoudos, and his wife also attended.

Company Head Speaks

Andrew B. Sides, president of the Shipbuilding Corporation, extended the management's greetings and Andrew A. Pettis, president of the Local 50, CIO, extended welcome on behalf of labor.

Greetings from the city of Portland were extended by George A. Harrison, chairman of the city council, and prayer was offered by the Rev. Gilbert H. Coffey, minister of the only colored church in the State of Maine, the AME Zion Church, Portland.

Buys $10,000 Bond

At ceremonies in the administration building following the launching, Mrs. Sara S. Washington, Atlantic City business woman, purchased a $10,000 war bond in connection with the launching of the nation-wide $2,000,000 bond campaign sponsored by the Council of Negro Women in memory of Mrs. Tubman.

A $1000 bond was purchased by the shipyard's local of the CIO and additional pledges carried the total to $17,400.

Others on Program

The council is conducting the bond drive in connection with the Fifth War Loan under the slogan, "Buy a Harriet Tubman War Bond for Freedom." 6-10-44

Others participating on this program were: Mrs. Mason, the Rev. Mr. Coffey, Mr. Sides, Mrs. Terrell, Dr. Ferebee, Mrs. Brown, who launched the bond drive; the sponsor and matrons of honor, Mrs. Carroll Johnson and Mrs. Thelma Thompson Frazer.

Active in Underground R.R.

Born about 1821 in Dorchester County, Md., of slave parents, Mrs. Tubman escaped from a Maryland plantation when she was about 25 years of age. Active in the Underground Railway, she first rescued her parents and in the twenty years to follow was responsible for the escape of some 400 slaves from the Southland.

Relatives Present

The ship's sponsor was assisted by her daughter, Miss Hilda Proctor. Other Tubman relatives at the launching were:

Mesdames Carroll H. Johnson, Dela Richardson and Alice J. Brukler, all of Auburn, N.Y.; Mary B. Cornish, Chester, Pa., and Mary K. Stewart, Baltimore, grandnieces; Charles E. and Clarence Stewart, Auburn, N.Y., and Dr. Guy Bowley, Baltimore, grandnephews;

Mrs. Gladys S. Bryant, Skaneateles, N.Y.; Mrs. Marilyn S. Winston, Philadelphia; Mrs. Thelma Frazer, South Bend, Ind.; Miss Dorothy Keene, Baltimore; Mrs. Viola S. Mitchell, Boston; and Miss Bessie Diet, West Palm Beach, Fla., great-grandnieces;

Howard, Robert I., Alfred, William and Reginald Stewart, all of Boston, great-grandnephews; Miss Hilda Bloudina, Yonkers, great-great-grandniece; and Bertram Keene, Baltimore, great-great-great-grandnephew.

Others present were: 6-10-44

Mrs. Charles F. Dixon, Mrs. John B. Hall, Miss Wilhelmina Crosson, Mrs. M. L. Bell, Nellie B. Robinson, Mrs. Edward O. Gourdin, Mrs. Romeyn V. Lippman, all of Boston;

Miss Katya Alpert, Bangor, Me.; Mrs. Leon M. Leavitt, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Roberts, Mrs. David A. Dickson, Mrs. Sallie D. Maston, Louis M. Maston, David A. Dickson, Mrs. Edward Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Euthere Teixeira, and Walter Garnett, all of Portland, Me.: 6-10-44

Toki Schalk, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. George J. Crump, Chicago; Mrs. Sankie Everette Floyd, Goldsboro, N.C.; Earl Conrad, NYC; Mrs. Lenore Scott Morgan and the Rev. Clarice Walker, Atlantic City; Mrs. Carroll H. Johnson, Auburn, N.Y.; William T. Mason, Norfolk, Va.; Charles E. Cornish, Cambridge, Md.; Mrs. Marie Keene, Baltimore; Lee Cochran, Gary, Ind.; Bertie L. Derrick and Venice T. Spraggs, D.C.

Harriet Tubman, no information on its crew was available.

Andrew B. Sides, president of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation, told the AFRO that the ship built by both colored and white labor in 51 days, will be delivered to the War Shipping Administration, through which agency the crew will be designated. 6-10-44

S.S. Tubman's Crew Not Yet Selected

PORTLAND, Me. — At the time of the christening of the 10,500-ton Liberty ship, the S.S.

District Matron Sponsors Liberty Ship at Fairfield

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

7-29-44

By LOUISE KERR

BALTIMORE

Serving as the seventh colored sponsor for a launching from the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyards, Mrs. Edith S. Morgan on Wednesday christened the Liberty Ship S.S. Edward A. Savoy, named in honor of her deceased father, a veteran State Department messenger, of Washington.

The massive craft, with prow still wet with the christening champagne, slid down the ways into the Patapsco River at 4 p.m., just thirty-four days after her keel was laid.

The Savoy is the third Liberty Ship named after a colored citizen to be launched from this shipyard. Others were the S.S. Frederick Douglass and the S.S. John H. Murphy, named in honor of the founder of the AFRO-AMERICAN.

50 Washingtonians Present

Surrounded by approximately fifty Washingtonians, many of whom were relatives of the late government employee, Mrs. Morgan smiled as she performed the christening honors, but wept silently as the ship moved out into the water.

Her gift from the shipyard company was a diamond and ruby studded wrist watch.

Born in 1855 in Washington, Mr. Savoy attended Howard University and began his career of public service under Secretary of

son, John Hope, John H. Murphy, Robert S. Abbott, Edward Savoy, Toussaint L'Ouverture, and Harriet Tubman. 7-29-44

The Navy Department named a naval vessel, the Destroyer Escort Leonard Roy Harmon, in honor of a colored messman. Posthumously, he was awarded the Navy Cross for heroic conduct at Guadalcanal.

awrence Savoy; Miss Gail Edna R. Rogers, Mrs. Nettie D. Wave, Miss Boyden, Mr. and Mrs. James es, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Isaac s, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Jack- Marie Perara, Mrs. Ida S. K. Savoy; Mrs. Carrie and Mrs. Helen Gordon.

r Washingtonians present ceremonies included: Charles H. Fearington and G. Williams, both members District of Columbia School Garnett C. Wilkinson, first assuperintendent in charge of schools;

ugene A. Clark, president of eachers' College; and Dr. H. Long, assistant superinin charge of educational re-

13 Tan Americans Honored

To date, thirteen Liberty Ships launched have been named for the following colored Americans:

Booker T. Washington, George W. Carver, Paul L. Dunbar, Frederick Douglass, John Merrick, Robert L. Vann, James W. John-

In charge of the launching party for the company was D. B. Purnell, yard supervisor. Guests already named for the pre-launching luncheon held at the York Hotel were:

In Launching Party

The sponsor, Mrs. Edith S. Morgan; Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Morgan, Dr. and Mrs. Sevelon D. Savoy, Miss Ruth E. Savoy, Mrs. Rachel Wines.

47j-1944

Many New Ships Named For Negroes

Greenville, S. C. Observer

Latest One Is Named For Negro Woman Who Served With Massachusetts Troops in South Carolina in Civil War.

April 7, 1944

The following interesting news item has been received from Washington and was issued through the Office of War Information.

"The selection of a name for the thirteenth Liberty ship to honor an outstanding Negro of the western hemisphere was announced this week by the Maritime Commission. The SS HARRIETT TUBMAN will e the first ship to be named in honor of a Negro woman. It has not yet been officially assigned to a shipyard, but efforts are being made to have it built at the Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyard in Baltimore, since she was a native of Maryland.

Harriet Tubman was born in slavery about 1815 and when she was 25 escaped from her master's plantation in Maryland to New England, where she joined with Garrison Brown and other abolitionists to become an active promoter of the "underground railway.' She first rescued her parents and during two decades before the Civil War made repeated journeys into the South, taking 400 or more of her race to the North and into Canada.

During the war she served with Massachusetts troops as a scout and guided Col. James Montgomery and his men in their memorable expedition into South Carolina. At the close of the war, through the help of Secretary of State William H. Seward, she was able to make her home in Auburn, N. Y., where she soon became engaged in philanthropic service in behalf of the poor and aged of her people. Her efforts led to the foundation of the Harriet Tubman Home for Indigent Aged Negroes, to which she gave personal attention until 1908. She died in Auburn in 1913.

Other Liberty Ships named for Negroes include the SS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER, PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR, FREDERICK DOUGLASS, JOHN MERRICK, ROBERT L. VANN, JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, JOHN HOPE, JOHN H. MURPHY, ROBERT S. ABBOTT, EDWARD SAVOY, and TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE.

Naming of Ships

SHIP NAMED AFTER HER HUSBAND

Tribune - Savannah, Ga.

Word has been received that the J. A. Jones Construction Company, Inc., of the Brunswick Shipyard will launch on January 5, 1945, the S. S. William Cox, named after the husband of Mrs. Arlee Cox, 559 Indian street, this city.

Mr. Cox lost his life as a result of his shipped being shelled and sunk. 12-21-44

Mrs. Cox has accepted the company's invitation to sponsor and christen this ship on the above date.

A Timely And Deserving Tribute

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-12-44

Announcement of the selection of the name of the late Dr. John Hope, former President of Atlanta University, for the Eighth Liberty ship to be launched late this month in California by the Maritime Commission, comes as a most deserving and timely tribute to the memory of the man who spent a lifetime in educational and social uplift among his people.

Elected to the Presidency of Morehouse College, where he made his most conspicuous contribution, Dr. Hope had few peers as a college President. The greatness of his soul and the beauty of his character left their imprints upon the lives of his students, which gives to that institution, to this day, a standing and prestige matched by few other Race colleges in preparing and turning out leaders of responsibility and trust.

47j Ships

His influence was felt in a like manner in matters of social and civic life among our people. He served his country overseas as YMCA Secretary in 1918 and 1919. He was past president of the Atlanta Interracial Commission; president of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History; a member of the distinguished Spingarn Medal Committee, and was honored on numerous occasions for his contributions to education and social life among our people. 1-12-44

In thus honoring Dr. Hope's memory, the Commission has chosen to honor itself and to instill a deeper appreciation of Negro Americans for its appreciation and recognition of truly representative Negro leaders.

12th Liberty Ship Honors Toussaint L' Ouverture

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON. — (SNS)—The twelfth Liberty Ship to honor an outstanding Negro of the Western Hemisphere will be the SS TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE, the U. S. Maritime Commission announced this week. The ship has been assigned to the Peramente Metals Company's Richmond, Calif., shipyard and is scheduled for launching about March 31. 3-21-44

The SS TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE is one of a group of similar ships honoring heroes of Latin and South America. The name was submitted by the Haitian Consultan in Washington, D. C., which termed L'Ouverture that country's most notable soldier and statesman.

This remarkable man, born, in 1743, was a slave until he was 40 years of age. Then he entered the French colonial army and rose rapidly to a position of leadership. About this time the English Spanish and French were wrangling over that part of the Island of Haiti which is now the Domincan Republic. L'Ouverture sided with the French and helped Haiti defeat the Spaniards and the English. The French government rewarded him by appointing him a major-general and Governor of the Island. Later, Napoleon I, who thought that L'Ouverture was too powerful, removed him from the Governorship, appointing General Leclerc in his stead. General Leclerc sent a formidable army to reduce the authority of L'Ouverture. After several skirmishes, L'Ouverture was 'tricked" into surrendering and retired to one of his properties. He was arrested and deported to France in June, 1802. 3-21-44

But resentment against the treatment accorded LOuverture resulted in the Negroes of Haiti revolting against French domination and in September, 1802, under the leadership of General Dessalines, General Leclerc's forces were overpowered and Haiti's independence proclaimed. Toussaint L'Ouverture died in a French prison in 1803.

Liberty Ships, named for Negro Americans have been the SS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER, PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR, FREDERICK DOUGLAS, JOHN MERRICK, ROBERT L. VANN, JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, JOHN HOPE, JOHN N. MURPHY, ROBERT S. ABBOTT, AND EDWARD A. SAVOY.

Harriet Tubman' New Liberty Ship

Worker - New York, N.Y. 4-16-44

The S.S. Harriet Tubman will be the 13th Liberty ship named in honor of a Negro citizen of the United States, according to an announcement by the U. S. Maritime Commission Harriet Tubman was the famous "underground railroad" conductor during slavery days. This will be the first Liberty ship named for a woman.

The S.S. Harriet Tubman has not yet been assigned to a shipyard, though the Negro people of Maryland are said to be seeking it for the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard in Baltimore. Harriet Tubman was born in Maryland about 119 years ago. She escaped to New England where she joined abolitionists in the "underground."

Sponsors of SS Tubman

PM - New York, N.Y.

Mary Church Terrell, 80, of Washington, historian of the National Council of Negro Women, will lead the launching ceremonies of the Liberty ship, SS Harriet Tubman, on June 3, at Portland, Me. Mrs. Terrell has been active in Negro affairs for two generations, and is the author of *A Colored in a White World*.

The naming of the boat after Mrs. Tubman, famous in the Civil War period, was promoted by Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the Council. Mrs. Bethune's illness prevents her from attending the ceremony. 5-28-44

Others who will take part are Mrs. D. S. Northrup of Philadelphia, a grandniece of Harriet Tubman, who will christen the boat; Jeanetta Welch Brown, executive secretary of the Council; Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee, writer; Mrs. Tubman's biographer, Earl Conrad of PM's staff, and these relatives of Mrs. Tubman: Mrs. Carroll Johnson, Auburn, N. Y., Mrs. Thelma Frazier and Hilda Proctor, Yonkers.

The Council will campaign to sell

Harriet Tubman

$2,000,000 worth of War Bonds to pay for the ship. 5-28-44

Mrs. Tubman is the first Negro woman for whom a ship will be named in this war. She was active in the last century as a leader of the Underground Railroad; as a soldier, nurse and spy during the Civil War, and later as a suffragist.

Liberty Ship Is Named for Daughter of Slaves

Defender - Chicago, Ill. 5-20-44

South Portland, Me., May 29 (AP).—Mrs. Roosevelt

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt said:

Commends Naming

Thursay expressed to In her letter, Mrs. Roosevelt said: I am happy to learn that the

Concil of Negro Women Maritime Comission has named a

ng the the Maritime Liberty ship in honor of a distin-

has named a Liberty guished woman. This Liberty ship

e of America's most v'll carry war materials to our

Tubman, daughter of slaves and women. Mrs. Harriet fighting men in all parts of the

friend of Negroes who founded the the first ship to be used in

Harriet Tubman Home for Indigent Of Ship 'Tubman'

Negroes, will be launched here Sat- 5-11-44

urday from the ways of the New

England Shipbuilding corporation.

(Washington Bureau of the Atlanta

defense of thos e principles that Mrs. Tubman sought to establish and which American women now, regardless of race, color or creed are determined to see through to victoy. I wish for the National Concil of Negro Women and the members of Mrs. Tubman's family success in this important undertaking." 5-19-44

The naming of the ship was initiated by the NCNW, which organization will sponsor the launching.

Launching of SS Harriet Tubman Held Honor to Negro Women

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
6-2-44

The naming of a Liberty Ship after the famed abolitionist Harriet Tubman is a demonstration of "the progressive character of the war and a blow against the white supremacists," Audley Moore, national committee member of the Communist Political Association, said yesterday.

The Liberty Ship, SS Harriet Tubman, which will be launched this Saturday at Portland, Me., was promoted by Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women. Miss Moore is a member of the Council's executive board.

"This is indeed a signal honor for the Negro women of America and marks a milestone on the uphill road to victory," Miss Moore emphasized. "Harriet Tubman was known as the Moses of her people. She was also a great organizer of the underground railroad for escaped slaves."

Mrs. Tubman is the first Negro woman for whom a ship is named in this war.

led by Mary Church Terrell, historian of the Council. Miss Bethune's illness prevents her from attending the ceremony. Others who will take part are Jeanetta Welch Brown, executive secretary of the Council; Mrs. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee, writer; Earl Conrad, biographer of the Civil War leader; and Mrs. Carroll Johnson, Mrs. Thelma Frazier and Hilda Proctor, relatives of Mrs. Tubman. 6-2-44

The Council will campaign to sell $2,000,000 of war bonds to pay for the ship.

HARRIET TUBMAN

Mrs. D. S. Northup, a grandniece of Mrs. Tubman, will christen the boat. The launching will be

Publisher, State Dept. Aide Honored By Gou

Tribune - Phila., Pa. 3-18-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The naming of the tenth and eleventh Liberty Ships in honor of outstanding colored Americans was announced this week by the U. S. Maritime Commission.

The S. S. Robert S. Abbott has been assigned to the Permanent Metals corporation's Richmond, Calif., Yard No. 2.

The S. S. Edward A. Savoy has not yet been assigned to a shipyard. 3-18-44

The Robert S. Abbott will pay tribute to the founder of the Chicago Defender, died February 29, 1940. He was born at St. Simon's Island, Ga., in 1870 and educated at Claflin College, Orangeburg, S. C., Hampton Institute, Va., and the Kent College of Law in Chicago. His paper is circulated to thousands at home and abroad.

Savoy was a resident of the nation's capital, where he was born in 1855. Savoy served sixty-four years with the State Department and was with the United Peace Commission in Paris at the close of the Spanish-American War.

14th liberty ship named for a Negro

Tribune - Chicago, Ill.

BALTIMORE—The S.S. Edward A. Savoy, the 361st Liberty ship to be launched at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard here, was named for a Negro who spent 64 years in government service, and was chief messenger to 22 Secretaries of State. 7-31-44

Mrs. Edward Savoy Morgan, of Washington, D. C., Savoy's daughter, was the sponsor.

Savoy was born in Washington and attended Howard university. In 1869 he became page boy to Secretary of State Hamilton Fish, starting a career of service which extended over a period of 64 years. President Woodrow Wilson, on recommendation of William Jennings Bryan, elevated Savoy to the rank and salary of clerk. His work was largely confidential and he numbered among his contacts many distinguished and famous personages. When he retired in 1933, he was called to the White House by President Roosevelt and thanked for "faithful and unique service to the government and the people of the United States."

Following the launching, Mrs. Morgan was presented with a diamond and ruby-studded wrist watch on behalf of the shipyard as a memento of the occasion.

Washington Des Moines
March 6, 1944

NAME LIBERTY SHIP FOR FOUNDER OF CHICAGO DEFENDER

Washington—The naming of the tenth and eleventh Liberty Ships in honor of outstanding Negro Americans was announced this week by the U. S. Maritime Commission. The S.S. Robert S. Abbott has been assigned to the Permanente Metals Corporation's Richmond, Calif., yard No. 2. The S. S. Edward A. Savoy has not yet been assigned to a shipyard.

The Robert S. Abbott will pay tribute to the Founder of The Chicago Defender, who died February 29, 1940. Mr. Abbott founded the Defender in 1905 and built it into one of the outstanding weekly publications in America. Born at St. Simon's Island, Ga., on November 24, 1870, Mr. Abbott was educated at Claflin Collefie, Orangeburg, S. C., Hampton Institute, Va., and the Kent College of Law in Chicago. At Hampton he learned the printer's trade and although he was a practicing attorney, he remained loyal to his trade, seeing a greater need for serving his race through public print. With borrowed capital, he founded the institution which he directed as the active head for 35 years.

Today the Chicago Defender is housed in its own plant and employs more than 100 persons. It is circulated to thousands of persons thruout America and abroad.

Ex-Welder Christens S.S. Bert Williams in Maine

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
11-25-44

(Photos on Page 3)

PORTLAND, Me. — Honoring the name of one of the great humorists of the American stage, the SS Bert Williams, built at Todd's New England Shipbuilding Corporation, slid down the ways Saturday into the waters of Casco Bay.

Mrs. Maxine R. David, wife of a leadman welder at the yard and a former welder herself, christened the Liberty Ship in the presence of a delegation from the Negro Actors' Guild of New York. Shipyard officials and a crowd of fellow workers were present.

Mrs. David was selected for the honor by her husband, who was chosen to pick a sponsor because of his perfect work and attendance record over a period of three years.

Following the launching, the sponsor, her husband and a dozen fellow workers, all with excellent attendance records, were given a luncheon by the company at a local hotel.

Elmer Carter Speaks

Andrew B. Sides, president of the NESC, presided and presented an engraved silver plate to Mrs. David.

Elmer Carter, executive chairman of the Negro Actors' Guild of America presented a framed painting of Bert Williams to the ship as a token from his organization.

Leigh Whipper, outstanding character actor, told a number of anecdotes about Bert Williams, with whom he was closely associated.

The SS Bert Williams was the 225th cargo vessel built by NESC and the third named for a colored person, the other two being the SS Robert L. Vann and the SS Harriet Tubman.

'JOHN HOPE' LAUNCHED

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
2-12-44

RICHMOND, Calif.—Under construction only 16 days, the 10,500-ton Liberty ship, "John Hope," the ninth named in honor of a famous Negro, was christened here with Mrs. Walter A. Gordon, prominent California society matron and civic leader, as sponsor.

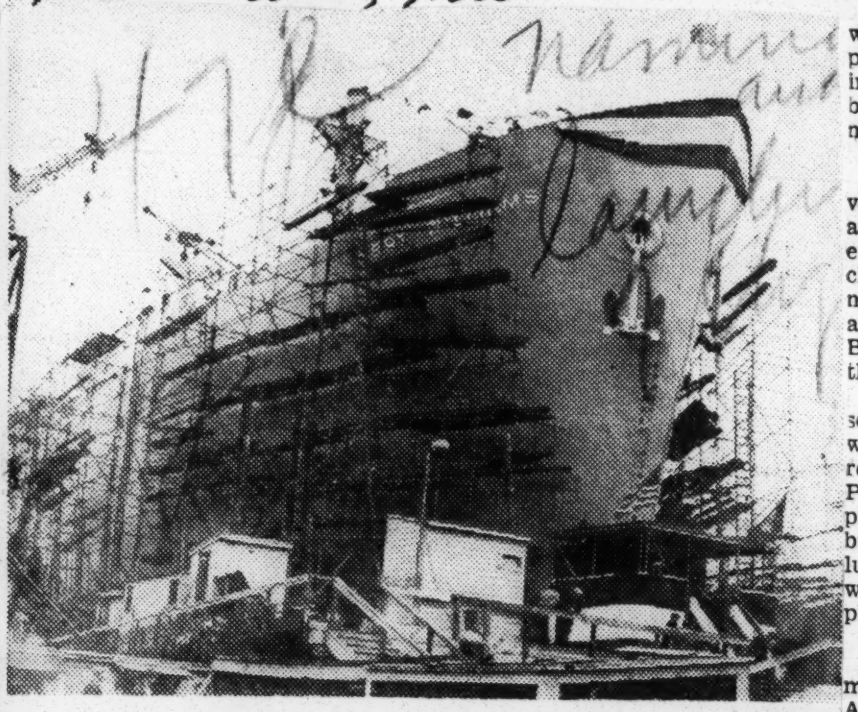
The "John Hope" was the 272nd built by men and the local shipyard, bearing the late Dr. John for 25 years the president of Morehouse college and of Atlanta, Ga., as national figure in YMCA and in

Naming and Launching of Ships

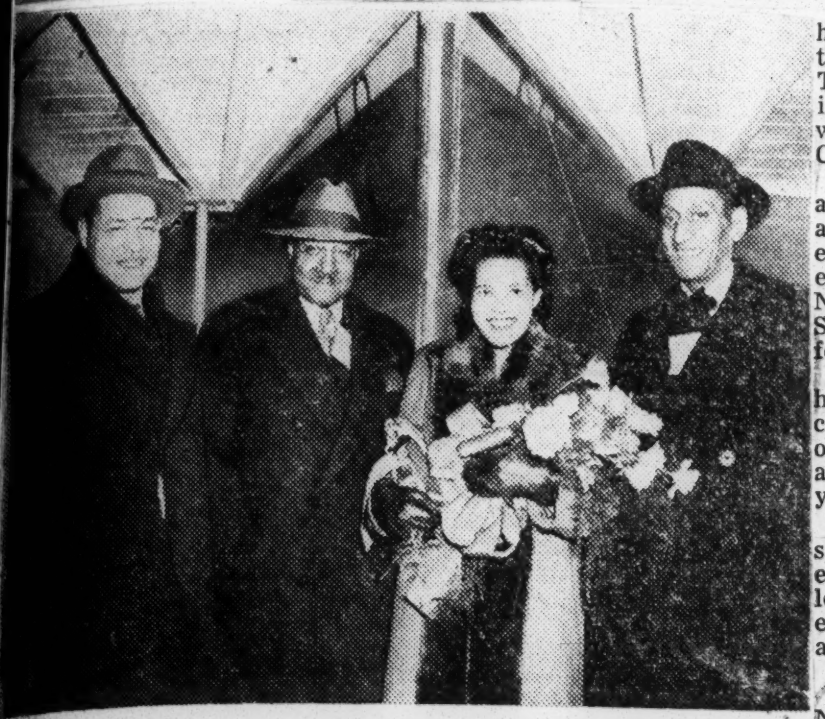
Serve at Christening of S.S. Bert Williams at Portland, Maine

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Maxine R. David, Portland, Me., wife of Leadman Welder Richard David, who was given the privilege of choosing his wife to sponsor the S.S. Bert Williams because of his outstanding work and attendance record.



The S.S. Bert Williams, 225th Liberty Ship built at New England Shipbuilding Corporation, a Todd affiliate at South Portland, Me., shown prior to its launching, November 18, which was attended by Negro Actors' Guild officers.



Sponsors group at the launching. Left to right, Richard David, husband of the sponsor; Elmer Carter, who presented a portrait of Bert Williams to the ship; Mrs. David, and Leigh Whipper, guild vice president.

Ex-Welder Christens S.S. Bert Williams in Maine

Afro American Baltimore Md. 11-25-44

(Photos on Page 3).

PORTLAND, Me. — Honoring the name of one of the great humorists of the American stage, the SS Bert Williams, built at Todd's New England Shipbuilding Corporation, slid down the ways Saturday into the waters of Casco Bay.

Mrs. Maxine R. David, wife of a leadman welder at the yard and a former welder herself, christened the Liberty Ship in the presence of a delegation from the Negro Actors' Guild of New York. Shipyard officials and a crowd of fellow workers were present.

Mrs. David was selected for the honor by her husband, who was chosen to pick a sponsor because of his perfect work and attendance record over a period of three years.

Following the launching, the sponsor, her husband and a dozen fellow workers, all with excellent attendance records, were given a luncheon by the company at a local hotel.

Elmer Carter Speaks

Andrew B. Sides, president of NESC, presided and presented an engraved silver plate to Mrs. David.

Elmer Carter, executive chairman of the Negro Actors' Guild of America, presented a framed painting of Bert Williams to the ship as a token from his organization.

Leigh Whipper, outstanding character actor, told a number of anecdotes about Bert Williams, with whom he was closely associated.

The SS Bert Williams was the 225th cargo vessel built by NESC and the third named for a colored person, the other two being the SS Robert L. Vann and the SS Harriet Tubman.

Liberty Ship Bert Williams Is Launched

N.Y. Amsterdam News

Portrait of Comedian Gift of Actors' Guild At Maine Ceremonies

12-2-44

Honoring the name of one of the great Negro humorists of the American stage, the Liberty Ship, SS Bert Williams, 225th cargo vessel to be built at Todd's New England Shipbuilding Corporation at South Portland, Maine, slid down the ways on November 18 into the waters of Casco Bay, the United States Maritime Commission announced this week.

Mrs. Maxine R. David, wife of a leadman welder on the third shift and a former welder herself, sponsored the ship in the presence of a delegation from the Negro Actors Guild of New York, a group of officials of the shipyard, and before a crowd of fellow workers. Mrs. David was selected for the honor by her husband, who was chosen to pick a sponsor due to his perfect work and attendance record in the yard over a period of three years working on the graveyard shift. This privilege is accorded various workers in the yard at New England Shipbuilding Corporation by the labor-management committee.

Launched Well

With a well-timed blow, Mrs. David smashed the beribboned bottle against the prow of the ship, showering bystanders with foaming champagne. The huge ship gained momentum and slid down the ways as the strains of the "Star-Spangled Banner" mingled with the cheers of the workers.

Following the launching the sponsor, her husband and a dozen fellow workers with excellent attendance records were given a luncheon at a Portland hotel. Andrew B. Sides, president of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation, presided at the luncheon and presented Mrs. David with the traditional engraved silver plate, as a memento of the occasion.

Painting Given

Elmer A. Carter, executive chairman of the Negro Actors Guild of America, presented a framed painting of Bert Williams to the ship as a token from his organization. Leigh Whipper, outstanding Negro character actor, told a number of amusing anecdotes about Williams, and praised the New England Shipbuilding Corporation for its selection of a Negro workman, who had helped build the ship, to choose a sponsor. He pointed out that it was evidence of true Americanism. Mr. Sides replied that the shipyard was proud of the excellent working record of its employees, white and Negro men and women, and pointed to evidence of it in the group seated at the luncheon table.

The launching of the SS Bert Williams brings to a total of three the number of Liberty Ships launched at the New England Shipbuilding Corporation in memory of outstanding members of the Negro race. Previously the SS Robert L. Vann and the SS Harriet Tubman were launched at this yard.

Fourteen Ships

The SS Bert Williams makes a total of 14 such ships named in honor of uotstanding Negro Americans by the United States Maritime Commission. Others have been the SS Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Frederick Douglass, John Merrick, James Weldon Johnson, John H. Murphy, Robert S. Abbott, Paul Laurence Dunbar, John Hope, Toussaint L'Overture and Edward A. Savoy.

The Navy Department has named a naval vessel, the destroyer escort Leonard Roy Harmon, in honor of a Negro mess attendant who received the Navy Cross posthumously for heroic conduct at Guadalcanal.

UN-COVERING WASHINGTON

Chicago, Ill. Defender

By HARRY S. McALPIN
White House Correspondent
(Copyrighted Thru Atlanta Daily World by NNPA)

WASHINGTON—There is a story been told. It came out during preparations for the launching of the S.S. Harriet Tubman.

Though Harriet Tubman left, squabbling as though a million dollar a Liberty Ship, was sched-

me and a repu- Mrs. Bethune as president of the
e "fightingest" National Council of Negro Women,
s produced, her which organization suggested Har-
have been riet Tubman's name to grace the
s in coin of the realm were at the life and works of Harriet Tub-
stake. man.

It all came about as result of the unfortunate and near-fatal illness of an equally illustrious character, Mary McLeod Bethune—who says much of her inspiration came from

in the launching of Liberty ships women humanity has produced,
named for Negroes which hasn't surviving relatives

uled to christen the floating queen among carriers of arms, men and supplies to the battlefronts. Her illness led the NCNW to seek a substitute—preferably the nearest of kin to the engineer of the Underground Railroad. A niece located in Baltimore felt she was too feeble and too old to make the trip to Portland, Maine. 6-3-44

Then came the deluge....

Claims of being the only living relative—charges of imposters—feuds as to whether one grandniece raised as a daughter by Mrs. Tubman was any nearer-kin or had any more right to christen the ship than a grandniece in whose home that illustrious woman died—all this and more descended upon the NCNW.

And Jeanetta Welch Brown, the efficient executive secretary of the NCNW, who handled the arrangements, shook her head and reluctantly agreed with John Carmody, member of the National Maritime Commission, who told her a few days before the launching ceremonies:

"We're trying to win a war and don't have time for all the fuss and fanfare which has arisen in every one of such cases."

There's a lot of eyebrow raising over in the Department of Agriculture, and among race relations advisers generally in Washington.

Sam Greer, special assistant to the administrator of Farm Security Administration, has gone into the armed forces. He was the unpopular, race relations officer of that agency.

A few days ago, all of Greer's office furniture was moved out of his late office and placed in storage.

Speculation is sweeping the clouds with rumors that the job will not be filled because Hennigan, the logical man for it is not a Barnett-Patterson protege and not inclined to follow in Greer's "uncle-like" strides. Hennigan is now attached to the information division of FSA.

And now, the two chief advisory spots in the department exclusive of the "free" advice from the special consultants to the secretary are rusting from non-use. Roberts' illness may force him to remain away for six months to a year more, and Greer is gone at least for the duration.

One reformed race-relations adviser has raised the question, along with her eyebrows, whether the Department of Agriculture has declared a moratorium on racial problems of the Negro farmers and the colored employees of the department. "If so they should share the secret of how to do it with us all," she said.

Close-up of Thompkinsville Base Where Democracy Works

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.
6-3-44

By HERMAN T. SMITH
(NNPA Pool Correspondent)

Democracy is really at work in Thompkinsville, Staten Island, where hundreds of Negro men are busily engaged in keeping Uncle Sam's big naval base tuned up for the job of winning a war.

This big base, located under the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, is symbolic of the real freedom that a democracy is supposed to be. Only a nickel is required for the ferry ride from the Battery to Thompkinsville and the trip can be made in 20 minutes.

Thompkinsville is a working and not a training base, which means that the men stationed here are trained elsewhere. Of the 12,000 men working 24 hrs. a day, 4,000 are Negroes, Capt. John M. Gill, the commanding officer said.

Capt. Gill, 58, is medium in height and impressive. He seems quite concerned about the Navy's new polcy on Negroes. His principal concern along this line is that the zeal of the Negro in the fight for equal rights might blind him to the responsibility those rights include.

The Main Handicap

Thompkinsville's commanding officer compared this danger to that of a swinging pendulum that was permitted to sway too far in one direction, thereby upsetting the power which keeps the pendulum in motion.

6-3-44

"This zeal, though justified," Capt. Gill said, "might upset the progress that has been made in the past two years, if not controlled."

The main handicap of the Negro in the Navy as seen by Capt. Gill is "that the Negro has not been a going race," and further stated ptain Gill, "to be around boats is know them, and time training d experience plus hard work are only factors on which a man advance in the Navy.

Captain Gill showed an intimate owledge of his men when he called name several outstanding colormen on the post. He was ematic that there shall be no segreion or discrimination on his base er than the men themselves work

6-3-44

Integration

t Thompkinsville colored and ite live in the same quarters, eat ether in the same mess hall, use same recreational facilities and k together in all capacities acding to their rating and skill.

found Negroes operating high vered cranes, tugs and other high vered machines. There are colld yeomen such a Y|3c Benjamin , from Cleveland, Ohio, and four er men that were not on duty accounts. On this same boat are Lester Earl Hone, S1c, from Camden, N. J., Robert Gadson, S1c from New York City, and Ferrol Gibbs, F1c, from Washington, D. C.

6-3-44

Most Highly Trained

The most highly trained man I met on the base is Henry A. Martin, SpO2|c, of Chicago, Ill. In speaking of Mr. Martin, Captain Gill classed him in his work, as one of the most important men on the post. As at the time of my visit.

There are storekeepers such as Sk3c, Eddie Bernard from Indianapolis, Ind., and Warren W. Mariner Sk3c, from Brooklyn, N. Y.

In the machine shop colored number about 9% of the total personnel. Men like Theodore Pack MM2c, from East Liverpool, O., and Ellis W. McCauley MM2c, from Port Arthur, Tex., both men high school graduates and no machine shop training before joining the Navy.

In the machine shop also was Wilbur Tucker, MM2c from Enterprise, Alabama with two years high school training. In the ship fitting and metalsmith shop, I met such men as Louis Durald, M2c, a former carpenter from New Orleans, La., three years high school training, and Stanley McMullin, M2c, from Trenton, N. J., a high school graduate and former metalsmith student in a NYA project.

6-3-44

There are eight other colored working in this shop but were off duty at the time of my call.

In the electric shop there are twelve colored out of a total of 75 workers. I talked with Ashton J. Bird, EM2c from Baton Rouge, La., who works on batteries and the wiring of motors. He is a high school graduate and was a carpenter before entering the Navy.

On board a net tender I talked with Willard Bland, MMic, a young man from Chicago, Ill., was a syrup mixer before entering the Navy, and five other men. On a navy tug boat I found colored performing almost every task, such as Frederick Douglas Dennis, QM2c, from Brinkley, Ark. Before entering the Navy, Mr. Dennis was teaching school in Arkansas. His duties on his boat are to keep the shop's log, keep ship's charts corrected, file crews, weekly muster and keep crew pay oil specialist second class, Martin's duties are to test all oil used in the motors of ships and all other machines operating in our out of the base. He has a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan. He was a classmate and is a personal friend of Louis Martin, publisher of the Michigan Chronicle. Until coming to Thompkinsville, Martin had received all his naval training in the handling of fire arms, but as soon as his chemical background was discovered at this base he was changed to his present position with an up in rating. Before entering the Navy he was a trouble shooter for the Commonwealth Edison Company of Chicago.

Recently a colored man was recommended for a commission from this base, and is now an Ensign serving temporarily at Great Lakes. He is youthful J. E. Hare, Ensign D|V (s) U.S.N.R., whose home is Fort Pierce, Florida. Ensign Hare, 25, attended Bethune Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Fla., and holds a Ph.D. degree from Xavier University, New Orleans, La. Captain Gill says that he is hoping that Mr. Hare will be sent back to serve at Thompkinsville.

6-3-44

50 Negro Sailors Draw Sentences

8 To 15 Years Meted Out On Charges Of Mutiny

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18—(AP)—Prison sentences ranging from 8 to 15 years were meted out today, to 50 U. S. Navy negro enlisted men who refused to load ammunition at Mare Island Navy Yard a few weeks after the nearby Port Chicago disaster, in which 322 men were killed.

The Twelfth Naval district announced that the entire 50, convicted of mutiny by court martial last month, drew "initial sentence's" of 15 years, but that Rear Admiral Carleton H. Wright, commandant of the district, already has ordered mitigation of the sentences of 40 of the men, because of their youth, previous clear records, or short period of service to prepare them for navy discipline at dangerous tasks.

Sentences began to run Nov. 15 and they are subject to further review by the Judge Advocate General of the Navy, the Bureau of Personnel and the Secretary of the Navy. They may be further mitigated upon review, but not increased.

MERCHANT SEAMEN AHOY

The Southern squawk that whites are dying for colored people does not apply in the Merchant Marine.

The National Maritime Union has 85,000 members. Nearly one-tenth (8,000) are colored. They include three colored ship captains (Godfrey, Mulzac, and Richardson) and a large number of colored ship officers.

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
3rd

Captain Mulzac has completed seven Atlantic crossings with supplies, munitions and explosives. Harold Harper, a messman, has survived the sinking of six ships.

The secretary of the Maritime Union is Ferdinand Smith. He's colored. Colored and white are hired from the same halls, sleep and eat together on the same ships.

Everybody shares the same risks; everybody has the same chance of promotion.

9-2-44

That is the way it ought to be in the Army and Navy. Is the Laurinburg, N.C., Exchange willing to work for that? If it can be put over, white boys will not have to die for anybody but themselves.

afford to overlook the basic fact that the Army and Navy are instruments belonging to the American people. When there is no war, we keep (or should keep) the Army and Navy in good condition, ready to be called upon when we

The People Must Be Careful
To See That Army and Navy Do
Source of Authority

THE HORIZON

By P. L. PRATTIS

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.
11-4-44

WE want to support our Army and Navy in every way possible. We must do that. We must work harder, give more and complain less about our petty, personal privations. The biggest job before us is the job the Army and Navy are undertaking to perform. But this does not mean that we can

Navy Jim Crow

Dear Editor: PM 11-26-44

Thank you very much for the sympathetic account of my discharge from the Navy. I am sure it will do much, not only to aid us in obtaining an honorable discharge, but will also hasten the breakdown of Jim-crow in the armed forces.

In pointing out to the reporter who interviewed me the help which I have obtained in my case, I tried to emphasize the help which I have obtained from the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces. This is an organization devoted exclusively to the problem of segregation in the Army and Navy and has been of the greatest help and encouragement to me in my fight for an honorable discharge. It has obtained counsel to represent, not only me, but four other Seabees before the Naval Board of Review—Harvey Steele, Robert L. Mims, J. L. Donaldson, and Clarence O. Clarke. It has retained as counsel Mr. Gerald Weatherly, who is associated with Mr. Arthur Garfield Hays. The NAACP, the CIO War Relief Committee, and the American Civil Liberties Union are also co-operating in the case.

New York

ISAAC G. McNATT

are confronted by the task for which we create and maintain them. But, in time of peace, when there is no great use for the Army and Navy, we carry on as a Nation. In time of peace, other instruments (such as the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Commerce, or the Postoffice or Labor departments) may be more important. Each of these instruments, these departments, is designed to serve the Nation. It is but a part of a system of Government created by the people to serve them in case of need. Each is, or should be, subservient to the Chief Executive, the Congress and the courts. Each is supposed to take its orders from popularly elected representatives of the people. These departments, or their agents, are not expected to tell the people what to do. The people tell them.

Mr. Pratt's

BOSS CREATOR

IT is important that we should remember this. The chances are that no one person, or set of persons, in the Department of the Interior or the Department of Commerce, would take their jobs so seriously that they would think they should be running the Nation. Usually, the leadership in these agencies fit easily into the positions designed for it and stays put. But that is not so true of the Army and Navy, particularly when they have been called into action. Theirs is a tremendous job involving, at times, the life or death of the Nation. It is perhaps understandable that sometimes they should come to feel that their creator belongs to them just because their creator has to use them. The bureaucracy in civilian departments doesn't begin to possess the potential dangers of bureaucratic Army and Navy leadership. This bureaucracy, conscious of its importance because of the job it has to do and favored by the dramatic qualities of its work, is all too often prone to regard with obvious disdain the people for whom it works.

Armies and navies make or break nations. The laboratory test before our eyes is in South America where, from time to time, the armies effect changes in government and seize control. Batista, army sergeant, led the uprising in Cuba. Ramirez, army general, seized control in Argentina. Bolivia was recently upset by an army coup.

IN OUR WORLD

THE chances are that our Army and Navy leadership does not think in the above terms, not too seriously. But one cannot be too sure that our Army and Navy are amenable to the direction of the people whom they serve. It is easy to gain the impression that the Army and Navy bureaucracy believes its business to be its business—not the people's. These departments operate within a world of their own and under a government of their own. Practically their only gesture to the people is made when they ask the Congress to turn over to them the money of the taxpayers. Every other contact the people seek is barred on grounds of military security.

Thus when the Army and Navy make a mistake, it is not considered the people's business. The people are not told unless special pressures are exerted. The people of the Nation have been told that the conquest of Sicily was a glorious adventure. That was not true. There are fundamental blunders in the Sicilian campaign which should have been marked by the removal from service of those responsible for them. If anybody has been punished, the people have not been informed. The people have not even been told what happened.

DON'T FIRE GENERALS

THE danger from this disposition of the Army and the Navy (as in the Coral sea engagement) to withhold knowledge from the people resides in the fact that the Army and Navy might be losing the war for us and we would know nothing about it until the conqueror was on our shores. When an aide to Secretary of the Interior Ickes was caught in a little alleged forgery, he quickly lost his job. But what has happened to the high officers responsible for the shooting of American paratroops at the beginning of the invasion of Sicily? Why did the Army have to be forced to release the Patton story? Why was Kwajalein taken so easily and Tarawa at such heavy cost? How are we to know when the high command does wrong? The Russians have, figuratively, chopped off the heads of generals who failed in campaigns. So have the Germans. So have the Japanese. So have the British. Are we to presume that all our generals have been so successful that no axe has been merited?

That may be true. God knows we all hope it is true. But the Nation cannot survive on hope alone. The Army and Navy must not be allowed to drift away from their proper controls which are civilian in nature. The citizen is still the component part of this democracy and such authority as the Army and Navy enjoy are limited by the will of the people.

There doubtless is no such thing as a military democracy. But we must be careful in such times as these that no such tendency gains headway. The Army and Navy must be given as much freedom as possible to do their jobs, but it must never be forgotten that this freedom is a grant, rooted in the people. The disposition of Army and Navy men to grow big in their own sights is one reason we should curb our enthusiasm to make an admiral or a general President.

Capt. Mulzac Visits Naples

Vessel Completes 7th Atlantic Crossing

S.S. Booker T. Carries Load of Ammunition

SKIPPER TIRED

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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NAPLES (By Cable) — Capt. Hugh Mulzac, veteran merchant skipper, was a visitor here this week, marking the secoid time in five months that he has brought his liberty ship, the Booker T. Washington, to this wartime seaport loaded with supplies and ammunition.

The trip also was Captain Mulzac's seventh crossing of the sub-infested Atlantic in two years. As in previous crossings, he employed a mixed crew headed by Clifton Lastic, chief mate; Cecil Blackman, chief radio operator; John Garrett, chief engineer, all of New York City; and Antonio Perry, steward, of Boston.

Trip Not So Bad

"All voyages are tough as we have a big job to do, but this last one was not as bad as some of the others," the captain told a group of newspapermen.

The bespectacled captain, who has had thirty-eight years at sea, hinted that he was tired and might seek a long rest whenever he gets back to States.

He has been guiding military supplies to important ports for two consecutive years with only brief rest periods between trips.

Too Few Trained Seamen

He also lamented the lack of more properly trained men to enter the maritime service, emphasizing that they are missing a golden opportunity as it is essential to take advantage of expert training now offered before it is too late.

The 10,000-ton Liberty ship, rated by port experts as one of the best to dock at its present port, made the trip without untoward incident.

Charles E. Simmons, former Morehouse students of Atlanta, made his first trip serving as the Booker T.'s third radio operator.

Among other members of the crew were: Milton Carter, Leo Gordon, Charles Mapp, all of New York City; and William Jones of Philadelphia.

They Help to Raise IQ of Navy Recruits

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-5-44

8-5-44

Staff of the Remedial School at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, front row: Donald Seymour, S1c, Indianapolis; David Steele, Sp(T)3c, High Point, N.C.; James S. Peters, Sp(T)2c, Monroe, La.; Ensign Nelson, James A. Boyer. Sp(T)2c, Raleigh; Wilbur A. Millard, Sp(T)3c Washington; Lawrence E. Woodson, Sp(T)3c, St. Louis; standing, Bladen O. Robinson, S1c, Manassas, Va.; Joseph E. Brinson, S2c, Thomasville, Ga; Lyman T. Johnson, S2c, Louisville, Ky.; Joseph L. Langhorne, S1c, Washington; Robert L. Edwards, S1c, Calhoun, Ala.; George P. Fennell, S1c, Goldsboro; Russell R. Lawson, S2c, Louisville; Alfonso E. Steward, Y3c, Peoria, Ill.; Leon W. Taylor, S1c, Centerville, Md.; Floyd M. Campbell, S2c, Memphis; Walter A. Browne, S1c, Philadelphia; Bruce H. Evans, Sp(T)3c, Chicago; Romeo C. Henderson, S1c, Salisbury; and C. B. Cook, Jr., Sp(T)3c, Cleveland, Ohio (Official U.S. Navy Photo)

graduate from Naval training

GREAT LAKES, Illinois--Seven Pennsylvania men were among those graduating from intensive courses of specialized training at recent service school ceremonies here at the U. S. Naval training center.

The recent graduates will take their rates on the school ship Wolverine. William [illegible], 17, 22 Broadway, Upper Darby, Pa., and Herman Asher, 22, 1511 Irvine avenue, Clairton, Pa., seaman's training; Charles L. Corbett, 25, 1941 South 15th street, Norton, Pa., training; Albert [illegible], 20, 613-6th St., aviation metalsmith training; Ernest L. Rope, [illegible] Glenwood avenue, Shore Patrol School; Ernest A. Bowyer, 18, [illegible] 15th street, Monongahela, Pa., training; Robert L. Johnson, [illegible] 151 West Diamond, Uniontown, Pa., with.

No Discrimination Aboard Navy Ship in South Pacific

AFRO-American Balt., Md.
12-23-44

By PAUL MACON, BM1/C, USNR

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC—Here today, over 14,000 miles from America, men of diversified ratings, of various races from all parts of America and every walk of life have the very same routine, share and share alike and there is no friction.

Yes, serving here in foreign waters of vital importance are cooks, bakers, but there are also firemen, yeomen, motor machinists, electricians, carpenters, storekeepers, coxswains and boatswain's mates.

They're Not All Laborers

The popular belief that colored sailors serve in ammunition depots and shipyards only is erroneous. Overseas they are serving in the most vital areas, in enemy waters doing a job that is as important as your eating to keep alive.

Relations between crewmen and officers of the ship remind one of the vessel under Capt. Hugh Mulzac. The men are not a lot of messmen and many have served aboard the finest seagoing vessels in the navy.

With my fellow seamen, all survivors of great naval battles who have been through hell and high water together, a company of several hundred men, this thing called "segregation" is a myth. We work in perfect harmony and co-ordination.

Among these men are:

Charles E. Dimmitt, cox., Indianapolis, Ind.; Frank J. Moore, slc., Baltimore; Vernon J. Martinez, BM2c, Baltimore;

Addis M. Davis, Y3c, Chicago; Rufus Williams, EM3c, Tampa, Fla.; Granville White, GM2c, Shores, Va.; Theodore R. Richardson, GM1c, Pittsburgh, Pa.;

James E. Purnell, slc., Wilmington, Del.; James W. Little, cox., Baltimore; Edward A. Carter, slc., Philadelphia; Stanton B. Shaw, PHM3c, Washington, D.C.; William T. Johnson, SK3c, Chicago; Julius McKinley, CM3c, Indiana Harbor, Ind.; Eugene P. Thomas, slc, Chicago.

Graduates of Radioman School at Great Lakes

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 12-2-44

12-2-44

No. 1—Left to right are Walter Lott, Chicago; Eddie James, Bronx, N.Y., and Roosevelt Smith, Edwards, Miss., three of the eleven graduated from the Radioman School at Great Lakes, Ill., and advanced from seaman second class to seaman first class during special exercises recently. No. 2—Alwan Griffith, New Bedford, Mass., who was presented a special certificate as honor man of his class with an average of 87.70 during the special exercises at Camp Robert Smalls. No. 3—Ralph Sears, Los Angeles. No. 4—Daniel Morgan, Youngstown, Ohio. No. 5—Ulysses Rodney, New Orelans. No. 6—Donald Johnson, Corapolis, Pa. Other graduates were Oliver Brown, New York City; Horace Walker, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Frank Armstrong, also of Brooklyn.

11-18-44

PETER M. DANIELS, (left) South African merchant seaman, relates his narrow escapes from a watery grave to his friend, Tom East, well known local athlete, whom he met years ago in South Africa, where East was born.

Merchant Seaman Survives Dunkirk, Torpedoing To Meet Local Family

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

11-18-44

If you think that you have heard some pretty far fetched war stories, hold your hats 'cause here comes an actual one that proves—Truth is stranger than fiction.

Peter M. Daniels, 37-year old merchant seaman, was at Cherburg when the war broke out, participated in the evacuation of Dunkirk, was in the first blitz over London, and also at the fiasco of Crete.

Wait—it's not over yet, he was torpedoed in the Red Sea and adrift in a lifeboat for two weeks before landing at Port Sedan, and finaily was again torpedoed off Cape Hatteras, and adrift in the open sea for twenty-four hours.

That should be about enough, but I forgot to mention that he spent three weeks in a Turkish hospital after being wounded at Crete.

11-18-44

The world-travelled seaman is a friend of the late Rev. J. E. East, whom he had met while in South Africa, where Rev Mr. East was serving as a missionary, Daniels was plying the seven seas.

The story-book hero contacted the East family after 22 years of silence through the Foreign Mission Board in Capetown, Africa when he got here last week, he paid the Easts a visit at their West Philadelphia home.

Navy School Doing A Magnificent Job

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va!

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA Correspondent

5-20-44

HAMPTON, Va.—We have long sought the "cup of the Holy Grail" in the Navy. A reasonable facsimile exists here at the United States Naval Training School on the campus of Hampton Institute, where democracy gives a command performance.

The training school is one of the two class "A" service schools—the other being at Great Lakes—where colored candidates with special aptitudes and skills along mechanical and technical lines are able to receive advance training in electricity, forging and welding, diesel engineering, carpentry, shipfitting, coxswain's duties, and as cooks and bakers.

Nowhere else in the Navy can colored coxswains be trained.

COMMANDER'S ATTITUDE

Under Commander E. H. Downes, USNR, from Dover, Del., who bears a striking resemblance to Thomas Mitchell and Pat O'Brien of cinematic fame, this unit of the training program of the Navy bids fair to answer many questions regarding the integration of the Negro into this branch of the service.

Here, the trainees are not considered as colored sailors, but as sailors of the United States Navy.

Said Commander Downes: "I want my men to be part of the team and not apart from it."

The motto of this naval base is: "Competency gains respect" and by this means the men in training hope to prove that they do belong.

ELIGIBLE FOR RATINGS

Graduates of the school are strikers (working towards) for ratings as petty officers, but some of them like Berkley D. Williams, MoMM 1/c (motor machinist's mate, first class) from Washington, D. C., who is skilled in both the diesel and electrical fields, and 28-year-old Joseph Gilliard, M 1/c (metalsmith) from Greenville, S. C., who started the first ceramic class at his alma mater, Hampton, and is now in charge of the model shop—where visual aid models are made for use in the courses of instruction, are rated as petty officers when they leave the school.

His products are now being used by many other naval training schools and large industrial concerns throughout the country.

5-20-44

Others, like James S. Barham, Cps (T) from Graham, N. C., and a Hampton graduate now instructing in shipfitting, received their petty officer's ratings when they volunteered for military service.

HAS TRAINED 2,500

The school was officially opened Sept. 12, 1942, with a beginning class of 128. Since that time some 2,500 have graduated and are now giving their services in our great two-ocean Navy. Attending the school at the present time are 800 trainees. As each class graduates a new one enters.

Numerous letters and verbal expressions of satisfaction by officers have been forwarded to the command here attesting to the competence of the men trained at this base. Five of the recently commissioned colored ensigns, first in the Navy, are Hampton NTS products.

When the training has been completed the men are either sent to base installations or to serve with the fleet. All, with the exception of the coxswains, will work below deck (assigned stations). The coxswains, of course, will work atop deck.

PREVIOUS PREPARATION

5-20-44

Those assigned here either possess high educational qualifications or practical experience gained in civilian life. In general they hail from sections where educational standards are relatively high. The percentage of failures averages only about four per cent out of each class.

It requires 16 weeks to complete the course. In practical work it is equivalent to that of two years in the average college.

More emphasis is placed upon practical work than upon theory. The curriculum has been boiled down to the barest essentials. Mathematics including calculus and trigonometry, has been simplified. If a trainee makes the honor roll eight out of the first 12 weeks he is granted 71 hours of liberty.

PURPOSE OF SCHOOL

The purpose of the training school is to "Teach trainees to do better those things they are likely to be required to do afterwards."

These men are fine examples of military discipline and courtesy. Cases involving rule infractions appearing before the captain's mast (court martial) are relatively few.

Civilians, white and colored, admit that the conduct of the men is exemplary. Older trainees take recruits in tow and put them "on the ball" as regards conduct.

On inspection and parade they appear sharp, smart, and excellent. They are an asset to the country and to the service to which they are attached.

5-20-44

LIKE THEIR CAPTAIN

The trainees like the "Captain," as they affectionately call their commander. Many are desirous of serving with him wherever he goes. No Navy man, as a rule, can stay on duty ashore longer than two years without putting out to sea.

Every few weeks white officers who will soon have the opportunity of commanding Negro personnel arrive at Hampton for the purpose of indoctrination so that they can learn "the proper way" and acquaint themselves with the way Negroes respond to democratic treatment—asking no more and no less than any other trainee of similar status.

The command does not tolerate those who exercise opposite ideas on the subject. Those who do not measure up to this requirement usually find assignments elsewhere.

Yes, here is one spot in the Navy where democracy is not a rumor. It is working fine . . . and below the Mason-Dixon line.

Hampton men are proud of their training and are looking forward to doing their share for victory.

Reporter Describes Exploits Of 1st Negro-Manned Warship

Amsterdam News — New York N.Y.

Tan Yanks in Navy Get Baptism of Fire In First Engagement as a Combat Unit

9-2-44

By THOMAS W. YOUNG
U. S. War Correspondent

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ABOARD THE USS MASON AT SEA—(Delayed)—Tan Yanks in Navy blue have taken their place beside Uncle Sam's fighting men of the Army Air Forces who are now battling Nazi pilots in the skies over Europe and of infantry and armored regiments of the 93rd Division, fighting Japs through the jungles of Pacific islands.

Now it can be said accurately that Negroes are fighting "on land, on sea, and in the air," in combat units of United States forces engaged in the world-wide struggle for democratic principles.

Negro bluejackets of the Navy are the latest to receive their baptism as a combat unit. The destroyer escort USS Mason, manned by a predominantly colored crew of specialists and technicians is nearing an East Coast port after successful completion of its first combat assignment.

9-2-44

With Destroyer-Escort Task Force

The Mason was part of a task force of destroyer - escorts which shepherded a convoy of merchant ships from an East Coast port last June across the German submarine hunting grounds of the Atlantic Ocean to Allied ports in Europe. Not a ship was lost. Nor did either the merchant vessels or escorting warships sustain even the slighest damage as a result of enemy action.

This odyssey was both the fulfillment of a promise and the answer to a question. Several months ago the Navy Department announced that one of its new destroyer-escorts and a patrol craft would be manned by Negro crews. In March of this year the USS Mason was commissioned at Boston, Mass., and complemented with a predominantly Negro crew. Since then practically nothing has been heard of this destroy-escort.

Goes To War—History Is Made

During the weeks and months intervening, however, its crew was being trained and conditioned, and the vessel itself subjected to a routine "shakedown" to test her fitness for combat duty.

One June 14 she left an Atlantic Coast port and took her station in a formation with other similar destroyer-escorts to guard a convoy of merchantmen loaded with vital war materials across the Atlantic. That was the fulfillment of the Navy's promise to send colored bluejackets to sea as fighting men on a fighting ship.

9-2-44

An Answer To Some Questions

And for the Negro public it helped to answer the oft-asked question, "what is becoming of all the highly trained specialists and other rated men turned out at Great Lakes and the Hampton Naval Training School?" Some of them are now on the Mason helping to rid the oceans of enemy submarines.

As these Negro bluejackets went to sea to set a new precedent and to break down an age-old policy which had restricted their service on U. S. warships to the steward's (formerly messmen's) branch, still another precedent was established when this reporter put to sea aboard the USS Mason on its maiden combat voyage as the first Negro fully accredited as a Navy war correspondent aboard a warship.

9-2-44

The full story of this historic voyage — its dangers, its exciting moments, its humor and pathos, its realism flowing from the sincere and unselfish devotion to duty by the crew and from their unrealized or frustrated ambitions — will be told in the columns of this paper during the next several weeks.

Highlights of First Voyage

With the war against the deadly submarine menace in the Atlantic swiftly coming to a close, it becomes increasingly difficult for the hunters of these underseas raiders to locate and destroy their prey. On the trip across no U-boat attacked our convoy or challenged the might of the escort warships bristling with anti-submarine weapons and armament.

After the relatively slow and sometimes tedious trip eastward, at the end of which we delivered our cargo ships without loss, most of the men were genuinely disappointed because they had not had a chance to strike a real blow at the enemy or to match their courage and skill against that of the Nazi raiders.

9-2-44

Comes A Thrilling Break

Then came one of the greatest thrills of the entire trip when we learned that our task force, consisting entirely of destroyer escorts, was to return to the United States, without a convoy, as a "killer group." This time we were to go off the defensive and take the offensive.

Dailies Omit News of Negro Gunners' Heroism as Destroyer Lansdale Sinks

The Call — Kansas City Kans.

NEW YORK. 2-19-44 Most daily newspapers and the big press associations failed to identify a Negro gun crew on the destroyer Lansdale whose sinking on April 20, was announced by the Navy Department May 10.

Among New York papers, the Daily News was the only one to mention the Negro gun crew. It used the following language: "Although the ship was torn almost in half, her gunners fought on and shot down at least two of the attackers (German planes). One gun, manned by Negro mess attendants, kept firing after the deck was awash and brought down one plane."

The United Press account, carried by the World Telegram, used the following language: "Al-

the ship had been torn almost in half, the Lansdale gunners fought on, downing at least two of the attacking planes. One of the planes was shot down even while the deck was awash."

The New York Times, in a special story from its Washington Bureau, used the following language: "Some of her heroic gunners, 'deaf' to the captain's orders to 'abandon ship' kept on shooting even after the deck was awash....."

The Associated Press account mentioned far down in the story the fact that colored mess attendants manned one of the guns.

Democracy in Command Performance at Hampton

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Commander Says "I Want My Men to Be Part of the Team (U.S. Navy) Not Apart from It"

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA Correspondent

HAMPTON, Va. —We have long sought the "cup of the Holy Grail" in the navy. A reasonable facsimile exists here at the United States Naval Training School on the campus of Hampton Institute. I saw democracy give a command performance. 5-13-44

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Not Considered "Colored"

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Hampton men are proud of their training and are looking forward to doing their share for victory.

Shun WAVES, Says Sailor; "We Catch Hell in Navy"

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

9-2-44 WASHINGTON

"The Navy has been 'open' to colored men for about 2 years and 4 months, many have gone to service schools, those who did not were assigned to 'general detail' (labor) at naval stations and bases, while white men went to sea," a sailor who urged colored women to keep out of the WAVES, declared last week.

Continuing, he added:

"The attitude of Navy officials seems to be that, since the colored American beefed so much about joining the Navy, we'll let them in on our own terms and dispose of them in any way we like, treatment accorded our men in the Navy as a result causing many to become draft dodgers.

"Many men, feeling that they could be something else besides messmen," he declared, "come in with the desire to progress but found, too late, when they requested duty that seamen aboard aircraft carriers, PT boats and the like are all white."

Forced to Serve as Messmen

"The Navy needed messmen (now called steward's mates), so many men taken in the draft were sent directly into the fleet and shore stations as messmen without boot training and told they had to serve as messmen.

"I know of ten men who went to the brig because of protests against this. 9-2-44

"Others who resented such treatment were sent to boot camps earmarked for labor stations such as ammunition depots. Colored men man entirely every ammunition depot in America. Port Chicago is an example.

Men Beaten in Brig

"For laborers such as stevedores advancement is slow, discipilne strict, minor offenses being paramount to capital crimes, and Gobs have been known to suffer beatings in the brig at the hands of Marine guards in defiance of Navy Article 49, which bans fighting of men held in punishment.

"I know of a recent case of this sort and a number of my shipmates know of many others as well. Yes, the colored Navy officer is a big advancement, but still a symbol. We are proud of our officers although we are not permitted to serve under them.

"God only knows it, but we're catching hell. The public has no idea of the abuse and maltreatment we undergo, but where there's life, there's hope and with the help of our people, we'll survive because we know that our race is behind us."

Navy Swears In First Negro Lieutenant

5-17-44

Lt. Edward Swain Hope, of the Civil Engineer Corps, USNR, first Negro to hold the rank of Naval Lieutenant, is shown after he was sworn with his wife, Mrs. Marion C. Hope, and two sons, J. Linn Hope, 5, and Edward Swain Hope, Jr., 9. Formerly Superintendent of Building and Grounds at Howard University, Hope has been assigned to the U. S. Naval Construction Training Center at Davisville, R. I. *Official U. S. Navy Photograph*

PM-New York, N.Y.

Lieutenant Sworn Into Navy

Daily Worker- Atlanta, Ga. 5-18-44

5-18-44

Edwin Swain Hope, of Washington, D. C., son of the late President John Hope of Atlanta University, is shown being sworn in as a Navy lieutenant May 15 by Lieutenant Commander H. B. Atkinson, USNR, Executive Officer of the Office of Naval Officer Procurement of Washington. Lt. Hope is the first Negro to hold the rank of lieutenant in the Navy. (Official U. S. Navy Photo from OWI) (See story below.)

Atlantan First Negro Navy Engineer Officer

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.

5-18-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (SNS) — Lieut. Edward Swain Hope, Civil Engineer Corps, USNR, was sworn into the Navy Monday, May 15, as the first Negro to hold the rank of Lieutenant in that branch of the armed forces the Navy Department announcd this week.

Lt. Comdr. H. B. Atkinson, USNR, Executive Officer, Office of Naval Officer Procurement, Washington, D. C., administerd the oath in the presence of Lieut. Hope's family, Mrs. Marion C. Hope, his wife, and his two sons, Edward Swain, Jr., 9, and J. Linn, 5. It was revealed at the time that Lieutenant Hope is under orders to Davisville, R. I., for indoctrination and assignment to duty on the state force in conection with Seabee training.

Lieut. Hope, who holds a degree of education in personnel administration from Columbia University, was the first of ten professionally qualified Negroes which the Navy Department announced recently would be commissioned as staff officers. Twelve qualified enlisted men were recently selected as line officers and elevated to the rank of Ensign at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. Two additional enlisted men were promoted to warrant officers at that time.

5-18-44

Negro staff officers, according to the Navy Department announcement, will include two officers each for the following Naval staff duties; Chaplain Corps, Dental Corps, Medical Corps, Civil Egineer Corps and Supply Corps.

Lieut. Hope who was serving as Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds at Howard University at the time of his enrollment, was born in Atlanta, Ga., on August 28, 1901, son of the late Dr. John Hope, president of Atlanta University. He holds degrees of A. B. in Science; B. S. and M. S. in Civil Engineering, water power; and Ed. D. in personnel administration.

5-18-44

Before coming to Howard, Lieut. Hope spent three years in Brazil as an engineer for the Brazilian Subsidiary of the Electric Bond and Share Company of New York as an engineer in a hydo-electric. And from 1927 through 1928 he was a junior engineer with the Highways Division of the New York State Department of Public Works, Albany, N. Y.

He is a member of the National Technical Association, the Ameri- Association of Engineers and the Kappa Delta Pi Fraternity of Columbia University.

Navy Physician

Daily world- Atlanta, Ga.

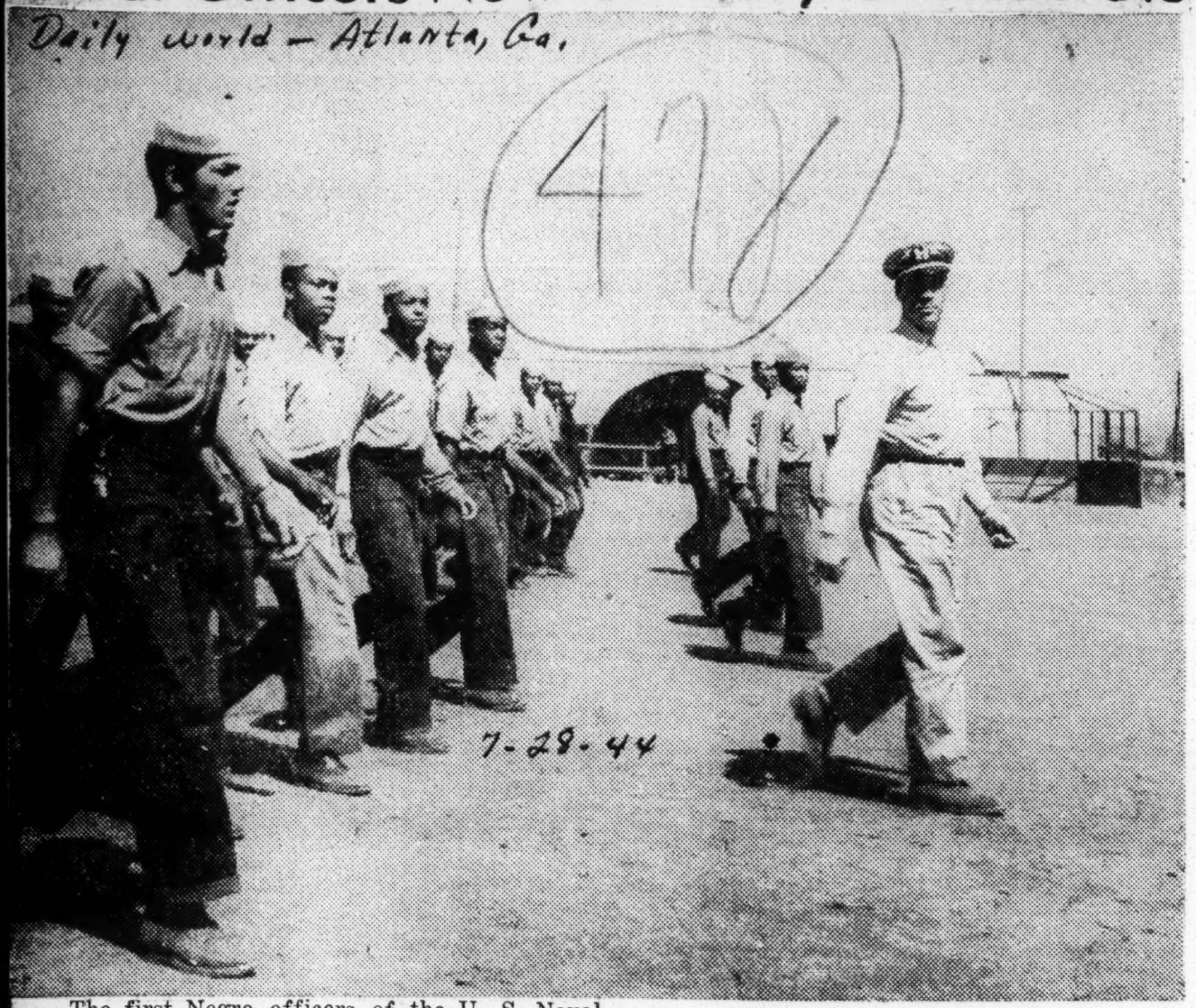
7-28-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Lt. (jg) Arthur Lee Thompson, 28, of 1873 We . Grand Boulevard, Detroit, sworn in July 12, 1944 is the first Negro physician to be commssioned to tht United States Naval Reserve. He attended Fisk University and was graduated from Meharry Medical College in 1942. He served his internship at Hubbard Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee. The new officer is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. (OFFICIAL U. S. NAVY PHOTO).

Naval Officers Now On Duty Outside U.S

Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.

47



The first Negro officers of the U. S. Naval Reserve to serve outside continental United States have reported for duty at the Fourteenth Naval District at Pearl Harbor. Warrant Officer Charles B. Lear drills a company of sailors at Pearl Harbor. (Official U. S. Navy Photograph).

Negro Seamen Rush War Supplies

9-18-44

There are now more than 8,000 Negro merchant marine seamen serving on American ships that supply the fighting fronts, according to figures released by the War Shipping Administration, 37 Broadway, Manhattan. Included in the number of qualified seamen are three ship captains and several mates, purers and others with officers' ratings.

According to Craig S. Vincent, WSA, many ships would have had to postpone their sailings "but for the availability of competent Negroes to complete the officer roster during curcial shipping periods."

9-18-44

The ships captained by Negroes are named after famous men of their race. Capt. Hugh Mulzac of Brooklyn is master of the Booker T. Washington, a libetry ship which has made sereval Atlantic crossings.

47j-1944

Naval Dental Officer

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
12-9-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Lt. (Junior grade) Ivan George Hunton Fraser, of 174 Alden street, Springfield, Mass., who was sworn into the Dental Corps of the U. S. Naval Reserve, November 21, reported to Great Lakes last week for duty at the U. S. Naval Training Center.

Dr. Fraser is a graduate of Virginia Union University and Howard University Dental School. He served an internship at the Harlem Hospital, New York City. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. O. L. K. Fraser of Springfield, Mass., and is married to the former Miss Evelyn Swann, 1001 north Fourth street, Richmond, Va.

He is shown receiving instructions from Capt. Robert R. Irons, Senior Dental Officer. —(Official U. S. Navy Photo.)

Navy Chaplain At Great Lakes

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va. 10-14-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Headquarters of the Ninth Naval District announced this week that Lt. (jg) James Russell Brown, the Navy's first Negro chaplain had reported for duty at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

Shortly after his appointment in June, Chaplain Brown was sent to the chaplain's school at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va., for an indoctrination course. After completing the eight-week course at William and Mary, he was sent to the Bureau of Personnel in Washington, D. C., for a short while and was subsequently attached to Naval Procurement Offices in Philadelphia, Pa., Pittsburgh, and Detroit, Mich., before reporting to Great Lakes.

Lt. Brown, one-time pastor of St. Luke's AME Church, Kansas City, Kan., and former dean of Bishop Williams School of Religion at Quindaro, Kan., has been assigned for duty as the protestant chaplain at Camp Robert Smalls, one of the two camps where Negroes are trained at this center.

Lt. Hope with Navy in Hawaii

Balt. Afro-American Md.
11-18-44

PEARL HARBOR, T.H.—Lieut. Edward S. Hope, USNR, civil engineer and former superintendent of grounds and buildings at Howard University and first colored naval lieutenant, is now on duty overseas in the Fourteenth Naval District as an engineering officer. Lieutenant Hope left Howard in May to be commissioned in the U.S. Navy. His wife and two children, Edward, Jr., 9, and James Lynn, 6, remain in Washington.

Officers

Assisted at School

After completing indoctrination school at Davisville, R.I., Lieutenant Hope was retained there to assist in the Allied Military Government training course. He reported for overseas duty in the Central Pacific area on October 20.

He is a graduate of Morehouse College, and received master's degrees in engineering and education from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Columbia University Teachers' College, respectively.

Following this, he spent three years in Brazil as an engineer and a year he worked as an engineer for the New York State Highway Department. He is the son of the late John Hope, former Atlanta University president.

Hope Made First Naval Lieutenant

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
8-20-44

WASHINGTON

Edward S. Hope, civil engineer and superintendent of buildings and grounds at Howard University, became the Navy's first colored lieutenant following his swearing in at the Navy Department and assignment to the Civil Engineer Corps on Monday.

Lieut. Hope was sworn in by Lieut. Com. H. B. Atkinson, USNR, executive officer of the Office of Naval Officer Procurement, at exercises attended by his wife, Mrs. Norma C. Hope, and his two sons, Edward, Jr., 9, and J. Lynn, 5.

Lieut. Hope, who holds a degree of doctor of education in personnel administration, is the first of the ten staff officers whose pending appointment was annuonced several weeks ago by the Navy Department.

Three Years in Brazil

He served for three years in Brazil as hydro-electric engineer for the Brazilian subsidiary of the Electric Bond and Share Co. of N.Y. and as junior engineer with the highways division of the New York State Department of Public Works.

He also holds degrees of A.B. from Morehouse College and B.S. and M.S. in civil engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He is a member of the American Association of Engineers, the National Technical Association, and Kappa Delta Pi of Columbia University.

To Report to R.I.

After he was sworn in, Lieut. Hope was ordered to report to Davisville, R.I., for indoctrination and assignment to duty in connection with Seabee training.

His appointment follows the commissioning at Great Lakes, Ill., of eleven ensigns from enlisted personnel. The other nine staff officers will include two each in the chaplain, dental, medical and supply corps and one more in the civil engineer corps.

Navy Commission As Lieutenant In Supply Corps To Negro Ph.D.

Age — New York
9-2-44 N.Y.

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — The Navy Department this week announced that Marron William Fort, 16 Arlington street, Newburyport, Mass., has been commissioned Lieutenant (junior grade) in the Supply Corps. He has been assigned to the Navy Supply Corps School, Graduate School of Business of Administration, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., for indoctrination. Before receiving his commission, the new officer was a Seaman Second Class, assigned as an instructor to the School of Military Proficiency in Camp Moffet at the Naval Training Center here.

New Lieutenant In Navy

9-2-44

Lieut (j. g.) MARRON FORT

Lt. (jg) Fort is a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electro-Chemical Engineering and his Doctor's degree in Physical Chemistry. Prior to his induction into the Navy, he was general manager of the A. & G. J. Caldwell Company, Inc. of Newburyport, Mass.

7-2-44

Lt. (jg) Fort is married and has one child; his wife is Alice Curtis Fort of Newburyport, Mass. He has one brother, who is in the Navy, stationed at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois.

First Negro Commissioned In USNR

Journal + Guide — Norfolk Va
8-5-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Lt. (jg) Arthur Lee Thompson, 28, 1873 West Grand boulevard, Detroit, Mich., the first Negro to be commissioned in the Medical Corps of the United States Naval Reserve, reported to U. S. Naval Training Center here for duty July 20. He was sworn in July 12 in Detroit.

The newly commissioned officer attended Fisk University and received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in 1942. On graduating from Meharry, Lt. (jg) Thompson received an award for the most outstanding student in surgery and was an honor graduate. He served his internship in the Hubbard Hospital, Nashville, Tenn., and specialized in pediatrics for nine months while a resident physician. 8-5-44

Lt. (jg) Thompson is married to the former Lucille Greenlea, of Rochester, N. Y. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Thompson of the above address in Detroit. He is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

First Negro naval officer now on overseas duty

Los Angeles Sabre
12-20-44

PEARL HARBOR, T. H. — Lt. Edward S. Hope, USNR, former member of the staff of Howard University for 15 years, is now on duty overseas in the 14th Naval District as an engineering officer.

Lt. Hope left Howard University last May to become the first Negro commissioned a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy. After completing indoctrination school at Davisville, R. I., he was retained there to assist in the Allied Military Government training course. He reported for overseas duty in the central Pacific area on Oct. 20.

He graduated with an A.B. degree from Morehouse College, B.S. and M.S. in engineering degrees from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and an D.D. from Columbia University Teachers Col-

Lieutenant In U.S. Navy

8-22-44

this week Lt. Comdr. H. B. Atkinson, USNR, Executive Officer, Office of Naval Officer Procurement, Washington, D. C., administered the oath in the ...Hope, Civil Engi... presence of Lieutenant Hope's family, was sworn into ...ily. Mrs. Marion C. Hope, his wife, ...day, May 15, as the ... and his two sons, Edward Swain, Jr., ...hold the rank of ... 9, and J. Linn, 5. It was revealed ... that branch of the ... at the time that Lieutenant Hope ... the Navy announced ... armed forces, the Na...

WASHINGTON, ... the Navy Monday, ... first Negro to hold ... Lieutenant in ...

Negro Engineer Sworn In

Age — New York

under orders to Davisville, R. I., for indoctrination and assignment to duty on the station force in connection with Seabee training.

Another First

4 1 5

Engineer Receives Naval Commission

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

5-20-44

WASHINGTON—Lieut. Edward Swain Hope, civil engineer corps, USNR, was sworn into the Navy Monday morning as the first Negro to hold the rank of lieutenant in that branch of the armed forces. The oath was administered by Lieut. Commander H. B. Atkinson, executive officer, Office of Naval Procurement.

Observers at the ceremony were Lieutenant Hope's wife, Mrs. Marian C. Hope, and his two boys, Edward S., Jr., 9, and J. Linn, 5.

GETS ASSIGNMENT

Lieutenant Hope was ordered to Davisville, Rhode Island, for indoctrination and assignment to duty in connection with the Seabee training program.

5-20-44

Son of the late president of Atlanta university, Lieutenant Hope is 43 years old. He spent three years in Brazil as an engineer and was serving as superintendent of buildings and grounds, Howard university, when he received his commission in the Navy.

Naval Ensign

Journal & Guide

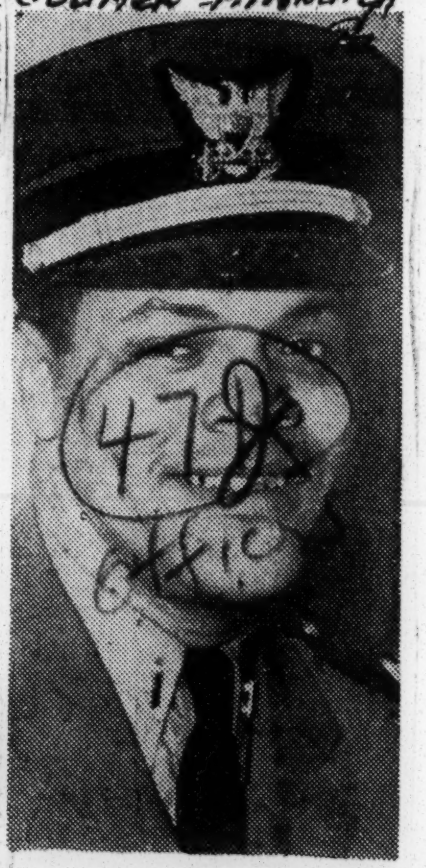
11-25-44

NAVAL ENSIGN—The assistant commissary officer in Camp Robert Smalls at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., is Ensign Giles Douglass Smith of 530 Hancock street, Gainesville, Texas. The new ensign, a former member of the 22nd Special Construction Battalion, was commissioned in the Supply Corps of the Naval Reserve and assigned to this Center on Nov. 3. 11-25-44

Ensign Smith wears the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre and American Theatre campaign bars for having served overseas with the Seabee Unit. He is a graduate of Prairie View State College and is married to the former Miss Rozelle Jackson. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Smith of Gainesville, Texas. (Official U. S. Navy Photo)

HITS THE TOP

Courier Pittsburgh



Ensign Harvey C. Russell, Jr., is the first Negro of Kentucky and the third Negro in the United States to attain the rank of commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was the only Negro graduated from the Coast Guard academy, New London, Conn., February 23.

The son of Prof. and Mrs. H. C. Russell, Sr., Louisville, Ky., the Coast Guard ensign is a graduate of Kentucky State college. He has done graduate work at the University of Michigan.—Spain and Sydnor Photo.

47j-1944

Twelve Negro Sailors Promoted Temporary Ensigns By The Navy

Age — New York, N.Y.
3-25-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—A veteran mess attendant who was commended for heroic action during landing operations on the West Coast of Africa in November, 1942, was included among the 12 Negroes elevated to the temporary rank of Ensign and Warrant Officer at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., on March 9, 1944, the Navy Department announced this week.

The twelve Ensigns were the first Negro officers commissioned by the U.S. Navy. The heroic former mess attendant, authorized for the rank of Warrant Officer, is Willie Powell, Acting Pay Clerk, U. S. Navy.

The new Ensigns are:

Jesse Walter Arbor, 5163 South Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill.; Phillip G. Barnes, 1244 Girard street, N.W., Washington, D. C.; Dalton L. Baugh, 458 4th street, Crossett, Ark.; Samuel E. Barnes, 636 West 9th street, Cincinnati, Ohio; George C. Cooper, 802 Vance street, Wilson, Va.; Reginald E. Goodwin, 829 Beecher street, Cincinnati, Ohio; James E. Hare, 400 North 8th street, Fort Pierce, Fla.; Graham Edward Martin, 1713 Belfontaine street, Indianapolis, Ind.; Dennis D. Nelson, 1606 Meharry boulevard, Nashville, Tenn.; John Walter Reagan, 2232 West 28th street, Los Angeles, Calif.; Frank E. Sublett, 1936 Grey avenue, Evanston, Ill.; William S. White, jr., 6342 Eberhart avenue, Chicago, Ill.

3-25-44

The new Warrant Officers are:

Willie Powell, Acting Pay Clerk, 3051 Clay avenue, San Diego, Calif., and Boatswain Charles Byrd Lear, 1010 White street, Canton, Mo.

Upon completion of their training, the officers will be assigned to duty initially either at the U.S. Naval Training School, Hampton, Va., or at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

As announced on February 23, it is anticipated that staff officers for duty with the chaplain Corps, Dental, Medical, Civil Engineer Corps and Supply Corps will be commissioned from civilian life.

Two More Navy Ensigns, Warrant Officer Named

Officers

Peoples Voice - N.Y., N.Y. April 1, 1944

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—The appointment of two additional Negro line officers and a warrant officer was announced last Monday by the Navy Department.

The two men who were appointed to the temporary rank of ensign, D-V-(S) U.S. Naval reserve, to rank from Feb. 23, are Frank Ellis Sublett, 1938 Grey av, Evanston, Ill., and James Edward Hare, 13 st, Fort Pierce, Fla.

Those appointments are in addition to the nine announced March 17, and makes a total of 11 Negro line officers in the naval reserve. All have reported to the commanding officer, U. S. Naval Training station, Great Lakes, for temporary duty under instruction.

Charles Byrd Lear, 1010 White st, Canton, Mo., received a warrant officer rating with a temporary appointment as boatswain, D-V-(S). He will report for temporary duty at Great Lakes.

Gets Commission In U. S. Naval Reserve

Age — New York, N. Y.
7-29-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Lt. (jg) Arthur Lee Thompson, 28, of 1873 West Grand boulevard, Detroit, Michigan, the first Negro to be commissioned in the Medical Corps of the United States Naval Reserve, reported to U. S. Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, Illinois for duty, July 20. He was sworn in July 12, in Detroit, Michigan.

The newly commissioned officer attended Fisk University and received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in 1942. On graduating from Meharry, Lt. (jg) Thompson received an award for the most outstanding student in surgery and was an honor graduate. He served his internship in the Hubbard Hospital, Nashville, Tenn., and specialized in pediatrics for nine months while a resident physician.

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Lt. (jg) Thompson is married to the former Loucille Greenlea, of Rochester, New York. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Thompson of the above address in Detroit. He is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

NAVAL MEDICS COMMISSIONED

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
9-30-44

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Two Negroes, the first medical students to receive commissions in the Navy, received their degrees and commissions Monday in graduation ceremonies at the Harvard Medical school. The two men are Cyril J. Jones, New York City, a graduate of Tufts college, and Bernard W. Robinson, Boston, Mass., a graduate of Boston college.

Capt. C. H. J. Keppler, commander of the naval training schools at Harvard, administered the oath to the Navy candidates and their commissions were presented by Rear Admiral R. H. Laning, district medical officer. Governor Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, chief of the bureau of medicine and surgery of the Navy, were the chief speakers.

Negro Ensign Now Skipper Of U.S. Navy Combat Ship

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
9-16-44

By JAMES E. SMITH

NEW YORK—Breaking down the jim-crow policy which has prevailed throughout the Navy's history, two Negro lads—Ensigns James Edward Hare and John L. Reagan—two of the 13 colored men graduated as Ensigns from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Illinois, gained the distinction of being the first Naval officers of their race assigned to sea duty, with one—Capt. John M. Gill, USNR.

Hare—detailed as skipper of a $500,000 craft, (The Pittsburgh Courier follows the story which it initiated last spring when it revealed to its nation of readers the [illegible] of these 13 men as officers in the United States Navy, was instrumental in locating these two officers and learning their present tours of duty.)

9-16-44

Now stationed at the [illegible] States Navy Section Base at Tompkinsville, Staten Island, New York, Hare and Reagan are praised highly by the base commander, white lieutenant named Denton) tive officer aboard a patrol craft men, is quite at home, being an expert on their mode of operation, repair and maintenance. He was promoted on the spot.

Captain Gill maintains his only interest in a man is the manner in which he performs his duties and not in the texture of his skin.

"You can take Mr. Hare's case," he said. "There're damned few men, especially an Ensign, to whom I'd entrust the command of a half million dollar vessel. But if they produce, there's no telling how high they might advance regardless of their color or religion."

CAPTAIN PLAYS FAIR

The Tompkinsville base, commanded by the gruff but democratic Captain Gill, a former newspaper owner and publisher from Oswego, N. Y., is irrefutably the most efficiently and democratically administered Navy Station on the Eastern Seaboard.

9-16-44

Captain Gill, who does not want to create the impression that he is championing any man's cause, was instrumental in the appointment of one of three Negro warrant officers in the U. S. Navy, namely, Sidney M. Smith, Smith, who comes from Washington, D. C., via Richmond, Va., holds the distinction of rising to his present rank after skipping the grade of chief motor machinist, which in itself is an outstanding accomplishment and has been seldom equalled by Negroes.

With the majority of the vessels stationed at the base powered with Fairbanks-Morse engines, "Smithy," as he is called by both officers and men, is quite at home, being an

REAGAN FROM TEXAS

Ensign Reagan, a native of Texas, lived with his mother, Mrs [illegible] Willis, in Chicago, prior to his induction into the Navy early in 1942. He is a graduate of the City's Lindbloom high school, where he was a star football for three years.

Reagan was awarded an athletic scholarship to the University of Montana and was attending the school when called to the Navy.

Aside from his duties as executive officer aboard a patrol craft

47j-1944

Officers

Twelve Negro Sailors Promoted Temporary Ensigns By The Navy

Age — New York, N.Y.
3-25-44

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Hare—detailed as skipper of a Ensign Hare, a graduate of Xa- **REAGAN FROM TEXAS**
$500,000 craft. vier University's school of sociolo- Ensign Reagan, a native of Tex-

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9-16-44

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"He is the type of man who Bernice Willis, in Chicago, prior to
would succeed whether he was his induction into the Navy early
black and white. He seems to have in 1942. He is a graduate of the
that little extra something that school, where he was a star full-
makes him click in whatever he back in football for three years.
does." 9-16-44

When contacted at the Base, Ensign Reagan was awarded an athletic
signs Hare and Reagan, although scholarship to the University of
the United States Navy Section Base at Montana and was attending the
on leave, were taking a bus-man's holiday. They were found on the School when called to the Navy.
Tompkinsville, Staten Island, New York, Hare and Reagan are praising bridge of a fellow officer's ship (a Aside from his duties as execu-
tive officer aboard a patrol craft named Denton) which is quite at home, being an
ed highly by the base commander, white lieutenant named

PRAISES OIL EXPERT

He made mention of an enlisted man, Henry A. Martin, Jr., specialist oil, second class. 9-16-44

"There's a man considered the foremost oil expert in the Third Naval District and there are few men who surpass him in his field," the captain declared.

Martin, 36 years old, is a native of Dubuque, Iowa, and a graduate of the School of Engineering at the University of Michigan. Before entering the Navy he had his own refrigeration company and worked for the Commonwealth Edison company in Chicago. He is momentarily awaiting a commission as Ensign.

The commander of the section base explained the slowness of promotions among the colored personnel in the Navy. It is due, he said, to the lack of basic fundamental training in particular fields and the fact that they have neglected or have not had the opportunity to acquire as much education as they need.

In a blunt and frank manner, Captain Gill explained that a colored man, to attract the attention of his superior officers, must be more than good. "He must excel his white counterpart in every way. Just doing enough will get him nowhere fast," he said.

Ensign Reagan is almost assured of a position of command of his own. 9-16-44

AWAITS APPOINTMENT

At the termination of the interview, we boarded a patrol craft. In a previously unplanned interview with a white lieutenant assigned aboard this vessel as the engineer officer, he pointed out Charles S. Harvey, Motor Machinist Mate 1/c, who is now awaiting appointment as chief petty officer, which will become effective, as the lieutenant explained, as soon as the white CPO, now aboard in the capacity of chief motor machinist mate, is transferred to another ship.

Harvey, a native of Trenton, N. J., is a graduate of the Motor Machinist school operated by the Navy at Hampton institute.

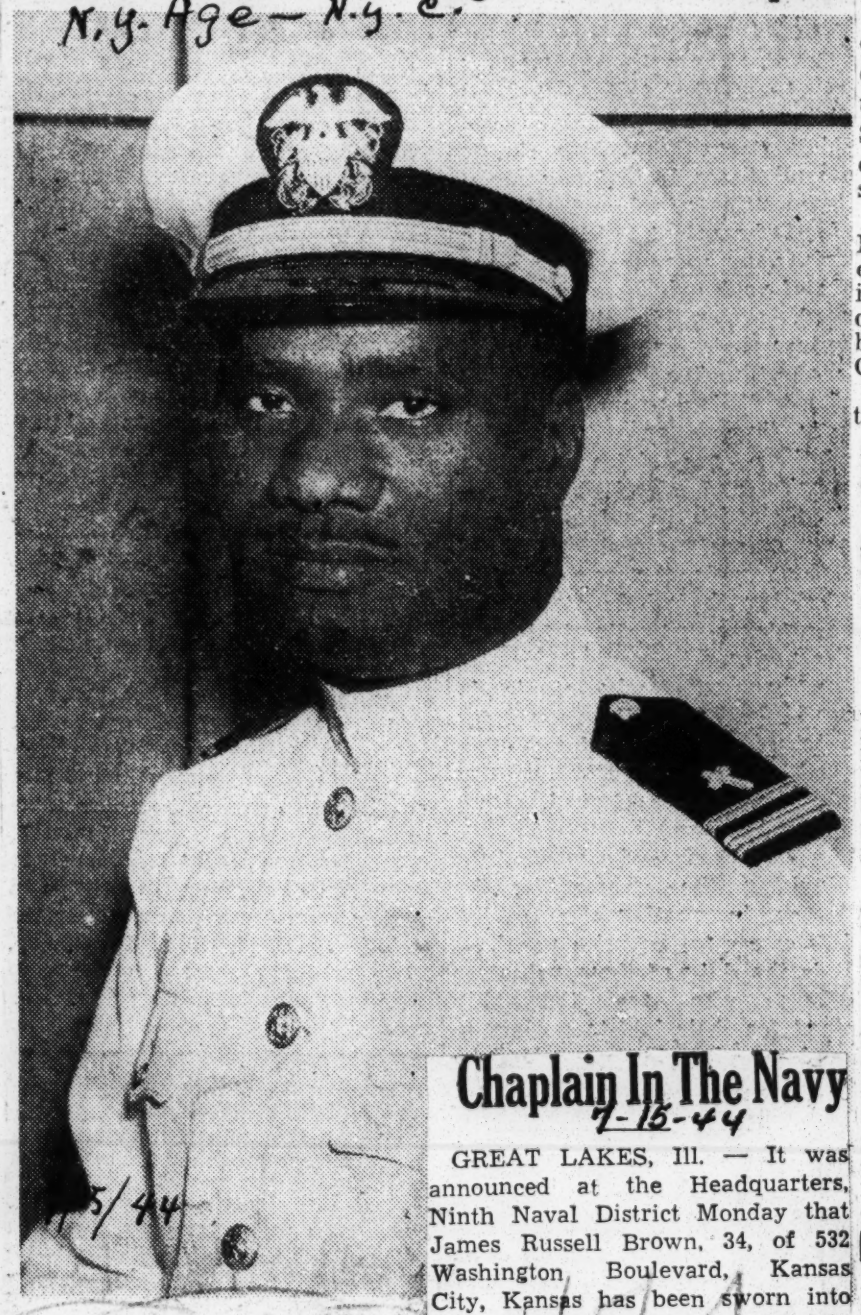
First Navy Chaplain

Afro American 9-16-44

LT. (j.g.) JAMES R. BROWN, AME pastor of Kansas City, Kans., who recently was sworn into the Naval Reserve as chaplain. He is the Navy's first colored chaplain, and has been ordered to report to the chaplain's school at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va., for indoctrination.

Commissioned First Negro Naval Chaplain

N.Y. Age — N.Y.C. 9-16-44



Lt. (jg) James Russell Brown, ChC, USNR, of 532 Washington Boulevard, Kansas City, Kansas recently was sworn into the Naval Reserve as Chaplain. He is the first Negro to hold that position. He formerly was Dean of Bishop Williams School of Religion at Quindaro, Kansas, and pastor at St. Luke's African Methodist Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Kansas.

:o:

Lt. James R. Brown Becomes First Negro

Age — New York, N.Y.

Chaplain In The Navy

7-15-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — It was announced at the Headquarters, Ninth Naval District Monday that James Russell Brown, 34, of 532 Washington Boulevard, Kansas City, Kansas has been sworn into the Naval Reserve as Chaplain with the rank of Lieutenant, junior grade. Lt. (jg) Brown is the first Negro to hold that position. He has been ordered to report to the Chaplain's school at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia for indoctrination.

The new Chapain was Dean of Bishop Williams School of Religion at Quindaro, Kansas, and was pastor of St. Luke's African Methodist Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Kansas. He holds an A.B. degree from Friends University; a B.D. degree from Howard University, and he has done further graduate study at Chicago Theological Seminary.

2 Harvard Graduates Made Medical Officers in Navy

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 9-30-44

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Two colored men were among the thirty-eight Navy medical students graduating from Harvard Medical School who were awarded Navy commissions in ceremonies in the school quadrangle, September 25.

They were Cyril J. Jones of New York, who received his bachelor of science degree from Tufts in 1941 and Bernard W. Robinson of Boston, who was awarded the bachelor of arts degree by Boston College in 1941.

Commissions were presented to the Navy graduates and to eighty-seven Army medical students by Rear Admiral R. H. Laning, district medical officer. The main address was given by Vice-Admiral Ross T. McIntire, chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the Navy. 9-30-44

Jones Marries After Exercises

Immediately after the exercises, Lieutenant (j.g.) Jones was married to Miss Rose V. Randolph of Dorchester, Mass., who has received both the bachelor of science and master of arts degrees from Simmons College.

Both of the officers, like 96 per cent of the graduating class, were placed on inactive duty so that they can complete nine-month interneships in civilian hospitals.

Jones will report to Goldwater Memorial Hospital in New York City, while Robinson will go to Freedmen's Hospital in Washington. On July 1, 1945, they will be called back to active duty and assigned probably to duty at sea.

A PARTIAL VICTORY

Age — New York, N.Y.

COMMISSIONING of 12 Negroes as Ensigns and 2 as Warrant Officers in the United States Naval Reserve last week, with announcement that Negro dentists, doctors and other technicians will be commissioned in the future, represent a partial victory and one that comes to hearten those who have been fighting for lo these many years to break down the barriers that have been erected against Negroes in the Navy rising beyond the status of mess attendants. 4-1-44

For any Negro, leader or otherwise, to say at this point that the victory is won is to admit that we are easily satisfied, because 14 Negro officers are but a drop in the bucket when compared to the total number of Negroes serving today in the U. S. Navy.

The very fact that 14 Negro officers have been commissioned, however, does represent the first step in the realization of the Negro's dream of being utilized by his country, according to his talent and ability.

There are some who are so naive as to suggest that the commissioning comes only because this year an important Presidential election is to be held, and they point to the fact that four years ago Negroes were given a sop with elevation of the then Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to the rank of Brigadier-General.

Whether political considerations entered

Navy is important. If it ry fact that 14 Negroes are

re, let Negroes make the not a political gesture, then ake the most of it. The that the barriers are being tent. Let's continue the riers are let down all the

4-1-44

hearties congratulations . We are proud of them, they will carry high the

Edward S. Hope Assigned To Overseas Duty At Pearl Harbor

New York Age 11-25-44

PEARL HARBOR, T. H. — Lt. Edward S. Hope, USNR, former member of the staff of Howard University, Washington, D. C., for fifteen years, is now on duty overseas in the Fourteenth Naval District as an engineering officer.

Lieutenant Hope left Howard University in May, 1944, to become the first Negro commissioned lieutenant in the U. S. Navy.

After completing indoctrination school at Dartsville, R. I., Lieutenant Hope was retained there to assist in the Allied Military Government training course. He reported for overseas duty in the central Pacific area on October 20, 1944.

In Hawaii, Lieutenant Hope is serving with two of the first thirteen Negroes commissioned by the U. S. Navy, Boatswain Charles B. Anderson, USNR, and Ensign Jesse W. Arbor, USNR.

47j-1944

Garrett Hill Sailor Describes Horrors Of Landing Operations

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.
11-18-44

Have you ever wondered about the thoughts that run through a man's mind as he faces the bullets of the enemy? What sensations he experiences and his reactions to seeing his buddies dropping all around him, wondering every moment if he is going to be next?

C. B. Twisdale, a coxswain in the Seabees attached to the 17th Spec. NCB Co., D-5, whose home is in Garrett Hill, wrote the following letter describing his baptism of fire on Peleliu, an island in the Palau group.

I received my baptism of fire here on the Island of Peleliu, I have heard and read a lot about hell on earth, but this was it personified. We landed on the beach about 10:30 a. m. and the Japs really gave us a warm reception, with snipers, machine gun and mortar fire. Our boys were dropping all around me. We were told to dig in and would call us when we needed. You should have seen me dig. I made a foxhole in record time, with my bare hands too. I made the sand fairly fly and after I had finished we were told to move farther inland as the Jap mortar shells were bursting too close for comfort. So we got up and ran in a low crouch for about fifty yards and jumped into any fox hole we found. I happened to jump in with a marine from Ohio, but not for long because we were called to carry ammunition to the front, which at that time was about seventy-five yards inland, so we jumped out of the fox holes again and ran to the beach to get the ammunition, as it was unloaded from our tanks, and carried it to the front. This was no picnic as we had to put our rifles down to carry it, and the Nips kept bullets singing around us like a swarm of bees. We did a good job of it though, and only a few of our boys were hit.

11-18-44

I wondered at the time how the Nips managed to live through the pounding the Navy gave them from the Sea and Air. We stood aboard ship and watched from the crack of dawn. It looked as though it would be easy to take, as the whole Island was full of flame and black smoke. But, we found out later why they were able to take it. They had a regular fort here, pill boxes of coral rock re-enforced with concrete and steel from two and a half to three feet thick and their caves were the same, and I believe the whole Island is tunneled, because the Japs would run in one hole and come out another. That is why we lost so many men, as the boys had to go in after them. Our flame throwers did a wonderful job of bringing them out and there were quite a few of them roasted in the caves and the pill boxes. We lost quite a few of the boys trying to land. Some of them never reached the beach, and others just did get there, only to die or get wounded.

11-18-44

After we had rested a few minutes from carrying the ammunition, there was a call put in for voluntary stretcher bearers, so I took the job and once again, we had to leave our rifles behind, and go up to the front lines and carry the wounded back to the beach were they could be treated before being sent back to the ship. It was a tough assignment and the Nips made it even tougher, because they kept firing at us. But if you could have seen the way our boys were taking it, you wouldn't blame me for taking the job. I helped carry guys with their legs, arms, feet and part of their faces blown or shot away and others with their guts blown or shot out. And with all of that, they would lay on the stretchers and kid with their buddies and us. Several times they told me to leave them and try to save the boys and myself. But I told them like hell I would, I told them when I left, I was taking them with me.

11-18-44

That was when the Japs would turn their machine guns on us, and we would have to put the stretcher down and hit the deck, until it cooled off a bit. Then I would give a signal and we would jump to our feet, crouch low and run like hell until another one made it too hot to go on, and we would keep this up until we reached the beach. Some of our boys got wounded and a few corpsmen were killed. I stayed at the front for the first three days and three nights, and how I managed to keep going without sleep is beyond me. I didn't even eat the first day, but I thank God we had water which we brought in from the ships.

Seabees

I expected to feel the burn of hot steel going through my body at any minute, and prayed that if it did come, I would be able to take it without a whimper, but I guess Jesus had His arms around me, and I came out of it with only a few scratches and a few minor burns from their mortar fire. The only thing I didn't like was, I couldn't leave and go after some of the Japs who were doing all the shooting at us. Anyway I thank God I was spared.

So, on the morning of the fourth day, a messenger came to the front and told me to get the boys and join my company which I did. They told me they thought I was missing an started to call me charmed life Twisdale. Maybe my luck is good, but I'm not taking any chances on that charmed life part of it.

11-18-44

Later we were assigned to various dumps, to put them in order, and even then the Japs kept dropping their mortar shells in our midst. The boys killed four Japs in one pill box right in our camp soon after I got back from the front and a little later, a mortar shell bursted and killed five and wounded about forty. But, we have them well back in the hills in their cave now and I hope they get them all before long. We were sent out to locate dead Japs one day and we found plenty of them. We could smell them long before we got to them, and even now I imagine I smell them. I'm glad I only had that detail one day. I'll be a happy boy when this war is over and I believe everyone over here wille be. Do you realize I have been away from civilization almost a year, in fact it will be a year the sixteenth of December.

Were On Heels Of Leathernecks On Peleliu Isle

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

Commendation Is Given Heroic Navy Builders

12-7-44

WASHINGTON— (ANP)— Revealing that Negro Seabees went in two hours after H-hour in the landing and occupation of Peleliu island in the Palaus, accompanying the first marine division, the navy department last week announced that the outfit had received a "Well Done" and a letter of commendation from Maj. Gen. William H. Rupertus, U. S. M. C. commanding officer of the division during the assault.

They were the members of the 17 special U. S. naval construction battalion who helped relieve a shortage of ammunition on the first lines during the night of D-day, and actually participated in the fighting when the marines ran shorthanded in one sector.

12-7-44

The letter, addressed to Lt. Comdr. Moses E. Berry, U. S. N. R., of Gulfport, Miss. Officer in charge o. the battalion, follows:

"On the even of departure from this area ,I wish to inform you of the excellent manner in which every member of your command performed the various duties during the landing and occupation of Peleliu. The unloading was accomplished by the untiring efforts of the shore party in which members of your command played a vital part. The cooperation and complete understanding exhibited throughout the assault phase by your command was no small factor in the success of this operation You deserve a well done in every respect."

12-7-44

Maj. Don. Rupertus at present a commandant, Marine Corps school, Quantico Va.

Our Seabees Hit Peleliu Beach Hour After Marines

BY SMITH H. McCLAINE, JR.

PELELIU--Palau Islands--The Seabees played an important part in the invasion of this island September 15, moving in behind the Marines only an hour after they had hit the beach.

This was the first time for our unit to and so close behind assault troops or to face enemy fire which was very heavy. The outfit is 80 per cent colored and 20 per cent white.

Our duties were to unload supplies and ammunition, and many of us were up at the front lines carrying ammunition to the first line of defense and returning with stretcher cases.

This kept up all the first day and night until we were ordered to secure about 2 p.m. for our own safety.

The men worked hard and willingly forgetting their own personal safety and received praise from the highest ranking officers down to the buck privates for their untiring efforts to help keep what gainsaid another had been made.

Many individuals and encounters with the Japs, and our boys from the Quaker City played no little part. Things are fairly quiet on Peleliu now and many improv-

ements have been made. Our unit, first known for its ste skill and speed, now has ther laurel, that of fide- 11-4-44

Many individuals and hair-raising afro-American--Baltimore, Md.

47j-1944

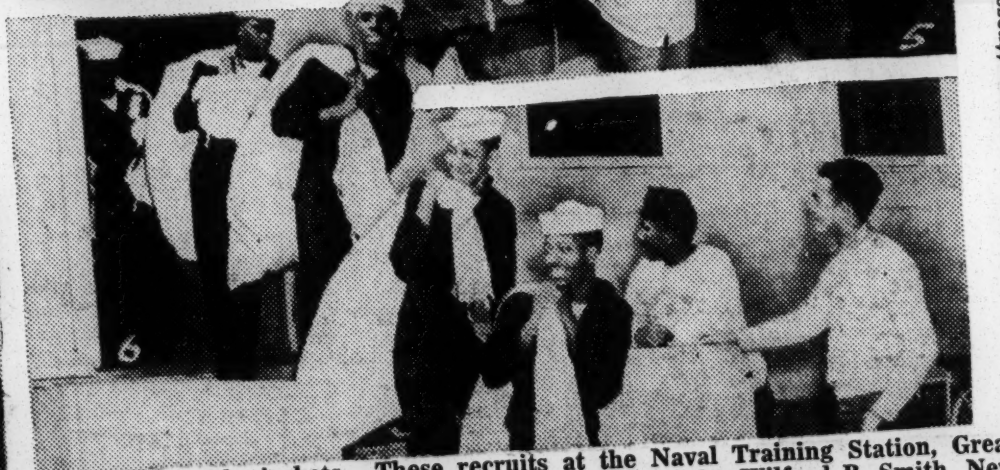
Seabees

Route by Which Civilian Becomes a Bluejacket

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Afro American

12-9-44



No. 1—These pictures show the procedures which convert civilians to Bluejackets. These recruits at the Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., fill out original data sheets, which will follow them through their Navy careers. They are, left to right, Wilfred B. Smith, New York City; Clifford C. Conklin, West Milford, N.J.; Tamins A. Henderson, Los Angeles; and John E. Gibson, 1501 Presstman Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

12-9-44

No. 2—Lined up for their physical examinations are, left to right, Kenneth Woody, 928 Forty-eighth Street, Northeast, Washington; Rufus Collins, Chicago; James Kennedy, Buffalo, N.Y.; and Norman Burns, Chicago.

No. 3—The recruits are being issued gear in the receiving unit, which last year gave out $40,000,000 worth of clothing.

No. 4—There are one hundred odd different sizes of shoes available, and trained chiropodists see that each recruit's shoes fit. Roy King, AS, Berre, Ky., and Calvin James, A.S., Jersey City, N.J., are trying on their first pair of Navy shoes.

No. 5—For size and fit, the recruits try on one of each of the various pieces of clothing issued. After getting their clothes, they are given a lecture on how the uniform should be worn and on the laws and regulations affecting the uniform.

No. 6—Outfitted in their first Navy clothing, with mattress covers full of other clothing over their shoulders, are seen, emerging from the receiving unit, left to right, Ernest Bassette, Chicago; Mark H. Goodwin, Akron, Ohio; and James R. Washington, New York City. The two "old salts" looking on are Willie Seward, S1/c, Norfolk, Va., and Olaf Spence, S1/c, Dayton, Ohio. Shown at morning quarters where they will be inspected for cleanliness and military bearing are, left to right, Edward Walker, AS, Boston; Clarence Neely, AS, Long Branch, N.J.; and Curtis Sullivan, AS, Chicago.

No. 7—Having passed the doctors and received their clothing, these apprentice seamen enter training.

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta Seabees Cited For Roles In Major Amphibious Operations

Give Conviction To Motto 'Can Do' And High Valor

12-31-44

WASHINGTON-(SNS)- More than 12,300 Negroes joined with the Navy Seabees in celebration of the first battalion of Negro Seabees to go overseas ,the 34th Construction Battalion, returned home after 20 months of jungle fighting. They brought with them a unit commendation from Captain Mark L. Halsey, Jr., commander of the Naval Base at Guadalcanal, for the splendid record they made.

There have been several other citations for Negro Seabee units, the most recent came from Major Gen. William H. Rupertus, former commanding general of the 1st Marine Division, who commended the 17th Special U. S. Naval Construction Battalion with a "well done" letter for their working during the landing and occupation of Peleliu Island, and for helping relieve a shortage of ammunition in the first lines during the night of D-Day.

23, '44. The Seabees have participated in every major amphibious invasion launched by our forces in both hemispheres, and have grown from an original force of 3,300 men to one of more than 234,000 ,the Navy Department announced this week.

The Seabees have a record of having licked the toughest military construction job in history— Only recently the first battalion of Negro Seabees to go over-

12-31-44

RNTT RETURNS HOME

seas ,the 34th Construction Battalion, returned home after 20 months of jungle fighting. They brought with them a unit commendation from Captain Mark L. Halsey, Jr., commander of the Naval Base at Guadalcanal, for the splendid record they made.

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ATLANTANS CITED

In a detailed description of this action, Sgt. Harold E. Foreman, a Marine Corps combat correspondent, told of the part played by two members of the Seventeenth Special Naval Construction Battalion in keeping the famed 1st Marine Division supplied with ammunition, food, water and other supplies. The two men cited in his story were Coxswain Walter Jones and Fireman 1st Class Andrew G. Toles, both of Atlanta, Georgia. Supplies were taken from transports, transferred to LCT's and then to amtracks that brought the supplies across the coral reefs to the beaches. Coxswain Jones was in charge of 15 men, and Fireman Toles led a similar squad in the face of the enemy fire. Casualties among Seabees during the first 3 days of fighting on Peleliu were estimated at approximately 20 killed and 20 wounded. 12-31-44

Under the direction of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, more than three-fourths (75.2%) of the Seabees are now overseas demonstrating that American workingmen, drawn from sixty different trades, are able to substitute guns for tools and put up a first class fight.

It was from bases they the Seabees and their Civil Engineer Corps officers helped to build that much of the strength was concentrated for the blow at the Philippines. Combat supplies were issued from Seabee-build warehouse; naval craft were fueled from Seabee-contsructed fuel dumps, and aircraft flew from Seabee-built airfields to guard the preparations. From these forward bases, the invasion machine was sent into action in the peak of fighting trim. Most of the Seabees had to stay behind, but they made good use of their time-as witnessed by the fact that the airfields in the Marianas are now adequate to send giant B-29's and their deadly loads winging over the Japanese homeland.

HELP BUILD ROADS 12-31-44

Earlier in the year, the Seabees helped build the road to the islands that launched the Philippine attack. They had come "up the slot" from Guadalcanal building as fast as the combat forces could fight a space clear for them to start construction. In March, they rebuilt the Jap airfield at Los Negroes, which walled up the Japs in the Solomons. At the same time, the Japs made their last desperate effort to drive our forces off Bougainville. Whether they could succeed depended largely on whether they could knock out the airfields the Seabees had built. Mortar shells and bombs poured down on the fields for nearly two weeks, but as fast as they fell the Seabees repaired the damage. At no time were the fields out of operation for more than 30 minutes, and not once were flights interrupted.

Meanwhile, far to the north, other Seabee battalions were building another invasion road through the Marshalls. 12-31-44 They brought ammunition to the marines, brought in supplies over the beaches, and restored the Japs' wrecked airfields in time for land-based air cover to protect the new advances. Warehouses, docks, fuel storage facilities and all other requisites of a naval base were erected by the American workmen in Navy blue. While supplies continued to flow in over the beaches of Normandy, other Seabees helped to bring the ports of Cherbourg and LeHavre back into operation. They were among the men whom General Eisenhower praised as the unsung heroes of the supply battle of Europe. 12-31-44

OTHER UNSUNG HEROES

The Seabees boast other unsung supply heroes in the approximately 35,5000 men assigned to Naval Construction Battalions (Special), who have been trained in the loading and unloading of ships. Organized to meet a critical needs for stevedore at ports in the combat zones, the "Specials" with primitive docking facilities have set records for cargo handling under fire that compare favorably with the best performances at major ports in the U. S.

In addition, Seabees have been given special training and organized into detachments, devoted to automotive repair, the handling of spare parts, fog generation, pontoon assembly and the building of petroleum facilities.

With these units supplementing the work of the regular battalions, the Seabees of the Navy have given conviction to their motto of "Can Do." As they commence their 4th year, they have the invaluable advantages accruing from hard experience and from their new but proud tradition for getting things done.

Salute to the 34th Construction Battalion

N.Y. Amsterdam News

We salute the 34th Construction Battalion (Seabees) veterans of 20 months of jungle warfare in the South Pacific, the first battalion of Negro Seabees to go overseas, and which has now returned to this country. These boys have a unit citation for many superb feats of construction carried out against great odds, and its casualties of five men killed in action, and 35 wounded, adds to the roll of Negro heroes in the war. 12-2-44 N.Y., N.Y.

Indoctrinated at Camp Allen in Virginia, the 34th Seabees left the United States, Jan. 7, 1943, and arrived at Noumea, New Calodonia, 19 days later from where they launched their spectacular campaign record that includes the Halavo Seaplane Base at Halavo, in the Florida Islands; the construction of fuel and gas storage facilities on Guadalcanal; the fighter strip north of Renard Sound on Banika Island; and the building of the 6,000 foot bomber strip and a 4,500 foot fighter strip on the Russel Islands in time for the New Georgia campaign of our fighting forces in the South Pacific.

These Seabees finished their assigned tasks on time and at Russels, the detachment was subjected to constant enemy bombing by the Japanese until the completion of the New Georgia campaign in July. It was here that the five casualties of three killed and two injured with minor burns in the operation of the fighter strip, were caused during crash of a Navy plane. 12-2-44

Little has been said about the enlisted Negro personnel of the Seabees and we think it high time that they be given just consideration. The Navy Department recently announced that, as of Oct. 1, 1944, there were 12,337 Negro enlisted men in the Seabees, of whom 10,351 were assigned to special battalions. These men put in an 8 to 10 hour day for seven days a week for the first year and for the last five months, the hours were reduced to eight per day and a six and a half day week. Capt. Mark L. Halsay, Jr., USN., Commander of the great U. S. Naval Base at Guadalcanal, we think, summed up very well the important role these men played in the South Pacific, when he sent them the following unit commendation:

"On the occasion of the completion of your work in this area, covering a perlod of 20 months, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you and the officers and enlisted men of your command for the splendid record which you have made and the outstanding reputation which your Battalion enjoys. During this period your battalion has accomplished many outstanding feats of construction, too many to mention in detail, which will stand as a monument to your ability and efficiency for many years after the U. S. forces leave this area. Many of these construction jobs were completed under great difficulties, including bombing attacks by the enemy, in which five of your men were killed, and about 35 wounded. In spite of these difficulties and dangers, and the impracticability of giving your men rehabilitation leave, your Battalion continued to work at top efficiency until the day it was ordered to clear. The best wishes of this command for future success and continued usefulness to the Naval Service go with you and the personnel of your Battalion. 12-2-44

The 34th Seabees are on a 30 day furlough before reassignment to duty. And it is significant to remember that the Negro is daily proving his right to full citizenship in this nation of his birth for which he fights and works so hard. In every phase of our war effort the Negro can be found doing his part and more. The reward in the postwar period must be made as real and concrete as the record of the 34th Construction Battalion, and of our boys on land, on the water and in the air.

Seabees Commended For Peleliu Service

Atlanta (3) Ga

Daily World

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — The Seventeenth Special U. S. Naval Construction Battalion, a Negro unit of Seabees, has received a "Well Done!" and a Letter of Commendation from Major General William H. Rupertus, U. S. Marine Corps, commanding Officer of the First Marine Division during the landing on the occupation of Peleliu Island in the Palaus, for helping relieve a shortage of ammunition on the first lines during the night of D-

Officer in Charge of the Battalion, follows:

"On the eve of departure from this area, I wish to inform you of the excellent manner in which every member of your command performed the various duties during the landing and occupation of Peleliu. The unloading was accomplished by the untiring efforts of the shore party in which members of your command played a vital part. The cooperation and understanding throughout the assault phase by your command was no small factor in the success of this operation. You deserve a 'Well Done' in every respect."

Miss.,

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Major General Rupertus at present is Commandant, Marine Corps School, Quantice, Va.

The activity report of the battalion showed that the first section of the 17th Special Battalion landed with the First Marine Division on Peleliu at H-hours plus 2 on D-Day. They were part of the shore party, but while engaged primarily in that duty, on the first night responded to a call for volunteers when a shortage of ammunition was reported in the forward lines.

Practically the entire 17th carried ammunition to the front and brought wounded back. The Seabee report said, took part in the fighting on one of the fronts where Marines became shorthanded in that sector. Part of the 37mm. guns and did what ever else was needed.

47j-1944

Naval Board Hears 19 Dismissed Seabees Defend Their Records

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va
12-30-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Dismissed from the Navy for reasons that are still beclouded and handed "undesirable" discharges, which are but slightly less odious than dishonorable discharges, 19 Seabees have defended their records before a five-man Navy Board of Dismissals and Discharges at hearings held in Temporary Navy Building No. 2.

Appearing before the board for the seamen, who are petitioning for honorable discharges, was Arthur Garfield Hayes, counsel for the Civil Liberties Union. They were dismissed for alleged "unfitness" and "ineptitude" after eleven of them had been summoned to an "off the record" meeting in their commanding officer's quarters in Trinidad.

12-30-44

"YELLOW" DISCHARGES

The "yellow" discharges they hold may seriously handicap them in civil life. With these they are barred from civil service employment and many other jobs.

One of the men, Issac G. McNatt, 27, fears that his discharge might interfere with his acceptance by the New York Bar Association, and another petitioner is concerned about his medical degree.

STATE GRIEVANCES

In the office of Commander James Cantey Jr., where they had been requested to meet, the Seabees, it is charged, were told to state their grievances. They, without rancor, referred to the general delay in the promotion of Negroes and the fact that leaves were few and spaced between long intervals.

They made no complaint about the Jim crow practices at their base, and declined to attempt to make use of the facilities which it was quite well understood Negro seamen were not expected to use. They were questioned about their troubles in the camp, where there are 800 colored and 200 whites.

Testifying before the Navy Board, McNatt said that none of the men spoke up until questioned, yet this meeting is described in the bill of particulars of the Navy as "a seditious meeting."

ON THE STAND

12-30-44

After the Navy had outlined its case, four men went on the stand and reiterated the facts that they had been invited to the commander's office. Evidence as adduced, it is claimed, fails in every respect to come within the broad scope of the clause in the Naval Manual under which they were dismissed.

The "Bill of Particulars" charges the men:

"Participated in seditious meetings. Refused to obey orders. Gave vent to outspoken radical ideas. Used inciting tactics in handling groups of men. Attempted sitdown strikes. Threatened sabotage."

The men flatly deny all the charges.

A day following the meeting held in the office of Commander Cantley, on Oct. 26, the same men, in his presence, were told by an unnamed regimental commander that he wouldn't have any of "these petty gripes" under his command. Commander Cantley did not take the opportunity to explain that the men had come to his office to air their grievances at his own invitation.

"BAWLED OUT"

At the first meeting the chaplain of the camp in Trinidad, where the Seabees were building an air strip, was empowered to form an interracial committee to iron out differences. The unnamed regimental commander objected to this. He "bawled them out" for "forming committees and attending conferences," McNatt told the board.

Everyone of the men who attended the meeting in Commander Cantley's office was dismissed with either "ineptitude" or "unfitness" discharges. In addition, they were confined in the "brig" in New York before getting their papers.

TELL SAME STORY

Harvey Steele, Clarence O. Clarke and Robert Louis Mills told the same story as McNatt. All explained that they were invited to the meeting, and that they were innocent of all the other charges of disobedience, "inciting tactics, sabotage attempts or sit-down strikes."

Mills didn't even know there was any trouble until he was told to pack, he said. He had not even attended the "seditious" meeting in the commanding officer's quarters. He said he did not fail to "adapt himself to the military way of life"—a blanket charge against the dismissed Seabees.

Capt. Anton B. Anderson, chairman of the board, has indicated that it would require several weeks before a decision can be reached.

Heroic Seabees Turn Stretcher Men At Palau

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta Ga. 11-18-44

Land Behind First Assault Waves Of Marines

BY TECH. SGT. DONALD A. HALLMAN, SR.

PELELIU, PALAU ISLANDS (Delayed) — Two hundred Negro Seabees, grimy and weary from two days of unloading ships under enemy fire, were lined up on the beach here.

"I want volunteers for stretcher bearing on the ridge tonight," an officer was telling them.

And 200 Negro Seabees stepped out as one.

INCIDENT TYPICAL

The incident is typical of the record chalked up by the Seabee battalion, that landed immediately behind assault waves of Marines here and has been working night and day since. They unload ships, wrestle ammunition and heavy supplies to the beach dumps, carry ammunition to the front lines, and bring back wounded. On occasion they have filled in as frontline troops, and for more than a week they have been going forward to drag in wounded marines.

These Seabees had seen no action until Peleliu. Then they joined the assault. They had more than 100 casualties in the first week, many received during the landing when Japanese artillery and mortar fire was ripping the coral reef, others from mortar fire on the beaches and among the supply dumps and still more from enemy fire at the front.

11-18-44

From the first they worked up to 16 hours a day, unloading supplies on the floating docks out at the edge of the 600-yard wide coral reef. They were under constant mortar and artillery fire.

HANDLE AMMUNITION

On the beach they had to handle the heavy ammunition and vast stores of other supplies to the various dumps. Here they were also endangered by mortars, by snipers, and, on occasion, by Jap machine gunners who came to life behind the front lines. Once, they were even charged by three enemy tanks.

When a shell burst on the beach injuring 15 men, the Negro Seabees reached the scene first. They pulled out the wounded.

When a mortar shell set fire to a large ammunition dump, 50 Seabees started moving the shells. They had to be called off when the exploding ammunition pinned down every one on the entire beach.

When ordered to carry ammunition up to the front lines, volunteers took so many cases forward that a Marine infantry officer told them, "Knock it off. We just want enough ammunition for the night. We don't need the entire dump."

SEABEES VOLUNTEER

When a stretcher detail was needed to go down into a draw in front of a heavy fortified ridge to bring out wounded at midnight, 16 Seabees volunteered.

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The Negroes are enormously proud of the record their unit has made. Individual feats are generously recounted by others. The battalion is high in morale and excellent in achievement.

Seaman, First Class, Edward Scott, 20, of 313 Dickerson Street, Freemont, Ohio, was on the lines four times as a stretcher bearer. The second night he was in a foxhole with a Marine officer when four Japanese started moving in. When the Marine fired, one Jap fell and played dead for a time. Then he attempted to flank the position while the other three came on. Seaman Scott got two of them, the Marine officer accounted for the others.

Seaman 1/C Lemon Jackson, 26, of 712 East Alabama Street, Florence, Alabama, was pinned down in his foxhole near the front lines. He had ammunition to get forward and he was irked. He deliberately showed himself to draw Jap fire (this is the story of others — not Jackson).

Then "I just shot up in a tree and there he was," said the Seabee.

MARINE SAVED LIFE

Seaman, First Class, Henry Hall, of 2215-A Cass Avenue, St. Louis, Mo., thanks an unidentified Marine for saving his life. A Jap was moving in on Hall, and the Seabee's rifle jammed. A passing Marine knocked off the Jap, but shrugged away the Negro's thanks with "That's okay, you guys have been saving us with the ammo you're carrying.

"Me, I just went on about my business of looking for a deeper foxhole," grinned Hall, who made nine trips to the lines in eight days.

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Seaman, First Class, James Key Nichols, 20, of 5047 South Parkway, Chicago, has a souvenir of one trip across the exposed airport. He was carrying one end of a stretcher when a Japanese machine gun killed the Seabee on the front end. Nichols' canteen was pierced by two bullets.

"Left me without water," he mourned at the dressing station where he delivered the wounded Marine by himself two hours later.

BRAVES JAP FIRE

Machinist Mate, Third Class, Emory L. Jennings, of 586 Post Office Street, Altus, Oklahoma, heard there was a wounded man on the edge of the airport. Despite continuous sniper fire, he went and got him.

Seaman, Second Class, Leroy Moses heard a Jap in a foxhole yelling for help. Moses and two Navy corpsmen went out. One pharmacist's mate was shot by the screaming Jap who was in turn killed by Moses who then went down and helped in a wounded man.

Seaman, First Class, Jimmy Shearard of 200 Ray Street, Anderson, S. C., also heard Japs yelling.

11-18-44

"Sounded as if they were calling muster," he said. "Then one Jap called down: 'We see you throwing flares — we're coming.' But they didn't."

"I guess the boys have a right to be proud," said Lieutenant Commander Berry. "They got into the habit of volunteering so much that when we had to bury some long-dead Japs, two dozen Seabees stepped out before I had time to tell them what they were volunteering for."

He 'Tricked' Seabees Then 'Loses' Post

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
12-23-44

Commander of Discharged Men Moved To Another Position; Verdict Expected In 3 Weeks

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Lieu-

Reason Not Known

The circumstances under which changed to "honorable" —seeking to have their discharges tenant Commander Harry Cantey, Jr., the commanding officer of the Seabees unit stationed in Trinidad, Lt. Commdr. Cantey was transferred from which 19 Negro Seabees were discharged in October, 1943, for "unfitness" or "ineptitude" could not be learned. Whether it was unrefuted to the effect that commanding officer had called the Navy Department.

A week later, the eleven men and eight others were discharged for "unfitness" or "ineptitude." The general charges against them were: (1) participation in seditious meetings, (2) refusal to obey orders of their superior officers, (3) attempts to start trouble, (4) threatened sabotage, (5) use of inciting tactics in handling groups of men, and (6) participation in attempted sit-down strikes.

12-23-44

Deny Charges

The Navy charge also stated: "It is further disclosed that they were unwilling to adapt themselves to a military way of life; that they possessed ability to influence less intelligent and poorly educated personnel; that they worked tirelessly to tear down and disrupt the organization to the detriment of the Naval service, and in general to make their ineptitude and unfitness stand out."

All these charges were denied by the petitioners. four of whom appeared at the meeting and testified in person. With but one exception, none of the men had ever been reprimanded for any disciplinary offense during his service in the Navy. The only meeting they had ever attended was the one called by their commanding officer. 12-23-44

Counsel for the men argued that "other than honorable" discharges were a blot on the men for the rest of their lives. One of them is studying law and will likely be unable to get past the character committee of the bar association. Another is studying pre-medic courses. He will have the same difficulty with the medical board. Others are having the same difficulty trying to get civil service jobs or even jobs in private employment because of the nature of their discharges.

Await Decision

"If the Navy thought it undesirable to have a man in the service, we do not feel the Navy should have to keep the man in the service," declared Arthur Garfield Hayes, representing a number of the men on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Lynn Committee Against Discrimination in the Armed Forces. "But he should be honorably discharged," he said. 12-23-44

Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP, also appeared in behalf of that organization, as representative for some of the Seabees.

A decision is not expected from the Board of Review for about three weeks.

Seabees Of 34th Construction Battalion Cites Mistreatment

Age - New York N. Y.

12-30-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Stories of "gross mistreatment and discrimination" told by Negro members of the 34th Construction Battalion (Seabees) upon their return from 21 months overseas have caused the Washington Bureau of the NAACP to demand of Secretary of the Navy, Forrestal a complete investigation of the charges.

Leslie S. Perry, administrative assistant of the NAACP bureau here, wrote: "We [illegible] receipt of complaints from various men attached to the 34th Construction Battalion who are now stationed in Port Hueneme, California. Uniformly, these men complain of gross mistreatment and discrimination on account of their race. First, they charge that even while serving abroad they were subjected to the most brazen and humiliating forms of segregation. Not only were they required to wait until white enlisted men had completed mess before they were given food, but even the drinking water tanks were set up on the basis of color It is reported that one Negro seabee was kicked by Lieutenant R. G. Aaron for drinking from a tank set aside for white personnel. 12-30-44

"Second, it is alleged that Negro enlisted men were confined to the brig on the least pretext, especially when they protested the discriminatory conditions under which they were required to serve their country.

"Third, that although many of them are ill, the naval physicians, because of indifference or racial prejudice, refuse to furnish them with proper medical care. On occasion, it is reported, these men have been turned away by doctors with harsh and profane language. On other occasions, we understand, naval physicians have accosted men in the hospital with "what's wrong with you, eight ball?" 12-30-44

"Fourth, these men are unanimous in their complaint that Negroes in the battalion are systematically denied promotion.

"Most of the discrimination practiced against these men appears to reflect the wishes of Battalion Commander, J. P. McBean. We are informed that MeBean has stated openly that 'as long as I am Commander of this Battalion, there will be segregation'

rective action."

"In the light of these complaints, your office has a solemn obligation to American people to investigate conditions in the 34th Battalion with a view to drastic corrective action"

47j-1944

Seabees

NORTHWEST HERALD

Heroic Seabee Unit Back From Overrseas

Seattle, Wash.

4-21-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Veterans of 20 months of jungle warfare in the South Pacific, and bearing a unit citation for many outstanding feats of contruction completed under great difficulties, the first battalion of Negro Seabees to go overseas has returned to this country, the Navy Department announced this week.

The unit, the 34th Construction Battalion, indoctrinated at Camp Allen in Virginia, sailed outside the continental limits of the United States on January 1 1943, and arrived in Noumea, New Caledonia, 19 days later. Since that date, the unit has suffered casualties of five men killed in action and 35 wounded.

Two Killed in Raids

The first big job tackled by the [illegible] was the construction of the Halavo Seaplane base at Halavo in the Florida Islands. Brigaded there with the Acron (Red) Four, an air unit, the 34th Battalion helped carve its camp out of a deep jungle. During February and March, 1943, the two outfits experienced two direct enemy bombings and were under almost nightly enemy air raids in the area for a period of five months. Casualties from these raids resulted in two killed and 28 wounded.

A detachment of approximately 350 men were transferred on March 19, 1943, to Guadalcanal to assist other battalions in constructing fuel and gas storage facilities. This detachment remained on Guadalcanal until November, 1943, constructing al ltypes of airfield facilities and housing. They were under frequent enemy air raids for the first six months of their duty there and then less frequent raids, the last of which occurred in October, 1943. No casualties resulted.

To Russell's Island

On April 20, 1943, another detachment of approximately 200 men, with 75 per cent of the battalion's heavy equipment, was transported by LCTs to Russell Island, where they laid out and constructed, together with the 35th Construction Battalion, the second fighter strip north of Renard Sound on Banika Island. This detachment was a part of what was essentially a regimental command consisting of the entire 47th Battalion and one-half of the 20th Battalion. It was assigned to the task of constructing a 6,000-foot fighter strip on the Russells in time for the New Georgia campaign. These Seabee units completed their assigned tasks on time and the first three units later enlarged the bomber facilities south of Renard, completing this assignment by August, 1943.

At Russells the detachment was subjected to constant enemy bombing until the completion of the New Georgia campaign in July. The Negro detachment experienced five casualties, consisting of three killed and two injured with minor burns in the operation of the fighter strip, caused during the crash of a Navy plane on the field.

The entire battalion was reunited in November, 1943, in the Tulagi area, with approximately one-half of the battalion quartered at Halavo, and the other half scattered over the adjacent Islands of Tulagi, Savo and Phillips Peninsula on Purvis Bay.

Just before the men embarked for home, Capt. Mark L. Halsay, Jr., USN, commander of the Naval Base, sent them the following unit commendation:

"On the occasion of the completion of your work in this area, covering a period of 20 months, I congratulate you and the officers and enlisted men of your command for the splendid record which you have made."

Navy Says He Was Moved To Camp In Calif.

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga

12-23-44

Called Meeting Then Ordered Men

Put On Trial

BY HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) Lieutenant Commander Harry Cantey, Jr., the commanding officer of the Seabees unit stationed in Trinidad, from which 19 Negro Seabees were discharged in October, 1943, for 'unfitness" or 'ineptitude," is no longer commanding that unit. He has been transferred to Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California, according to the Navy Department.

The circumstances under which Lt. Comdr. Cantey was transferred could not be learned. Whether it had anything to do with his handling of racial problems with the Negro Seabee unit in Trinidad is a matter of conjecture still.

12-23-44

WERE DOUBLE-CROSSED

Testimony at the hearing on the petitions of the discharged Seabees — seeking to have their discharges changed to "honorable" — taken before the Board of Review Discharges and Dismissals last week were unrefuted to the effect that Lt. Comdr. Cantey had called the meeting in which eleven of the Seabees voiced their opinions at his request, on discriminations and racial conditions at the camp.

The next day, the regimental commander in the area called the same men in to a meeting, reprimanded them for holding a "seditious" meeting. Cantey was present and did not raise his voice to state that the meeting had been held at his request, and the opinions asked for by him.

A week later, the eleven men and eight others were discharged for 'unfitness" or 'ineptitude." The general charges against them were: (1) participation in seditious meetings, (2) refusal to obey orders of their superior officers, (3 attempts to start trouble, (4 threatened sabotage, (5) use of inciting tactics in handling groups of men, and (6) participation in attempted sit-down strikes.

12-23-44

CHARGES DENIED

All these charges were denied by the petitioners, four of whom appeared at the meeting and testified in person. With but one exception, none of the men had ever been reprimanded for any disciplinary offense during his service in the Navy. The only meeting they had ever attended was the one called by their commanding officer.

"If the Navy thought it undesirable to have a man in the service, we do not feel the Navy should have to keep the man in the service," declared Arthur Garfield Hayes, representing a number of men on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Lynn Committee Against Discrimination in the Armed Forces. "But he should be honorably discharged," he said.

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Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP, also appeared in behalf of that organization, as representative for some of the Seabees.

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200 N EGRO SEABEES

New York Age

11-25-44

PELELIU, PALAU ISLANDS (Delayed)—Two hundred Negro Seabees, grimy and weary from two days of unloading ships under enemy fire, were lined up on the beach here.

"I want volunteers for stretcher bearing on the ridge tonight," an officer was telling them.

And 200 Negro Seabees stepped out as one.

The incident is typical of the record chalked up by the Seabee battalion, that landed immediately behind assault waves of Marines here and has been working night and day since. They unload ships, wrestle ammunition and heavy supplies to the beach dumps, carry ammunition to the front lines, and bring back wounded. On occasion they have filled in as frontline troops, and for more than a week they have been going forward to drag in wounded marines.

11-25-44

These Seabees had seen no action until Peleliu. Then they joined the assault. They had more than 100 casualties in the first week, many received during the landing when Japanese artillery and mortar fire was ripping the coral reef, others from mortar fire on the beaches and among the supply dumps, and still more from enemy fire at the front.

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Navy Defends Dismissal of Negro Seabees

Washington Post, D. C.

12-12-44

By the Associated Press

A naval officer testified here yesterday that 15 Negro Seabees were discharged for "unfitness" after racial issues arose in their battalion while they were in Trinidad.

Yesterday testimony was given by Lieut. Comdr. Norman F. Godbe at a hearing granted by the Navy's judge advocate general.

Godbe said that while the men were not charged with specific offenses and were not given dishonorable discharges they had at-

ing an off-the-record gard to rank because of their race
ed informally Septem- He said he mentioned no griev-
, by the commanding ances.
e training post. The remaining 14 Seabees still
he other Negroes, he are to be heard. Capt. Anton B.
nvited to discuss any ing, said a decision probably would
and some of the men not be reached for three or four
hat they felt they were weeks.
minated against in re-

tended "seditious meetings," attempted "sitdown strikes," refused to obey orders" "threatened sabotage." counts applied to all 15, said.

other than "honorable dis- after attending a "re-charge," they are deprived of cer- meeting called in and tain benefits under the "GI Bill of ber 26, 1943, by Rights" and that their discharges officer of the train- He and the ot- Isaac Glenn McNatt, 27, of New York City, who edited the battal- grievances, and s ion's newspaper, testified that he complained that th Godbe carry a stigma." noted that because the men have and the others had been discharged being discrimina

NEGRO SEABEES PROVE METTLE IN BATTLE

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Seabees Back From Pacific Hit Treatment

NAACP Demands Navy Probe Of Men's Charges

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Stories of "gross mistreatment and discrimination" told by Negro members of the 34th Construction Battalion (Seabees) upon their return from 21 months overseas have caused the Secretary of the Washington Bureau of the NAAACP to demand of the Secretary of the Navy, Forrestal, a complete investigation of the charges.

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"Not only were they required to wait until white enlisted men had completed mess before they were given food, but even the drinking water tanks were set up on the basis of color. It is reported that one Negro seabee was kicked by Lieutenant R. G. Aaron for drinking from a tank set aside for white personnel.

PUT IN BRIG

"Second, it is alleged that Negro enlisted men were confined to the brig on the least pretext, especially when they protested the discriminatory conditions under which they were required to serve their country

"Third, that although many of them are ill, the naval physicians, because of indifference or racial prejudice, refuse to furnish them with proper medical care. On occasion, it is reported these men have been turned away by doctors with harsh and profane language. On other occasions, we understand, naval physicians have assocted men in the hospital with 'what's wrong with you, eight ball?"

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CITE McBEAN

"Most of the discrimination practiced against these men appears to reflect the wishes of Battalion Commander, J. P. McBean. We are informed that McBean has stated openly that 'as long as I am Commander of this Battalion, there will be segregation.'

"In the light of these complaints, your office has a solemn obligation to American people to investigate conditions in the 34th Battalion with a view to drastic corrective action."

Ousted Seabees To Get Navy Hearing Dec. 11

(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK. — The cases of the 19 Negro Seabees discharged from the Navy in October 1943 will be heard before the Naval Board of Review in Washington Monday, Dec. 11.

The men who had volunteered for service were given yellow discharge slips without any explanation or trial. The CIO War Council, the NAACP and the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces immediately came to their assistance and have furnished them counsel.

Isaac McNatt, one of the discharged men who was a law student before he enlisted and who has returned to law school said the yellow slips have kept the boys from getting any of the benefits provided in the GI Bill of Rights and have barred many from their former jobs or jobs in keeping with their training.

Can't Get Hospital Aid

"We did not receive any mustering out pay, educational benefits or loans," McNatt said, "and civil service jobs were closed to us." Harvey Steele, who was a shipfitter in the Seabees, was refused in the U. S. Department of Engineers where he had formerly worked. He tried to get a job in the city subway, but they wouldn't take him. He applied for admission to Columbia University but they told him if he were undesirable in the Navy he would be undesirable there.

"A metalsmith named Logan who was a graduate of Tennessee State broke his leg and was shipped out on crutches. When he was discharged his leg had still not completely healed, but he was given no pension nor further hospitalization.

"A radio electrician specialist who had been a motion picture projectionist, an electrician for the Ford Motor Company and who had taught electricity and radio at Virginia State was called upon to teach a class, yet he was never promoted above the rank of Second Class Petty Officer.

"It seems that almost all the boys they picked to discharge were college graduates," McNatt commented.

The boys belonged to a battalion that had a force of 800 Negroes and 200 whites. They were transported to Trinidad to build a base. On shipboard they were fed after the white boys and at Trinidad they had separate chow lines and everything was done to see that there was as little mingling as possible.

The unrest among the Negro Seabees apparently was noted because an informal conference was called with some of the men present and a few officers. The men were asked how they felt about the racial situation and one of the officers was quoted as saying, "I'm from Texas and wouldn't care to sleep with them (Negroes), eat with them, have any recreation with them, or anything other than getting our job done."

A few days later the boys who had honestly given their opinions about the segregation received their yellow discharge slips which read "undesirable by reason of unfitness" and "ordinary by reason of inaptitude."

Grant Request For Review In Case of 12 Seabees

Tribune — Savannah, Ga. 11-2-44

DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM NAVY

Because They Objected To Discrimination

NEW YORK—The NAACP'- request to the United States navy's Board of Review to review the "unfitness discharge" of 12 Negro Seabees dismissed from the U. S. Naval Reserve on October 23, 1943, has been granted, and hearing set for Dec. 11, 1944. Attorney Gerald K. Weatherley who is representing Isaac McNatt, joined with NAACP Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall, in requesting that all cases be consolidated and a single hearing date set.

The twelve seabees were among the original fifteen who were given "undesirable" discharges for discussing racial grievances at a supposedly "off the record" meeting called by the commanding officer while they were on duty at a base in the Pacific.

On September 13 the NAACP appealed for review of dismissals for two of the men, under G. I. Bill of rights which empowers the secretary of the navy to estabblish 5 man boards to review such cases. However all cases will now be consolidated and heard December 4.

11-2-44

11-2-44

Seabees Skilled Mechanics

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga. 11-12-44

The 34th USN Construction Battalion, first group of Negro Seabees to go to the Pacific war theatre, are back home after 20 months overseas. They participated in a wide variety of construction projects. Photo shows a group engaged in work on a Seaplane Base in the South Pacific. The improvised pile driver was built by the 34th to drive coconut log foundations for stran steel huts. Ieft to right—C. E. Justice, CM2c, of Vinita, Okla.; W. C. Donovan, CCM, of Hattiesburg, Miss.; Boyd Greer, MM2c, of Little Rock, Ark.; and Eugene Butler, S1/c, Indianapolis, Ind. (Official U. S. Navy Photo from OWI).

11-12-44

The case of the discharged Seabee

PM Magazine Section New York, N. Y. 10-8-44

ISAAC MCNATT, A SEABEE, was discharged from the Navy last October—along with 17 other Negroes—as undesirable. Since then he has been trying to find some way to fight the dismissal, and now he has found it.

He told us about it a few days ago in his furnished room on West 152d Street, but first he wanted us to know how he felt.

He said he felt a little like a veteran who comes back seriously incapacitated. "He's a casualty and so am I," McNatt said. "But I don't get any honor or benefits. What I get is disgrace. I'm an unfit and undesirable person, my country tells me. It says so on my discharge papers. I'm to take my bar examination in 18 months.

...is against my character, I probably ... be admitted. From then on I'll be ...issing in action in civilian life."

An all-night drill

McNatt's story of his year in the Seabees is sort of long and not very exciting, unless you are the kind of person that gets excited about a man's efforts to be treated as a man. 10-8-44

It begins at Camp Allen, Va., where his battalion got its boot training. There the Negroes were put into two companies by themselves and the whites into another. They met at just two places, the service store and the movies.

"We had been in camp only a few days," McNatt said, "when a sign was put up in the store directing whites to one window, colored to another. At the movies we got to mixing around, with everyone taking a seat wherever he found it. Some white men didn't like this and demanded to be allowed to march into the movie first. This was permitted and at the first show it was tried there was almost a riot.

"After the show, we all went to bed. In the middle of the night all the colored men were ordered out of their ... whether they had been to the movie or not. We had to drill most of the night. They kept us at it until we nearly dropped."

When the battalion went to Camp Bradford in Virginia for advanced training, the companies were reorganized, with white men assigned to each one. "Whenever we marched any place, to a show or work or on parade, the white men were always at the head," Isaac said. 10-8-44

"We asked about this and were told that the men with the highest ratings were first. We learned then that the white men all had higher ratings than we had. No Negro was allowed to go higher than a second-class petty officer."

The battalion was shipped to the Caribbean area and began building roads through the jungle. The men ate at a nearby Naval air station. Soon there were two lines, one for the Negroes, one for the others. But the white men attached to the Naval air station refused to get in line with the white Seabees. "They didn't like the way these men and officers were treating us," McNatt said. "Three chow lines had to be formed. 10-8-44

"When our living quarters were completed," Isaac went on, "we found that there was to be complete segregation again. Nobody complained about this, but here once more there was one place where we had to mix. This was at the Ship's Store. They were a little more subtle this time about the signs they put up. The one for us read *This line for enlisted men.*

"No white men, whether enlisted or not, ever got on this line," Isaac said. "But we fooled them; neither did we. We went to an adjoining air base where they had no such sign. A week later, when some officer discovered that our store was overstocked with beer and that nothing was moving, the sign disappeared."

Skipper calls 'em in

McNatt was serving as a pay-roll clerk and bookkeeper for the battalion. He ited the battalion newspaper in his spare time and thought he was getting along fine.

Then something happened. He thinks the boycotting of the ship's store may have galled some of the Southern officers.

Anyway, the day after the sign was removed, 12 of the Negroes were invited to drop in and have an informal chat with the Skipper, Comdr. Harry Cantey. Nine other white officers were there, too.

"We talked a while about such things as getting more liberty for the men," McNatt said. "Then one officer spoke up and said: 'That isn't really what's on your minds. What we want to hear is what you think about the racial situation here.'

"Tell me where you fellows would be willing to draw the line between races," the officer said.

McNatt spoke up then and said that he couldn't see that a line could be drawn any place. "So long as we get along with the policy white fellows on the job," he said, "why couldn't we get along with them in the mess or in our living quarters?"

Isaac said that before the meeting broke up, Cmdr. Cantey said he would ask the Negro chaplain to form a committee on interracial affairs, and that further meetings would be held soon. 10-8-44

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Seabees Volunteer For Dirty Job Fighting Japs On Palau

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

11-18-44

By T/SGT. W. A. HALLMAN SR.
Marine Corps Combat Correspondent

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On the beach they had to handle the heavy ammunition and vast stores of other supplies to the various dumps. Here they were also endangered by mortars, by snipers, and, on occasion, by Jap machine gunners who came to life behind the front lines. Once, they were even charged by three enemy tanks.

When a shell burst on the beach, injuring 15 men, the Negro Seabees reached the scene first. They pulled out the wounded.

When a mortar shall set fire to a large ammunition dump, 50 Seabees started moving the shells. They had to be called off when the exploding ammunition pinned down everyone on the entire beach.

When ordered to carry ammunition up to the front lines, volunteers took so many cases forward that a Marine infantry officer told them, "Knock it off. We just want enough ammunition for the night. We don't need the entire dump."

When a stretcher detail was needed to go down into a draw in front of a heavily fortified ridge to bring out wounded at midnight, 16 Seabees volunteered.

PROUD OF RECORD

The Negroes are enormously proud of the record their unit has made. Individual feats are generously recounted by others. The battalion is high in morale and excellent in achievement.

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Seaman, first class, James Moses heard a Jap in a foxhole yelling for help. Moses and two Navy corpsmen went out. One pharmacist's mate was shot by the screaming Jap who was in turn killed by Moses who then went down and helped in a wounded man.

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SPARS Accept Negro Women

Daily World

WASHINGTON (N N P A)—Coast Guard Headquarters Friday announced it would follow the policy of the Navy Department, announced Thursday, of admitting Negro women to its Women's Reserve, called Spars. The Coast Guard, since the war, has been part of the Navy, though in peace time it is subject to the supervision of the treasury Department.

This move on the part of the Coast Guard was expected, since it has proved to be the most liberal of the armed services, with less discrimination because of race than any of the other branches. 10-21-44

The Navy announced Thursday that the President had approved its plan for acceptance of Negro women in the Waves. This leaves only the women Marines from which Negro women are still banned.

Negro Waves, Spars

Citizen-Review Atlanta, Ga. 11-4-44 Just a loose

We were glad to learn that the Navy has at last opened its tightly locked doors to admit Negro women. While we welcome this opportunity for our women who have loyally supported the efforts of their country in every way we somehow cannot enjoy this victory as we would have in '41 or '42 when women became a part of the Navy. We classify this move as we do other recent moves on the part of the administration—not as a sincere effort to give the Negro what he so richly deserves but as an attempt to appease powerful Negro voters in the North and East. We are thankful that the pleas of the Negro press and other organizations have been heard and that soon Negro women can take their places by the sides of the men in blue whose contribution to the war grows larger each day. We do feel proud when we consider the four Negro Commanders of our merchant fleet who are delivering much needed cargoes to our fighting fronts, the Dorie Millers and Charlie Frenches and other naval heroes, the newly commissioned Negro naval officers, our fighting Black Marines and many other men of color who constitute the personnel of the largest and strongest Navy in our history. Our only regret is that we have been forced to fight, fight, fight for the privilege of giving our lives for our country.

NEGRO "SPARS"

Age - New York, N. Y. 10-28-44

WE had just finished writing the editorial about the "WAVES" when a dispatch from Washington brought some more welcome news that the United States Coast Guard headquarters "will follow the general policy of the Navy in accepting Negro women in the Women's Reserve. It will accept Negro women for service in the SPARS in quotas acording to the needs of the service."

What we have said about the Navy's policy of admitting Negro women in the WAVES we re-iterate about the Coast Guard's policy of admitting Negro women in the SPARS.

It all goes to show that once a clear-cut policy is enunciated and approved by the Commander-In-Chief, it doesn't take long for even die-hards, steeped in generations of tradition, to wake up to the fact that democracy is on trial before the world and no longer can it be made a mockery of without serious repercussions.

47j-1944

Waves

Swelling the Ranks of the WAVES

There's sea-going tradition in the family of Jane Ann Freeman, 22, shown here being sworn in by Capt. L. D. Causey, USN (Ret.) as a WAVE at the First Naval (New England) District headquarters in Boston. Big brother Pat has been in the Merchant Marine for seven years and Jane's maternal grandfather entered the U. S. Navy during the Civil War. Now that the bars have been dropped against Negroes in the WAVES, letting Jane in as the first in New England, Jane's sister June, 19, is waiting to be old enough to join up. Jane has been an inspector at the Dewey and Almy Chemical Co., in Cambridge.

They Are in the Navy Now

Miss Katherine Horton of Brooklyn, left, and Miss Ada Frierson of New York are congratulated on their enlistment in the Navy's Waves by Chief Recruiter Forrest Walker after they had been sworn in at the Office of Naval Officer Procurement in New York City.

2 Wilmington Girls, First Cousins, Sworn into WAVES

PHILADELPHIA

Two first cousins, Misses Alice A. Chapman and Thelma Y. Wingfield, of 204 E. Eighth Street, Wilmington, Del., were sworn into the WAVES as enlisted personnel last week.

The girls, both natives of Atlanta, Ga., are the third and fourth respectively, to be sworn into the WAVES since this branch of service was opened to colored women more than two months ago.

Both of the young women are employed by the Delaware Rayon Company.

No Officer Candidates

A spokesman of the Navy Public Relations office has admitted that previous reports on the acceptance of two colored women in this area as officer candidates were erroneous. "We thought the girls were qualified, but found later that they were mistaken," he said.

All of the women who have been accepted will begin training the latter part of this month at Hunter College in New York City.

A number of girls have passed their physical and mental aptitude tests, but have not been sworn in. It was stated that as soon as vacancies occur, they will be notified by mail.

NAVY SWEARS IN THREE WOMEN AS FIRST WAVES

Two New York Girls, One New Englander Taken Into Naval Reserve

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Naval history was made Monday, when three Negro women, including two officers and one enlisted recruit, were sworn into the Women's Reserves in Boston and in New York City.

The enlistments were under the Navy Department plan approved by the President for the acceptance of colored women into the WAVES. The first Negro woman in the 1st Naval District to complete her application and be sworn into the Women's Reserves was Jane A. Freeman, 22, of 164 Walnut street, Roxbury, Mass. She was sworn in Monday, 8 a.m., by Capt. L. D. Clausey, USN, retired director of the office of naval officer procurement at Boston.

Manhattan Gets Two

Two hours later in New York City, two other Negro women were sworn into the service as apprentice seamen and officer candidates by Lt. Rosamond D. Selle, at 33 Pine street. They were Harriet Ida Pickens, 35, of 260 W. 139th street, and Frances Eliza Wills, 28, of 315 W. 113th street, both of Manhattan.

Miss Pickens and Miss Wills were scheduled to report to Smith college for training on Nov. 15. Upon successful completion of their training, Miss Pickens will be commissioned lieutenant junior grade and Miss Wills an ensign.

Miss Freeman, the first Negro enlisted WAVE in the New England area, will be one of the first group of Negro recruits to enter boot training at Hunter college Manhattan, about January 1, 1945.

Miss Pickens, a native of Talladega, Ala., graduated from Smith college in 1930, with an A.B. degree cum laude and did graduate work at Columbia university from 1930 to 1933. From Sept. 1931 to June 1932, she was an instructor at Bennett college, N. C. From 1934 to 1939, she was a project supervisor under the recreational program for WPA, New York City, and from June, 1939 to present, she has been executive secretary, Harlem Tuberculosis and Health committee, Manhattan.

Hunter College Grad

Miss Wills graduated from Hunter college in 1930, with B.A. degree. She received her M.S. degree from the University of Pittsburgh, in 1943, in biology, social administration, speech and dramatics. From 1936-1940, she worked in the employment department of the YWCA on West 137th street, New York City, and from Feb. 1940 to Sept. 1941, she was a secretary in the New York Protestant Episcopal Mission Society.

Since Nov. 15, last year, Miss Wills has been a case-worker for the State Charities Aid Association Manhattan, this work being devoted mainly to investigation of families in connection with child adoption. She was born in Philadelphia.

Miss Freeman is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Freeman, Roxbury, Mass., and attended Roxbury Memorial high school, graduating in 1940. While in school she was drill leader, leader on the ring committee and the senior council.

Miss Freeman has been employed as an inspector by the Dewey and Almy company. Her grandfather, Abraham Fenno, was a member of the U. S. navy in the Civil War.

Waves Promised 'Equal' Treatment

WASHINGTON

Lt. Commander W. Marvin McCarthy, Navy public relations officer, said last week that admission, training and utilization of colored women by the WAVES would be handled in the same manner as for women of other races.

There were indications, however, that the Navy's conception of equality included no ban on racial segregation.

Capt. Mildred McAfee, commander of the WAVES, during a news conference on November 10, declared that colored women in the Naval unit will enjoy whatever degree of integration that local conditions dictate.

Declaring on one hand that colored and white personnel will be trained in the same classes, she admitted on the other that the Navy would make no definite comment on the segregation in sleeping quarters.

In answer to a series of questions asked by the AFRO-AMERICAN, Lieutenant Commander McCarthy said:

1. Examination of colored applicants will be conducted along with that of other applicants.
2. The same standards of admission will apply.
3. It is the purpose of the Navy to bring colored women into the training and in the same manner as other schools will be accorded.
4. Specific procedures in connection with the housing and organization of colored women in training will depend upon the number of recruits to be trained.
5. Colored women will be assigned to the same type of duties, based upon individual training, ability and the needs of the service.

Number to Determine Procedure

4. Specific plants for administration and as rapidly as possible.

Capt. McAfee Of The WAVES Gives Interview Concerning Our Girls

Pittsburgh Courier Penn. 11-18-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Negro women will be taken into the WAVEs at a time when the Navy has ordered sharp cutbacks in its recruitment program, it was disclosed during a news conference which Capt. Mildred McAfee held Friday morning. She said too, they will enjoy whatever degree of integration that local conditions dictate. As of December 1 not more than 500 recruits a month will be accepted. The present rate has been closer to 4,000 a month, a press officer explained. The announcement of the acceptance of Negro women said that they would be enlisted in accordance with the needs of the service.

Questioned regarding the purpose for accepting Negro women, Capt. McAfee explained that it was done because there is actually work for them to do.

The women will be trained in the same school although it is not clear at the moment whether or not it will be Hunter college in New York. Plans in general for WAVE training are in the midst of being changed, it was pointed out. 11-18-44

QUESTIONS SEGREGATION

Asked about segregation in sleeping quarters, Captain McAfee said "The Navy is making no statement about how it is going to administer its own internal program. It is definitely assumed the people are coming in without discrimination but whether or not the particular procedure happens to put Negroes together in one place is something else. The Navy is not going to make any definite comment on its actions.

"They will, however, be trained in the same classes," she added.

At the moment applications for commissions are being received from Negro women and other enlistments will begin about January 1. These are being processed in the "usual way," it was said. Miss McAfee was evasive in some of her answers to questions regarding segregation, but it was made apparent that local conditions, ratings and job qualifications were to determine assignment upon completion of training.

York City, Monday morning, November 13, under a Navy Department plan, approved by the President, for the acceptance, of Negro women into the WAVES.

The first Negro woman in the First Naval District to complete her application and be sworn into the Women's Reserves was Miss Jane A. Freeman, 23, of 164 Walnut avenue, Roxbury, Mass. She was sworn into the service as an Enlisted WAVE at 8 a. m. Monday by Chaplain L. D. Causey, USN Retired, Director of the Office of Naval Officers Procurement at Boston.

Two hours later in New York City two other Negro women were sworn into the service as Apprentice Seamen and Officer Candidates by Lt. Rosamond D. Selle at 3 Pine street. Tthey were Miss Hariett Ida Pickens 35, of 260 West 139th Street and Miss Frances Eliza Wills 28, of 315 West 113th Street, both of New York City. 11-14-44

Miss Pickens and Miss Wills were scheduled to report to Smith College for training on November 15. Upon successful completion of training, Miss Pickens will be commissioned Lieutenant (jg) and Miss Wills will be commissioned an Ensign. Miss Freeman, the first Negro enlisted WAVE in the New England area, will be one of the first group of Negro recruits to enter "boot" training at Hunter College, New York City, about January 1, 1945.

11-14-44

Capt. McAfee's first reply to Mrs. Norton cited the fact that women are used to replace males for sea duty, to which the congresswoman replied that she failed to see how "the question of men for sea duty would affect the matter of recruitment of WAVES, since there are many jobs being done by white men eligible for sea duty which could easily be handled by colored WAVES."

While the department is prepared to undertake such an experiment when it has been established that the services of colored women are needed, Capt. McAfee answered, "there does not exist at this time a clear necessity for their enlistment."

6-3-44

Mrs. Thomasina W. Johnson, representative for the AKA Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, was expecting to discuss the problem with Navy Secretary James E. Forrestal sometime this week.

Philadelphia Tribune 12-16-44

Miss ALICE JONES was sworn in as a candidate for officer's training in the Women's Reserve of the United States Naval Reserve by Lt. (junior grade) Miriam Waltmeyer at the Office of Naval Officer Procurement, Widener Building, Philadelphia, on December 5. 12-16-44

Miss Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Jones, of 705 north Michigan avenue, Atlantic City, N. J., received a bachelor of science degree from Virginia State College, Petersburg, Va., majoring in home economics. Before joining the Navy, she was employed as a clerk with the Department of Commerce in Washington, D. C. She will attend the next class for prospective WAVE officers at Smith College, Northampton, Mass. 12-16-44

First WAVES Sworn In Monday In Boston, N. Y.

Daily World—Atlanta Ga.

Roxbury, Mass. Young Woman Is First Of Race

11-14-44

WASHINGTON — (CWI) — Three Negro women, including two officer candidates and one enlisted recruit, were sworn into the Women's Reserve in Boston and New

WAVE Head Finds New Bar Alibi

Afro American Baltimore, Md. 6-3-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— The reluctance of the navy department to accept colored women into the WAVES is based upon an unwillingness to undertake an experiment within an experiment, according to Capt. Mildred H. McAfee, commanding officer of the Women's Reserve.

The establishment of the women's reserve, entailing the use of women in large numbers in

We're in the WAVES

Call—Kansas City Mo. 11-24-44

Negro women have been sworn into the WAVES and they will be trained at Hunter and Smith colleges along with other members of the Navy Women's Reserve.

This is another step forward which Negroes gained through their own persistence. The Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority's Non-Partisan council led the fight ably backed by other women's organizations, the N.A.A.C.P. and other groups.

It remains to be seen whether Negroes will be integrated into WAVE units or whether separate outfits will be established. The Navy has an opportunity to put real democracy into practice by letting the policy of non-discrimination begun in the training of WAVES carry through as the women are assigned to duty.

The long delay that Negroes experienced in getting admitted to the WAVES will be well paid for if the Navy tosses jim-crowism out into the sea. 11-24-44

It has been demonstrated time and time again in this war that Negro and white Americans do not have to be separated in order to get along together. Just last week, "Killer Moe," a Negro truck driver in the Philippines was invited by a white infantry unit from Texas to help them man a machine gun during an attack. He accepted the invitation and took over a gun after three gunners had fallen and stuck by it through three enemy attacks. 11-24-44

Negro soldiers who have returned from overseas have recounted many instances where the color line was forgotten in foxholes and in mess tents. Even the blood of Negroes which the Red Cross so carefully separates before it leaves this country is injected into the veins of whoever needs it, once it reaches the battlefield.

America has got to start sometime forgetting about color and the WAVES is a good place to start.

47j-1944

Asks Probe of WAVE Negro Ban

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.

HOUSE BILL SHUNTED TO RULES COMMITTEE

Daily Worker Washington Bureau 5-11-44

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Rep. William A. Rowan, Illinois Democrat, has introduced a resolution to investigate the refusal of the Navy Department to permit the enlistment of Negro WAVEs.

Rowan's resolution, which would direct the House Naval Affairs Committee to make the investigation, has been referred to the House Rules Committee, which is dominated by polltaxers such as Rep. E. E. Cox of Georgia, Martin Dies of Texas and Howard Smith of Virginia. 5-11-44

In response to pressure, the Navy Department has offered to set up segregated WAVE units, but two Negro colleges have denied the use of their facilities for training purposes if segregation is to be the official policy.

AKA's Move To Have Bill Up On House Floor

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
5-12-44

Urge Waves, Spars And Marines For All U. S. Women

WASHINGTON, D. C. (SNS)—The Alpha Kappa Alpha Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs announced this week that Congressman William A. Rowan of Illinois introduced April 28 a House Resolution 522 which proposes full investigation of the Navy's policy on accepting or training Negro women as WAVES, SPARS, and WOMEN MARINES.

Issuing an urgent call to every TRUE AMERICAN in the country to mobilize in support of the Resolution, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Council called upon its 152 chapters to act as spearheads in organizing local pressure to be applied to members of the Rules Committee.

Letters, telegrams, postcards, delegations and individual visits should be made to each, urging them to report HR-522 to the floor of the House immediately and favorably, the Alpha Kappa Alpha spokesman said. Community mass meetings should be held for the same purpose. The Rules Committee members to whom the demands should be addressed are Adolph J Sabath, Illinois, Chairman; John J. Delaney, New York; Joe B Bates, Kentucky; Hamilton Fish New York; Leo E. Allen, Illinois; Earl C. Michener, Michigan; Chas. A. Halleck, Indiana, and Clarence J. Brown, Ohio. 5-12-44

HR-522 would authorize the Committee on Naval Affairs, acting as a whole or by subcommtitee, to make a full and complete investigation of all matters relating to the status of Negro women with respect to the women's uniformed services of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, concentrating on the Navy's policy with respect to discrimination on account of race or color in accepting Negro women for service, excluding Negro women from a specific type of duty, if they were accepted for service, selection of Negro women for officers' training and promotion to advanced ranks if they were accepted.

The investigation committee would have the power to require the appearance of any witnesses it deemed necessary to establish its case, production of any books, correspondence, records, and to subpeona any person it would want to appear.

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Council poined out that the full weight of the Negro population must be thrown behind HR-522. Powerful and articulate forces will be aligned against it, and unless Negroes and any white groups they can enlist are willing to put forth every effort to get the bill first reported, then passed, it is sure to be killed.

Navy Unwilling To 'Experiment' With Race Waves

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Commander Says No Present Need For Their Service

5-28-44

WASHINGTON,—(ANP)—The reluctance of the Navy Department to accept Negro women into the Waves is based upon an unwillingness to undertake an experiment with an experiment, according to Captain Mildred H. McAfee, commanding officer of the Women's Reserve.

WAVES

The establishment of the women's reserve, entailing the use of women in large numbers in the Navy, she wrote Rep. Mary T. Norton (D) of New Jersey, "was in the nature of an experiment. In its study of the problems involved in enlisting Negro women in the reserve ,the department has considered the fact that such a departure would introduce into the Waves program a further element of experimentation."

DISCLOSES CORRESPONDENCE

Rep. Norton had called the matter to the attention of Captain McAfee in April when she had received so many inquiries from Negro women in her own district and from other parts of the country, she said. She disclosed her correspondence with the Waves director on Thursday.

Captain McAfee's first reply to Mrs. Norton cited the fact that women are urged to replace males for sea duty, to which the congresswoman replied that she failed to see how "the question of men for sea duty would effect the matter of recruitment of Waves since there are many jobs being done by white men eligible for sea duty which could easily be handled by colored Waves." 5-28-44

While the department is prepared to undertake such an expreiment when it has been established that the services of Negro women are needed, Captain McAfee answered, "there does not exist at this time a clear necessity for their enlistment.

QUOTAS MET

"This is demonstrated by the fact that the Navy has met all of its quotas for the enlistment and procurement of Waves which quotas have been based on periodic surveys of the needs of the service for the number and type of replacement that can be made among male personnel." 5-28-44

Mrs. Thomasina Walker Johnson, representative for the AKA Non Partisian Council on Public Affairs, was expecting to discuss the problem with Navy Secretary James E. Forrestal sometime this week.

Attack Navy Ban On Race Women

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.
6-3-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a four-point program to crack the Navy's policy of barring the enlistment of Negro women in the WAVES, SPARS and MARINES, 20 national organizations, cooperating with the Alpha Kappa Alpha Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, will begin applying local and national pressure this week to get H. R. 522 passed.

This resolution, introduced in the House by Congressman William A. Rowan (Ill.) proposes an investigation of Navy discrimination.

The Navy's latest word on its policy regarding enlistment of Negro women came last week in reply to a letter from the AKA Council addressed to the late Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox. The reply, signed by Commander R. W. Wood, USNR, special assistant to the assistant chief of Navy personnel, stated: "The enlistment of Negroes in the Women's Reserve of the United States Naval Reserve is under consideration, you may be advised that no plan has been approved for this purpose." 6-3-44

The enlistment of Negro women has been under consideration since last July when a plan to train a jim crow unit was unearthed and publicized by the Council which resulted in its being cancelled.

FOUR-POINT PROGRAM

This week 20 national organizations announced the following four-point program:

1. **A recruiting drive to find qualified women and girls who want to join one of the Navy's uniformed women's services.** 6-3-44
2. Letters from Washington and from the states to President Roosevelt, Commander-in-Chief of the Navy, and to Secretary of the Navy Forrestal to come out publicly in favor of integrated admission of Negro women to these services.
3. Request that Secretary Forrestal handle this matter himself.
4. Communications to northern members of the rules committee from Washington and the states to report out of committee H. R. No. 522.

CAPT. McAFEE'S STATEMENT

The reluctance of the Navy Department to accept Negro women into the Waves is based upon an unwillingness to undertake an experiment within an experiment, according to Capt. Mildred H. McAfee, commanding officer of the Women's Reserve.

The establishment of the women's reserve, entailing the use of women in large numbers in the Navy, she wrote Rep. Mary T. Norton (D) of New Jersey, "was in the nature of an experiment. In its study of the problems involved in enlisting Negro women in the reserve, the department has considered the fact that such a departure would introduce into the Waves program a further element of experimentation."

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While the department is prepared to undertake such an experiment when it has been established that the services of Negro women are needed, Capt. McAfee answered, "there does not exist at this time a clear necessity for their enlistment."

Women's Fight Led To WAVE Entree

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
10-28-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The recently announced plan of the Navy to accept Negro women in the WAVES is the culmination of a long struggle conducted by women all over the country and headed by a small group of progressive women in Washington.

Spearheading the group through the dean of the Howard University the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's School of Theology; Dr. Dorothy Non-Partisan Council was Mrs. Boulding Ferebee, prominent phy- Thomasina Johnson, the council's sician and civic worker; Miss Doro- legislative director. Associated with thy Height, former executive sec- her in the fight were Miss Elsie retary of the Phyllis Wheatley Austin, former national president YWCA here; and Mrs. Pauline of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Redmond Coggs, executive secretary Mrs. Jeanetta Welch Brown, on of the Washington Urban League leave as executive secretary of the National Council of Negro Women; Mrs. W. Stuart Nelson, wife of

concentration on the fight about a year ago, though efforts had been exerted by them and their organi- zations since the inception of the WAVES.

The meeting was postponed, however, because several of the group were planning to discuss in- formation given members of their committee that the Navy would entertain some plans and announcement was coming. This was announcement with the National Democratic Committee by the Navy Department, as is Miss Brown. Miss Height is now stationed in New York with the National YWCA.

Most of these women have known day the announcement was made by son, is working out of New York

ught out in a statement by Mrs. Nelson, who when informed of the Navy Department's release said "I have known that Capt. McAfee (head of the Waves) was working on such a plan for someime. I did not feel free at the time to discuss it, but I have known it since the first part of August. The Navy had agreed to that type of plans."

She went on to say she was very pleased on the matter of the Navy seeing it fit to take such an advanced position in integrating Negro women into its service. She paid tribute to Capt. McAfee and the "forward-looking group of women" under her leadership. She said she felt the women in the Navy Department were prepared to take a stand "slightly in advance of the stand the men have traditionally taken."

10-28-44

Miss Austin, when informed of the announcement said; "I am certainly very glad it has happened. I trust that the announcement carries with it a policy of full and complete integration of Negro women withoout the establishment of separate Negro units. I am confident that the women who are given this opportunity will more than make it worthwhile."

F.D.R. Still Puts Politics Above All

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

It took two years of fighting to open the ranks of the WAVES and the SPARS to Negro women and the battle might not have been won in that length of time had not a momentous election been just ahead. 11-3-44

While we welcome the acceptance of Negroes into the Naval Women's Reserve at whatever time it came, it does seem a pity that a great nation like ours would withhold needed manpower from military units until such time as it would be politically advantageous to the administration to supply the need.

Obviously, the Roosevelt administration held up the enlistment of Negroes into the WAVES and SPARS until a time when the lowering of the bar would be advantageous to it. The desire of Negroes to join the WAVES, SPARS and Marines has been known to the government ever since the women's reserves were organized. That there was a need for more women to replace Navy men long before now was common knowledge as radio and newspaper appeals often have been made urging women (white) to join the WAVES and release a Navy man for active duty.

The first excuse offered for the exclusion of Negro women from the Navy was that Negro men were not accepted in this branch of the service except as messmen. That condition was changed over a year ago when the first Negro apprentice seamen were enlisted. 11-3-44

Later, the Navy department and other high officials, when questioned about the exclusion of women from the Navy, stalled for time, saying that a plan was being worked out and that it would be announced soon.

President Roosevelt once more has demonstrated that he is the master politician, more interested in staying in office than in serving the American people. In 1940, at the strategic time, he appointed a Negro general to gain the few extra Negro votes that he needed to stay in the White House for 12 years. This year, knowing that the vote of women is more important than ever with so many men voting age overseas, F. D. R. kept Negro women out of the Navy reserve until he needed their vote. 11-3-44

But Negro women are not foolish enough to cast their vote for a party which gives them consideration only at election time. Negroes should have been admitted to the WAVES and SPARS long ago. It is no credit to President Roosevelt that he let his political ambitions come before the rights of American citizens.

We hope that the announcement that Negroes will be integrated into the WAVES and SPARS and that there will be no segregated set-up such as exists in the WAC is not mere "election talk" which will be disregarded after the votes are cast. But when we gain a right as a political gesture, it is difficult to put faith into promises made by those who put politics above all.

AKA Urges Women to be Ready

Tribune—Washington, D. C.

To Join Waves by January

11-11-44

Women interested in joining the WAVES or SPARS should apply now at their nearest recruiting station in order to have a backlog of applicants ready for induction day, January 1, was urged last week by Miss Norma E. Boyd, national chairman, National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

"It is a misconception to think that the war is nearly over and there is, therefore, no need for the service Negro women can render at this stage of the game," she warned, pointing out that the need for the services of the women's corps will extend beyond the end of hostilities.

"Benefits which accrue to women veterans when they are discharged are the same as those which men receive," Miss Boyd said. "These include the provisions of the popularly known "G. I. Bill of Rights."

11-11-44

Postwar Provisions

Free education up to four years for those under twenty-five at the time of induction is provided for those whose education was interrupted.

There is also a base unemployment compensation of $20 a week for a maximum period of fifty-two weeks during the first two years after discharge; Government guarantee of 50 percent on loans up to $2,000 to establish homes or businesses.

placement services to assist in obtaining civilian jobs; and a five-man army-navy board to hear complaints and rule on appeal of discharged veterans seeking additional compensation on numerous grounds.

11-11-44

Must Be Citizens

All applicants for the WAVES and SPARS, whether for officers training or enlisted personnel must be citizens of the United States, in sound physical condition, not less than 5 feet in height; if married, must not have children under 18 years of age, and must be able to furnish reference of character and ability. In addition, specific requirements are as follows:

Officers' training—Age 20-49 years inclusive; must have a college degree or two years of college plus two years of business or professional experience; must weigh not less than 100 pounds.

Enlisted personnel—Age 20-36 years inclusive; must have two years of high school or business training; weight must be porportionate to height.

11-11-44

Rates of Pay

Rates of pay in the corps are in accordance with rank. For officers, the salary range is from $150-$250 per month, plus allowance. Allowances range from $66-$96 per month in accordance with rank. The highest rank in the corps is that of Captain.

For Enlisted Personnel, the rate of pay ranges from $50-$138 per month, and in addition, maintenance. An allowance of $250 is made at the time of induction to supply the original

Notify AKA

The National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, with headquarters at 961 Florida Avenue, N.W., Washington 1, D.C., is axious that recruits as they apply also send in a note to the AKA Council Headquarters stating when and where they have applied and furnishing the Council a statement of qualification. This procedure, the Council believes, will assist it greatly in facilitating an even more effectve job for Negro women in this and in other situations.

11-11-44

NAACP Takes Stand Against Segregated WAVE Training

Tribune—Washington, D.C.

10-28-44

In a statement regarding the Navy's plan for immediate commissioning of qualified Negro women in the Women's Naval Reserve, the NAACP said this week:

"The NAACP is pleased to learn that the ban against colored American women in the WAVES at long last has been abolished, a policy the Association has urged upon the Navy Department since the establishment of the WAVES in 1942. We trust that the announced plan of training Negro women in existing schools means no segregation and we hope that this policy will be extended to establish a new and more democratic principle in the American armed services by integration of colored WAVES into regular units instead of being assigned to jim crow ones. We further hope and urge that the United States Coast Guard and the Marine Corps will also open their doors on an unsegregated basis to qualified Negro women."

Our Women In The WAVES

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

10-28-44

As the time for important elections approaches, we can always look for concessions to Negroes in an effort to attract a few more votes.

Just before the 1940 Presidential election, Colonel Benjamin O. Davis was promoted to Brigadier General, and then retired the following spring.

Now on the eve of the 1944 Presidential election the Navy Department has suddenly announced that Negro women will be accepted in the Women's Naval Reserve.

Nothing is said about the colored Waves being organized into jim-crow units, but since this has been the Roosevelt policy since the expansion of the armed forces began in 1940, there is no reason to suppose that there will be any change.

According to the Navy's order, the colored WAVES' officers will be trained in existing WAVES' schools, but nothing is said about whether they will be "honored" with separate barracks as at Fort Des Moines, the WAC officer training station.

The Navy Department is equally silent about the Coast Guard and Marine Corps opportunities for colored women.

Will the old jim-crow Navy situation obtain in these branches of that service?

However, whatever may be the reason for the admission of our women into the WAVES, we welcome the change in the Navy policy.

Our women will make good in the WAVES as they have in the WAC.

47-1944

FIRST NEGRO OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVES (W)—WAVES to you. Lt. (jg) Harriet Pickens and Ensign Frances Wills, honor graduates from US Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School (WR) Northampton, Mass. last week. Home for the holidays, they will report for duty December 30 on the staff of Naval Training School at Hunter College in New York City—(Stovall foto).

No Jimcro In WAVES

12-30-44

Latest word this week from the WAVES boot training center at Hunter College in New York City, relative to housing and general treatment of Negro trainees expected to arrive December 28, is that there will be no discrimination. *PV* was informed that the story carried in last week's edition, denying the rumor of expected jimcro, still stands.

PV asked for a complete clarification inasmuch as its inquiry last week and the answer received related specifically to the new officers arriving from Smith College Officers' Training School, Lt. (jg) Harriet Pickens and Ensign Frances Wells. Lt. Helen Jacobs, former tennis champion, now in Hunter's publicity department, said the officers would arrive as members of the staff and would be treated as such. She, at that time, had no knowledge of Negro trainees arriving.

This week *PV* was informed that no word has come from Washington that would cause the United States Training School in the Bronx to change its position relative to the treatment of officer personnel or enlisted personnel. The Officer of the Day said Washington had informed the training center only that 1,600 trainees were to arrive on Dec. 28. No distinction was made as to who or how many were Negro.

Thursday, December 20, Lt. Pickens and Ensign Wells arrived in New York from Northampton, Mass. They will report for duty on the 29th. On a visit to *PV*, Lt. Pickens said her five weeks training at the US Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School was an entirely satisfactory experience. She was one of the three honor students of the graduating class. She said she enjoyed every advantage as an integrated part of the Navy. This was true she said from the moment she applied for admission until she left. Her living and recreational facilities were the same as any other student and she shared them equally.

Plan for Separate Train Ride Scored

12-30-44

Group from Chicago to Be Victims

NO REFUTATION

AFRO-American

Separation of People for Convenience Cited

By RICHARD R. DIER

NEW YORK — Neither the Navy Public Relations Office here nor Hunter College was able to verify or refute reports that fifty colored Waves, part of a contingent of one hundred from Chicago, were being discriminated against while traveling here.

Their lack of knowledge was revealed following the AFRO's investigation of a story printed by PM on December 21 that the women who are to arrive here on December 28 to begin training at the college would probably be separated from the white recruits.

"Our office here in New York has no knowledge of this segregation," Lieutenant Lockridge of the Public Relations Office, told the AFRO this week.

Chi's Stand Not Clear

"Certainly colored Waves are not going to be segregated at Hunter College, but we don't know just what Chicago at the other end is doing about it.

"However, sometimes when large groups of people are traveling it may be necessary to set colored and whites apart for convenience's sake only, but you can be sure that exactly the same accommodations are given to everyone, regardless of race."

Following his statement of the Navy stand, he communicated with Hunter College official, reporting later that "Hunter denies any knowledge of this segregation."

No ias at Hunter

"All they can say is that their orders are to treat all Waves alike when they arrive there for training and not to separate whites from colored," he added.

Sets Precedent

Lieutenant Lockridge's statement that segregation is necessary sometimes when large groups are traveling leaves the issue wide open. If it's necessary once it may be found so time and time again.

Despite the excuse that it is done for convenience, colored people know better. It's just another way to feed jim crow.

However, it is highly probable that WAVE recruitng headquarters in Chicago did not notify the Public Relations Office here of their intended actions. Perhaps they deem it too insignificant a matter.

12-30-44

Whites "Might Object"

At any rate, PM's story, the Chicago recruiting officer conceded that Naval officials were "discussing a policy on how to transport the colored girls" and they would probably be segregated because some white Waves "might object to mixed transportation."

If the Navy Department sticks to its policy of maintainng no jim-crow units at training centers but insists on segregation in traveling, there will be much trouble ahead.

No discrimination means exactly that in a respects. Can't afford to give an inch of ground, convenience notwithstanding.

WAVE Policies Of Bias Begin To Take Shape

N.Y. Amsterdam News

Jim Crow Train Ride For Negro Women Of Chicago Indication

12-30-44

Last week, it is reported that approximately fifty young women left Chicago under rather strange circumstances. As newly enlisted members of the WAVEs, they were to make the trip to New York to receive their basic training at Hunter College. According to WAVE recruiting headquarters in Chicago, they "will probably be segregated from the white recruits while on their way to New York".

The first Negro women to be enlisted in the corps from the 9th Naval district since the lifting of the ban which completely excluded them from this branch of the service, they are, it seems getting their first taste of Navy prejudice.

Trend Coming.

Although at the time the ban was lifted the Navy announced that there would be no jim crow units established in the training centers, officials are now hesitant to state whether or not Negro women will be placed in separate training units.

At the time the Negro women were to make the trip here, Naval officials were at a loss how they should be brought, and stated that they would no doubt be placed in a different car from that occupied by their white corps members, since "some of the white WAVES might object to mixed transportation."

When they arrive in the city, which will no doubt be shortly after this paper goes to press, they will be housed in the apartment houses adjoining Hunter College. However, no specific arrangement have been made, so it is impossible to determine whether they will be given separate quarters—so that whitee girls will not object.

Trains for WAVES

Baltimore, Md.

MISS CLEMENTINE FORSYTHE, daughter of Mrs. Mary Forsythe, 27 Waumbeck Street, Roxbury, Mass., reported on December 28 at Hunter College, New York City, for training as an apprentice seaman in the WAVES. She is a graduate of Roxbury Memorial High School and was employed, until recently, in the Navy Department, Washington, D. C. There are three boys and four girls in her family and two of her brothers are in the armed services. Miss Forsythe's hobbies are horseback riding and reading.

Three Negro Women Sworn Into WAVES

Reformer—Houston Post

1-18-44

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Three Negro women, including two officer candidates and one enlisted recruit, were sworn into the women's reserve in Boston and New York City, Monday Morning, Nov. 13, under a Navy department plan, approved by the President for the acceptance of Negro women into the WAVES.

The first Negro woman in the first naval district to complete her application and be sworn into the women's reserves was Miss Jane A. Freeman, 22, of 164 Walnut ave., Rexbury, Mass. She was sworn into the service as an enlisted WAVE at 8 a. m. Monday by Captain L. D. Causey, USN retired director of the office of Naval Offider Procurement at Boston.

Two hours later in New York City, two other Negro women were sworn into the service as Apprentice Seaman and Officer Candidates by the first Negro enlisted WAVE in Lt. Rosamond D. Selle at 33 Pine street. They were Miss Harriet Ida Pickens 35, of 260 West 139 street, and Miss Frances Eliza Wills, 28, of 315 west 118th street, both of New York City.

Miss Pickens and Miss Wills were scheduled to report to Smith college for training. Miss Pickens will be commissioned Lieutenant Junior Grade; and Miss Wills will be commissioned an Ensign. Miss Freeman, missing two officer candidates and one enlisted WAVE in Reserve in Boston and New York City, Monday, under a War plan approved by the President for the acceptance of

One of 3 New WAVES Had Civil War Kin

Tribune Washington, D.C.

Seaman Is Great-Niece of Negro Hero

Three Negro women, including two officer candidates and one enlisted recruit, were sworn into the Women's Reserve in Boston and New York City, Monday, under a War plan approved by the President for the acceptance of

colored women into the WAVES

First Naval District to complete her application and be sworn into the Women's Reserve was Miss Jane A. Freeman, 22, of Roxbury, Mass., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Freeman. Miss Freeman states that in the Civil War her grandfather, Abraham Fennon, was in the Navy.

Two Have Degrees

11-25-44

A few hours after she was sworn in, two others took the oath as apprentice seamen and officer candidates. They are: Miss Harriet I. Pickens, 35, and Miss Frances E. Willis, 28, both of New York. They were expected to report at Smith College on Wednesday for training. Miss Freeman will be one of the first group of Negro recruits to enter "boot" training at Hunter College, about January 1.

Miss Pickens has an A.B. cum laude from Smith and did graduate work at Columbia, 1930-35, no degree. She was born in Talladega, Ala. Miss Willis has an A.B. from Hunter and a M.S. from the University of Pittsburgh.

First Negro WAVE Sworn In

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

11-25-44

THE FIRST WOMAN to be sworn into the Women's Reserve, under the Navy Department plan approved by the President, for the acceptance of Negro women into the WAVES, was Miss Jean A. Freeman, 22, of 164 Walnut Avenue, Roxbury, Mass. She was sworn into the service as an enlisted WAVE on Monday, November 13th, by Captain L. D. Causey, USN retired, Director of the Office of Naval Officer Procurement at Boston, Mass.—Official U. S. Navy photo from OWI.

First Waves Sworn In

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa. 11-25-44

Left: The first woman to be sworn into the Women's Reserve, under the Navy Department plan approved by the President, for the acceptance of colored women into the WAVES, was Miss JEAN A. FREEMAN, 22, of 164 Walnut avenue, Roxbury, Mass. She was sworn into the service as an enlisted WAVE at 8 a. m. on November 13 by Captain L. D. Causey, USN retired, Director of the Office of Naval Officer Procurement at Boston, Mass. —(Official U. S. Navy Photo from OWI.) 11-25-44

Right: MISS FRANCES WILLS, 26, of 315 west 113th street (left), and MISS HARRIET IDA PICKENS, 35, of 260 west 139th street, both of New York City, being sworn into the Waves as apprentice seamen by Lt. Rosamond D. Selle, USNR, Officer-in-Charge of the Women's Reserve Department of the office of Naval Procurement at 33 Pine Street, New York City. They are the first colored women to be sworn into the WAVES. Both reported to the U. S. Naval Reserve Midshipman's School at Northampton, Mass., for training. Upon successful completion of the training courses, they will be commissioned as officers in the Women's Reserve. —(Official U. S. Naval Photo from OWI.)

No WAVE Jim Crow in Plans at Hunter College

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

12-16-44

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—The Navy Department has no present plans of segregating colored enlisted Waves and will allow them the same privileges and freedom accorded white members of this service.

This information was given to the AFRO this week by the Navy Public Relations Office at 90 Church Street.

The naval officer, who preferred to remain unidentified, stated that there were few enlistments so far and that Captain Ansden, commanding officer of Waves enlistment, had no plans to discriminate because of color.

"As far as I know," he said, "colored enlisted Waves will be treated the same as colored officers in Northampton, where there is absolutely no segregation."

Confirmed by Lt. Jacobs

Asked whether such practices had already been put into effect at the Hunter College Naval Training School, he referred the AFRO to Lt. Helen Jacobs who is in charge there. 12-16-44

Lieutenant Jacobs, better known as the many-times, women's national tennis champion, confirmed the statements by saying that she is in receipt of no orders to segregate or discriminate.

"Right now, we have no colored Waves here yet, but understand one or two are on the way down here. I shall treat them the same way I do anybody else when they arrive. Captain Ansden has not told me to do any differently."

"Secret Plans" Scouted

Whether the Navy Department is now laying plans, not as yet revealed, to segregate colored enlisted Waves is a matter of conjecture. It is hoped that such erstwhile planning will not be forthcoming.

If it does, there will be a heap of trouble since it is contrary to New York State laws. This will be a time when the colored people have the law on their side.

No 'Waves' Will Be Sent To Posts Housing Negroes

9-9-44

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK—No WAVES will be assigned to Naval Stations housing large numbers of Negro sailors, according to a directive just uncovered by the national office NAACP.

The directive in the form of a memorandum under date of March 6, 1944, and signed by Lt. W. M. Wilson, U. S. Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Washington reads as follows:

"SUBJ.: Correspondence involving WAVES—official paragraph to be used.

"1. Following is a sample paragraph to be used in official station correspondence whenever it is necessary to discuss the possibility of bringing WAVE personnel aboard.

"However, it is not now considered practicable to assign WAVES to this isolated station, for the following reasons: (1) There are approximately four hundred (400) general service and rated Negro personnel aboard the station, and the nearest Negro community is ninety (90) miles distant; (2) There are no living quarters available for WAVES; (3) There are no recreational facilities suitable for WAVES." 9-9-44

"2. This memorandum is to be kept in your files. It is not to be bulletined or even left lying around.

In a letter to James V. Forrestall, Secretary of the Navy, Walter White, NAACP secretary said, "This Association wishes to inquire whether the above memorandum was based upon the individual judgment of Lt. Wilson or whether it represents the policy of the Navy."

47j-1944

Waves

Navy to Admit Negro Women Into WAVES

Pm — New York, N.Y.

Plan OKd by FDR

Leaves Some Questions Unanswered

10-20-44

The Navy Dept. last night announced that President Roosevelt had approved a plan for acceptance of Negro women in the Women's Naval Reserve.

On the surface, the announcement appeared to be another victory in the fight to end discrimination against Negroes in the Navy but the brief statement left several important questions unanswered.

Among them were:

¶ Will the Coast Guard and the Marine Corps, both branches of the Navy, continue their practice of banning Negro women?

¶ Will the Negro women in the WAVES be trained and used as separate Jim Crow units or will they be integrated into regular units?

The Navy statement, which consisted of 12 typewritten lines, said that the plan, prepared by the Navy, calls for the immediate commissioning of a limited number of specially qualified Negro women to serve as administrative officers and to assist in further planning and supervision of the program for Negro women which will be administered as an integral part of the WAVES.

10-20-44

The Navy said that present indications are that the first recruits will enter training shortly after Jan. 1, that the number of enlisted personnel will be determined by the needs of the service, and that existing WAVE schools will be utilized for training officer candidates and enlisted women.

Negro Sailors

Two years ago, the Navy shelved its policy of barring Negroes from the service except as mess attendants and began accepting Negro men for general service. A Selective Service processing system was set up at that time under which the Navy was assigned one white man for every 4.4 sent to the Army and one Negro for every 10.5 who enter the Army, but on a Jim-Crow basis.

10-20-44

Immediately after that victory, various organizations started a campaign to open the doors of Naval service to women regardless of race. Navy spokesmen admitted there was no regulation banning Negro women, arguing (as late as May, 1943) that inasmuch as the Navy had not sent any large body of Negro men to sea, it did not need Negro WAVES or SPARS to replace them.

Hail Negro Women In WAVES as FDR Blow at Jimcrow

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

10-21-44

Welcoming the admission of Negro women into the WAVES as "another major achievement under the Roosevelt administration," Mrs. Ada B. Jackson, candidate for director for the Negro Labor Victory Committee, said Moran Weston, field

10-21-44

State Assembly in Brooklyn's 17th A. D., joined with other Negro leaders yesterday in praising this latest blow against Jimcrow in the armed services.

Mrs. Jackson's statement followed the Navy's announcement that President Roosevelt had approved a plan calling for the acceptance of Negro women into the Women's Naval Reserve and for the commissioning of qualified Negro women to serve as administrative officers. These women will in turn plan for the full integration of other Negro girls into the WAVES.

According to the Navy, the first group of women will begin training soon after Jan. 1, and other recruits —not officers but enlisted personnel —will be admitted as the service requires. Existing WAVE schools will be used for training officer candidates and enlisted women.

President Roosevelt's approval, as part of his systematic policy to eliminate Jimcrow, is another guarantee that the kind of progress made toward freedom and equality during the past 12 years will continue only with the reelection of FDR and his ticket.

JIMCROW SHELL CRACKED

Weston added:

"The breaking down of this barrier is further proof that the shell of Jimcrow in America has cracked for good and that all the 'white supremacist' horses and all the 'white supremacist' men cannot put it together again. It shows that we can make a 'new world a'coming' come faster with President Roosevelt in the White House."

Mrs. Mabel Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association for Colored Graduate Nurses and a leader in the fight which finally broke the Jimcrow barrier against Negro Army nurses, said:

"This is a signal victory for those organizations and individuals who have continued their fight for full participation of Negroes in the war effort. However, these groups need to be alert in order that these women, when trained, become fully integrated into the

MRS. MABEL STAUPERS

10-21-44

service and not assigned to segregated units."

Tells Why No Negro 'WAVES'

Courier — Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—The reluctance o the Navy Department to ac cept Negro women into th WAVES is based upon an unwill ingness to undertake an experi ment within an experiment, ac cording to Capt. Mildred H. Mc Afee, commanding officer of th Women's Reserve.

6-3-44

The establishment of the Wom en's Reserve, entailing the use o women in large numbers in th Navy, she wrote Rep. Mary T Norton (Dem., New Jersey), "wa in the nature of an experiment In its study of the problems in volved in enlisting Negro wome in the Reserve, the department ha considered the fact that such a de parture would introduce into th WAVES' program a further ele ment of experimentation."

MANY NEGRO INQUIRIES

Representative Norton had called the matter to the attention of Captain McAfee in April, when she had received so many inquiries from Negro women in her own district and from other parts of the country, she said. She disclosed her correspondence with the WAVES director, Thursday.

Captain McAfee's first reply to Mrs. Norton cited the fact that women are used to replace males for sea duty, to which the Congresswoman replied that she failed to see how "the question of men for sea duty would effect the matter of recruitment of Waves since there ar__any jobs being done by white men eligible for sea duty which could easily be handled b

colored Waves."

6-8-44

AWAITING NECESSITY

While the department is prepared to undertake such an experiment when it has been established that the services of Negro women are needed, Captain McAfee answered, "There does not exist at this time a clear necessity for their enlistment.

"This is demonstrated by the fact that the Navy has met all of its quotas for the enlistment and procurement of Waves, which quotas have been based on periodic surveys of the needs of the service for the number and type of replacement that can be made among male personnel."

6-3-44

Mrs. Thomasina Walker Johnson, representative for the AKA Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, was expecting to discuss the problem with Navy Secretary James E. Forrestal this week.

WAVE Jim Crow Given "Attention"

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Secretary of the Navy James Forrestall is giving his "serious attention" to the admission of colored women into the Waves, Spars, and Marines, according to a letter written last week by Lieut. Com. Mildred MacAfee of the Waves to Mrs. Thomasina W. Johnson of the AKA Non-Partisan Council.

8-12-44

The letter was in response to a five-page memorandum sent by the AKA Council to the Secretary of the Navy suggesting specific procedure by which colored women can be integrated into the navy's auxiliary services.

In addition to Miss MacAfee's letter, the AKA received a reply from Rear Admiral L. E. Denfield, assistant chief of the Bureau of Navy Personnel, which stated:

"Your comments and recommendations on these subjects (admission of colored women) are appreciated. The navy personnel which has been studying the matter is thinking along the same lines and is interested to have this succinct and practical formulation of your point of view."

A. K. A. COUNCIL'S ACTIVITY BRINGS COMMENDABLE ---RESULTS---

The Union — Cincinnati, Ohio

8-10-44

Washington — Secretary of the Navy James Forrestall is giving his "serious attention" to the admission of Negro women into the Waves, Spars and Marines according to a letter written by Lieut. Commander

Mildred MacAfee of the Waves to Mrs. Thomasina W. Johnson of the AKA Non-Partisan Council.

The letter was in response to a five page memorandum sent by the AKA Council to the Secretary of the Navy suggesting specific procedure by

addition to Miss MacAfee's letter, the AKA Council received a reply the same lines and is interested to have this succinct and practical formulation of your point of view."

ed into the Navy's auxiliary services. "Your comments and recommendations on these subjects (admission of Council dispatched a telegram to Waves, celebrated recently, the AKA Secretary Forrestall stating: "There Navy personnel which has been could be no finer celebration than studying the matter is thinking along to start the third year of the Waves than be removing the "For White Only' sgn and making it a truly democratic organization."

Coast Guard Accepts Negro WAVES Program

But Marines Lag Behind New Navy Policy

PM—New York, N.Y. 10-22-44

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—The Coast Guard—but not the Marines—has already agreed to follow the Navy's new policy of accepting Negro women in its reserve units.

Within 24 hours after the Navy announced that Negro women will be accepted in the WAVES, the Coast Guard (which like the Marines is an official branch of the Navy) consented to adopt the Navy's policy as approved by the President.

Although Congress established the WAVES and the Women's Reserve of the Marine Corps in the same legislative act, the Marines refused to disclose whether they will broaden their program to include Negro reservists.

Meanwhile Navy officials assert that there will be no Jim Crow units established in the training centers for the newly recruited WAVES personnel. 10-22-44

Reluctant

But these same officials were reluctant to disclose whether Negro women will be separated from other WAVES and placed in separate outfits after their training is completed.

Other details of the plan are also being withheld pending recruitment of Negro women officers to help complete the program which will not go into operation until after Jan. 1.

The Navy's brief announcement disclosing that the racial barriers in the WAVES have at last been abolished, came two years after the Department shelved its policy of excluding Negro men from all but a few service jobs. 10-22-44

The Department offered no explanation for shifting its policy in regard to the WAVES except to say that the matter "has been under consideration for a long time." Previously officials have insisted that there was no room for Negro women replacements as to substantial number of Negro men had been sent overseas.

Navy Lets Down Color Bars; WAVES, SPARS Now Open to Negro Recruits

Tribune—Washington, D.C.
10-28-44

The 19th of October will be a memorable day in the annals of Negro womanhood's fight for justice and democracy, and a day to which the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority can point with pride for it was this day that they were rewarded for their untiring efforts to break down the color bars in the United States Navy Auxiliary, the WAVES and the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the SPARS.

This is the day that President Roosevelt approved a plan submitted by the Navy Department providing for the acceptance of Negro women in the Women's Reserve of the Navy.

The plan calls for the immediate commissioning of a limited number of especially qualified Negro women to serve as administrative officers. They will assist in the subsequent planning and supervision of the program for Negro women which will be administered as an integral part of the Women's Reserve.

Enlistment of Negro women will be undertaken as soon as these plans have been completed and it is presently indicated that the first recruits will enter training shortly after January 1.

Officer candidates and enlisted women will be trained at existing schools for the training of WAVES. The number to be enlisted will be determined by the needs of the service, the announcement states.

Leaders Rejoice

The smashing of the color bar in the WAVES and the SPARS by President Roosevelt was enthustiatically acclaimed by Negro leaders from all over America. 10-28-44

The fact that "officer candidates and enlisted women will be trained at existing schools for the training of WAVES" represents a double victory in that segregated training will not be permitted.

Typical of the sentiment of the Negro people over the shattering of the color bar in the Navy's auxiliary services are the following statements from national Negro men and women leaders:

Beachhead

Mrs. Beulah Whitby, president of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, declared: "This order from the Commander-in-Chief that opens the auxiliary services of the Navy to Negro women is a beachhead in the battle for democracy.

"This move is especially gratifying to the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. Franklin Delano Roosevelt is to be commended for the strength and courage to issue this order." 10-28-44

Mrs. Bethune Speaks

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, stated: "It is the thing we have been working for."

"Special commendation is due the Non-Partisan Council of the AKA for their untiring efforts in bringing this about."

Dawson

Cong. William L. Dawson declared: "Once more the President proves to all America that he is a true champion of the democratic principle of equality of opportunity. Step by step he is cutting through the prejudice and discrimination which has barred the way for Negro advancement." 10-28-44

Triumph

Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, former executive secretary of the AKA Non-Partisan Council, stated: "The decision of the President to admit Negro women to the WAVES and SPARS is a triumph for democracy. President Roosevelt has gallanty prepared the way for the further advancement of Negro women."

Shepard

Dr. Marshall Shepard, recently appointed Recorder of Deeds and nationally known Philadelphia minister, declared: "This order by President Roosevelt marks another forward step in the President's program toward the full integration of the Negro into the armed forces."

Powell Hails It

Congressman-elect Adam Powell of New York stated: "This order opening the WAVES and SPARS, represents democracy in action." 10-28-44

Mrs. Marjorie Joyner, vice president of the Madame C. J. Walker Manufacturing Company, declared: "All over America Negro women are applauding the forward step taken by President Roosevelt in lowering the color barriers in the WAVES and SPARS."

Club Women

Mrs. Rosa Gragg, nationally known club women, and president of the Detroit Association of Women's Clubs, stated: "President Roosevelt has struck another blow at discrimination. It is a natural consequence of his long-held policy of non-discrimination." 10-28-44

Judge Joseph Rainey of Philadelphia's Magistrate Court, declared: "The opening of the WAVES and SPARS to Negro women is consistent with the precedent-shattering record of President Roosevelt."

WOMEN

Negro WAVES

Time—Chicago, Ill.

The bar that was first lowered two years ago to allow Negroes into general service in the Navy was finally dropped altogether. Last week the Navy announced that it would accept Negro women in the WAVES. 10-30-44

Notable feature of the new program is that the Negroes will be trained and may even be billeted with whites, will probably be mixed in for assignment.

Recruiting will begin with the immediate commissioning of a small number (probably five to ten) of administrative officers. They will be trained at the WAVES officer-candidate school at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., will then be assigned to assist in general enlistment and training, beginning soon after January 1. The total number of Negro WAVES will depend on the "needs of the service" will probably not be large.

After hearing the Navy's announcement, the Coast Guard, usually the most liberal branch of service with regard to Negroes, promptly followed suit with a similar plan for the SPARs. The Marine Corps said it had all the women marines it needed, except for replacements. 10-30-44

TIME, OCTOBER 30, 1944

JOINS THE WAVES

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa. 12-23-44

Miss KATHERINE DUFF, 25, of 727 north Union street, who was recently sworn into the WAVES as an officers candidate. She is scheduled to report to Smith College for training with the next group leaving here and will be commissioned an ensign upon the successful completion of that course.

Miss Duff, who is the daughter of the Rev. Garner V. Duff of Lewistown, Pa., is a former employee of the quartermaster Depot and attended California and Cheyney State Teachers' Colleges.

47j-1944

Waves

Segregation In WAVES?

Negroes 'Will Probably' Be Separated From Whites on Trip

PM

About 50 Negro WAVES, part of a contingent of 100 young women coming here from Chicago on Dec. 28 for training at Hunter College, "will probably be segregated from the white recruits while on their way to New York," according to WAVE recruiting headquarters in Chicago.

The Negro recruits are the first to be taken into the service in the 9th Naval District since the Navy Dept. lifted its ban on Negroes in the Women's Naval Reserve in October.

When the Navy lifted its ban on Negro WAVES it announced that there would be no Jim Crow units established in the training centers for the newly recruited personnel.

But the same officials were hesitant to disclose whether Negro women would be separated from other WAVES and placed in separate outfits after completing training.

The recruiting officer conceded that naval officials were "discussing a policy on how to transport the Negro girls," and said they would probably be segregated "for the reason that some of the white WAVES might object to mixed transportation."

"They will come on the same train, but probably in their own coach," the officer said, adding that the Negro reservists were very happy about being in the service and "wouldn't know how they were to be shipped here."

Comdr. Edison Dick of the Navy Dept. in Chicago would say only: "Military troop movements aren't announced."

The Negro reservists will be quartered in the apartment houses adjoining Hunter College, where WAVES are now housed, but no specific arrangements have been made yet.

Three Join Waves' Boston Girl First

The Guardian Boston Mass

MISS JANE FREEMAN OF ROXBURY
First recruit to be enrolled in the WAVES

11-18-44

The first colored woman in the First Naval District to complete her application and be sworn into the Women's Reserve was Miss Jane A. Freeman, 164 Walnut ave, Roxbury, Mass. She was sworn into the service as an enlisted WAVE at 8 A. M., Monday, Nov. 13 by Capt. L. D. Causey, USN retired, Director of the Office of Naval Officer Procurement at Boston.

Miss Freeman is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Freemanof Roxbury, Mass. She attended Roxbury Memorial High School, graduating in 1940. While in school, she was drill leader, on the ring committee, and on the senior council. She has been employed as an inspector by the Dewey and Almy Chemical Company. Navy life will not be entirely new to Miss Freeman. She states that in the Civil War her grandfather, Abaham Fenno, was in the Navy. She will be one of the first group of colored recruits to enter "boot" training at Hunter College, Ne wYork City, about Jan. 1, 1945.

Miss Freemon was born in Boston, and both of her parents are natives of Massachusetts. She is a member of St. Joseph's Church, Roxbury, an avid reader and bowling is her favorite sport In the family are three other daughters and one brother who has been in the Merchant Marine several years. The first New England WAVE is exceedingly charming, soft-voiced and possesses remarkable poise for one so young.

Two hours after Miss Freeman was swon in, two other colored women were sworn into the service in New York City as apprentice seaman and officer candidates by Lt. R. D. Selle at [illegible] Pine st. They were Miss [illegible]rriet I. Pickens, 260 West 139th st, and Miss Frances Wills, 515 West 779th st, both of New York City.

Miss Pickens and Miss Wills were scheduled report to Smith College for training on Nov. 15. Upon successful completion of training, Miss Pickens will be commissioned Lieut. (j.g.) and Miss Wills will be commissioned an ensign.

Miss Pickens, born in Talladega, Ala., graduated from Smith College in 1930 with an A.B. degree cum laude and did graduate work at Columbia University from 1930 to 1933. From Sept. 1931 to June 1932, she was an instructor at Bennett Colleg efor Women in Greensboro. From 1934 to 1939, she was a project supervisor under the recreational program for WPA in New York City. From June 1939 to the present, she was executive secretary of the Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Committee in New York City.

Miss Wills graduated from Hunter College in 1938 with a B.A. degree. In 1943 she received a M.S. from the University of Pittsburgh, in biology, social administration, speech and dramatics. From 1936 to 1940, she worked in the employment department of the Y.W.C.A., New York City. From February 1940 to September 1941, she was a secretary in the New York Protestant Episcopal Mission Society. Since November 15 last year, she has been a case worker for the State Charities Aid Association in New York City. This work is primarily devoted to investigation of families in connection with child adoption. Miss Wills was born in Philadelphia, Pa.

First WAVES Sworn In Monday In Boston, N. Y.

11-17-44

Roxbury, Mass. Young Woman Is First Of Race

WASHINGTON — (OWI) — Three Negro women, including two officer candidates and one enlisted recruit, were sworn into the Women's Reserve in Boston and New York City, Monday morning, November 13, under a Navy Department plan, approved by the President, for the acceptance of Negro women into the WAVES.

The first Negro woman in the First Naval District to complete her application and be sworn into the Women's Reserves was Miss Jane A. Freeman, 22, of 164 Walnut avenue, Roxbury, Mass. She was sworn into the service as an Enlisted WAVE at 8 a. m. Monday by Chaplain L. D. Causey, USN Retired. Director of the Office of Naval Officers Procurement at Boston.

Two hours later in New York City two other Negro women were sworn into the service as Apprentice Seamen and Officer Candidates by Lt. Rosamond D. Selle at 3 Pine street. Tthey were Miss Hariett Ida Pickens 35, of 260 West 139th Street and Miss Frances Eliza Wills 28, of 315 West 113th Street, both of New York City.

Miss Pickens and Miss Wills were scheduled to report to Smith College for training on November 15. Upon successful completion of training, Miss Pickens will be commissioned Lieutenant (jg) and Miss Wills will be commissioned an Ensign. Miss Freeman, the first Negro enlisted WAVE in the New England area, will be one of the first group of Negro recruits to enter "boot" training at Hunter College, New York City, about January 1, 1945.

To Train At Hunter

Call [illegible] And Smith

Two Officer Candidates,

One Recruit

11-17-44

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Harriet Ida Pickens, 35, of 260 West 139th St., and Miss Frances Eliza Wills, 28, of 315 West 113th St., both of New York city.

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Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

NA58/A2-5(4)
11/GL

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
WHIDBEY ISLAND, WASHINGTON

6 MARCH 1944

MEMORANDUM TO ALL DEPARTMENT HEADS

SUBJ: CORRESPONDENCE INVOLVING WAVES-OFFICIAL PARAGRAPH TO BE USED.

8-19-44

1. FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLE PARAGRAPH TO BE USED IN OFFICIAL STATION CORRESPONDENCE WHENEVER IT IS NECESSARY TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF BRINGING WAVE PERSONNEL ABOARD.

"HOWEVER, IT IS NOT NOW CONSIDERED PRATICABLE TO ASSIGN WAVES TO THIS ISOLATED STATION, FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS: (1) THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY FOUR HUNDRED (400) GENERAL SERVICE AND RATED NEGRO PERSONNEL ABOARD THE STATION, AND THE NEAREST NEGRO COMMUNITY IS NINETY (90) MILES DISTANT; (2) THERE ARE NO LIVING QUARTERS AVAILABLE FOR WAVES; (3) THERE ARE NO RECREATIONAL FACILITIES SUITABLE FOR WAVES."

2. THIS MEMORANDUM IS TO BE KEPT IN YOUR FILES. IT IS NOT TO BE BULLETINED OR EVEN LEFT LYING AROUND.

W. M. WILSON
LIEUTENANT, USNR,
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER.

DISTRIBUTION:
LIST 1.

No White WAVES with Colored Seamen Present

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

8-19-44

WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. — No WAVES will be assigned to this station because of the presence of 400 colored men, according to Lt. W. N. Wilson, acting executive officer.

According to Wilson, the nearest colored community is ninety miles distant.

The inference is that white women wouldn't be safe on this station with colored troops; or it might express Wilson's fear that some of the white WAVES would be dated by colored seamen.

Secrecy Precaution

Here is a copy of his order which Wilson said was not to be "posted or even left lying around":

NA58/A2-5 (4)
11/GL

U.S. Naval Air Station
Whidbey Island, Wash.
March 6, 1944

Memorandum to All Department Heads

Subj: Correspondence involving WAVES-official paragraph to be used.

8-19-44

1. Following is a sample paragraph to be used in official station correspondence whenever it is necessary to discuss the possibility of bringing WAVE personnel aboard.

"However, it is not now considered practicable to assign WAVES to this isolated station for the following reasons: (1) There are approximately four hundred (400) general service and rated colored personnel aboard the station, and the nearest colored community is ninety (90) miles distant; (2) there are no living quarters available for WAVES; (3) there are no recreational facilities suitable for WAVES."

2. This memorandum is to be kept in your files. It is not to be bulletined or even left lying around.

S/ W. M. WILSON
Lieutenant, USNR
Acting Executive Officer.

Distribution:
List 1.

"Act of Treachery"

Asked how he felt after having this order read to him, one of the seamen told the AFRO: "I don't feel conservative in the least. I would like to cool off a little. This is the kind of thing that is being done to us every day. It is an act of treachery.

8-19-44

"Just now we are American seamen in name only. There are many of us who feel as I do."

47k-1944

St. Louis Pilot Greeted By Mayor On Return Home

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
12-9-44

ST. LOUIS—(ANP) — With a flight record of 70 missions to his credit, Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt, 24 years old and the first Negro fighter pilot from St. Louis to return home on leave after combat duty, can boast a visit to the mayor's office last week when he was congratulated for his outstanding achievements.

Sharing honors with a co-pilot for sinking an enemy desfroyer, Capt. Pruitt quietly told Mayor Aloys D. Kauffman how their bullets struck and exploded a powder magazine. Added to his record also was the shooting down of three enemy planes and destruction of eight ground planes.

Modestly describing his successes as "just a lucky hit," when the mayor called the sinking of the destroyer a fine piece of work, Capt. Pruitt was advised that a special day would be proclaimed in his honor on December 12.

"The going got pretty rough at times," Pruitt stated, 'but I'm fortunate in not having been sick or injured during my nine and one-half months overseas."

The young pilot's flights took him to the Italian area where several bullet holes were shot in his ship, a P-51 Mustang, but he was uninjured. Before returning to the United States he had flown 70 missions.

12-9-44

His plane was named the "Alice Jo," after the girl friend of his squadron leader and his own girl friend, Miss Alice Charlston of Detroit, whom he plans to marry when the war has ended. Miss Charlston is likewise a pilot.

Capt. Pruitt, son of Mrs. Melanie C. Pruitt of St. Louis attended Lincoln university at the time of his enlistment. He is the possessor of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters.

12-9-44

When the mayor asked if there was anything the city could do for him durin his furlough, Capt. Pruitt answered "No," and added that he just wanted plenty of rest.

Officer Suicide

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

BY STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LEE, Va.—First Lieut. Tyler E. Hill, Jr., of Lynchburg, Va., said to be over-wrought because of recent difficulties encountered in the service, committed suicide early Sunday morning, according to Army authorities at this post.

The limp body of the 29-year-old lieutenant, who was recently transferred from Fort Benning, Ga., was found dangling in a latrine of an officers' barracks, where he allegedly hanged himself with a Sam Browne belt.

Except to say that the officer met his death by suicide, military authorities at this post refused to reveal any details of the tragedy.

6-3-44

Relatives Doubt Report

However, relatives of Lieut. Hill, reached in Lynchburg, said they were not satisfied with the report as given out by Army spokesmen and added that they would issue a statement later.

They would not amplify this to the extent as to state whether they suspected foul play or whether they would demand an investigation.

It was rumored that Hill had been under observation as a mental patient and had encountered trouble at Fort Benning, where he accumulated heavy debts. Whether this was to be linked as a cause for his death remains a matter of speculation.

The officer entered the service in 1941, and two years ago at Camp Lee he was commissioned second lieutenant after graduating from the officer candidate school. He was assigned to a quartermaster unit.

6-3-44

He attended West Virginia State and N.C. State Colleges and the Robert E. Terrell Law School in Washington.

Was Married

He married Miss Bernice Lomax, teacher at Dunbar High School of Lynchburg, who lives at 1307 Floyd Street, in the same city.

The mother of the soldier, Mrs. J. A. Armstrong, is living in Charleston, W.Va.

Funeral services were scheduled to be held Wednesday at the Wilson funeral chapel in Lynchburg.

2 Promoted to Major In 93rd Infantry

Courier — Kansas City, Mo.
11-24-44

WITH THE 93rd INFANTRY DIVISION IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA. — Captain Richard E. Evers, of Itasca, Texas, and Captain Harry C. Fields, Jr., of Springfale, Arkansas, have been promoted to major, it was announced in the 93rd Infantry Division.

The announcement said that Major Evers promotion was the result of meritorious service in operations against the enemy. Major Fields is plane and training officer of his unit.

Second Lieutenant LeRoy A. Brown, of 1556 Mill street, Augusta, Georgia, was promoted to first lieutenant, while Winifred A. Hembry, of Lewisville, Texas, was appointed warrant officer (junior grade) in the field of ordnance supply.

Ex-Teacher Elevated in N. Guinea Port Unit

Afro-American
Balt., Md.
5-27-44

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—Lt. Fred P. Freeman, 39, former Philadelphia school teacher, is now executive officer of a port battalion at one of General MacArthur's largest forward bases.

In addition, the lieutenant is summary court officer for his battalion. Lt. Freeman, although in the army only eighteen months, earned a commission at OCS in Australia. Later he was sent to New Guinea for his present assignment.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Lt. Freeman received an AB degree in chemistry, and his master's degree in education. His parents live at 2109 Master Street, Philadelphia.

Cadet Graduates From West Point

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
6-17-44

WEST POINT, N. Y.—Cadet Henry M. Francis of Washington was graduated from West Point with the rank of second lieutenant in a class of 478 three hours after hearing the D-Day news flash. Lt. Francis is in the Field Artillery and after three months furlough, will report to Fort Sill, Okla.

The newly commissioned officer was greeted by his parents, Dr. and Mrs John R. Francis; his sweetheart, Miss Doris Hall, and his sister, Mrs. Betty West, all of Washington.

The three colored cadets left at West Point are Ernie J. Davis, first class, of Washington, now at Tuskegee in the air corps; Mark E. Rivers, of New York, first class, and Andrew A. McCoy of Pittsubrgh, third class.

Archie Williams with Army weather wing

Tribune-Times Angeles Calif.
11-13-44

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—Lt. Archie Williams, who set the present world's record for the 440 meter run as an undergraduate at the University of California, is now serving with the AAF Weather Service at Asheville, N. C., of which Tuskegee AAF is a unit. Prior to entering the Army in November, 1942, Lt. Williams was a flying instructor at the Oakland Flying Service and later worked in the division of aeronautics at Tuskegee Institute.

FULL COLONEL

Informer — Houston, Texas 7-8-44

The article in the papers a little while ago which told of the promotion of former Lt. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. to the rank of full colonel made us all glad. We know that he deserves the rank and we are naturally happy to see him accorded his due. We also know with regret that, were he a white man or a man of any other race than the Negro race, he would doubtless now have a much higher rank than colonel. The same is true of his father, who is the only Negro to occupy a rank higher than colonel, namely, brigadier general. It is to America's shame that Negro officers are all held down to the lower ranks, while so many officers of other races, but who have no greater merit, are constantly appointed to the higher ranks

First Bombardiers Class

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

11-18-44

Shown are four Philadelphia men who were members of the first colored class to be graduated from the Midland Army Air Field last week as bombardiers. Left to right they are: Flight Officer Eugene L. Woodson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Waverly B. Woodson, of 1235 north 58th street; Flight Officer Walter H. Lively, son of Mrs. Mary Louise D. Lively, of 439 north 53rd street; Donald S. Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. George K. Harris, Jr., of 437 north 53rd street, and Flight Officer Wesley C. Walker, son of Mrs. Mary A. Walker, of 42 north 57th street.

4 Philadelphians Commissioned AAF Bombardiers

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
11-18-44

Midland Army Air Field, Tex. —The first class of colored Air Crew members to be graduated from this key bombardier school last week finished the toughest eighteen weeks prescribed by the Army Air Forces training program and received their commissions as second lieutenants and flight officers from Col. Charles H. Dowman, commanding officer.

Philadelphians in the class are Donald S. Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. George K. Harris, of 437 north 53rd street, who attended Pennsylvania State College at State College, Pa., and was on the Varsity Track team; Eugene L. Woodson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Waverly B. Woodson, of 1235 north 58th street; Walter H. Lively, son of Mrs. Mayr Louise D. Lively, of 439 north 53rd street, and Wesley C. Walker, son of Mrs. Mary A. Walker, of 42 north 57th street, who graduated from Temple University and is a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

11-18-44

Six other Pennsylvania men were graduated with the class. They are Calvin Smith, of Aliquippa; James A. Evans, of Blythedale; Lewis E. Martin, of Grindstone; George C. Bolden, of Pittsburgh; David A. Showell, of Prospect Park, and Oscar T. Miller, of Unionville.

12-30-44

Washington Tribune

COMMISSIONED—Shown above are Fort Huachuca, Ariz., recently commissioned officers in physical therapy. Included in the group are three former civilians—2nd Lt. Muriel J. Davis, Evanston, Ill.; Lilyanne Plummer, daughter of Mrs. Rosa G. Plummer, 310 I Street, N.W., Washington, and Valjeanne Taylor, Atlanta. The other six are former WACs, including—2nd Lts. Anna L. Rogers, Memphis; Edythe Bingham, Talladega, Ala.; Ruth R. Jones, Cofield, N.C.; Bernice Lockhart, Hot Springs, Ark.; Mary L. Shannon, Madison, Ark., and Mildred Robinson, daughter of Mrs. Ida G. Robinson, 1819 N. Central Avenue, Baltimore. The physical therapy school at Fort Huachuca was under the direction of Lt. Col. D. Hinkson, Philadelphia, with Col. M. O. Bousfield, Chicago, as commandant.

LT. CARL E. JOHNSON, veteran pilot of the 332nd Fighter Group, who has spoken to students at Fisk University and Meharry Medical College during his stay at the Army Air Forces rehabilitation center in Nashville. A native of Passaic, N.J., Lieutenant Johnson flew for two years as a commercial pilot. He expects to return overseas in March.

4 Commissioned Lts. in Engineers

Afro American
Baltimore, Md

FORT BELVOIR, Va.—Four men were commissioned second lieutenants in the Corps of Engineers upon completing the sixtieth Officers' Candidate course here recently.

9-2-44

They were:

Reginald E. Crocker of Schenectady, who was inducted November 17, 1942, and stationed at Camp McCain, Miss.; Ernest A. Hood of NYC, inducted July 22, 1942, who served with a calvary unit at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Washington Man

George A. Patterson, 309 P Street, Northwest, Washington, who entered the army May 14, 1941, and served with the Engineers at Fort Myer, and William J. Roger of Macon, Ga., who received his B.S. degree from Johnson C. Smith University, who was inducted November 19, 1942, and served with the combat engineers at Fort Huachuca.

Wins Lt's Bar In Invasion Of Southern France

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

CLEVELAND, (ANP)—Lt. James O'Neal has successfully transferred a civilian reputation as a "natural leader" to his GI life.

11-18-44

The 20-year-old officer was commissioned on the field of battle during the invasion of Southern France, it was learned here last week.

He is believed to be the first colored soldier so honored in that theatre of war.

The officer volunteered before Pearl Harbor, trained at Camp Butner, N. C., and in a year was a staff sergeant. He served in North Africa, landed at Salerno and fought through the Italian campaign until the invasion force left for France.

In 1941, before entering the army, Lt. O'Neal was a part-time worker at Friendly Inn., and boy's club leader for a settlement.

11-18-44

Two Officers of AA Unit Promoted

Afro American 9-2-44
Baltimore, Md

AN ADVANCED BASE, NEW GUINEA—Two officers of an anti-aircraft artillery battalion here, received promotions recently. They were:

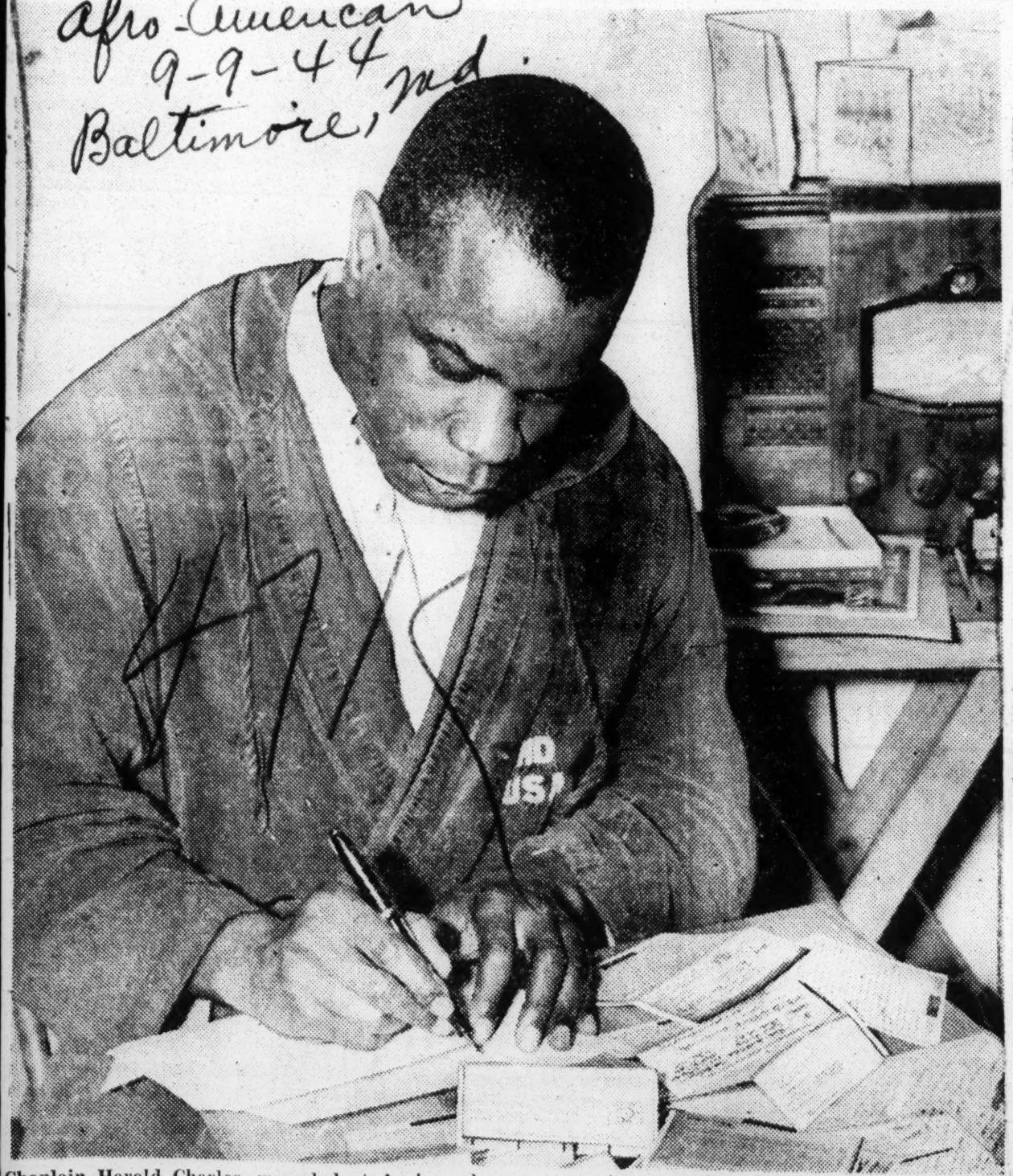
First Lt. William H. Culley, New Haven, Conn., to captain; Second Lt. Lovell B. Tipton, Columbus, Ohio, to first lieutenant.

47k-1944

Preaching No Good to Yanks on Sinking Ship, Chaplain Says

Parson Charles Describes War's Finest Lesson: Men of All Races Fighting to Make Place for Each Other; He Baptized 18 in Mediterranean

afro-American
9-9-44
Baltimore, Md.



Chaplain Harold Charles, wounded at Anzio and now recovering at Engalnd General Hospital, Atlantic City, N.J., still keeps in touch by V-mail with the men who used to come to him with their daily problems. Picture on top of radio is that of his wife, Mrs. Orithea Charles of 15 Tews Court, Newport, R.I. Chaplain Charles, formerly pastor of Mt. Zion AME Church in Newport, has two brothers serving as officers in the Pacific area, and a sister in the Army Nurse Corps in New Guinea.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—Chaplain Harold Charles, dressed in a fatigue suit and helmet, stood up to his waist in the blue waters of the Mediterranean outside of Bizerte.

On his black skin he felt the warm sun as he waited for the slow file of 18 men and the deacon walking through the surf. They were both colored and white American soldiers, coming to be baptized.

This was how the chaplain, now a patient at the Army's England General Hospital, described his finest lesson of the war: that colored and white men could not only fight together, but could make a place for each other in the world—could give and take.

The 35-year-old chaplain is an Oxford graduate who came to Cornell and studied medicine, taught school for a while and then joined the ministry. His voice is low and kindly. Because of a heart condition caused by a serious battle injury, he is not permitted to walk many feet from his bed.

When he looks out of his window at the Boardwalk crowds, he is not resentful of their better fortune. He says simply and sincerely: "There aren't many of them down there who aren't trying to forget."

Chappie—as he is affectionately called by his men—stayed with the Second Corps Combat Engineers from the time they landed at Oran until he was wounded at Anzio. He landed with them on the beachheads, walked with them while they cleared mine fields, tended them at the aid stations, went out with them on the night patrols.

Although he never carried a weapon, he sometimes served as a line officer, ordering his men into position like any other officer.

Chaplain Doesn't Preach

A chaplain in the army doesn't preach, he says. He lives. It would not do any good to preach to those boys on the ship sinking near Oran. They had to be saved. Chappie jumped in, helped to lift some of the boys, dragged others, at times holding them by their field packs, until they reached the shore safely.

But a chaplain, he explained, never stops talking. Officers and enlisted men came to him constantly, puzzled by the frightfulness of battle.

Surgeons called him to stay with the men during operations. The injured asked him how badly they were hurt. Men going out on night patrol asked "Chappie, are you with us?" And the boys never stopped asking these questions because their anxieties never stopped.

At times he acted as a medic—giving first aid to the men in the field. Or he carried supplies like any other G.I. At Hill 606 near Mature, he did little else except dig graves day and night.

The American, he said, is a splendid soldier when he's fighting, but he's a problem when he has to hang around idle.

Once, between Tunis and Ferryville, three men in his outfit took off on one of their unofficial sightseeing trips. A few miles from camp they ran into a nest of Germans. One Yank was killed, the second wounded and the third escaped. He reported to his C.O., who sent out a patrol. The Germans were located and wiped out.

The next day, Chappie explained, the C.O. was forced to reprimand the man for being absent without leave and commend him right afterwards for helping to destroy the Nazis.

Page to Forget

The beach at Salerno he described as "a page that you want to tear up and forget." Nevertheless, he stood with his men through all the German fire. Whether a man was a Protestant, a Catholic or a Jew made no difference. He was the chaplain for 1500 men of all creeds.

He described how, under the terrible machine gun fire, a man would "freeze." He might have his finger on his gun trigger and not be able to fire it.

When a chaplain recognizes this form of fear, he doesn't preach. He just yanks the boy bodily and drags him to safety.

At Anzio he said the most lively thing—outside of the German fire—was the way the Texas boys landed on the beach shouting, "Texas! Texas is here! Where are the Heinies?"

Slaughter Terrible

The wild and woolly Texans were wonderful fighters, Chappie said, and nothing happened until the third wave reached the shore and then the Germans opened up and the slaughter was terrible.

For days at Anzio, Chappie lay in the foxholes with his men. He soon joined the "moles club" of men who had remained in foxholes for five to seven days. When the men moved forward, Chappie scaled the cliffs with them.

He was standing alongside a jeep, he said, the day he heard the German artillery shell. He hit the dirt and rolled over. He remembered nothing else. Chappie stopped talking.

At the aid station, they found he had suffered severe internal injuries. He was taken to a hospital in Africa and then shipped back to the States.

Leaving Chappie, one is impressed with his dignity—his strong feeling that, in spite of his injuries, he is grateful for what the war taught him about his fellowmen.

Skilled Negro Bomber Pilots Establish No-Accident Record At Ky. Air Base

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
8-12-44

CAMP BRECKENRIDGE, Ky. — (ANP) — Lightning had disrupted compass and electrical communications system, St. Elmo's fire trickled along the wing tips and hailstones drummed the windows as the air crew bring his twin-engine bomber and its crew down to safety. The violent summer storm. The lieutenant was flying "blind" trying to find an opening first above the First Lt. Daniel officer tried to home field, then to the north over James, instructor, attached to the 616th Bombardment squadron at Sturgis (Ky.) Air base. The 616th is part of the 477th Bombardment group, first Negro bombardment organization formed.

Returning from a routine night flight, the B-25 Mitchell medium bomber had been caught in a sud-

airports at Evansville, Ind.

The crewmen joked but they knew this might be the pay-off.

Perfect Landing

Lt. James was depending entirely on a radio beam his operator had picked up above continual static. Twice the pilot brought the plane close to earth, getting bearings on ground lights. Finally he sent the 11-ton bomber splashing to an almost perfect landing on a storm-swept runway. 8-12-44

The Negro pilot's skill had saved lives and a quarter-million dollar piece of Uncle Sam's fighting equipment. Moreover, Lt. James had maintained the 616th Bomb squad's superior record in safe flying. The unit — commanded by Capt. Raymond E. Gandy, Norman, Okla., one of two white officers in the 616th — has gone more than six months without an accident during its heavy schedule of morning, afternoon and night flights.

Capt. Gandy has high praise for the 616th's earnest young Negro officers and enlisted men. He sees them accepting the challenge which falls to all airmen, that of proving their adaptability and right to combat flying.

Win Commendation

Members of the first Negro class trained by the army air forces in twin-engine aircraft are among the officers at Sturgis. Their record from the time they began basic air corps training at Tuskegee has been superior. Here in western Kentucky, a few miles from Camp Breckenridge, they are adding to their prestige as army airmen. 8-12-44

Twice the squadron has been commended for its achievements, by the commanding general of the first air force and by the commanding officer of the 477th group's four squadrons.

Although none can be called a veteran flier — most having graduated since last October — these pioneer Negro bomber pilots have demonstrated they are equal to emergencies. Recently one landed a plane with broken front landing wheel, calmly herding his crew into the rear of the airship to prevent the bomber from nosing over.

Constant Ground Work

Thanks to the devoted work of skilled ground crewmen, graduates of technical schools, aviators of the 616th have small worry about mechanical failings. 8-12-44

In tribute to the ground crews, Capt. Charles R. Stanton, Portland, Ore., assistant operations officers, declared, "Our pilots are still learning but the maintenance men know all about their jobs. Some would rather repair their planes than eat. I don't know when some of them sleep!"

A good example of what the captain meant is T-Sgt. Charles Crenshaw, Little Rock. He often sleeps on parachute racks alongside the field. Staff Sgt. William Watson, Carlisle, W. Va., is another who can't stay away from the big planes.

First Negro officers assigned to the squadron were First Lt. Henry D. Moore, Chicago, and Capt. Peter Verwayne, New York City, ordnance and transportation officer and flight commander, respectively.

NEGRO OFFICERS IN COAST GUARD

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 8-12-44

8-12-44

Veterans of the U. S. Coast Guard Academy aboard the Coast Guard vessel Sea Cloud are (l. to r.) Lt. (jg) Clarence Samuels, who recently was given command of the all-white crew on a Coast guard cutter in the Caribbean; Ensign Harvey Russell; and Lt. (jg) Joseph Jenkins. The officers are breaking precedents in the Coast Guard which is perhaps the most democratic of the armed services.

Chicago Executive Officer

After initial assignments, officer strength increased rapidly. Now heading sections of the 616th are Capt. James Pughley, Chicago, executive officer; Capt. C. Stanton, assistant operations officer; Capt. George L. Knox, Indianapolis, the squad's most experienced Negro flier; Lt. Walter Nicholson, Long Island, N. Y., supply officer; Lt. David Williams, Detroit, technical supply officer; Lt. Clarence Lewis, Dayton, Ohio, engineering officer; Lt. Whittie English, Englewood, N.J., communications officer; Lt. William H. Lewis, Buchanon, W. Va., adjutant. 8-12-44

Flight leaders in addition to Capt. Verwayne are Lts. Elmore M. Kennedy, Detroit; Leslie A. Williams, San Mateo, Calif., and William D. Tompkins, Fall River, Mass.

In Capt. Pughsley, the squadron has an executive officer with a long and varied military career. He enlisted in the army in 1917 and served in France. He was given a reserve commission in the infantry in 1928, and has served as an adjutant, post exchange officer and finally as executive officer in a fighter squadron.

Lt. Gene C. Browne

11-25-44

Reporter Prisoner In A German Camp

N.Y., N.Y.

New York age

Recently the War Department notified Mrs. Browne, of 418 West 150th street, that her son Lt. Gene C. Browne, who was a member of the 15th Army Air Force, stationed somewhere in Italy, has been a prisoner in Germany since September 20th. During an air raid on July 18th over Munich, 2nd Lt. Browne was reported missing in action. 11-25-44

The prisoner who is a graduate of the Tuskegee Flying School, received his commission at the age of nineteen, and was commended by the post commander, Col. Noel F. Parrish, as being the youngst Negro fighter pilot.

A native of New York City, he attended P. S. 139 and graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School. Immediately following his graduation he volunteered for the Army Air Corps. He was admitted to Tuskegee Army Flying School, January, 1943 at the age of eighteen. At the time of graduation, 2nd Lt. Browne was the third highest in a class of twenty-three. The young pilot was sent to Selfridge Field where he joined the 332nd Fighter Group.

Mrs. Browne has been informed by the Red Cross that her son is being given the best treatment, and is doing a real morale building job for the prisoners. At the time of his capture, he was to have received his second oak leaf cluster. He is also the recipient of an air medal.

47k-1944

SOLDIER - SURGEON

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

COL. JULIAN DAWSON

5-13-44

Dawson Won Acclaim As Both Doctor And Soldier

By DETON J. BROOKS, JR.

A front-line French station hospital buried on the reverse side of a mountain on the St. Die sector, shook and shivered as German shells fell on its well-protected shell-proof roof, during a bitter battle of the last World War..

Inside, stocky-built Capt. Julian Dawson, brilliant chief medical officer of the 365th Infantry, braced himself as his dug-out trembled; and calmly—though rapidly—continued surgery on the worst cases which were brought in from the firing line.

Capt. Dawson didn't have to accept his dangerous assignment. As regimental surgeon, he could have stayed back at headquarters. But the surgeon of the second battalion, which was bearing the brunt of the attack, had been wounded. And up there fighting was the captain's own brother, Lieut. William Dawson, now congressman of the first Illinois district.

Goes To Front

So when they called for a volunteer, it was Dawson who responded. In fact he slipped away. It wasn't until a week later that his commanding officer knew where he was. And when he ordered Dawson back, it was three weeks before the fighting slacked enough for him to make his way to regimental headquarters.

That was the last World War, but Dawson fought just as hard to get into this one. He was the commanding officer of the 184th Field Artillery during the hectic days of its reorganization from infantry in December 1940. If he has one regret, it's because he wasn't permitted to lead this outfit into active duty when it was inducted early in 1941. For some minor reason he was disqualified physically.

The long intervening years between World War I and II saw quite a change take place in Dawson. When the first World War broke out he was a young doctor only having finished Northwestern University Medical school two years before, in 1915. He was a member of the United States Army Medical Reserve, and when the colored officers' training school opened at Des Moines, Iowa, he was one of the first selected for the medical indoctrination course.

Graduating at the top of his class in November 1917, he was commissioned a captain and appointed as regiment.. surgeon of the 365th Infantry. He was the only Negro doctor to be placed completely in charge of a regimental medical unit in the entire 92nd Division. He stayed with the 365th until just before the armistice when he was transferred to the 317th Ammunition Train. He was with this unit when the armistice was signed and the division came home from France.

Goes Abroad

Then for the next few years he plunged into study and practice of surgery. Coming to Chicago he affiliated with Provident hospital and was appointed a junior surgeon on the staff. In 1923, not satisfied with being just a run-of-the mill surgeon, he took his wife and two small children and traveled to Vienna, Austria, for further study.

This was before the time that Negro doctors were receiving Rosenwald grants for study abroad, so Dawson had to foot the bill himself. And as he says, his wife played a big part in making this possible. "I had gotten married just before going to France. I sent my base pay home regularly and when I returned I found that my wife who had worked, had saved every penny I sent her. This is what gave me my nest egg and enabled me to arrange my finances so that I could go abroad in 1923."

Wife Shows Courage

As a matter of fact, Mrs. Dawson even showed more courage in order to be with him in Europe. Their third child was born three weeks after they arrived in Vienna.

Dawson received a break in Vienna very few foreigners get. Through the influence of Dr. George Lotheissen, Hofrat professor (one of the seven who decided the fate of every surgeon in Austria) he was appointed to the staff of the Kaiser Franz Josepl. hospital and allowed to operate. This was very rarely ever done. Most visiting surgeons were permitted to attend lectures, view operations, but never work on a patient.

It was while in Vienna that Dawson had an amusing encounter with prejudice. Two Americans, one Australian and one Alaskan, on seeing a Negro clothed in white assisting in operations protested to the hospital officials. When the matter was brought to the attention of Dr. Lothiessen, he ordered that they be refunded their money for the course (which incidentally was $10.00 per hour) and then he asked his assistant to escort them to the gate of the hospital and kick them out.

After a year in Vienna, Dawson moved to Budapest, Hungary, where he became a member of the St. John hospital staff. From there he went to Pech, a little town on the Hungarian border, where for five months he had every fourth operation in the obstetrical and gynecological clinics.

In 1926, after two years abroad, he came back to Provident where he was promoted to senior surgeon and director of clinics. He held both of these posts until the reorganization in 1933 when he relinquished the clinical job.

Interest Shifts

As far back as 1922 he had been a member of the old 8th Infantry as captain in the medical detachment. Gradually his interest shifted from army medicine to military startegy. Then in 1935 he was commissioned as a major of infantry and became plans and training officer on the regimental staff. When the regiment became field artillery in November, 1940, he was elevated to Lt. Colonel and when Col. William Warfield resigned was selected to lead the outfit into combat as colonel. The hurt cut deep when he was physically disqualified —so deep in fact that he has had no taste for surgery for the past two years.

Born in Albany, Ga., as one of seven children, he always wanted to be a doctor as far back as he can remember. This idea stayed with him during college at Fisk from where he graduated with honors in three years. And even though he loved sports, playing varsity football, baseball and engaging in team gymnastics, he never lost sight of his goal. He studied hard, never deviating from his objective until he had accomplished it, and then as he was being hailed as a brilliant surgeon, military life caught his fancy and began to absorb him.

Rarely a man learns to do one thing well. Dawson has proven that he can do two. But surgery is a great humane profession, more noble shall we say, than the life of a soldier. Mankind will be the gainer whenever DOCTOR Dawson feels that he can again pick up the scalpel and with his skilful fingers cut away the dead stuff in us that would destroy us.

To Take Unknown Assignment

Call Kansas City, Mo.
11-17-44

Prentice A. Townsend Promoted to Rank Of Captain in Italy

By ART CARTER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS (Somewhere in Italy)—Hampered by inclement weather the fighter groups' activity was reduced to two escort assignments over the past weekend.

On these two missions protection was provided for strong forces of bombers attacking targets in Southern Germany and Austria.

11-17-44

Heavy flak was encountered but no opposition from enemy fighters appeared on the scene.

The latest missions were flown under the leadership of Major George Roberts, now acting commander of the group since Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., has returned to the United States for an unannounced assignment.

Capt. Wendell Pruitt, St. Louis; Lt. Herbert Houston, Detroit; Lt. William W. Greene, Stanton, Va.; have also returned to the United States.

Captain Pruitt, 24, is the first of the fighter group pilots to complete his tour duty. He has 70 missions and 350 combat hours against enemy planes.

He says his biggest thrill was "My first victory when I shot down a ME 109 over the Udine area when interceptors attacked bombers in our group from the rear. We turned in behind them and I picked one off with one long burst of ammunition."

Before taking army flight training Pruitt had 80 hours of civilian flying while studying at Lincoln University, Mo. He has high praise for the P-51 Mustang, declaring "It's the best we have in the sky."

Pruitt stated that he liked combat flying and that it made no difference to him what theater he is sent. if he has to return.

Lt. Houston, a member of the oldest fighter squadron group left this theater of action with 111 missions. over half of which were compiled during the pioneer squadrons dive bombings days with the 12th Air Force.

Greene with over 50 missions is one of the pilots recently returned from a liberated country.

Kansas Citian Promoted

Six pilots and three ground officers were recently promoted captains while Alphonso Simmons, 25, Jacksonville, Fla., was elevated from second to first lietenant.

Among the ground officers promoted to captain was Prentice Aaron Townsend, of Kansas City, Mo., and Lawrence, Kas., who serves in the capacity of group ordnance officer and trial judge advocate.

Others promoted were Court investigation officer, Dudly M. Stevenson, 26, Washington, D. C.; Leonard M. Jackson, 24, Ft. Worth, Texas; Albert H. Manning, Spartanburg, S. C.; John Daniels, 29, Harvey, Ill.; Harold E. Sawyer, Columbus, Ohio; Arnold W. Cisco, Alton, Ill.; and Lawrence E. Dickson, 24, New York.

Pilot lives after 132 shells puncture P-40

Los Angeles Times
1-20-44

ATLANTIC CITY — "Tweak through the flak on a target you wonder if you will ever get back mission" is 1st Lt. John A. Gib- —and you tweak," the 25-year- son's pet name for a dive bomb- old Chicago pilot said. ing sortie.

"Brother, when you dive down

has blazed a trail of devastation from North Africa dive bombing, the Chicagoan from Germany. "You pull out doing about Truman K. Gibson, 500 miles an hour after you have Cousin of Tru- side to the Secretary lieutenant is now at let your bombs go and you seem Jr., civilian aide t distribution station in to be going faster than the trac- of War, the lieute ers that fill the sky all around the AAF redistrib With 80 missions you Atlantic City. will receive a new you. behind him, he wh

Gibson flew in Italy with the all-Negro fighter squadron which

"We always hit our targets regardless of the intensity of the

assignment, placing him in one of commands of the Air U. S. comma

anti-aircraft fire," he added. "I've made as many as five passes at a gun installation or supply dump, just to be sure I had a dead bead on the objective."

Lieutenant Gibson has come away from a dive bombing run with as many as 132 holes in his P-40 Warhawk fighter.

"Nearly all of my first 70 missions were in the Warhawks, flying close support for ground troops," he declared. "On the last ten I switched to P-51 Mustangs and flew escort for heavy bombers.

"We went as far as Poland and the Rumanian oil fields at Ploesti on escort. And we were in on the invasion of southern France.

"The Germans never came down for a fight the times I went along with the bombers. When I first went overseas Jerry seemed to have superiority in the air, but by the time I left, it appeared as though we had him outnumbered 100 to 1."

47k-1944

First Photo of Lt. Col. Davis at His Field Desk in Italy

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of fighter group at his field desk in Italy where group's pilots maintain ceaseless vigil over Allied convoys along western coast of peninsula.

5 Brothers Become Officers In The Same Army Regiment

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.
6-24-44

CAMP BRECKINRIDGE, Ky. —(ANP)—In a military feat probably unparalled anywhere else in the United States, five brothers from a Negro family have risen through the same regiment—the 372nd Infantry to gain four commissions and one sergeantcy in the Army.

Three of the five brothers, all of whom enlisted when the 372nd was a National Guard regiment in Massachusetts, remain with the unit at its new location here. Another is an instructor at Camp Butner, N. C. The fifth brother is overseas. They are the Phillips brothers of Medford, Mass.

ALL IN SAME COMPANY

At one time all five brothers were not only serving with the 372 Infantry Regiment, but all five were in Company K. The 372nd served at Fort Devens, Mass., Fort Dix, N. J., New York City, and engaged in New England maneuvers before arriving at Camp Breckinridge several weeks ago. 6-24-44

The three "fighting Phillipses" at Camp Breckinridge are 1st Lt. William H. Phillips, 33; 2nd Lt. Richard K. Phillips, 28, and Sgt. Raymond L. Phillips, 31.

Lt. William Phillips is a graduate of infantry school at Fort Benning, Ga., and also completed courses in communications and heavy weapons. He was with the 372nd as a National Guardsman from 1929 until commissioned and called to active duty with the regiment in March, 1941. The lieutenant is an expert rifleman and serves as section leader in a weapons company. 6-24-44

Lt. Richard Phillips, the only unmarried brother, entered the National Guard in 1935. He was graduated from Fort Benning's infantry school Jan. 12, 1943, and also completed a cannon course. He is a crack rifleman, commands a rifle platoon.

Sgt. Raymond Phillips, a National Guardsman from 1934 until the 372nd became part of the Army in 1941, has turned down opportunities to become a commissioned officer. Also an expert rifleman, he prefers to remain a platoon sergeant with Company K. 6-24-44

The other brothers, late of the 372nd Infantry Regiment, are 1st Lt. Ernest Phillips, 38, and 2nd Lt. Cecil F. Phillips is with the engineer corps at Camp Butner.

The Phillips brothers come by their military qualities naturally. Their father, Raymond L. Phillips, who died 21 years ago, was a Spanish-American War veteran. Grandfather William H. Phillips fought in the Civil War. Mrs. Hannah J. Phillips, the mother, resides at 45 Bower Street, West Medford, Middlesex, Mass.

Chaplain Keeps His Men Out of Trouble

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
4-15-44

Court Martials Decreased as Parson Gross Joins Engineers in Italy

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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4-15-44

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY. — (By Air Mail, Censored) — It is amazing how the presence of Chaplain Robert H. Gross has lifted the morale of an engineering battalion, which recently celebrated its first anniversary overseas, by moving into Italy after helping to renovate Bizerte, one of the heavily bombed spots in North Africa.

Fifty, gray-haired and worldly-wise, Chaplain Gross is in Italy for the third time, having visited the peninsula twice previously while working on a commercial steamer. He formerly pastored at Greenwich, Conn., and his wife, Mrs. Viola Gross and two children live at 308 E. Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson, Md.

Court Martials Numerous

Prior to his assignment here, many men were burdened by court-martials—which were the direct or indirect result of their relations with natives.

These are being eliminated through lectures to the men, conferences with the commanding officers, and recreation programs that are appealing.

Chaplain Gross's vast knowledge of the country, its people and its historic spots has been utilized in arranging tours for the men during their leisure hours, and giving them a background for a working knowledge of the language.

4-15-44

Build Field Hospitals

In North Africa, the battalion constructed two field hospitals, renovated many bomb-battered buildings in Bizerte, and its Company C erected a portable hangar, 130 by 160 feet, in five days—a job which received commendation from higher headquarters.

In Italy less than two months, the battalion already has constructed a massive refugee camp and is helping with the reconstruction of Naples' docks and bomb-torn buildings.

Its men recently completed a renovation job on two old warehouses, relaying floors, constructing glassless window (there is practically no glass available in Italy), and strengthening its walls. The place is now ready for occupation and in civilian terms has cost an estimated $25,000.

Far from the scene of their labors is the battalion's camp. Running straight as die through an old olive grove are the company streets, with pyramidal tents lining both sides. Each tent has its homemade bunks, and usually there is a stove made out of an old oil or paint drum.

2 Have Purple Hearts

"It was chilly when we first came here," said T/4 Clarence E. Edmondson, 540 Manhattan Avenue, NYC, who has the Purple Heart for wounds received in a bombing raid in North Africa. Pvt. Luther Roberts also has a Purple Heart, having been injured in the same raid.

4-15-44

This battalion has a crack basketball team which went to the finals in a recent section tournament. The team was established at the unit's point of activation, Camp Edwards, Mass., and has many former athletes among its members.

A broad field near the bivouac area has been leveled off, and almost any pleasant evening will find some of the battalion's soldiers limbering up for a game of baseball. A basketball court also has been erected on the camp site.

Have Chorus, Orchestra

Aside from its abundance of athletic activities, the battalion is rich in musical talent, with a glee club, choral group and orchestra among its recreation groups.

4-15-44

The battalion is particularly proud of its "Swinging Johnnies," directed by Sgt. Jimmie Bailey, Chicago. Pfc. Osborne Williams, Philadelphia, Pa., who played with the Musical Dots, takes care of the bass in the band.

Other members include Pfc. James Richardson, Marion, Va.; Pfc. Arthur Bell, New Haven, Conn.; Cpl. Jimmie Hicks, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Cpl. William Anderson, St. Louis, Mo.; Pfcs. Joe Barnes and Ray Mitchell, Milwaukee, Wis.; T/5 Chuck Gray, Chicago, and Pvt. Bob Allen, St. Paul, Minn., arranger.

Another popular musical group is the glee club, directed by Sgt. Joseph Bray, Philadelphia, and organized and led by Cpl. Cleon E. Peterson, Pittsburgh, Pa., a graduate of Duquesne University and former concert pianist.

Corporal Peterson is assistant to the chaplain and his knowledge of Italian and French makes him one of the most popular men in the outfit. In North Africa, he gave many concerts for the natives as well as the soldiers.

11-18-44

GENERAL DAVIS IN FRANCE

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
8-19-44

Somewhere in France Brig. General Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the U.S. Army, watches a Signal Corps crew erecting poles for communications to the front.

23 Race Officers With Mobile Unit In France

~~Chicago~~ Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
11-18-44

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN FRANCE—(ANP)—I was amazed when I visited a mobile aviation QM battalion somewhere in France and discovered that there were 23 Negro officers, including six captains in the company. It is the largest compliment of Negro officers I have seen on the Western front.

11-18-44

Col. Ellis Anderson, Houlton, Me., is the commanding officer. He started with the company when it was activated in March of 1940 at Fort Bragg. Possessed of a knowledge of human nature, Colonel Anderson boasts about the good conduct of his men even from the days of Fort Bragg.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Capt. B. Taylor of Hartford, Conn., is the executive officer and second in command. A colored officer, Captain Taylor deals with matters of the highest importance and his administration involves every exercise of authority that affects the whole battalion. Other high ranking colored officers are Capt. Robert E. Randolph from Albany, N. Y., battalion adjutant; Capt. Randolph S. Wright, battalion staff officer, and Capt. Kenneth E. Small, Boston, battalion motor officer.

As a part of the Ninth Air Force Service command, the battalion has traveled two and a half million miles on the Red Ball highway. Their convoy is a matter of great consequence and air force chiefs plan their operations according to what the trucks are handling. The importance of their tasks may be summed up in the words of the commander of a medium bomber group. "We might as well have no planes if the trucks do not operate."

11-18-44

MEMPHIAN IS OFFICER

The first company in the battalion is commanded by Capt. George Evans from Middlesburg, Va. Other officers include Edwin Jones, New York City, executive officer, and Lt. Freeman W. Martin, Memphis, motor officer.

Capt. Charles E. Jones, Los Angeles, commands the second company. Officers serving under him are Lt. James A. Wright, St. Louis, executive officer; Lt. Pierce M. Thompson, Atlanta, intelligence officer; 2nd Lt. James R. Skaggs, St. Louis, supply officer, and Lt. Booker T. Young, also of St. Louis, motor officer.

The third company is under the command of Capt. Mathew Slamen of New Orleans. Lt. Darwin E. Smith, a Virginian, is executive officer; Willie B. Macon of Arkansas, motor officer, and Lt. Lilburn B. Pappy, a Floridian, supply officer.

Lt. Fred McLaurin of South Carolina, commands the fourth company. His assistants are Lt. Robert Davis, Washington, D. C., executive officer; Lt. William Fitzgerald, Washington, motor officer; 2nd Lt. Robert M. Ateman, Chicago, supply officer, and 2nd Lt. Leslie C. Mayo, St. Antonio, Tex., intelligence officer.

12-9-44

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

ITCHING FOR ACTION—Second Lt. Henry B. Scott of Jersey City, N.J., convalescing at the AAF's Convalescent center, Pawling, N.Y., anxiously awaits the day when he can return to the air and get another crack at the enemy. Lieutenant Scott is one of the six fliers credited with sinking a Nazi destroyer with machine-guns—a heretofore unheard of feat.—Solomon Photo.

12-9-44

47k-1944

HIGH RANKING ARMY OFFICERS EXCHANGE GREETINGS

Released by U. S. War Department Bureau of Public Relations

TWENTY-ONE HIGH RANKING NEGRO OFFICERS exchanged greetings at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, recently, when Colonel Edwin N. Hardy, Post Commander, served as host at a reception held in the residence of Colonel Midian O. Bousfield, commanding officer of Station Hospital, No. 1. The event was in honor of Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis and Mr. Truman K. Gibson, Jr., Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, who were at Fort Huachuca on an inspection tour. It is to be noted that there are 16 more Negro officers of field grade present here than participated in the 1918 World War, and that all field grade officers (rank of major and above) stationed at this post were not present when this picture was taken. Left to right, seated on floor: Majors Orion N. Page, Phillip Johnson, Wilbur Strickland, McKinley Thomas, Lieutenant Colonel Harold W. Thatcher, Major Percy L. Turnley. Center row: Leutenant Colonel Wendell T. Derricks, Mr. Truman K. Gibson, Jr., Colonel Edwin N. Hardy, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, Colonel Midian O. Bousfield, Lieutenant Colonel Dehaven Hinkson. Standing: Majors Kenneth E. Campbell, Edward D. Wimp, Raymond Watkins, Rafael Hernandez, Benjamin Gray, Henry R. Butler, John A. Holland, William E. Allen, Lieutenant Colonel Roscoe C. Giles, Majors Ralph Teabeau, and Earl Renfroe. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo.)

Lieutenant Is Dismissed at Selfridge Field

Bystander—Des Moines, Iowa. 5-4-44

Selfridge Field, Mich. — Second Lt. Milton Robinson Henry, a pilot in the Army Air Corps, was found guilty by a court martial on charges of insubordination and neglect of duty and ordered dismissed from the service following a two-day trial here this week.

The verdict was virtually assured when the defense in the second day of the trial failed to establish that Lt. Henry's alleged hostile attitude towards the service was attributable to a disease of the lungs known as saco dosis. That the defendant was suffering from the malady was established through testimony of army medical x-ray physicians and psychiatrists, but the court held that although a physical ailment might deserve leniency in considering Henry's negligence, it positively bore no weight against his arrogant attitude towards superior officers.

5-4-44

The Findings

The findings of the court martial will be reviewed by higher authorities and Lt. Henry will have every opportunity to appeal the decision if he wishes. Prior to the trial it was alleged that Judge William Hastie, NAACP counsel, would enter an appeal if the verdict was unsatisfactory to the defendant.

At the close of the day the defense moved that the charges be changed to read, "failed to repair to his place of duty," rather than "absent without leave." This was denied by the court. A motion to declare the defendant not guilty was also denied by the court. 5-4-44

Testifies

Lt. Col. Sam B. Triffy, present commanding officer of the 553rd Fighter squadron, testified for the prosecution that Lt. Henry had explained his repeated absences from duty on the grounds that he found it impossible to get up in the mornings. "He invited me to come over each morning and awaken him," the colonel said. "When I refused, he suggested that I have Lt. Byrnes do it since it would take less time than making out certificates of absence for him." Upon further questioning the colonel said that Lt. Henry had said that he had been an officer at the time that he finished OCS but now he was not doing the duties of an officer and had no desire to be a good soldier.

Army Chaplain Resigns, Ducks Bigamy Charges

Defender—Chicago 5/11/44

WASHINGTON—Captain James R. L. Pinn, chaplain in the United States Army, has been permitted to resign "for the good of the service" from his post at Fort Benning, Ga., by the commanding officer, Gen. Wm. H. Hobson, rather than prefer charges against him for violation of the Mann Act. War Department officials report that Capt. Pinn took a young wom-

an from South Carolina across the border of Georgia, where he lived with her on the post and introduced her as his wife. Meanwhile, his wife No. 1, Mrs. Pauline S. Pinn, lives with his father in Washington where she is employed as a file clerk by the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The chaplain's role as bigamist came to light when the Office of

Dependency Benefits notified the commanding officer that two women each claiming to be the wife of the chaplain were making claims for a wife's monthly allotment. Investigation proceedings were instituted and information substantiated which would have made the captain liable for court-martial. The commanding officer chose to permit him to resign rather than prefer charges, due to the good record he had established.

7-15-44

General Hobson said that he was shocked over the matter, and attested to the excellent job which Capt. Pinn had done in the camp. He was well liked and respected and had done some special work for the chief of chaplains.

Wide Experience

The 44-year-old chaplain was born in Washington, D. C., and received his early training at Syracuse, N. Y., where his father, the Reverend James L. Pinn, was pastor of Bethany Baptist Church. He attended Howard University from which he earned his A.B. and B.D. degrees. He was also graduated from the Western Theological Seminary at Pittsburgh, Pa. He served as pastor of the First Baptist church, Warrentown, Va., the Shiloh Baptist church, Newport News, Va., and the Clarke Baptist church, Pittsburgh, Pa. 7-15-44

He was commissioned in the Chaplain's Corps in 1931, and was called to active duty in 1936 with the Civilian Conservation Corp where he served with Negro enrollees in Virginia.

In 1940, Captain Pinn was assigned to the 41st Engineers Regiment at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In May, 1942, he gained attention for the excellent job he performed when he accompanied a regiment of engineers to Liberia. These were the first American troops to go to Africa.

Upon his return to the United States, he was assigned to Fort Benning, Ga.

Mrs. Pinn, wife No. 1, it is reported, says she doesn't believe a word of the report concerning her husband.

Pope Welcomes Negro Chaplain Into Vatican

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
7-15-44

ROME.—(ANP)—Chaplain L. M. Durden, accompanied by 12 other officers of quartermasters units, was received Sunday in special audience by his holiness, Pope Pius XII.

Shortly after his entrance the Pope walked to where the chaplain was standing at the head of the line. He shook hands with him, gave him a rosary, and autographed picture of himself, blessed religious articles that belonged to soldiers and entered into a brief personal conversation with the chaplain.

The audience ended after the holy father had given the pastoral benediction and made the following statement in English: "I am happy to have you present. I wish for you and your families health, happiness and a quick return of peace. May God, in His power, bless all of you." 7-15-44

Chaplain Durden is a graduate of Clark university, Gammon Theological seminary and the Howard University Graduate school.

Weekly—New Orleans, La.

6-24-44

Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., June 21.—Second Lieutenant Claude M. Dixon, who was commissioned from the Army Air Forces Administration Officers' Candidate School, Miami Beach, Fla., on May 27, 1944, was recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field. The newly assigned officer graduated from Southern University in 1941 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and is a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew D. Dixon of Flood St., New Orleans, La., and is married to the former Miss Ruby Mauney of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. (Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

10 Officers Promoted To Captain

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.
4-9-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—The promotion of ten officers of the Medical Corps, assigned to duty at Station Hospital No. 1, to the rank of captain has been announced by the War Department.

Representing seven states and the District of Columbia, the officers, with their home addresses, are as follows:

Richard H. Irving, 810 Jersey avenue, Washington, D. C.; Edward V. Williams, 211 Washington street, Ellsworth, Kansas; Wayne C. Howard, 5415 Montclair avenue, and Ronald N. Jefferson, 5339 Calumet avenue, Chicago, Ill.; James L. Kingsland, 468 west 148th street, New York City, N. Y.; August T. Perkins, 907 north Leonard avenue, St. Louis, Mich.; Clay M. Wilson, 1198 Forest avenue, aPsadena, Cal..; Theodore L. Hughes, 841 Boston Boulevard, Detroit, and George E. Weick, 1535 Palmer avenue, Muskegon, Michigan.

Made Full Colonel

Amsterdam News—New York, N. Y.

6-17-44

LT. COL. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, Jr., son of the only Negro general officer in the United States Army, has been promoted to full colonel, it was announced by the War Department. Col. Davis, now in command of a fighter group in the Mediterranean theatre, was formerly commander of the famed 99th Fighter Squadron, also overseas. He is a graduate of West Point Military Academy, and received his pilot and fighter training at Tuskegee Air Field in Alabama.

FIRST NEGRO LIAISON CHAPLAIN APPOINTED

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

Chaplain Captain David J. More, formerly of the old 25th Infantry and lately Regimental Chaplain of the 369th Infantry of the 93rd Division has become the first Negro Chaplain in the American armed forces to hold the position of Liaison or Circuit Chaplain. He is assigned to duty with Headquarters, Army Air Forces Western Flying Training Command, Santa Ana California.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio and a graduate of Wilberforce University Chaplain School. Tuskegee Army Air Base Orientation and training school. 9-16-44

Chaplain Moore has pastored the following points in New England: Waterbury, Conn., Hartford, Conn.. Pittsfield, Mass., Narragansette, R. I., and a few years in the East Florida Conference, also pastored several in the Ohio Conference. Served four years president of the College Hill Recreation club prior to entry into the Service.

He is a member of the Ohio Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Florida Camp Gets First Negro Commander

Age—New York, N. Y.
7-1-44

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla. — The distinction of being the first Negro officer to command a Station Complement Unit in the history of the Army Service Forces Training Center at Camp Gordon Johnston goes to Captain James B. Gibbs, 22 Greenwich Park, Boston, Mass., the War Department reported Monday.

Captain Gibbs, a graduate of Northeastern University, Boston, in civil engineering, has been named commanding officer of Headquarters Detachment, Headquarters Section No. 2. He received his commission as second lieutenant upon the completion of the senior Reserve Officers Training Corps course at Northeastern. Appointed a reserve officer in November, 1938, he was called to active duty in February, 1942, at Camp Lee, Virginia.

A native of Boston, Captain Gibbs received his early education at a private academy in Panama City, Panama. In addition to his work at Northeastern University, he also is a graduate in naval architecture of the Massachusetts Geodetic Survey before his call to active duty. He also was assistant ordnance inspector, Boston Ordnance District and performed duties as junior naval architect at the Boston Navy Yard.

Gen. Davis Visits Troops in France

Afro American
Baltimore, Md. 8-12-44

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE.—(By Cable, Censored)—Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis arrived in France recently for general observations and to spend part of his time with the special pictorial unit making movies of colored troops.

Maj. Home Roberts of the War Department Bureau of Public Relations, and Carlton Moss, special consultant, are accompanying the general. 8-12-44

Expressing a desire to remain in France until the war ends, General Davis said: "I am interested in seeing what colored troops are doing, how they are living and taking care of themselves; also what recommendations I may make to cause them to feel better." 8-12-44

Exchange Autographs

The general signed my short-snorter dollar bill and I signed his. Then both of us made Edward Toles, Chicago Defender correspondent, pay for not having his.

General Davis was immaculate in his new battle dress, but Major Roberts was having difficulty with new field boots. Moss was looking most uncomfortable in GI clothes.

Saw 4 Nazi Robots

While in England, General Davis said, he saw four pilotless planes, but regards them like lightning. Either they strike or they don't. 8-12-44

At a press conference the general said he could not answer questions as to whether colored combat units, WAC's or nurses are coming here, because they are not his department.

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Great Lakes Center

10-28-44

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Headquarters of the Ninth Naval District and Great Lakes, announced this week that Lt. (jg) James Russell Brown, the Navy's first Negro Chaplain, had reported for duty at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois.

Shortly after his appointment in June, Chaplain Brown was sent to the Chaplain's School at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va., for an indoctrination course. After completing the eight-week course at William and Mary, he was sent to the Bureau of Personnel in Washington, D. C., for a short while and was subsequently attached to Naval Procurement Offices in Philadelphia, Pa., Pittsburgh, Pa., and Detroit, Michigan before reporting to Great Lakes. 10-28-44

Lt. (jg) Brown, one-time pastor of St. Luke's A.M.E. Church, Kansas City, Kansas and former dean of Bishop Williams School of Religion at Quindaro, Kansas, has been *assigned for duty as the Protestant Chaplain at Camp Robert Smalls*, one of the two camps where Negroes are trained at this Center.

1st Negro Chaplain In Navy On Duty At

Age—New York, N. Y.
10-28-44

47k-1944

Third Ranking Army Air Forces Officer

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
3-8-44

3-8-44

Captain George L. Knox, pictured at the controls of a B-25 medium bomber, is the third ranking Negro officer in the Army Air Forces now in the United States. Captain Knox, formerly operations officer under Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Commanding Officer of the 332nd Fighter Group now overseas, recently completed training at the Central Flying Command's B25 Transition School at Mather Field, Calif. Captain Knox is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elwood C. Knox, of Indianapolis, Indiana, and a graduate of Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee. He entered the Army in October, 1941, as an aviation cadet, and trained fighter planes at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama, before coming to his permanent station at Selfridge Field, Michigan. (Photo by U. S. Army Air Forces.) 1 March 44.

Ralph Metcalfe Is Commissioned

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Officer In Transportation Corps

7-22-44

NEW ORLEANS, La.—(Special)—Ralph H. Metcalfe, 6159 South Michigan boulevard, Chicago, has been graduated from the Transportation Corps Officer Candidate school at the New Orleans Army Air Base, and has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States.

Lt. Metcalfe graduated from Tilden Technical high school, Chicago, and Marquette university, Milwaukee, Wis., and received his doctor's degree at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Prior to induction he was director of Negro activities for the Catholic service men's organization and was on leave of absence as track coach and a member of the faculty of Xavier university, New Orleans, La.

Lt. Metcalfe was one of the outstanding sprinters of his time. While in high school he held the national interscholastic record for the 100-yard dash. At Marquette he was the greatest sprinter ever to represent that institution and was a member of the United States Olympic team in 1932 at Los Angeles and in 1936 in Berlin. 7-22-44

Did Century in 9.4

He ran a 9.5 seconds hundred in the Drake relays in 1932 to tie the record set by Locke of Nebraska in 1926 and again equaled by Jesse Owens in 1935. While Owens ran once at Drake, Metcalfe came with the Marquette track team for three years straight. He won the century at Drake again in 1933 and in 1934. His time for those years was 9.4 seconds. He was anchor man on the winning quarter-mile Marquette team at Drake in 1934 when the Milwaukee quartet did a 41.8 seconds for the event. 7-22-44

He was anchor man on the winning half-mile relay, each man running 220 yards, at Drake in 1932 and 1933. The time in 1932 was 1:27.3 and in 1934 was 1:28.4.

Lt. Metcalfe has a 9.4 seconds

7-22-44

LT. RALPH METCALFE

record for the National Collegiate 100-yard dash made in 1933. This meet record is jointly held by George Simpson (Ohio State), Frank Wykoff, Southern California, and Jesse Owens (Ohio State). He also holds the Marquette university stadium record of 9.5 seconds for the "hundred" made in 1932 and 1933.

Lt. Metcalfe's 20.4 seconds National Collegiate 220-yard dash record still stands. His 21.2 seconds (run on curve) is still the Marquette stadium record.

He was born in Atlanta, Ga., and came to Chicago at an early age with his parents. 7-22-44

At the time of his induction into the army he was national director of activities for the Catholic Negro service men. He had resigned as track coach and professor at Xavier university in New Orleans.

In and out of the army he is a gentleman of the highest type.

Moving Upward

Officers In New Fighter Group Upped

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN

Guide War Correspondent
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7-22-44

ADVANCED AIR BASE, Italy—Headquarters of a Fighter Group under command of Col. B. O. Davis Jr., recently announced the following promotions:

Captain Thomas J. Money, 27, adjutant of the Group, from rank of first lieutenant.

First Lt. William C. Wyatt, 29, special services officer of the Group, from second lieutenant.

First Lt. Paulus C. Taylor, 24, adjutant of a fighter squadron connected with the Group, from second lieutenant.

MOREHOUSE GRADUATE

Captain Money resides with his wife, Mrs. Leontine Money, at 6612 Eberhart avenue, Chicago. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Money, Vicksburg, Miss. He was graduated from Morehouse College in 1939 with the B. S. degree. 7-22-44

Before enlisting in the Army, Captain Money was employed as senior file clerk by the Chicago Welfare Association. He was a sergeant major at Tuskegee Army Flying School before entering officers candidate school. He was assigned to this fighter group last November.

EX-SCHOOL TEACHER

Lt. Wyatt is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Litt Carter, 2510 Whittier street, St. Louis, Mo. He has an eight-year-old daughter. He was graduated from Bishop College, Texas, in 1937 with the A. B. degree. He taught school in Missouri before the war.

TAYLOR A VIRGINIAN

7-22-44

Lt. Taylor is the son of Mrs. Estelle M. Taylor, Burkeville, Va. He was graduated from Hampton Institute in 1940 and holds the B. S. and M. S. degrees.

draftsman. 7-22-44

At the ... graduate ... the Infantry School, world's ... infantry units, in combat. At the ... largest institution of its kind, the ... same time he is taught such di... local officer took a four months ... course, yet necessary, subjects as ... to fit him for his new re... military law, mess management, ... responsibilities. The course ... covers and administration, and is con... technique of handling all the ... stantly impressed with the enor... modern infantry weapons ... mous responsibility of an officer ... and the tactics of leading small ...

BOOKER CONLEY PROMOTED AT FORT BENNING

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

FORT BENNING, Ga— (Special) —Booker Conley of Birmingham, Alabama, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States today upon successful completion of the Officer Candidate Course at the Infantry School at Fort Benning. Lieut. Conley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Glenn of 28 Fourth Avenue, North, Birmingham, Ala.

The new officer is a graduate of Parker High School at Birmingham, Ala.

The new lieutenant enlisted in the Army on June 25, 1942 and served with the Infantry before going to Officer Candidate School four months ago. He held the rank of corporal before being commissioned.

in time of war. 7-22-44

The men who attended Officer Candidate School are recent Infantry ROTC graduates of colleges all over the country. Others include the best privates, corporals and sergeants from regular army outfits, selected by their superiors for outstanding intelligence and qualities of leadership. During the course even the mildly incapable are weeded out so that the man who graduate with commissions are America's finest soldiers, fully qualified to be the leaders in our rapidly growing Army.

Davis Finds "All Well" In Britain

Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.
8-1-44

VICE COMMAND, U. S. STRATEGIC AIR FORCES IN EUROPE—Negro and white troops are living and working together in the best traditions of the U. S. Army in the all-out effort to defeat the Nazi regime, reported Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, of the Inspector General's Department, following a recent tour through a Quartermaster trucking station in the European Theater of Operations.

This station, commanded for the past year by Lieutenant Colonel Ellington D. Golden, of Paris, Illinois, has been outstanding, not only for its efficient and democratic administration, but also for its amazing record in the hauling of tons, of bombs ear-marked for enemy territory.

Colonel Golden believes that every man is a soldier regardless of race. and he has endeavored to instill that ideal into his junior officers and enlisted men. No officer can remain on his station without striving to carry out the principles of this ideal. As a result, his troops are helping not a little in making the Allied Air Force the master of European skies. 8-1-44

Harmonious relationships are reported in all departments. Master Sergeant William P. Tompkins, of 145-13 109th Avenue, Jamaica, Long Island, New York, is the station sergeant-major. He supervises an office of personnel clerks for the various units living on the post.

General Davis was accompanied on his tour by Captain William Toumey, of 3252 Decatur Street, New York City, Acting Aide and Mr. Carlton Moss, also of New York City, member of the Special Coverage Section, Army Pictorial Service.

Dr. M. O. Bousfield Is Army Colonel

Chief & Independent
Nashville, Tenn. 3-24-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. (Special)—More recognition has come to an officer here in this, the largest post in the race for military operation. It fell upon Dr. M. O. Bousfield, who was promoted from Lieutenant Colonel to that of Colonel, Medical Corps commanding.

It seems that Dr. Bousfield was not aware of this new honor conferred upon him until he returned from a recent trip to the middle west where he went to spend a part of his vacation and to transact some business in connection with his interests in Chicago and the east.

3-24-44

BOULWARE'S YES... WE ALL TALK

Courier – Pittsburgh, Pa.

By Marcus H. Boulware

7-22-44

Last month General Benjamin O. Davis coined a new word. It was "hyphenated-Americanism." Of the hundreds of new words entering our language and speech annually, I have often wondered how many were created by Negroes. I have often wondered who these colored authors were. It is therefore interesting to note and discuss "hyphenated-Americanism.'

"Hyphenated-Americanism" was invented on Wednesday, June 21, 1944. General Davis used it when speaking for racial unity at a civic luncheon in Buffalo, N. Y., marking the beginning of the Fifth War Loan drive.

At this gathering, he called for the end of "hyphenated-Americanism." Says he, "I am hoping to live to see the time when we will have no hyphenated-Americans, no Italian-Americans, no French-Americans, no Afro-Americans, no Negro-Americans. I hope the time is coming when we will recognize men and momen for their work, their contributions to the uplift of this country."

General Davis didn't define his new lingual creation. But those who heard his speech recognized its meaning. I believe that Webster's dictionary will record some such definition as this: 7-22-44

"Hyphenated-Americanism" is an American practice of designating citizens, who have a mixture of American and foreign blood, by giving them a name based on the racial identity of their parents, rather than their contributions to American society; for example, Negro-Americans, Irish-American, etc.

Three Benning Officers Promoted

World – Memphis, Tenn.
8-22-44

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(ANP) — Recent promotion of one first and three second lieutenants within the Truck Regiment, with headquarters in the Harmony Church area of Fort Benning, was recently announced by Colonel Hans C. Jesperson, regimental commander.

First Lieutenant Harold E. Kans, Headquarters and Headquarters Detacment, has been promoted to Captain while Second Lieutenants James H. Chiles, 3500th QM Truck Co., Henry E. Cobb, 3518th QM Truck Company, and Theophilus Cottrell, 3519th QM Truck Company, have changed to the insignia of First Lieutentants.

Captain Kane, native of Southington, Conn., is regimental adjutant and has also served with the Third Student Training Regiment as adjutant of the Third Battalion of the Truck Regiment, and as commanding officer of the 3519th QM Truck Company. Married, he lives with his wife in Columbus.

Lt. Cottrell, of Orlando, Fla., is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute where he was a member of the ROTC during his college days. Entering the service in August, 1943, he was soon accepted for Infantry OCS and upon graduating was assigned to the Truck Regiment.

8-22-44

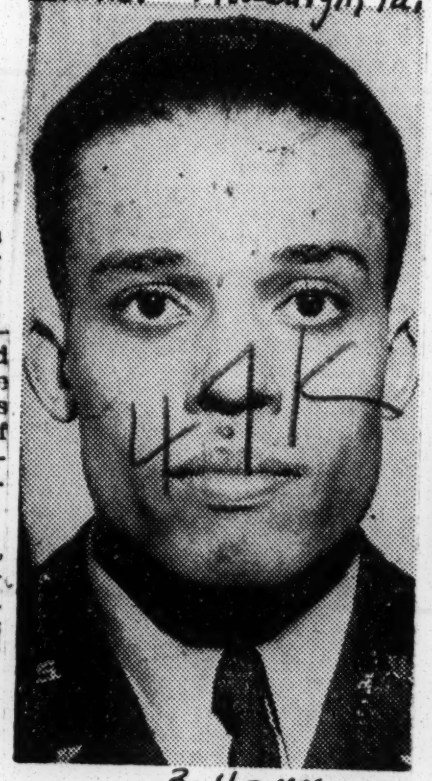
Lieutenant Cobb is a veteran who saw action in the South Pacific with an Anti-Aircraft unit. A graduate of Benedict College, Lt. Cobb is a native of South Carolina. He received his basic military training in his neighboring state, North Carolina, at Camp Davis. Later, following his return from overseas as an enlistd man, Lt. Cobb entered the Officers Candidate School at Camp Davis, N. C where he was commissioned.

Lt. Chiles is a native of Augusta, Ga., graduate of Paine College, and a former student at Temple University, Philadelphia. A musican of note, Lt. Chiles has traveled with and directed many vocal groups and is now helping to form an Officer's quarter in the Truck Regiment. He is also a graduate of the Officer's Motor Class, The Infantry School, and served as Motor Officer in the 3500th Quartermaster Truck Company.

7-22-44

FIGHTER PILOT

Courier – Pittsburgh, Pa.



3-4-44

Alfred M. Gorman, of Moline, Ill., has received the wings of a fighter and been commissioned a second lieutenant in the air corps at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. He will be given additional training in an aerial gunner school at Eglin Field, Florida.

9 Graduated at Chaplains' School

Afro-American – Baltimore, Md. 8-19-44

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Nine chaplains finished the Army Chaplain School at Harvard University last week, bringing the total number of colored chaplains who have finished the school to over 250.

Following the graduation exercises the chaplains left for assignments that will carry them to all parts of the world.

The names, denominations, last civilian pastorate city, and home State of the graduates are as follows:

Three Baptists

Mitchell C. Ateca, Baptist, Buffalo, N.Y. (North Carolina); Charles A. Cherry, Baptist, Springfield, S.C. (South Carolina); Theodore R. Daniels, Baptist, Paristow, Okla, (Oklahoma); Samuel D. Greer, Church of Christ, Washington (Washington);

Samuel A. Lewis, Lutheran, Baltimore (N.Y.); Frank A. Smith, Methodist, Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania); Carey D. Stemley, Methodist, Columbus, Ohio (Illinois); Clifford B. Spears, Disciple of Christ, Chicago (Illinois), and Phylemon Titus, Methodist, Leona, Texas (Texas).

GETS GOLD BARS

Courier – Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-18-44

2nd Lt. Orrington C. Hall, St. Paul, Minn., received his commission recently as a signal corps officer from Fort Monmouth, N. J. He was stationed in Alaska one year before earning his gold bars.

Officer Ousted from Mess Table

MAXWELL FIELD, Ala.—Colored troops here are up in arms over what they call a "slap in the face" two days after the invasion of Europe when a colored second lieutenant was forced to move from a table reserved for officers in the mess hall to one used by enlisted men.

The incident, which has affected men here and at Tuskegee Army Air Field, occurred while the men were at mess. The colored officer came in from Tuskegee, seated himself at the officers' table and was ordered immediately to move.

A chorus of "What in the name of the Lord are we fighting for?" was audible throughout the hall. "Are we fighting for something like this?" one soldier asked. Why don't Washington officials and pay these Southern camps a visit?" queried another.

Colonel Davis Visits Tuskegee

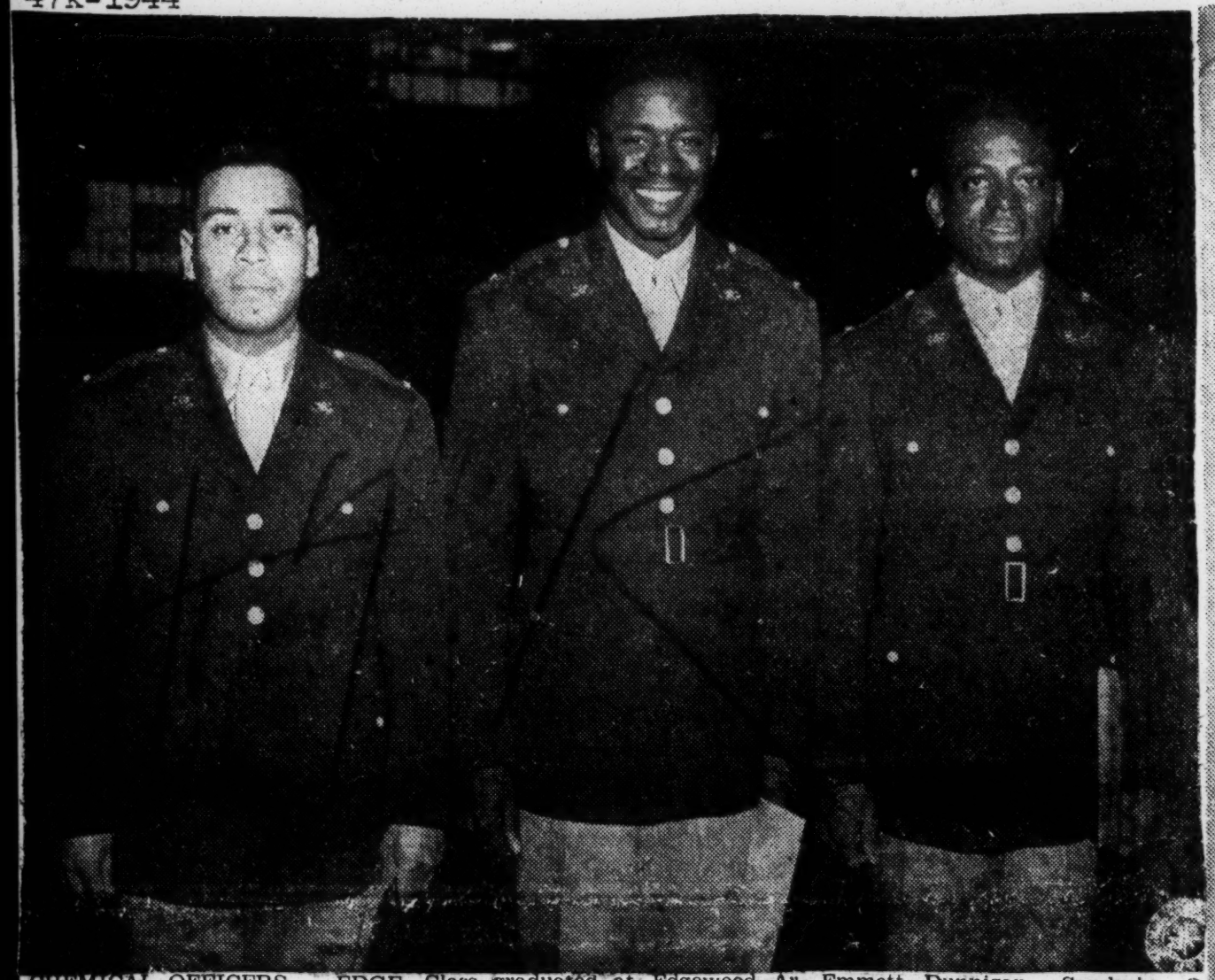
Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.
8-1-44

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(SNS)—Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, greeted Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. here recently. Captain William Campbell of the 332nd Fighter Group composed of the 99th, 100th, 301st and 302nd Squadrons. The Colonel spoke in highest praise of the brilliant work being done by the Negro fighters. He brought greetings from Colonel Cumming is a graduate of Johns Hopkins Medical School and is a former physician of Ocala, Fla. Major Robinson, formerly pastored at the Stewartdent of Tuskegee Institute, and Ga. Chaplain Douglas T. T. Robinson were recently promoted to colonel at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Col. Davis on furlough from his station in Italy spent a week at Tuskegee Institute just before returning to his post, commanding Chapel AME Church of Macon. Col. B. O. Davis Jr. is a native

2 Officers Receive Promotions at TAAF

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Dr. Richard

47k-1944



CHEMICAL OFFICERS — EDGEWOOD ARSENAL, Md., Dec. 23 — Three members of the 31st Chemical Warfare Officer Candidate Class graduated at Edgewood Arsenal today are, left to right, Lucas C. Leos, Phoenix, Arizona Franklin Britton, Atlanta, and Emmett Dunnigan, Sandusky, O. Lt. Dunigan was selected as one of the 10 outstanding members of the class.

HERO AND MOTHER—Lt. Robert Hobson Smith of Baltimore, Md., and his mother, Mrs. Angeline D. Smith, in a photographic pose made before he went overseas. Lt. Smith was one of the pilots of the Fighter Group operating in and from Italy who have shot down 25 planes since July 12, and a total of 30 since going into combat with P-47s and P-51s. Counting the 17 credited to the 99th Fighter Squadron, the Negro fliers overseas now have a total of 47 confirmed aerial victories plus one Nazi destroyer sunk.

General Eboue Dead

People's Voice—New York, N.Y.

CAIRO, Egypt—Gen. Felix Eboue, one of the earliest adherents of the Fighting French cause and France's first Negro colonial governor, died last week in an Algiers hospital, according to an announcement coming from the French Committee for National Liberation. Eboue, a highly skilled organizer and administrator, was responsible for supplying the United Nations' armies with tons of food, crates of medicine, thousands of small repair parts from his Territory in Free French Equatorial Africa. Native troops, under his leadership, supported the military movements in Africa which led to the routing of German and Italian troops there.

Eboue was born in French Guiana in 1884 and was educated in the schools of that colony, later taking a degree in law from the university at Bordeaux, France. He started his career as a colonial administrator in Cubangui-Chari, rising to the position of governor-general over the Chad territory in 1939. He is credited with the initiation of many progressive measures in colonial government which affected the entire French policy.

The passing of Eboue is considered a loss to the Free French movement and to the colonial peoples of the world as well. It is believed that had he lived his counsel might have much weight in securing more liberal colonial policies at the peace table.

GENERAL EBOUE

Troops Bare Plot to Keep Colored Officers in U.S.

CAMP HOOD, Tex.—Complaints that the 659th Tank Destroyer Battalion, most highly rated such unit on the post, is being "raided" to build up another outfit, lacking in efficiency, for overseas duty were registered by soldiers here last week.

Comparing the two units, one soldier declared that the 659th has excelled the other battalion on all occasions and its fitness for overseas duty exceeds by far and beyond the shadow of a doubt that of the unit that has been selected for that honor.

The only other difference between the two outfits, he declared, "is the fact that the officers of the 659th are colored and those of the other unit are white, which carries no weight because all are officers in the United States Army."

Unit Holds Post Record

The unit headed by colored officers (battalion), 78.0.

"Why are attempts being made to take key personnel from this unit with a score of 82 per cent; Fourth Army ord-peatedly on the field and in classes to bolster a unit far from our nance inspection test, 3.4 out of possible 5; Army Ground Forces test (gun companies), 81.3 (rec-ord); Army Ground Forces

"Could our colored officers be the basis for this action and the Destroyer Group test with a superior outfit? Why are these things being done? Why sefer of lesser ability to represent the colored race on the field of combat?"

A Giant Passes

5-27-44

Felix Eboue, distinguished Governor-General of strategic Chad Province, died mysteriously in the French hospital in Cairo last week.

A native of Gaudeloupe and the first Negro to ever be governor of that island, he had spent his lifetime in the service of France, filling one important post after another. Pittsburgh Courier

In the darkest days of France, when the German armies had occupied the whole country and were exercising control over North Africa, Felix Eboue stood firm against the traitors and collaborationists.

He refused to bow to Vichy and was the first of the colonial governors to offer his services and territories to General DeGaulle. Pittsburgh, Pa.

He was the torch of freedom in the midst of the gloom that descended upon the French Empire with the capitulation to Hitler.

He was hailed far and wide for his loyalty to Republican France, and even American newspapers paid homage to him.

This was proper, too, because he was the only French leader who had the will and the means of defying Hitlerism.

By the terms of the armistice, the French politicians in France and North Africa were impotent, and General DeGaulle was merely a refugee in a London which was being shaken to its foundations by savage air raids by Goering's Luftwaffe.

Only Felix Eboue had troops and territory to provide a rallying point for Free Frenchmen.

Unfortunately Eboue's prestige declined, due to a calculated playing down in the "free" Allied press.

One heard everything about DeGaulle, but nothing about Eboue, a far more experienced diplomat.

The reason was that Eboue was black and in the Anglo-American world no black man must become too powerful.

Even worse, Eboue had ideas about Africa for the Africans, which is a treasonable thought in the minds of the Wall Street and Bank of England crowd that owns Africa and controls the administrators who run the continent.

Eboue would have proved increasingly annoying to the financial tycoons as peace came nearer for the Allied Powers.

He wanted the colonies to be self-governing with black men in full authority in their homeland.

Few French politicians agreed with him, and practically no British and Americans.

It is very convenient for them that Felix Eboue, the brilliant and courageous black West Indian, died at the early age of 56 years.

Eighteen More Graduate From Army Medic School

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

5-27-44

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa.—Eighteen Negro officers, one of the largest groups in the history of the school, graduated from the Medical Field Service School here May 18, increasing the number of Negro Medical, Dental and Veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this National Training Center which is the Army's only military school for training Medical Department officers for field duty.

Other Negroes have been commissioned as Second Lieutenants following their graduation from the Medical Administratve Corps Officer Candidate School which operated here until a year ago. Negro enlisted men also have completed a Sanitary Technicians course at this service school.

The eighteen officers, all lieutenants, were part of the 52nd Officers Class graduated at exercises in Tugo Hall after completing six weeks training for duty as Medical Officers with troops in combat. Negro officers in that class were:

First Lieutenant William H. Bruce, M. C., 919 E. 12½ St., Winston-Salem, N. C. Graduate of Meharry Medical College.

5-27-44

First Lt. Arthur E. Calloway, M. C. of 663 E. Livingston Ave, Columbus, O Received his M D. degree from Howard Medical College.

First Lt. Vernon F. Goldson, M. C., of 171-24 103rd Road, Jamaica, Long Island, graduate of Howard Medical College.

First Lt. William P. Goodwin, M. C., of 133 Adams St., Steelton. Graduate of Howard Medical College.

First Lt. Charles E. Greenlee, M. C., of 16 N. W., Washington, D. C. Received his M. D. degree from Meharry Medical College.

First Lt. Clarence W. Greer, M. C., of 5941 Hazlett Ave., Detroit, Mich. Graduate of Meharry Medical College.

First Lt. James W. Hubert, M. C., of 104-63 165th St., Jamaica, N. Y. Graduate of Meharry Medical College.

First Lt. Charles C. Hunt, M. C., of 1187 E. 222nd St., Bronx, N. Y. Received his M. D. degree from Howard Medical College.

First Lt. Marion S. Johnson, of 1432 Twiggs St, Augusta, Ga., Graduate from Meharry Medical College with an M. D. degree.

First Lt. Lawson I. Miller, 2nd Lt., Sn. C., of 3842 Prairie Ave., Chicago, Ill. Received his B. S. degree from the University of Illinois.

First Lt. Milton F. Quanders, M. C., of 413 W. 14th St., New York City. Graduate of Howard Medical College.

First Lt. James H. Robinson, Jr., M. C., of Box 264, Milberdoire, Ohio Graduated from Meharry College with an M. D. degree.

5-27-44

First Lt. William C. Shanks, Jr., M. C., of Burlington, N. C., received his M D. degree from Meharry Medical College.

First Lt. Curtis B. Sprott, M. C., of 23980 Roberts Ave., Beaumont, Tex. Graduated from Meharry Medical College.

First Lt. Ellis E. Toney, Jr., M. C., of 109 Sycamore St., Oxford, N. C. Received his M. D. degree from Howard Medical College.

First Lt. Howard W. Williams, M. C., of 3900 Bain St., Philadelphi, Pa. Graduate of Meharry Medical College.

First Lt. Lee L. Williams, M. C., of 1204 E. Vine Ave., Knoxville, Tenn. Graduated from Meharry Medical College with an M. D degree.—R.

Looks Like A "Mother's Boy"

Pgh. Courier — Pa.

Youngest Medical Major Pride Of 'Ninety-Third'

5-27-44

By BILLY ROWE

WITH ELEMENTS OF THE 93rd AT BOUGAINVILLE—He looks like a "mother's boy," but today Lincoln W. Shumate is very much a man and the youngest colored medical major in the United States Army. Born 28 years ago in Washington, D. C., he completed a full school career in the same city. He came out of Howard university's medical school with an M.D. degree in 1940. From that time until 1941 he was an interne at Freemen's hospital. Leaving, he was appointed acting public health surgeon and served in Memphis, Tenn., until 1942.

A member of the Officers' Reserve corps since 1937, he was called to active duty in March of 42 and became a first lieutenant in the Medical corps, assigned to the 93rd Infantry division. Though young and fresh out of school, his down-to-business tactics paid early dividends and in June of the same year he became the commanding officer of Company A of the 318th Medical battalion. In October he shifted to Company D and in November promoted to a captain. A year later he became the youngest colored major in the Medical corps.

CITED BY GENERAL

Serving in that position during the last stages of training in the States, Major Shumate lived up to expectations and has many times been verbally cited by Commanding General Raymond G. Lehman, of the 93rd. However it is over here where, for the fist time colored Infantry doctors have been given a chance to prove that they are more than good pill rollers, that the youthful C. O. has received a chance to shine. Doing that with all the lustre of a diamond in the rough, he is performing a great and important task.

EAGER TO SEE WIFE

Under his supervision the first all-colored staffed clearing station in a combat zone is taking definite shape. A field hospital with nine medical, two dental and one medical administrative officer, such hospitals are the lifesavers of countless men in this war. Every route between them and the battle line is made shorter in various ways which allows more casualties to fight again than not. Shumate is a successful slap in the eye to the adage, "Wisdom Comes With Maturity."

Married to the beautiful Hazel Richardson of Washington, he expects to greet her first when he steps off the boat on the American side of the Golden Gate.

NEA—(ANP—Among Negro offi
NEA—ANP—Among egro
cers being hospitalized at a gen
eral hospital here are Major
Leslie N. Wainwright of New
York city and Capt Walton C.
Johnson, former manager of
Howard university's track team.
The plans and training offi-
cers in all Negro ack ack bat
alion, Major Wainwright is suf
fering from a mild stomach
rouble, while Capt. Johnson
as a slight wrist injury.
The commanding officer of
an air corps truck company,
overseas for the past 23 months.
QMC, Capt. Jackson has been

No Negro Commanders

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

9-9-44

General Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander, has spoken in no uncertain terms about Negro units in the European theatre of war.

When replacements are necessary in these black American combat units they are always to be white men, if the positions open are above the rank of first lieutenant.

Companies, battalions, regiments and brigades, according to Eisenhower must always be commanded by white men.

This is a kick in the face to all Negro officers who have won promotion by exemplary service.

Such a ruling in the middle of a war supposedly for democracy shows that our white people have learned nothing and intend to continue in the same path they have followed in dealing with Negroes in the armed service since the Revolutionary war.

Nothing can more quickly kill the interest and enthusiasm of an officer than to tell him that no matter how well he does his job he cannot hope to rise to the command of a company, battalion or regiment simply because he happens to be colored.

We believe that President Roosevelt should rescind General Eisenhower, must always be commanded by white men.

The President can do so because he is General Eisenhower's superior as Commander-in-Chief of all the armed forces of the United States.

NEGRO OFFICERS IN NEW GUINEA HOSPITAL

Savannah, Ga. Tribune

47k-1944

Kansas Flyer Returns Home

Lieut. Weldon Groves Was Member of 332nd

Back home from the wars this week came 27-year-old 1st Lt. Weldon Kenneth Groves of Edwardsville, Kas., wearing five air medal clusters decorations from three major campaigns and with 94 missions and one enemy plane to his credit.

Lieut. Groves walked into his home in Edwardsville Tuesday afternoon and surprised his mother, Mrs. Walter P. Groves, who was not expecting him until several days later.

Lieut. Groves arrived in New York from Italy on Dec. 15. He came direct from the war front where Col. B. O. Davis' 332nd fighter group is engaged in fighting the Germans. He won his leave to return home by completing 94 missions in rocord time. He downed an enemy plane last July in a mission over Hungary. Flying his P-51 Mustang, he made a direct hit, saw the Nazi pilot bail out and the Nazi plane burn and crash.

Lt. Groves, while not a Kansas City boy, is claimed by Greater Kansas City because the Groves family of Edwardsville is so widely known throughout this section. The flying lieutenant is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter P. Groves who still live on the estate of the late "potato king," by which name the elder Groves was affectionately known all over the country.

Born in Edwardsville, Lt. Groves went to grade and high school there, then attended the University of Kansas. In 1941 he volunteered for service in the air force. While waiting to be called, he worked at the Sunflower Ordnance Works at Desoto, Kas. In August, 1942, he was sent to the Tuskegee Army Air school, graduating in June, 1943. From there he went to Selfridge Field, Mich., from where he went overseas as a member of the 332nd fighter group, commanded by Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

Groves said that it felt "fine" to be back at home. The thing that he missed most while overseas, he said, was the people, his friends. The flyers received plenty to eat, he said, and were permitted because of their type of work to get plenty of rest, so he does not feel the need to sleep extra long hours since arriving home.

The first thing he wanted when he reached home was some of his mother's fried chicken.

Lt. Weldon Groves

Most excited members of the household when the flyer returned home were his two younger brothers, Edward Groves, in high school, and Wesley Groves Jr., Sumner Junior college student. Another brother, Pfc. Harold J. Groves, is in the South Pacific.

Lt. Groves has one sister, Mrs. George, Hoard, 917 Oakland, Kansas City, Kas. He is being kept busy visiting all his relatives and friends in the two Kansas Cities.

Lt. Groves brought with him the good news that Captain Richard Pullam, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Pullum, 2427 the Paseo, also is on his way home. Captain Pullam is Kansas City's own representative in the 332nd fighter group.

2 Promoted to Major in 93rd Inf. Division

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC— Captains Richard E. Evans of Itasca, Texas, and Harry C. Fields, Jr., unit's plans and training officer of Springdale, Ark., have been promoted to major in the 93rd Infantry Division.

Second Lt. LeRoy A. Brown of Augusta, Ga., was promoted to first lieutenant, while Winifred A. Hembry of Lewisville, Texas, was appointed warrant officer (junior grade) in the field of ordnance supply.

CAPT. WILLIAM FAULKNER KILLED IN AIR ACTION

Captain William J. Faulkner, Jr. 26, pilot in the famouns 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, son of Rev. W. J. Faulkner, Dean of the Chapel of Fisk and Mrs. Faulkner of Nashville, Tennessee, who was reported missing in action over in Austria a few weeks ago, has been reported finally as having been killed in action near Riechenfels, Austria, November 7. The German Government notified the U. S. War Department through the International Red Cross, a few days ago.

Major General N. F. Twining, commanding officer of the 15th Air Force wrote Rev. and Mrs. Faulkner that their son had participated in action throughout a vital period of operations in the Mediterranean theater. He stated, "You may be sure that his record of service compares favorably with those of our finest airmen. In recognition of meritorious achievement on operational flights he has been awarded the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf Clusters." He was a veteran pilot with 56 combat missions to his credit.

Captain Faulkner was commissioned 2nd Lt. at Tuskegee Air Field, April 29, 1943; 1st Lt. December 29, 1943 at Selfridge Field, Michigan and Captain at the front a few days before his death. Capt. Faulkner married Miss Martha Owens of Atlanta and Cleveland, May 29, 1943. He is a graduate of Morehouse College, Atlanta, and was the first colored Nashvillian to become commissioned a pilot. Prior to his enlistment, he worked for the Lockhead-Vega Aircraft Corp., Los Angeles, California as a builder of bombers. The day he decided to enlist he wrote his father, "Dad, I'm tired of building them. From now on I want to fly them." The Faulkners formerly resided in Atlanta, where Rev. Faulkner pastored First Congregational Church.

Serving In France

A special service officer of the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion, 1st Lt. Leonard Ineal Burch is serving with the 1st Army somewhere in France. Burch, a native of Columbus, Georgia, student of University of Illinois and Chicago's Embalming College, is the husband of the former Rachelle Atkinson King, native of Anniston, Ala., who is now residing at 5810 South Parkway, Chicago, Illinois and teaching under the Chicago Public School System.

Burch, a civilian pilot, also studied in Chestertown, Md., and Cleveland, Ohio

Medical Officer of Oklahoma Wins Silver Award

By ART CARTER
(War Correspondent for NNPA)

WITH 92ND DIVISION. — A medical officer and a former all-CIAA football star were among 14 92nd soldiers of the 92nd division honored Friday for a gallantry in action as the division commander awarded four silver stars and 10 bronze stars in a ceremony punctuated by the echo of artillery shells.

1st Lt. Lawrence Lackey, 928 6th Ave., Ardmore, Okla., of the medical detachment was the first officer to receive the award. He received the silver star along with Pvt. Jake McInnis of Prentiss, Miss., 2nd Lt. Albert Seay of Brooklyn, N.Y., and 1st Lt. Walter Vaughann of Roanoke, Va., the latter white.

Lackey lived through three days and nights of hell evacuating 17 wounded soldiers between October 7-10. He led a litter squad over a narrow mountain passage, open to hostile fire to an improvised hospital in an old bomb-battered building with borrowed blankets. Leaving the wounded in care of technicians, Lackey returned to the rear, picked up supplies and made a return trip with the ration train.

Two men were wounded on the return trip, but Lackey continued the hazardous journey to deliver food and medicine. He later reconnoitered for a safer route and evacuated the wounded by a new path to waitnig ambulances, thereby saving many lives.

Kill 38 Nazis

A Langston university graduate, Lackey said, "I appreciate this award but there a dozens of medical men out there doing better jobs. "Every night some of my men would brave enemy fire to evacuate the wounded."

McInnis displayed iron fortitude on October 12, when he singlehandedly inflicted 13 German casualties, while repulsing six vigorous enemy attacks from his mountain positions. Given a machine gun position on a mountain top, McInnis was a target for everything in the German books, machine gun fire, machine pistol, rifle and artillery fire, but he stayed shot for seven hours killing 38 Nazis in one counter-attack.

He inflicted casualties with his M-1 rifle, after discovering that traverse afforded by his tripod machine gun failed to cover all approaches of the enemy.

Lt. Seay led the patrol which wiped out an enemy machine gun-nest November 7. He was slightly wounded on this mission and the patrol was forced to withdraw without him, but he rolled and crawled back to his own line two days later.

T-4 Clarence M. Palmer, formerly of Baltimore, but now of Durham, N. C., all-CIAA tackle of North Carolina State college, 1932-33, was one of 10 receiving bronze stars.

Others Receive Medals

Disregard Wounds

Others are: T-Sgt. Leon Miller, S-Sgt. Johnson of Baltimore, led Palmer, the division comman-burst dangerously close Amherst, Va., to halt an ene- Louis Hamders clerk, went four miles on Patrice, who saved a Dayton, Ohio; Cpl. Floyd Jones, foot through shell fire to deliver decorated for action. monds, Memphis; Pvt. Elmore Pat- a message when a reconnaisance S-Sgt. Johnson of Ar New York City; Pvt. Sylvester Badgett, Sumner, Miss.; hours by enemy artillery. His de- my counterattack on a Nathaniel Johnson, Baltimore; livery of the message enabled the tober 12, that he didn Robert Johnson, Amherst, Va.; party to get protection and reach order to withdraw. He and two white officers, 2nd Lt. its objective. one wounded soldier a Ralph Rhodes of McCloud, Okla., Cpl. Jones, who returned to the ers through the spot and Major Wallace Hanes of Dal- rear echelon for spare tires and ble and so deployed

continued under fire, located his unit then successfully led his men back to their own company before going to an aid station for treatment.

T-B Miller, communications wire chief waded across the river to another point with a jeep completely laying a line.

T-5 Hammonds was cited for evacuating a wounded comrade under fire, November 7, and Sgt. Badgett for destroying an enemy machine gun nest September 17.

While making the decorations the divisional commander pointed out that the numerous awards given the 92nd men reflected the intensity in battle and the determination that the men are showing in their quest for victory.

Five New Yorkers In 2nd Group At Hondo To Get Silver Wings

HONDO ARMY AIRFIELD, Hondo, Tex. — Thirty Negro students, comprising the largest class in the history of this huge airbase of the AAF Training Command, received silver navigator's wings Monday, during graduation exercises at the post theatre. Five of the graduates are from New York.

It was the second Negro group to complete the strenuous 18-week AAF training program for combat navigators. The first unit, numbering 24 Negro students ,won wings and commissions at Hondo Field on February 26, 1944.

The members of the latest class began their training at Hondo Field April 10 of this year. The graduates numbered 27 cadets, one warrant officer (junior grade) and two 2nd lieutenants. Upon completion of the course 11 of the cadets were commissioned flight officers; the remaining 16 cadets and the warrant officer were commissioned second lieutenants.

The New Yorkers among the graduates are: Second Lieutenants Ellie J. Bagley, 21, 1061 Boston rd., New York City, and Albert L. Gaines, 20, 430 Clinton street, Buffalo; and Flight Officers Marcel Clyne, 21, 814 East 163rd street; Edward R. Tabbanor, 22, 566 West 159th street, and Sheldon R. Weaver, 19, 520 West 158th street, all of New York City.

Ex-Tuskegee Instructor Now Air Major

WITH THE TWELFTH AIR FORCE, Italy—Nelson S. Brooks, son of Mrs. Edna S. Brooks of Chicago and former Tuskegee instructor, has been promoted to the rank of major in a 12th Air Force fighter group under command of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

'Work, Train, Live Together'

General Eisenhower Issues Equal Opportunity Order

By TREZZVANT W. ANDERSON

WITH THE INVASION FORCES IN ENGLAND—(ANP)—The cardinal point upon which the struggle of the American Negro in the USA is based has received strict recognition from none other than the commanding general of the European Theatre of Operations, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, himself a native of Kansas, and is contained in an order sent out by him recently. The edict contains all of the personality of "Ike" himself, and is couched in unmistakable language.

The point stressed as number one which reads:

"Equal opportunities for service and recreation are the right of every American soldier regardless of branch, race, color or creed."

It is the first point covered in the directive which draws attention to the fact that soldiers "must train together, work together, and live together in order to attain successful teamwork in campaign," and points out that the sharing of work opportunities and recreational facilities must be willingly accepted and utilized to unite more closely the troops of the several commands.

Lieut. Henry Assigned To Kegee Field

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—Second Lt. Milton P. Henry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Henry, of 2119 Reed street, Philadelphia, was recently assigned to this station for duty.

Lt. Henry, a graduate of the Tuskegee Army Air Field's Corps of Aviation Cadets, was commissioned from the Signal Corps Officers' Candidate School, Fort Monmouth, N. J. in September, 1942 and was later assigned to the Tuskegee Field where he won his wings.

The pilot attended Lincoln university and Temple university. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and was employed by the Bell Telephone Company of Philadelphia before induction. His brother, Capt. Walter L Henry, Jr., is a member of the Medical Corps.

332nd Vet in Nashville

LT. CARL E. JOHNSON, veteran pilot of the 332nd Fighter Group, who has spoken to students at Fisk University and Meharry Medical College during his stay at the Army Air Forces rehabilitation center in Nashville. A native of Passaic, N.J., Lieutenant Johnson flew for two years as a commercial pilot. He expects to return overseas in March.

Gen. Davis Given "Permanent Beat" In European Area

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Brig-Gen. Benjamin O. Davis has been permanently assigned to the staff of the inspector-general in the European Theatre of Operations, it is learned here. Gen. Davis has been in the theatre since July. At that time he accompanied Carlton Moss, playwright, and Maj. Homer Roberts of the press branch, during the shooting of films for a follow-up to "The Negro Soldier."

The assignment of Gen. Davis to this theatre gives rise to the belief that conditions overseas are not as happy as might be desirable. A War Department source here pointed out last week that there are now more Negro soldiers overseas than are in the continental United States.

Assigned to TAAF

Capt. ALLISON R. HENDERSON, a veteran of combat activity in the North African war theatre, who has been assigned to the station hospital at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Formerly a practicing physician in Detroit, Captain Henderson served with the medical group in Liberia, where the 41st Engineers were building air bases, before going to North Africa. He is a graduate of Morehouse College and Meharry Medical College

Negro Officer Attends AMG

Lt. Monroe L. Dowling of the Adjutant General's department began study at the University of Chicago's School on Public Affairs (AMG) last week.

He is the first Negro officer to take up the Allied Military government study here. Upon the completion of his work at Chicago university on September 18, Dowling, who was born in Atlantic City, and resides in New York City, will report to Harvard university, Cambridge, Mass., for further study.

Dowling was the first Negro to obtain the Master's degree in Business administration at Harvard university. Before entering the army, he headed the New York City section on United States Employment service being the foremost authority on the labor market in New York state. He helped the government organize its Dependency and Benefits office in Newark, N. J. In the army he has finished the Adjutant General's School at Fort Washington, Md., and also the advanced Quartermaster's school at Camp Lee, Va.

Missing In Action

CAPT. CHARLES F. GANDY

Daring commander of a company of the 92nd Division now fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy who was reported missing in action by the War Department last week. Captain Gandy, the first officer to be promoted on the field by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, won the admiration of his soldiers because he "wouldn't ask a soldier to do anything that he wouldn't do." His home was in Washington, D. C.

Military School

Col. Noel F. Parrish, commandant of this base.

TAAF Inspectors

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The appointment of Capt. Clarence C. Jamison and First Lieut. Milton B. Hall, former pilots with the 99th Fighter Squadron, as supervising assistants to Major Clay Albright (white), director of advanced training and P-40 fighter transition training here at Tuskegee

was promoted from Major last week and assigned by the army to head up a health project in Liberia which may last for five years, the NNPA has learned.

Before entering the army, Col. West was superintendent of Provident Hospital in Chciago. He was superintendent of the station hospital at Fort Huachuca before going to Liberia.

Prior to that, and before the year, he was in Ethiopia for over a year assisting that country with its health program. He is an expert in tropical diseases.

Major John West Now Lt. Colonel To Head Liberia Health Project

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — Lieut. Colonel John West

47k-1944

Former Baltimore Teacher Heads 92nd Postal Section

6-3-44

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—(By Courier)—The weather here fails to deter Capt. Charles E. Brown, former Baltimore teacher, and his 14-man staff at the divisional APO as they laboriously sort mail, write money orders and keep the mail moving to and from the men who do the fighting.

Working in a shell-scarred building vacated by the harassed natives when the Allies routed the Jerries from this seashore, the divisional postal section men are operating the only APO staffed by colored in Italy.

Through their hands pass upwards of 100,000 letters per day on peak days, with additional postal duties embracing every service rendered by the main post offices back home.

Activated at Fort Huachuca in 1942, the unit has moved intact to Italy, and is ready to handle speedily the expected flow of Christmas mail for the division's fighting men.

Capt. Brown, who just received his promotion from first lieutenant two days ago is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude H. Brown, 506 Laurens Street, Baltimore, and a Morgan State College graduate. He has been in charge of the unit since its organization.

Members of the unit are:

T/4 Joseph H. Reid, 1219 Franklin Street, Northeast, Washington, D.C.; T/4's Jay Parham, Trenton, N.J.; Joseph Cook, Newark, N.J.; Harry E. Turner, also Trenton; T/5 Walter L. Proctor, Newark, N.J.; S/Sgt. Henry Payne, Detroit, chief clerk; Sgt. Frederick U. Redding, Atlanta, Ga.; T/5 Maynard L. Jackson, Los Angeles, Calif.; Sgt. Alvin B. Royal, New Orleans, La.; Pfc. Philip J. Smithey, Norfolk, Va.; T/3 Jerome T. Powell, Shreveport, La.; T/4 Arnold U. Barranco, Oakland, Calif.; T/5 Hampton S. Lewis, Detroit, Mich., and Pfc. James V. Duncombe, also of Detroit.

Capt. Hall Gets High Air Honor

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Distinguished Flying Cross Awarded

DOWNED 3 PLANES

Earns Trip Home but Wants to Go Back

6-3-44

BULLETIN

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.—First word that her husband, Capt. Charles B. Hall, had received the Distinguished Flying Cross reached Mrs. Maxine Hall here Saturday by phone from the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN. She said her husband had not reached the States, but she is expecting him daily.

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ADVANCED AIRBASE IN ITALY. — (By Cable) — Capt. Charles B. Hall, 23, of Brazil, Ind., has been awarded the distinguished flying cross in recognition of his extraordinary achievement over the Anzio beachhead on January 28 when he shot down two enemy planes.

Hall, the first colored pilot to receive the outstanding aerial honor, is now in the States on a rest assignment. He is senior flight commander of the pioneer fighter squadron and has three German planes to his credit, having shot down his first FW-190 last July 2 —one month after the unit went into combat.

6-3-44

Flew 87 Sorties

At Anzio, where he completed his tour duty with eighty-seven sorties, Hall destroyed an FW-190 and an ME-109, getting his twin triumph on the same mission. The DFC citation, announced by the 12th Air Force, declared:

"While leading an eight-plane patrol over Anzio, Italy, Captain Hall sighted six FW-190's and ME-109's preparing to strafe Allied ground troops. Attacking so aggressively that he completely disorganized the enemy formation, Captain Hall shot down two enemy aircraft as his comrades destroyed two FW-190's and dispersed the remainder without loss or damage to the P-40's."

6-3-44

The citation added, "on many missions through the Sicilian and Italian campaigns, his steadfast devotion to duty and outstanding proficiency as a combat pilot have reflected great credit upon him and to the armed service."

16 Planes in 10 Days

First Lts. Robert W. Deiz of Portland, Ore., and Lewis C. Smith, Los Angeles, were the other pilots who shot down FW-190's during the same mission. During the entire beachhead drive, the squadron destroyed sixteen enemy planes in ten days.

Hall, always eager and determined, once told me: "Anything Nazi that flies in the air is in for a belly of hot lead if it gets in my sight."

When he left for a rest period, he declared: "Home is no place for a man in this war and I will be back."

6-3-44

Kept Same Plane

He handled the same plane all the way from Casablanca through North Africa and Sicily into Italy. It had seven flak holes and a new tail, to replace one that was shot up, besides three swastikas on the left fuselage.

A former Eastern Illinois Teachers' College athlete and Sunday school teacher, Hall is married to Mrs. Maxine Hall, 80 S. Eighteenth Street, Terre Haute, Ind. His mother is Mrs. Anna Hall, 1826 John Street, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Lt. Stanley Davis Killed in Italy

AFRO-AMERICAN
Balt. Md.
12-30-44

ELIZABETH, N.J.—Lt. Stanley B. Davis, former Thomas Jefferson High School athlete, was killed in action on the Italian front November 27, the War Department has informed his wife, Mrs. Jean Davis.

LT. STANLEY B. DAVIS

Lt. Davis was inducted into the Army in March, 1941, and was trained for one year at Fort Devens, Mass. before going to officer candidate school at Fort Benning, Ga.

Later he was stationed at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where he remained until shipped overseas last September with an infantry unit.

Lieutenant Davis, the son of Robert E. Davis of 1072 Magnolia Avenue of Elizabeth, was particularly active in high jumping and tennis at the Jefferson School and was a member of the Union Baptist Church.

In addition to his wife and father, he is survived by his eleven-month-old daughter, Mildred Ruth; a brother, Cpl. Robert E. Davis, Jr., now in France; two sisters, Mrs. Mildred Thompson, Elizabeth, and Miss Gladys Davis of Newark.

5-27-44

Capt. John D. Manly and Lieut. Louise M. Jacobs who were married at Camp Livingston, Louisiana, recently. Both the bride and bridegroom are attached to the Medical Corps and served in the army at Fort Bragg, N.C., and were later assigned to Liberia, where they remained for eleven months.

AFRO-American Balt. Md.

Pilot Says First 3 Battles Are Worst

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By CLARENCE M. LONG, Jr.

OBERLIN, Ohio.—"If you can survive your first two or three air battles, you can usually count on a fairly safe return home," First Lieutenant J. Bernard Knighten, member of the original 99th Fighter Squadron, said here this week. The pilot, who arrived from Italy on May 16, was here visiting his mother, Mrs. Julia A. Knighten.

6-3-44

Lt. Knighten

His return reduces to six the number of original 99th squadron members now on duty overseas.

Lieutenant Knighten who has flown eighty-one sorties during his fourteen months abroad wears service ribbons for North Africa, Sicily and Italy. He was the first of eight to reach the States.

Admits One Close Call

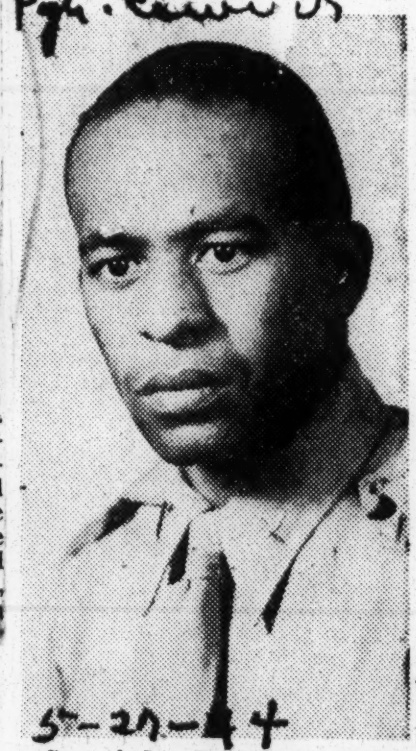
6-3-44

Reluctant to discuss his activities, he admits that one close call came to him one day when he and his companion, Lieutenant Dryden, were attacked by four enemy planes on their return home from a bomber escort mission.

They bluffed the enemy by flying straight into them and then hightailing for home as the bullets whizzed past them. He said also that there was no discrimination in the area which the group occupied.

UP A NOTCH

Pgh. Courier 5



Second Lt. Robert M. Preer, weather officer at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, was recently promoted to the rank of first lieutenant by an order from the War Department. The officer was commissioned from the Meteorolgy Aviation Cadet Corps of Yale university on September 6, 1943. He attended Morehouse college from 1937 to 1941.

Lieutenant Preer is the son of Mrs. Rose Brown, Atlanta, Ga., and is married to the former Miss Bette V. Banner, of Boston, Mass. He was secretary to the registrar at Atlanta university prior to entering the armed forces.—Offiical U.S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.

332nd Ends Year In Combat

Pittsburgh Courier

Colonel Davis Recalls Mission Over Budapest

Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—In less than one year the all-Negro 332nd Fighter Group, stationed with the 15th Air Force in Italy, has flown more than 100 missions and has firmly established itself as an efficient, hard-hitting outfit, Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., the group's commanding officer, declared last week.

DOWN 9 PLANES IN 30 DAYS

"Flying P-51s on bomber escort and strafing missions, we destroyed 75 ships in the air and easily twice that number on the ground," the colonel recapitulated at AAF Redistribution Station No. 1.

He pointed out that flying fighter escort on long-range bombing missions was a job well suited to his group. "All the men enjoy it," he related, a because it gives them the opportunity for aerial combat."

As an example of the lengths to which his men will go to get into the thick of things, the 32-year-old West Pointer told of a mission to Budapest last October when the four squadrons comprising the 332nd were ordered to strafe river and rail traffic along the Danube. West of Budapest, he related, a low-flying plane and pilot spotted a pilot shot the plane down, then

called for the rest of his squadron.

"They were over an airfield where fliers were practicing landings and take-offs," said the colonel. "They joined the traffic pattern and shot down four more ME-109s. On their way up to rejoin the group they picked up four Heinkel 111s and after a series of passes got them all."

12-30-44

The squadron headed by the colonel then proceeded up the Danube and strafed oil barges and railway trains. A third squadron located another airfield and destroyed 18 ships on the ground, while the fourth came across a motor park and destroyed or damaged a fleet of trucks.

"Not bad for one five-hour mission," added the colonel.

Broadcasting General

BRIGADIER GENERAL BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, who is at present in the European Theater of War, broadcasts on the Army hour describing his recent inspection of Negro troops on the continent. He is to head the making of the picture on the Negro soldier in the war. —Signal Corps.

Amsterdam News
No 4 p 1 c 1

9-2-44

Captain Edward L. Toppins of 99th Squadron Returns After 137 Missions

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
11-24-44

By E. F. JOSEPH

LOS ANGELES. — (AN)—Capt. Edward L. Toppins, flight commander of the famed 99th squadron, returned home from the war last week, credited with 137 combat missions and four non-combat missions, during 15 months in the Italian campaign.

Sporting the air medal with five oak leaf clusters and the European theater ribbon with three campaign stars, Capt. Toppins is officially credited with one Nazi kill, downed over the Anzio beachhead in Italy.

He does not consider his experience as a flight commander as an adventure, he said, but just a job that had to be done, a job that was the immediate and only concern of every American flier who could bring his machine guns to bear on any enemy plane or position.

Born in Mississippi, Capt. Toppins came to California 17 years ago. He attended the University of San Francisco and took a total of five courses in civilian pilot training, securing his commercial license and instructor's rating. The training was tremendously useful to him after he entered the army, he admitted, although it was hard for a Negro to get the courses. "Once in," he remarked, "there was no trouble at all."

11-24-44

Much at Stake

His cadet training started six weeks after Pearl Harbor, he said, with primary, basic and advanced courses at Tuskegee, where he won his wings and a commission as a second lieutenant on Sept. 6, 1942. He recalled that he was one of four replacements for the 99th Fighter squadron, an independent all-Negro unit, whose personnel felt that their reputation both as Americans and as Negroes depended on their performance under fire.

He joined the squadron in Sicily after leaving North Africa and took part in the sicilian and the Salerno campaign. At little later the 99th moved to the Italian mainland where it worked in close support of the British 8th army, diving and strafing just in advance of Gen. Montgomery's push up the Adriatic coastline to Termoli, Sangro river, Ortena and Pescars.

His combat experience over Europe came with a shift across Italy to the west coast where he flew in support of the American 5th army as it drove ahead across the Volturne river . After that they gave concentrated attention to the support of American troops in the Anzio beachhead operation. They expect to be kept in the Anzio beachhead operations, he said.

Praising the P-40s as "Wonderful ships," Capt. Toppins said that his first dogfight occurred over Anzio beachhead when a group of 20 nazis planes attacked the infantry.

11-24-44

Shot Down Eight

"We shot down at least eight the first day," he remarked, "and when they returned for more trouble the next day, we accounted for an additional seven."

He considers that first dogfight as "probably the greatest excitement during all the months that I was overseas." Above the Anzio beachhead, Capt. Toppins made his first Nazi kill and probably helped to send others to the ground.

After the capture of Florence the outfit was re-organized and Capt. Toppins joined the 332nd Fighter group and shifted from P-40's to P-51's. This group took up a new assignment of escort flying. They were traveling much greater distances in support of heavy bombers. This assignment took him over Germany, France, Yugoslavia, Austria and Bulgaria. Their job was to give the bombers the greatest possible measure of protection.

11-24-44

Long overdue for leave, Capt. Toppins is here with his mother, Mrs. Martha E. Davis and his sister, Mrs. Henriette Whitby, both prominent figures in civic, church an social life.

"I'm going to try mighty hard to stay in aviation and to continue flying," he said in regard to his post-war plans, "though that may be pretty difficult as there are many wartime aviators who feel just as I do about that."

While in the 99th, Capt. Toppins flew 121 sorties and 12 patrols before shifting to escort duty. He made nine flights.

Pilot Killed in Take-off

AFRO-American Balt. Md

Crash in Italy; 2 Missing

6-27-44

ADVANCED AIR BASE IN ITALY—(By Air Mail, Delayed)—Recent casualties among Tuskegee-trained fighter pilots on duty here have included 2nd Lt. Edgar L. Jones, 21, of NYC, killed in a take-off mishap on April 24, and two flyers reported missing after straffing and dive-bombing missions.

Lieutenant Jones, one of the five recent replacements for the fighter group doing coastal patrol work along the Western Italian coastline, was killed almost instantly when his plane collided with several others in a group of twelve leaving on an early morning strafing mission.

It was to have been his first combat mission, although he had made other flights on patrol duty. Blinding dust and a severe cross wind were blamed for the crash.

2 Fail to Return

The missing pilots are 1st Lt. James R. Polkinghorne, 22, a member of the P-39 squadron commanded by Capt. Lee Rayford, and 2nd Lt. Neal V. Wilson, 27, a recent replacement in the pioneer 99th Fighter Squadron.

Lieutenant Polkinghorne, from Pensacola, Fla., failed to return after a strafing mission on May 4. Deputy flight leader in his unit, he was last seen leaving the target area and apparently was shot down by enemy flak, though no definite indication of what happened to his plane has been established.

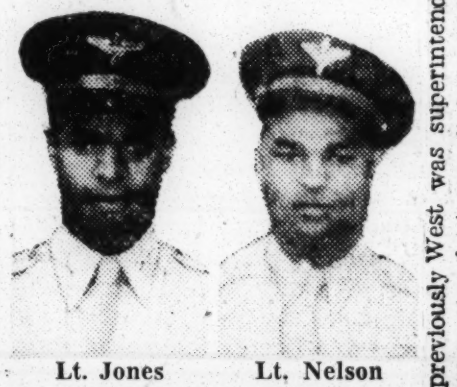
Polkinghorne, who lived with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James R. and Maggie R. Polkinghorne, of Pensacola, was a former Flori-

LT. JAMES R. POLKINGHORNE

da A. and M. student, and was graduated from aviation school at Tuskegee April 21, 1943. He came overseas in February and had been one of the most active patrol pilots in his unit.

Nelson Lost in Clouds

Lieutenant Nelson, a native of Amarillo, Tex., but more recently of Chicago, was flying his fifth mission on May 12 when he was



Lt. Jones Lt. Nelson

last seen pulling into formation after making his bomb run.

Visibility was poor, however, and pilots had to pick their way through clouds to reach the target area. This fact, coupled with heavy enemy flak, is reported to have created difficulty for the missing pilot, though when last seen he did not appear to be in trouble.

Missed Seeing Dad

Nelson completed aviation training at Tuskegee October 1, 1943, and later trained at Selfridge Field before joining the 99th here on April 10.

Ironically, he missed seeing his father, Capt. Lorenzo Nelson, of Chicago, a medical officer attached to an all-colored infantry unit which recently reached this theatre.

The two were within forty miles of each other, but had not met when the pilot was reported missing.

Col. West To Head Project In Liberia

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
10-13-44

WASHINGTON, D.C. — (CNPA) — Lieut. Colonel John [illegible] promoted from Major [illegible] assigned by the Army to head up [illegible] a health project in Liberia which [illegible] may last for five years, the CNPA has learned.

[illegible] trip to Africa. He previously was superintendent of Provi[illegible] in Liberia with the first [illegible] dent Hospital in Chicago. He was [illegible] third trip [illegible] d in command to Col. M. O. [illegible] served in [illegible] gent of American troops to [illegible] second in [illegible] contingent [illegible] on the Dark Continent, as [illegible] Bousfield at the station hospital [illegible] land on [illegible] of the medical detachment at Fort Huachuca before going [illegible] head of [illegible] to that, and before the war, [illegible] overseas to Liberia. [illegible] Prior to [illegible] s in Ethiopia for over a year [illegible] he was in [illegible] he assisted that country [illegible] where he [illegible] health program. He is an [illegible] authority on tropical diseases.

10-13-44

Before entering the Army, Col. West will be making his [illegible]

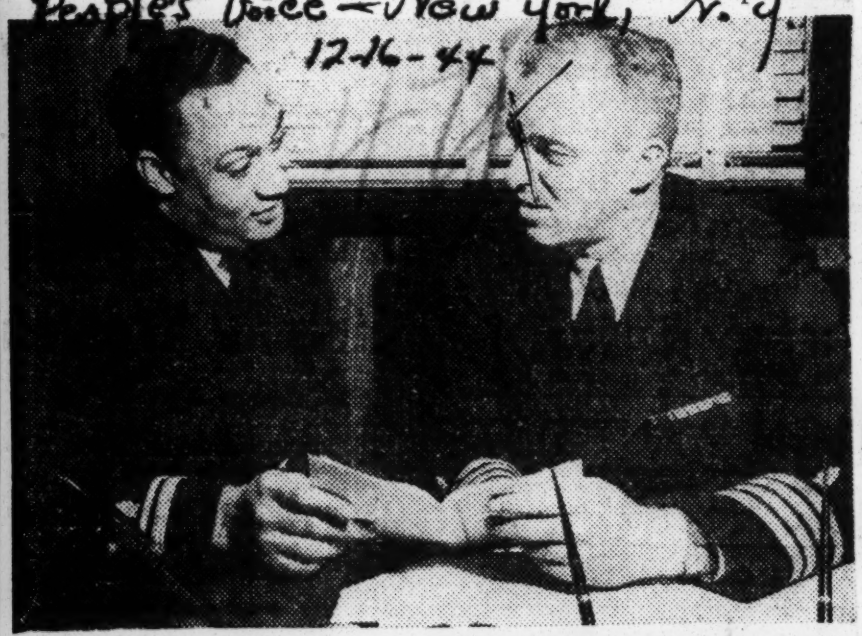
47k-1944

HI-YA Soldier!

12-16-44

PVT. EVERN EDWARDS writes to the column from Hamilton Field in California that one of the features in the post paper is a column written by a Negro—Pvt. Warrington Hudlin. He feels that this sort of thing shouldn't go unnoticed and we agree with him. So here's a pat on the back to the management of the *Takeoff* for its democratic attitude! . . . Pvt. Albert J. Jones and Cpl. Alfred Franklin, a couple of intrepid New Yorkers, who entered the service 22 months ago are still serving together although they're way down in the Southwest Pacific. . . . Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt, veteran of 70 missions with a terrific record of accomplishment

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.
12-16-44



ONE OF THE FIRST of the new Naval officers is Lieutenant (jg) Ivan George Hunton Fraser of Springfield, Mass. He was sworn into the Dental Corps November 21st and has recently reported to Great Lakes Training Station for duty as Dental Officer. In the foto above he receives instructions from Capt. Robert R. Irons, senior dental officer.

12-16-44

in the European theatre was personally welcomed home by the mayor of St. Louis on his return. Not only did he and his co-pilot sink an enemy destroyer but also shot down three planes and destroyed eight of them on the ground.

Speaking of guys sticking together what about four Chicagoans George Maxey, William Beckman, Robert F. White and John E. Bryant? They were inducted together; went to Ft. Sheridan; trained at Camp Plauche and Norfolk before going overseas and are now serving together somewhere in England. And now another achievement comes to them jointly: they have been made corporals . . . 1st Lieut. Edward McKinley Thomas of Chicago has been assigned to the position of flight leader in the all-Negro fighter group—the 15th AAF in Italy.

Three men with the Air Service Command in Italy have been recent recipients of the good conduct medal. They are Cpl. Thomas Spencer, State College, Miss.; Pfc. Garner P. Martin, Jackson, Ala., and Cpl. Robert G. Harris, Shreveport, La. . . . Nice goin' gents. . . . 2nd Lieut. Wendel W. Hockaday of Norfolk has been assigned to the P-51 Mustang fighter group in Italy. . . . Pvt. Manean Jordan of here is now a member of the combat support wing at an Air Force Service Command somewhere in England. . . . Leonidas F. Livisay who used to live on 138 st has won a promotion in Italy and it's now Captain Livisay, if you please! . . . A pair of New Yorkers, Pvt. Clifden O. Bunyan and Cpl. Curtis S. Banks helped honor Queen Mary of England recently during a musical program at an American Red Cross club. Bunyan played the violin and Banks served on Her Majesty's Guard of Honor.

See ya, soldier—Joe Bostic.

TWO NEW YORKERS serving with the 14th Service Command in the Southwest Pacific are shown above. On the left is Sgt. Willie Golfe of Harlem. Shown with him is Pfc Leonard B. Williams of New Rochelle.

12-16-44

Five 92nd Div. Sergeants Commissioned in Field

Afro-American-Baltimore Md.
11-25-44

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy
[Copyright, Reproduction in whole or in part expressly forbidden.]

WITH THE 92nd DIVISION IN ITALY (By Cable)—Recognition of their outstanding leadership during the fighting that spearheaded the unit's advance to its present position along the coastal sector of the Fifth Army front was given five sergeants of the infantry division November 16 as they received battlefield promotions to second lieutenants.

Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commanding general of the Fifth Army, pinned the gold bars on the collars of the combat doughfeet in a colorful ceremony beneath the noonday sun in the picturesque city of Montecattine, nestled below the Apennine Mountains, where the rugged soldiers are battling the Germans.

Recipients of the promotions were First Sgts. Gilbert Boothe, Forsythe, Ga.; Joseph E. Bray, Boston; T/Sgts. Frank Whisonant, 1418 W Street, Northwest, Washington; Joseph W. Fry, Homestead, Pa.; William F. Hicks, Cleveland.

Must Continue Tradition

General Clark extolled the men for their demonstration of natural ability as leaders on the battlefield, adding that from now on they would be marked men and expected to continue the high tradition that they have established.

The general also pointed out that the job of routing the enemy from the mountains was an unglamorous but important phase of the global war.

Likening their role to that of the football guard who goes unnoticed in press reports as running backs grab the glory, Clark said the Fifth Army was engaging over a score of the best enemy divisions in Italy—a fact that plays a big part in the over-all war picture.

He expressed complete satisfaction, emphasizing that the plan involves keeping the enemy here and destroying him.

All Groups Represented

All categories of the Fifth Army were represented in the mixed formation as three Brazilians and scores of American white soldiers and Wacs were also honored with decorations and promotions.

Pfc John S. Downer of Pittsburgh and 2nd Lt. Cunningham L. Bryant of Clifton, Va., the latter a members of an engineering unit supporting the 92nd, received bronze stars during the same ceremony.

Lieutenant Bryant was decorated for courageous leadership while completing the repair of a road near two blown bridges on the night of October 22, when his platoon was working in support of a white tank outfit.

Worked Through Heavy Fire

The first bridge by-pass was made without incident, but during the work on the second, the platoon was subjected to heavy enemy artillery fire.

Lieutenant Bryant refused to withdraw the platoon despite continual shelling and completed the task before dawn, enabling the tanks to proceed.

Downer, a member of a company commanded by Capt. Augustus Hamilton, evacuated a comrade wounded by enemy machine gun fire on September 12, braving German machine gun fire which pinned entire platoon down as it attempted to attack a hill crest.

Prayed and Cursed

Downer said, "When I first crossed the road to pull him back a small shell fragment hit me and I prayed. Then a potato masher tore my shirt off and I cussed, but somehow I got him to the ditch where the medics took over."

Whisonant, a former Dunbar High student and brother of S/Sgt. Lawrence Whisonant, a popular singer, received the Bronze Star last week for his heroic achievement September 4, when he assisted Lt. Mark Sullivan of Cleveland in the direction of artillery fire from an exposed position.

He has been an outstanding squad leader in the company commanded by Lt. Vernon Mitchell of Tuskegee. Whisonant's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Whisonant, resides in East Spencer, Pa.

Hicks and Bray, both members of a company led by Capt. Clarence Brown, 1722 Columbia Avenue, Philadelphia, were conspicuously outstanding throughout the terrific fighting by their regiment in early October.

Highway Under Constant Fire

The fighting took place on mountain ranges overlooking the highway of a one-way supply route along the coastal sector which Germans kept continuously under fire.

Twenty-one men were lost during one battle, but the two remained calm and cool and the promotions were a fitting tribute to their leadership.

Boothe, the youngest of the quintet promoted, is a member of the company commanded by Capt. Jesse Jarman, Indianapolis, whose unit distinguished itself during heavy fighting near Werravezza.

Fry, formerly a worker, says simply, "Things have been pretty rough."

Hampton Graduate

Captain Watson has flown 46 missions against the enemy and has accumulated over 100 combat flying hours to his credit.

Mrs. Mary B. Watson of 357 W. 121st Street, NYC.

Then someone tells to him about his accomplishments. All are typical of the men carrying the 92nd banner as they trudge through mud and mountains against the Germans on the Fifth Army front.

15th AAF IN ITALY — Capt. Dudley M. Watson, 25, of New York City, pilot of a bomber squadron mission decision and leadership which enabled his formation of a recent active in civilian aeronautics. The pilot is a graduate of Southern Hampton Institute, and received his master of arts degree from Columbia University. His wife is

Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The Flier was honored for has accumulated over 100 combat flying hours to his credit, having exhibited "extraordinary

New York Pilot Awarded DFC

11-25-44

Returns For Brief Rest

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 11-25-44

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the 332nd Fighter Group, which has written its name in glorious history in Italian skies, has returned to the United States for brief leave. Colonel Davis holds the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Silver Star for gallantry in action. His outfit uses the deadly P-47 Thunderbolts.—(Photo by Army Air Forces)

Flyers Sore When Jerries Refuse to Fight—Davis

afro American

Colonel Says Pilots Are Spoiling for a Battle; Lauds Art Carter; Visits Fliers' Kin

Baltimore Md.

WASHINGTON

Describing the lack of enemy fighter opposition and inactivity due to bad weather as serious threats to the morale of his men, Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., told AFRO reporters Thursday that members of the 332nd Fighter Group are literally spoiling for a fight. The colonel, who is the commanding officer of the 332nd now in Italy and who holds the Legion of Merit and the Distinguished Flying Cross, said that the colored flyers are turning in a record which will compare favorably with that of any other group of flyers.

Col. Davis

Air Force recognition of the calibre of their performance, he said, has been expressed concretely in the type of mission to which they have been assigned and in the type of planes with which they have been furnished.

Little Opposition

For the past several months the colored flyers have been using P-51 Mustangs to provide fighter cover for 15th Army Air Force bombers over their target areas.

"The Mustang," said Colonel Davis, "is the best military fighter plane in the world."

Commenting on the scarcity of enemy fighter opposition in the group's zone of operations, he said that there had been no encounters with enemy planes during September and only one in October, when one squadron downed nine planes.

During the month of July and August, he pointed out, the pilots, in many instances, flew daily missions. While this was tough on the men, he said, it was far better than the enforced idleness which has resulted from the bad weather of the past few months.

Visits Pilots' Families

Colonel Davis spent the better part of his brief stay in Washington visiting the parents and families of the men in his command.

"It's a funny thing," he added, "while the families might have received letters dated more than a week after I left, they still want to talk to someone who has actually seen their boys."

Praises Carter

In conclusion, the colonel paid a high tribute to Art Carter, AFROA-MERICAN war correspondent.

"He is a swell newsman, conscientious and not the least bit lazy, It is quite possible for a correspondent to hang around Rome and meet fellows who are returning from all over—but Carter goes right up to where things are happening, and the men appreciate it.

"A few more Carters and we'd have much better coverage."

Nashville Man Makes Good As Army Chaplain

Tenn.

12-1-44

Globe & Independent

Gil B. Lloyd Credited with Building Battle Morale of Men of 24th Infantry

Nashville, Tenn.

A well known young Nashville man, now a chaplain in the U. S. Army, played an important role in establishing the high morale of the members of the 24th Infantry Regiment which made history by their gallantry at Bougainville. This is disclosed in an interesting article which appeared in the November 10 issue of the "Fort Wood News," published at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri. The article deals with the services of Chaplain Gil B. Lloyd, a graduate of Fisk University and of Pearl High school, who volunteered and went into the Army as a chaplain back in 1941.

The young Nashvillian, a former superintendent of the Sunday school of First Baptist church, East Nashville, tells of the 24th Infantry, after long service in a quartermaster unit, being later put in a combat unit and having as their only fear, that of being unprepared spiritually and because of a lack of combat training to meet the enemy. But in a month the 1,900 men were steeled for their ordeal by the inspiring talks of Chaplain Lloyd.

12-1-44

After a month's training these men made history in establishing the Moravia beachhead. They made the Japanese death afraid of two things: the flame-thrower and American automatic weapons. The unit spent 40 days in the front line on Bougainville, absorbing everything the enemy could throw at them. Fourteen of the men were killed, Chaplain Lloyd revealed but the troops accounts for some 800 Japanese soldiers killed within a very small area, as a result of the Americans using automatic weapons.

Chaplain Lloyd is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Lloyd Sr., of 712 Howerston St., and a brother of Mrs. Christine Lloyd Westbrook, the director of Christian Education in Middle Tennessee for Baptists. Misses Willie Pearl Lloyd of Fisk and Lillie Bell Lloyd of Pearl High school are also sisters of the Chaplain, who has other sisters and brothers. A victim of recurring malaria from his services overseas, Chaplain Lloyd was brought home last August, and after confinement in a hospital he was assigned to Fort Leonard Wood to help train troops for the war fronts.

Baltimore Medic on Job Near Front

afro-american

11-25-44

Capt. George Phillips Heads Unit in France ON 24-HOUR SCHEDULE

Baltimore Md.

Half of Patients Are White; Some Civilians

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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WITH THE THIRD ARMY IN FRANCE (By Cable) — Capt. George E. Phillips, of 1902 McCulloh Street, Baltimore, Md., is a battalion surgeon up near the front and is one of the busiest men in this Third Army Sector.

A Howard University graduate, former resident surgeon at Provident Hospital and practicing physician in Baltimore, Dr. Phillips and his staff furnish medical aid to seven units. At one time twenty-three outfits sent their sick to his dispensary.

I met him while he was inspecting burns on the arm of Pvt. George Wright, truck driver from St. Louis, Mo.

Half of Patients White

After turning the patient over to two of his staff who immediately began peeling burned flesh from his arm as though it were an onion, Phillips sat down near where I was endeavoring to scrape mud from my shoes and leggings.

"We take care of twice as many companies as we are supposed to," he said wearily. "We operate twenty-four hours a day treating road accidents, the sick, and even French civilians.

"Half of our patients are white and they never object to my staff treating them. We use lots of penicillin for various ailments and my battalion has the lowest venereal disease rate in the area."

N.Y., Jersey Warrant Officers

While we talked, the burned man was bandaged efficiently and left. A white soldier with a cut over his eyes took his place and Phillips went over to examine the newcomer.

While he gave instructions for treatment, two battalion warrant officers, Robert E. Moore, NYC, and William H. Watkins, Orange, N.J. came over to talk with me.

Said Moore: "All men in the battalion swear by Doc Phillips. He has no relief and never complains about long hours, bad weather, or anything."

Staff from N.C., Va., N.Y.

The staff aiding Phillips includes S-Sgt. Melvin George, Sebring, Fla.; Sgt. Paul Carter, Alexandria, Va.; Sgt. Benjamin Royal, Clinton, N.C.; Cpl. Douglas Shepard, NYC; Cpl. Cecil Austin, East Beckeley, W.Va.; Pfc. Samuel Hairston, North Tazewells, Va., and Pvt. Frank Hinton, Brooklyn.

Most of the nine months Phillips has been overseas he has operated in a tent but when I saw him he had set up in a barn by the roadside. In the rear of the building are the remains of a brick wall where a soldier exploded a mine recently, but fortunately nobody was killed in the dispensary.

Phillips, who is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, is as important to the war effort as any man who faces the enemy in hand-to-hand combat.

47k-1944

LAUDS GUERILLA'S EXPLOITS

American Negro With Filipino Band Is Extraordinary Leader

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(NNPA U. S. War Correspondent)
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LEYTE BEACH, PHILIPPINES.—By Courier—On Samar Island, northeast of Leyte, fighting with the fierceness of an enraged animal is Capt. Frank Merith, American Negro and leader of a Filipino guerrilla band . Capt. Merith is one of the big stories of the war. His deeds and those of his ragged men have spread among American troops like wild fire.

7-1-44

Exact whereabouts of the giant Negro is still secret military information, but this correspondent is pushing off in search of him. It is a search well worthwhile, because what Livingston meant to the natives of Africa, surely Merith means the same to the people of the Southern Philippines. And as the news of Livingston spread around the world, so should the deeds of this Negro be made known.

The guerrillas on Samar continue to fight the enemy. Armed with bolos, knives, even sticks—these natives, many clad in rags, ferociously defend the homeland. Tales of superhuman courage and endurance have reached us here.

For instance, the total population of the important town of Basey and surrounding villages numbered 30,000 before enemy occupation. When the enemy arrived most of these people fled to the hills. There they fought the enemy for over a year.

While women and children foraged for food—fruits, coconuts, and edible pith which grows in the heart of coconut trees—all able-bodied men fought. It has been a hard fight, and continues to be. The guerrillas are lacking in modern equipment.

Maximum Ruthlessness

Few rifles were taken from the Japs. And American planes dropped some ammunition. American submarines smuggled equipment in. However, because of the intenseness of the operations, all has been too little.

The enemy reached a maximum of ruthlessness on Samar. The town was stripped bare of its meager resources.

Perhaps the heaviest penalty of all was that the Japs took away the food. The population suffered miserably from malnutrition. Only since American troops entered have food and medical supplies begun to pour in. Five doctors and one dentist are presently at work patching up the ills of the populace. Sores, blisters, malarial cases, pneumonia—these are only a few of the items which harass the population.

Chosen Leader

Captain Merith, it was told the writer, was chosen as one of the leaders. Under the Negro and others, their valor reaches daily new heights.

7-1-44

The story goes that Capt. Merith has been in the Philippines for many years, making his home on Samar. He married a native woman and owned property. The enemy caught him as well as the others. The Negro was attached to General MacArthur's command.

"He's A Good Man"

Every three out of five Filipinos questioned on Leyte knows or knows of Captain Merith. And many have said, "Ah, he is good man—our friend. And he is very good fighter too."

Capt. Merith is the story. He is worth walking a continent to find. Every attempt will be made to find him.

LOST ALL HUMAN FLAVOR; MEN FIGHT LIKE SAVAGES

ORMOC SECTOR, Philippines (By Courier)--The first trip to the front revealed many things. First, and most important, fighting is so intense that the struggle has lost all human flavor, men fight like savages. Perhaps never in the history of war have men fought such personal battles—for self preservation.

7-1-44

Leaving the 24th Division headquarters, Boyd Strutler, American Legion magazine correspondent, and this writer started walking to the battle area. Strutler was looking for men whose fathers had fought in the last war. Your correspondent was in search of the lone Negro member of the all-white division.

The Rain Threatened

It was a dull, grayish morning. Super clouds hung low. Rain threatened. The otherwise quietness was punctured by continuous artillery fire. Natives worked the rice fields. Children scampered along the road. As American vehicles rumbled by, little Filipinos held up two fingers—the V for victory sign.

Strutler and I thumbed a ration truck loaded down with fresh bread. The long convoy of vehicles moved at snail's pace. Two bridges had been washed out by swollen streams following a typhoon which swept down the previous day. All traffic was halted temporarily.

Semi-Naked Women

In the streams semi-naked women washed clothes while naked women bathed. Two water buffaloes wallowed near.

We waded across hoping to catch a ride on the other side. Troops, many troops pushed forward. Grim, wet, nasty. On the other side we hopped an ammunition truck. We were told it would take us within 500 yards of the first line.

Sitting on crates of ammunition, we were advised to don helmets as the road was infested with snipers. Strutler, one of the oldest correspondents overseas, crouched low and pulled his helmet down over a dilapidated baseball cap. Having a high priority, the truck sped along the trail.

7-1-44

Jungle Foliage

About two miles down the road we stopped seeing troops. Ahead the crooked trail hooked and turned like an oversize constrictor. Each side was flanked by jungle foliage. To the west we could see the bay. There were no ships, only small native skiffs. Several burned trucks were overturned beside the road. All was quiet save the artillery.

Before we reached the ammo dump we stopped alongside two stalled amphtracks.

"How is it up there?" Strutler yelled out.

"It ain't no picnic, bud," a greasy driver answered.

7-1-44

An Enhanced Odor

Leaving the truck we started walking, missing some puddles, feet sinking in others. After leaving the amphtracks we walked about 200 yards. Started seeing Jap decayed bodies scattered in the bushes. The smell was worse than any garbage dump I know. The sun coming out enhanced the odor.

Several light calibre rifle shots were fired. We started running. Whether they were meant for us we did not remain to find out.

Further up the road a piece we ran into three soldiers leaning against a huge rock.

"Where you guys going?" said a guy with an M-1 carelessly flung over his shoulder.

We told him we had been told that the command post of an infantry unit was in the vicinity.

"Off the Beam"

"Hell, you're way off the beam," he said. "You are almost up to the far observation post."

Butterflies started playing soccer in my stomach. I don't know how Strutler felt but I favored an immediate withdrawal.

"See those two guys up there on the road?" he continued, pointing to a couple of dead fellers. "Well, walk up there and you can get your head blown off."

7-1-44

We were in the middle of sniper ground without knowing it. Machine guns were periodically reporting, and rifle fire quite discernable.

Scared Stiff

I don't mind admitting that I was scared stiff. We too leaned up against the rock and fired up a cigarette. A closer look revealed death, dead Japs all around. All kinds of Jap equipment were near the two bodies "up the road apiece."

Stutler was in favor of getting out as soon as we recaptured our breath. We started back down the road. After leaving the soldiers, the two-hundred-yard trip back seemed like a mile. Neither of us said anything, but trotted along in silence—studying the hills as we trotted.

When we did reach "civilization" they were putting a soldier atop the motor of a jeep. Half of his head had been carried away by a shell burst.

"Hell of a Fight"

Near the command post we met Maj. Gen. F. A. Irving, division commander. The general without hesitation admitted it was going to be "one hell of a long, hard fight."

It is tough because further up there are no trails. Men have to carry their own supplies, foodstuffs, ammunition, and whatever else is needed. And another thing, jungles are so thick one can walk within two hundred yards of an enemy installation without seeing it. Several litters have been fired on. The Japs wait until we go for the wounded, then attempt to pick off the litter bearers.

We didn't find the parties we were seeking.

2 Missing Pilots Get Back Safely

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By ART CARTER
AERO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

12-16-44

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ALLIED HQ. IN ITALY.—Lts. Robert C. Chandler, Allegan, Mich., and Shelby F. Westbrook, Toledo, Ohio, 99th Fighter Squadron pilots who were shot down during a mission to Yugoslavia in October, have returned to their base, safe and sound.

They had spent thirty days in Yugoslavia, where they made forced landings following flak hits on their P-51 Mustangs.

Both were replacement pilots with the 332nd Fighter Group's pioneer squadron and had received the Air Medal and promotion from second lieutenant a few days before the ill-fated mis-

Harlem Flyer Distinguishes Himself; Cited

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

11-25-44

15th AAF IN ITALY — Captain Dudley M. Watson, 25, husband of Mrs. Mary B. Watson of 357 W. 121st St., New York City, New York, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for "Extraordinary achievement in aerial flight."

Members of the All-Negro Fighter Group commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., Captain Watson is pilot and Squadron Assistant Operations Officer. The Group, with which Capt. Watson is flying, is actively engaged in long range escort for 15th Air Force heavy bombers and also participates in strafing attacks against enemy installations. It was while on a strafing mission against a vital enemy position in Southern France that Capt. Watson exhibited extraordinary decision and leadership in the performance of his assigned task, enabling his formation to successfully strafe and severely damage their targets, in spite of intense enemy fire. For this particular achievement, Capt. Watson was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

11-25-44

Capt. Watson has flown 46 missions against the enemy and has accumulated over 100 combat flying hours to his credit. Prior to his entry into the Armed Forces, Capt. Watson taught school and was active in Civilian Aeronautics. He holds the Bachelor of Science Degree from Hampton Institute, Virginia, and the Master of Arts Degree from Columbia University, New York.

Officer of the 93d a hero in skirmish with Japanese

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif.

11-13-44

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — Elements of the 93rd Division were engaged in surrounding and destroying an enemy force which had pinned down friendly troops of another unit on an undisclosed island in the South Pacific. The Japanese were dug in on and the forward slope of a hill, around the base of which ran a stream.

The CO ordered 1st Lt. Harry C. Robinson of Harrisburg, Pa., to organize a patrol consisting of one other officer, five enlisted men, and three news photographers, and assigned him the mission of securing information. It was a particularly dangerous mission, for in crossing the stream the patrol was vulnerable to enemy fire.

Robinson's patrol, crouching low, zig-zagged its way across the stream. Reaching the bank, it deployed and "went to work" on the remaining pillboxes which now were beginning to come to life. Just as Robinson and his assistant patrol leader were infiltrating into the position, a Japanese officer rose from his pillbox and took careful aim at the latter.

On the alert, Robinson grasped the situation, yelled to his assistant to take cover, while he opened fire with his carbine. The Japanese officer was killed.

11-13-44

Having killed about 21 enemy without losing a man, the patrol completed its mission and returned to headquarters.

Lt. Robinson is a former student of Lincoln University of Pa. and South Carolina State, where he was an outstanding athlete.

America's Contribution

12-16-44

Birmingham — Weekly Review Ala.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. —(PPNS) — A firm hand clasp and broad friendly smiles of understanding mark the meeting of Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., and Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of Tuskegee Institute. The two noted figures represents the strength of America that has put the evil forces of aggression on the run; the man on the fighting front who holds the enemy at bay, and the man on the home front fighting to preserve the principles of democracy that is the birthright of man, regardless of race, creed or color. Col. Daivs on furlough from his station in Italy spent a week at Tuskegee Institute just before returning to his post, commanding the 332 Fighter Group composed of the 99th, 100th, 301st and the 302 Squadrons.

PILOTS EARN PROMOTIONS

Courier — Pittsburgh, 12-9-44 Pa.

AT AN ADVANCED FIGHTER BASE, Italy—The announcement of several promotions in rank made to members of Col. B. O. Davis' all-Negro fighter group was made recently. Among those listed were:

To Captain—Arnold W. Cisco, Alton, Ill.; Ulysses S. Taylor, Kaufman, Texas (squadron engineering officer); Albert H. Manning, Jr., Spartanburg, N. C.; Harold E. "Buzz" Sawyer, Columbus, Ohio; Lawrence E. Dickson, New York City; Leonard M. Jackson, Fort Worth, Texas; Dudley W. Stevenson, Washington, D. C. (group communications officer).

To First Lieutenant—Alphonso Simmons, Jacksonville, Fla.; Emile G. Clifton, San Francisco, Calif.

Norfolk Journal

Gen. Davis Assigned To European Area

12-9-44 Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis has been permanently assigned to the staff of the inspector-general in the European Theatre of Operations. Gen. Davis has been in the theatre since July. At that time he accompanied Carlton Moss, playwright, and Maj. Homer Roberts of the press branch, during the shooting of films for a follow-up to "The Negro Soldier."

A War Department source here pointed out last week that there are now more Negro soldiers overseas than are in the continental United States.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ST. LOUIS PAYS HONOR TO NEGRO FIGHTER PILOT

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 12 (AP).—This was Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt day in St. Louis. 12-13-44

Special ceremonies were held at the city hall, where the young Negro fighter pilot received a watch.

Capt. Pruitt, 24, was sent to Italy with an all-Negro fighter squadron nine and one-half months ago. He flew 70 missions in his P-51 Mustang without injury, shot down three enemy planes, accounted for eight more on the ground, helped sink a German destroyer, and won the distinguished service cross and the air medal with four oak leaf clusters. He returned home last month on 21 day leave.

The son of Mrs. Melaie C. Pruitt of St. Louis, the flyer attended Lincoln university at Jefferson City, Mo. After the war he plans to marry Miss Alice Charleton of Detroit.

St. Louis Honors Negro Air Hero

Times-Picayune New Orleans — La.

(The Associated Press)

St. Louis, Dec. 12.—This was Captain Wendell O. Pruitt Day in St. Louis. 12-13-44

Special ceremonies were held at the city hall, at which the young Negro fighter pilot was presented a watch. A scheduled military parade in his honor was called off at the last moment because of cold weather.

The 24-year-old aviator was sent to Italy with an all-Negro fighter squadron 9½ months ago. He flew 70 missions in his P-51 Mustang without injury, shot down three enemy planes, accounted for eight more on the ground, helped sink a German destroyer, and won the Distinguished Service Cross and the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters. He returned home last month on 21-day leave.

In setting aside this day for Pruitt, Mayor A. P. Kaufman said, "You have done your best. You are typical of the fine young Negro men from St. Louis and all parts of the country who have gone to war."

Col. Ben Davis, Jr. In States, But Not On Army Business

Illinois Chicago Defender,

(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK.—Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332d Fighter Group based in Italy, is in the states for 30 days, but not on official business, he emphasized this week. 11-25-44

The young leader of the four-squadron 332d Group, who wears the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Legion of Merit, will spend most of his 30-day leave at his wife's home here. Col. Davis will probably stop over in Washington on his way to Tuskegee, no doubt reporting to War Department officials and holding press conferences there.

relax for 10 days, returning to New York around Dec. 7 when he will await transportation back to his base in Italy. Temporarily commanding the 332d is Major George Spencer Roberts, who will relinquish his post upon Davis' return.

EISENHOWER PRAISED BY SERGEANT FOR IS FAIRNESS AND DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT

Savannah Tribune

by Harry McAlpin

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—A (personal letter from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force, to a lowly staff sergeant of a Negro engineer general service regiment, in which the general acknowledged and agreed with the sergt's protest of derogatory remarks about Negroes in an article appearing in an edition of Stars and Stripes, servicemen's paper, has come to the attention of the NNPA. 11-30-44

The article appeared in the column called "The B Bag" of the Stars and Stripes. In this column, GI's are given an opportunity to express their opinions on any subject. One sign-Inf." wrote the following:

"Our outfit is composed of boys from North and South. We have often fought the Civil War over and over again in friendly arguments, but on one point we are agreed. The Negro soldier in this war is getting more credit than he deserves.

"He is, in the majority of cases, a rear-eschelon cowboy who never saw the front lines. We have been on the front line since shortly after D-day. Never have we seen a colored soldier on the front lines. 11-30-44

"We the fighting doughboys, Even the medics get their share Evn the medics gt their share of credit. It makes us mad to see a bunch of rear-eschelon cowboys grabbing credit where they have done nothing to deserve it."

Staff Sgt. George Woods, Jr. attached to an Engineer Regiment, took exception to the piece and wrote a letter to Gen. Eisenhower. After commending the general on his success in coordinating the allied force into one gigantic fighting machine to crush the Nazi military forces he cited the last two sentences of an official letter on the "Treatment of Negro Troops," which read: "The spreading of derogatory statements concerning the character of any group of United States troops, either white or colored, must be considered as conduct prejudicial to good order and militarydiscipline and offenders must be promptly punished. In the interest of military efficiency, if for no other reason, isolated incidents of friction must be eliminated." 11-30-44

Sgt. Woods then told the General that the article referred to was detrimental to the morale of a group of fighters "who are putting forth every effort in their power to play their part as good soldiers where they are assigned to perform their duty, regardless of whether it be on the front lines or in the "rear-eschelons." 11-30-44

Woods said such statements as those of the sergeant who wrote to Stars and Stripes have been the prime motives of recent race riots in America. "It is my sincere hope that our full military strength may be continued directed against the German forces, rather than stop at this point of success and debate on the issue "which race is playing the more important part in this war." he told the General.

Concluding his letter, he told the General "you have my sincere prayers and best wishes that God will enable you to successfully accomplish the task that has been entrusted to you by the people of the United States and the other allied nations. Remember that we are behind you 100 per cent."

In reply, nine days later, the General wrote the sergeant, saying, "Thank you very much for your letter of the 14th. I agree with you that the publication of statements that are derogatory to the accomplishments in this war of any American group or race is harmful to the war effort. I also agree that it isently was written in disregard the duty of the good soldier toof these principles." perform well whatever task may Commenting on the General's be given him, in the front lineletter, Sgt. Woods declared that or in the rear area. much attention to a noncom- the people of America should missioned officer of a Negro Enmissioned of gineer General Service Regi- Theatre of Operation, ment as he does to the members General Dwight D. Eisenhower, of his staff in certain respects." military officer who pays as

47k-1944

Says Negro Officers 'Glorified Corporals'

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-6-44

FT. BENNING, Ga. — (ANP) — The evident intention of the army to hold Negro promotions down to the minimum has rarely been shown in clearer perspective than one sees it here at Fort Benning. This is not the only post where the commander has called his Negro officers in and told them that if they were to stay on that post, they would have to be content with first lieutenancies. Here is the story which ANP has been hearing about for a long time but the details of which have just come to light. It is about a group which calls itself, "The Legion of Glorified Corporals."

A year ago Dec. 10 there was started a regiment at Fort Benning which was ironically called the proving ground for Negro officers. It is time now that the nation should know what has been proven.

ALL WHITE NAMED 1-6-44

"In December, 1942, an enthusiastic group of young Negro quartermaster officers met at the temporary headquarters of the provisional truck regiment. Their conversation consisted mostly of speculating, speculating whether they would be commanding car companies, truck companies or van companies. As they waited to be regimental commander, a group of white second lieutenants fresh out of officer candidate school (we had been out of school for three to six months) entered and the rumor was started that these were the company commanders. But how could that be? After all this was the proving ground for Negro officers. Well, the meeting was called to order. The company commanders were appointed—all white except one. This fortunate one was called a company coordinator, not commander. All the adjutants (3) were white, all supply officers were colored (5).

"Well, needles to say, the colored officers began to wonder just what this regiment was supposed to prove.

"In January of 1943 the table of distribution came out labeling the range each position would carry. Company commanders, captains; all other company officers (who happened to be colored) lieutenants: Regt. supply officers, major, battalion supply officers, captains. Now we knew at least there would be a few Negro captains so once again our hopes ascended. Then started the period of surprises. First, all white officers from the rank of second lieutenant to lieutenant colonel were promoted. Colored officers were told they didn't have enough BACKGROUND yet they had all had experience as enlisted men and officers in truck regiments, whereas none of the whites had, and mind you they were fresh out of CCS. 1-6-44

ASK TRANSFERS

"After this the guinea pigs of the proving ground practically all applied for transfers. No transfers were allowed but a limited few were promoted to first lieutenants. Then in March came the blow that left all concerned groggy. The commanding officer called all colored officers to a meeting and politely informed them that no Negroes on this post would be tolerated above the rank of lieutenant. Shortly afterwards the ranking Negro officer of the post, a Major Cooper, was transferred out. Major Cooper went to A. and T. college at Greensboro, N. C., where the government maintains an all-Negro army specialized training program. There his time did not irk. Two months later all battalion supply officers and adjutants were changed. We now had white supply officers and colored adjutants. 1-6-44

"Of course the fact that the job of supply officer called for a captain had nothing to do with the change.

"Now in this regiment which was to give Negroes a chance to prove they were of officer caliber, only three out of 38 remained in positions requiring a promotion of those, two were first lieutenants when some of the present white captains were still in OCS.

COLOR DETERMINANT

"So that the reader will understand exactly what the proving ground has proven I enumerate as follows:

"1. To the regret of all whites concerned that Negro soldiers prefer Negro officers.

"2. That white officers do not regard Negroes as their equal.

"3. That as long as a Negro is black his color, not his ability, will determine his status as an officer in this regiment and this post.

"4. That colored officers are and will continue to be only glorified corporals.

"Fortunately not everything at Ft. Benning is bad. A new post commander has recently come upon the scene. He has shown himself to be a soldier, fair and as square as an officer can be in these environs. He has challenged the police force and officials of the town of Columbus, Ga., nearby, where Negro officers have been arrested on slight pretext and where federal and army laws were disdained by local justices of peace and sundry police officials, by threatening to declare the city off bounds for all soldiers in Ft. Benning unless all soldiers were treated decently. 1-6-44

"That threat bore immediate fruit. Columbus, like the leech which thrives on the blood of its victim, would shrivel and die if the hundreds of thousands of dollars which soldiers spend monthly were diverted from its tills. The result is that police are more civil and soldiers find life tolerable within the borders of Columbus for the moment."

Becomes Major

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

9-11-44

The promotion to major of Captain Roy F. Morse, commanding officer of Squadron C at McChord Field, Washington, has been announced by the War Department. Field, Major Morse was director of the ground school and secretary of the Tuskegee Army Air Field Advanced Flying School. He is a former deputy collector for the U. S. Treasury Department and makes his home at 2293 7th Avenue, New York City. (Photo by Army Air Forces.)

READY TO PREACH GOSPEL TO SOLDIERS

27 Race Chaplains Graduate From Harvard

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa. 1-8-44

By PAUL DANIEL DAVIS

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — (ANP)

Twenty-seven of the 260 men of the 19th class of the U.S. Army Chaplains school, Harvard university, to graduate on last Tuesday were Negroes. The formal graduation ceremony was held in Sanders theatre with Chaplain Max A.

the director will be their first taste of real army life for most of them were civilian clergymen just six weeks ago.

Since the chaplain school was moved to Harvard in August, 1942, approximately 265 colored Among the 27 graduates were 12 Baptists, two Presbyterians, and one of the Church of God. Their names, place of training, offering the invocation and denominations are as follows:

NEW CHAPLAINS 1-8-44

Rock Hill, S.C., Methodist; William Peak, Kimball, W. Va., (West Virginia), Colvin, Gadsdon, Ala., CME; Rufus A. Cooper, Oakland, Calif., AME Zion; Leo R. C. Pinn, Pittsburgh, Pa., (Washington, D.C.), Baptist; James Pogue, Anderson, S.C. (Pennsylvania) AME Zion; Robert Crawford, Jr., Nashville (South Carolina), Presbyterian; William A. Scott, Kansas City, Mo. (Missouri), Baptist; Albert L. Dunston, Jr., Smith, Louisville, (New York) Presbyterian; James F. W. Stewart, Amherst, Mass., (Virginia) AME Zion; Melvin C. Swann, Coffeyville, Kas., (Maryland), Methodist; Marion P. Swisher, Flagstaff, Ariz., Los Angeles AME; Rufus L. Hill, (Arizona), Baptist; William T. Watts, (New York) Baptist; Palestine, Tex. (Texas), Baptist; Arthur (Massachusetts), Williams, Columbus, Ohio (Virginia) Jones, Still- Methodist. These ministers, members of Baptist; Wil- (Georgia) the 19th class of the Chaplains' Tampa school at Harvard university, Sanford, N. Cambridge, Mass., were gradu-

ased recently.

First row, left to right, William Jones, Clifton Morgan, Robert Crawford, E. W. Gantt, William Penn, King D. S. Pogue, Robert L. Scott and William J. Colvin.

Second row, left to right, J. W. E. Stewart, Charles W. Blalock, A. D. Williams, Melvin C. Swann, C. C. Blake, R. L. Hill, L. A. Cousins, W. T. Watts and J. J. Jenkins.

Third row, left to right, William Conyers, L. Z. Eichelberger, M. P. Swisher, R. A. Cooper, C. G. Gaithers, R. S. Jones, A. G. Dunston and S. N. Peak.

Chaplain L. D. Bennett was absent at the ttime picture was

Two Promoted To Major In 93rd Infantry

Tribune—Philadelphia Pa.

11-11-44

WITH THE 93rd INFANTRY DIVISION In The Southwest Pacific Area—Captain Richard E. Evers, of Itasca, Texas, and Captain Harry C. Fields, Jr., of Springfale, Ark. ansas, have been promoted to major, it was announced in the 93rd Infantry Division.

The announcement said that Major Ever's promotion was the result of meritorious service in operations against the enemy. Major Fields is plans training officer of his unit.

Second Lieutenant LeRoy A. Brown, of 1556 Mill street, Augusta, Georgia, was promoted to first lieutenant, while Fir-

fred A. Hembry, of Lewisville, Texas, was appointed warrant ofiicer (junior grade) in the field of ordnance supply

scienee and commanding officer, signal school, ASTP-STAR A and r. College, Greensboro, N. C.

A native of Boston, he attended school at a private academy, Panama City, Republic of Panama, and is also a graduate in naval architecture at Massachussetts Institute of Technology.

Before his call to active duty, Capt. Gibbs was employed for three years as senior engineer computer for the Massechusetts Goodetic survey. He also was assistant ordnance inspector, Boston Ordnance district and preformed duties as junior naval architect, Boston Navy yard, and was a private (land) surveyor.

He was promoted to first lieutenant May 19, 1942, and received his present rank in October, 1943.

assigned to the 276th Quartermaster Battalion at Camp John T. Knight, Oakland, Calif.

Metcalfe Now Army Lieutentant

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

7-29-44

NEW ORLEANS, — (ANP) — Ralph Metcalfe famous sprinter who ran for Uncle Sam in both the 1932 and 1936 Olympics, is is now a lieutenant. He has just been commissioned after graduation from the army officers transportation base here.

After starring in Tilden Tech high school in Chicago and at Marquette university, Milwaukee, in addition to his Olympic running. Metcalf coached five years at Xavier university here before obtaining a leave of absence to serve with the Catholic Servicemen's organization prior to his induction into the army in Los Angeles.

Bousefield Now Full Colonel

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-11-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The promotion of four Negro officers in the Medical corps at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., was announced by the War Department. All four are assigned to Station Hospital No. 1.

Lt. Col. Midian O. Bousfield, commanding officer of Station Hospital No. 1, was promoted to the rank of colonel.

The other three officers who were promoted to lieutenant colonels are: Majors DeHaven Hinkson of Philadelphia, Pa., executive officer of the hospital; Roscoe C. Giles of Chicago, Ill., chief surgical service, and Harold W. Thatcher of Kansas City, chief of medical service. 3-11-44

Two other promotions announced by the War Department are those of First Lieutenants George Harvey Wright of Seattle, Wash., and Nathaniel Courtenay Harden of Prairie View, Texas. Both officers were elevated to captains, and are

Camp Lee Chaplain Promoted To Captain

6-20-44

CAMP LEE, Va.—Chaplain David L. Brewer of the Eleventh ASF Training Regiment here was recently promoted to the rank of captain.

The promotion came while he was on leave in West Palm Beach, Fla., visiting his wife, Mrs. Anne H. Brewer, a school teacher, who will spend the rest of the summer here.

Colonel Commands Mixed Officer & Unit

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND—(ANP) — Following are random notes about the doings and thinking of a colored lieutenant colonel now serving in England. 7-20-44

The facts and quotes are accurate but his name must be deleted.

He commanded a combat outfit trained to the minute. Two years ago that outfit was broken up. Then he was put in charge of training a new mechanical combat unit. This year those men were detached in cadres and sent with raw troops in engineering and service groups. The colonel more or less marked time.

SENT ABROAD

Suddenly however he was sent abroad. He ended up in command of a quartermaster outfit. His experiences were numerous and varied. He got in not long before invasion and the outfit worked very head off handling supplies. The soldiers in the unit and the non-commissioned officers were colored but the commissioned officers were white principally white. All of the officers are junior to him. Nevertheless he got along fine and ports that some of the best loyal workers he has ters and most had have been junior officers from the deep south.

There are several matters I have given a lot of thought to, he says that some of the races may run to the ludicrous unless the brakes are put on time.

"Many of our problems must be solved by us. We may find others

"The Red Cross generally is doing an enormous job. However the idea of the necessity for the separation of the races must be given a lot of thought to, he says when things begin to go haywire.

First Colored Station Complement Commanding Officer At Fla. ASFTC

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

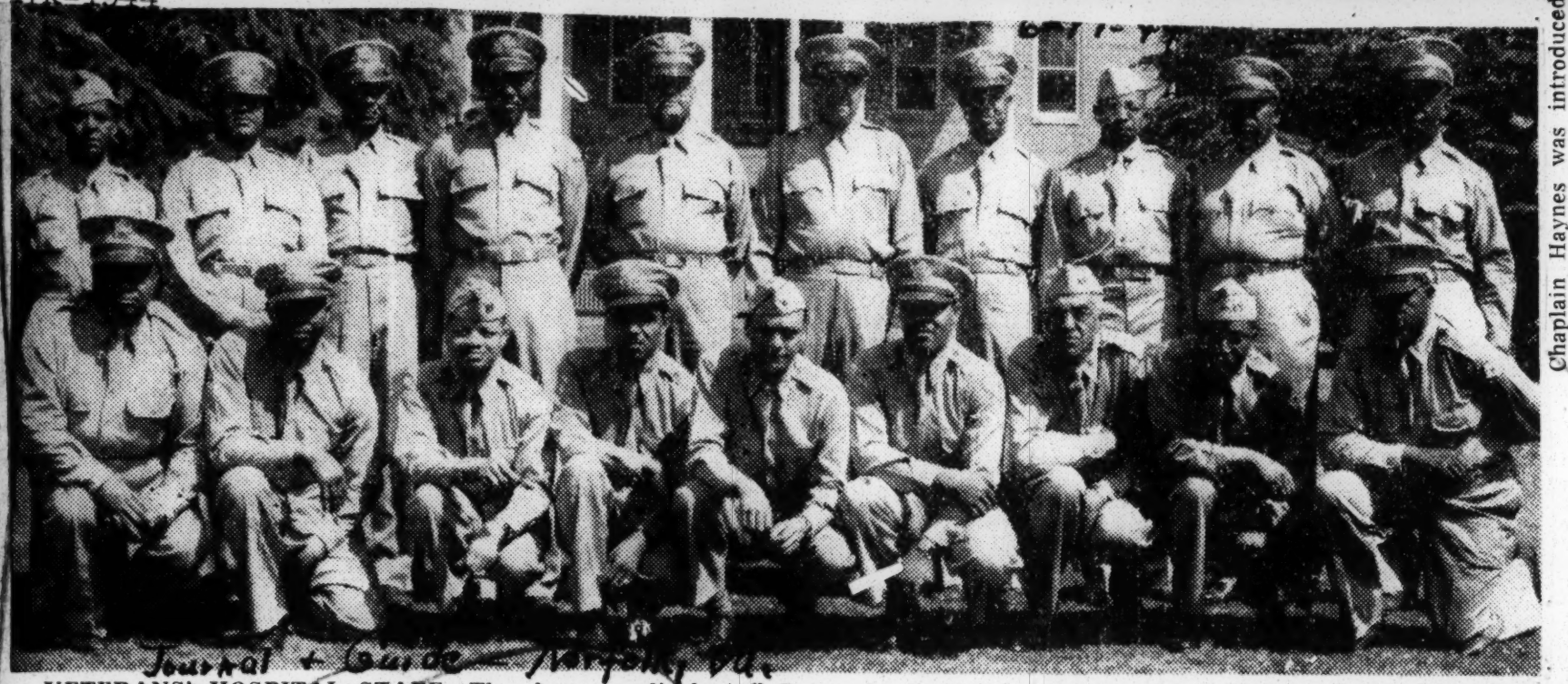
By S-Sgt. Clark R. Coleman

CAMP GORDON JOHNSON, Fla.—(ANP)—Capt. James B. Gibbs, appointed commanding officer of headquarters detachment, headquarters section No. Two is the first colored officer to head a station complement unit in the history of the army service forces training center

A graduate of Northeastern university in civil engeering, he received his commission as second lieutenant upon completion of ROTC there. He was appointed a reserve officer in November, 1938, and called to active duty in February, 1942, at Camp Lee, Va. 6-20-44

Assignments befre his transfer here included, supervisor of motor training at Hampton institute, Va., officers course in morter maintenance, (holabird) Baltimore; motor transportation officer, Ft. McClellan, Ala, assistant professor in military

47k-1944



VETERANS' HOSPITAL STAFF—The Army medical staff at the Veterans' Hospital, Tuskegee, Ala., who was recently commissioned by the War Department for duty with the Medical Corps of the Army of the United States posed for this group picture with Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr., of the Inspector General's Department, Washington, D. C. Shown from left to right: (kneeling) Captains Robert L. Allen, Danville, Va.; J. W. Williams, Lightfoot, Va.; Gordon C. Looney, Springfield, Mo.; Leon A. Dickson, Portland, Ore.; 1st Lt. Junius L. Taylor, Detroit, Mich.; Major Horace G. Dwiggins, Kansas City, Kans.; Captain Peter J. Carter, Franktown, Va.; Captain Peter Richardson, Charleston, S. C.; and Captain W. E. Lewis, Charleston, West Va.

Left to right: (standing) Major Harvey F. Davis, Chase City, Va.; Major Alan P. Smith, Kansas City Mo.; Major S. O. Johnson, McIntosh, Ga.; Lt. Col. George C. Branch, Oxford, N. C.; Gen. Davis, Col. Eugene Dimble Jr., commanding officer of the hospital; Lt. Col. T. T. Tilden, Tuskegee, Ala.; Major Charles N. Pitts, Macon, Ga.; Major J. J. Peters, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; and Major Prince B. Barker of New York City. (Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command)

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.

6-17-44

General Davis on European Tour

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

8-19-44

Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the War Department Inspector General's office, chats with S/Sgt. Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, somewhere in the European Theatre of Operations, where Louis has been putting on exhibitions for GI's during the past several weeks.

Pausing for a chat and photo before they leave for a conference at a U.S. Army Headquarters, somewhere in England, are (left to right): Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis and Brig. Gen. W. G. Weaver.

Facts Behind the Suicide of Lieutenant Tyler Hill

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

RICHMOND—What impelled Lt. Tyler E. Hill, Jr., 29, of Lynchburg, Va., to take his life last week at this post?

6-10-44

Perhaps the exact answer to this question could be provided only by the officer himself.

Perhaps it may be contained in the suicide note which military authorities have refused to release.

Despondency and Frustration

But friends of the lieutenant have woven a set of circumstances which make the most plausible motive seem a product of despondency and frustration.

It is reported that only a few days before his death, Lt. Hill was AWOL and faced court-martial proceedings. Also, it was said, his conduct was of uncertain character; he appeared morose and

But, according to his friends, behind all of this was the background of a man determined to go as far as his ability would carry him.

They point out that he rose through the ranks from a private to first sergeant, then qualified for officer candidate school and became a second lieutenant. Later, he became a first lieutenant.

Hard Worker

All the time, he was an intense worker, at times working all night to do a good job. But, his friends say, when he found that he faced limitations because of his color it began to tell.

After being commissioned, he was sent to Fort Benning, to return to Lee a few weeks ago hoping to become a company commander in his outfit. But that am-

bition ran up a blind alley, this butting his head up against a wall may have led Lt. Hill to the act of suicide. So say his friends.

92nd Colored Division Given White Chaplain

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

6-24-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — Chaplain Andrew H. Martin, who is stationed at present, as assistant chaplain, in charge of the colored officers' club "on the new white chaplain who is a set the white officers' here several weeks ago by captain; that he had withdrawn his request for transfer.

fare" here several Upon the arrival of Chaplain gating there, has been Aubrey C. Haynes, white, handhis duties as post c bills were passed around to all a white chaplain assig white persons on the post inviting The AFRO was u them to the white services which official confirmation o were to be held at Whiteside but facts pieced toge School.

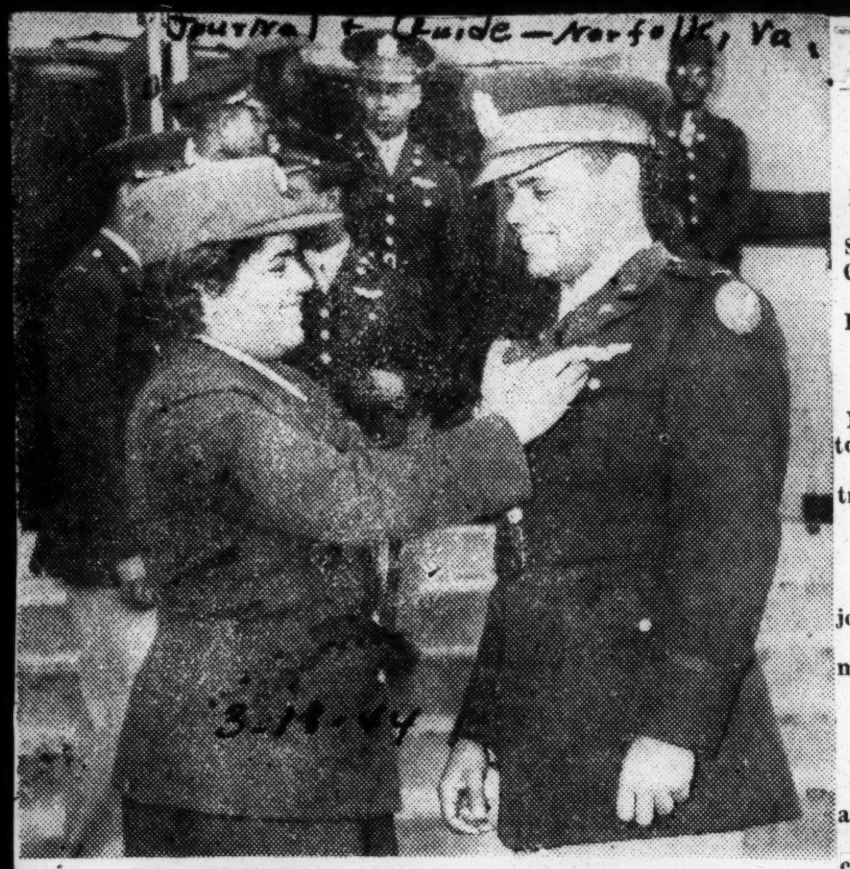
to this:

Martin to Be A Assistant

Chaplain Martin wi in will remain on the post where the 9 the 92nd Division services at Post Theater No. 1.

The colored soldiers hold their

Chaplain Haynes was introduced at the initial services as the "new post chaplain."

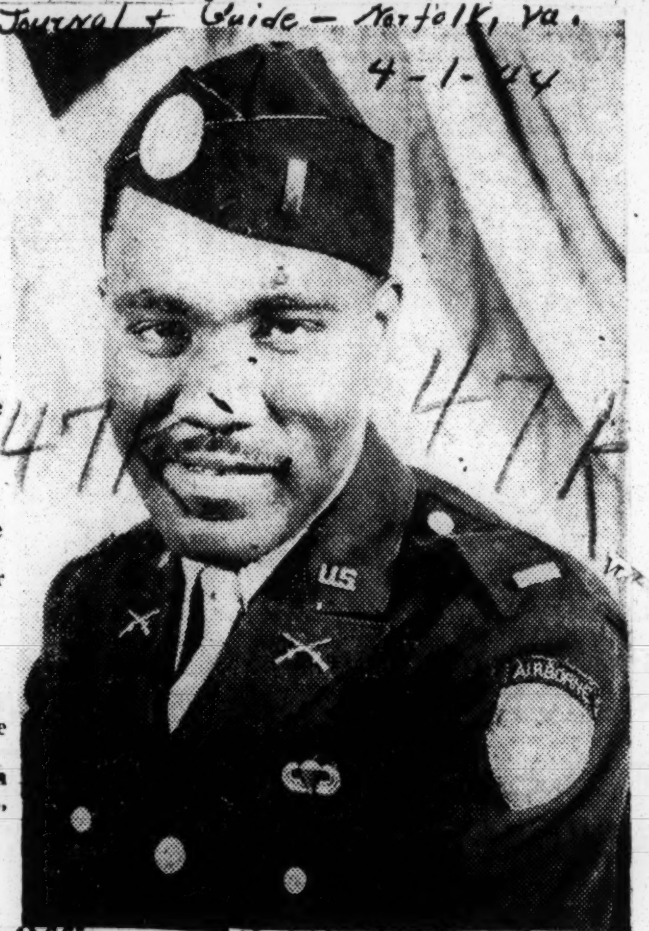


LT. CELESTINO S. MONCLOVA and His Sister

Lt. Walter A. Arrington (left) and Major Galen B. Price

AT NAVIGATORS' GRADUATION— Wac Private Anita Monclova (top picture) pins the wings of an aviation navigator on her brother, 2nd Lt. Celestino S. Monclova of Brooklyn, N. Y., while in the other photo, 2nd Lt. Walter A. Arrington, of 2408 Shannon Place, S.E., Washington, D. C., receives his navigator's wings from Major Galen B. Price (right), commanding officer of the 88th Navigation Training Group at Hondo Field, Texas. Twenty-four Negroes, comprising the first class of navigators to be commissioned in the Air Forces, graduated at the field on February 26. Three of them became flight officers and 21 were commissioned second lieutenants. (AAF Photos).

Paratroop Officer



PARATROOP OFFICER— Second Lieut. Clifford Allen, of 3841 Federal street, Chicago, Ill., is one of the first six Negro officers to complete the parachute training course at Fort Benning, Ga. The officers have joined the cadre of enlisted men for further training of volunteer infantry Parachutists. Lieut. Allen accompanied the original cadremen from Fort Huachuca, Ariz., last January. (U. S. Army photo)

968 Negro Officers Now Serving In U. S. Coast Guard Forces

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The first branch of the Naval Service to commission Negroes, the U. S. Coast Guard now has the highest percentage of commissioned and non-commissioned Negro officers in the Armed Forces, U. S. Coast Guard Headquarters reported this week.

With approximately 4,000 Negroes serving in the Coast Guard on March 31, 1944, a total of 968 colored men were officers. Two of these officers had been commissioned as lieutenants and another as ensign The others included warrant officers, chief petty officers, and first second and third class petty officers.

The high percentage of Negro officers was revealed by Coast Guard Headquarters in connection with the current drive for the volunteer enlistment of 1,700 Negro wouths, 17 years of age, in the Steward's Mates branch of the service.

Pointing out that promotions will be rapid in this branch, and that Negroes work and fight side by side with other Coast Guardsmen, the Coast Guard stressed the fact that steward's mates may work themselves up through the ranks as well as all other Coast Guard recruits.

Proof of such advancement was cited in the case of Lt. Clarence Samuels, the first Negro commissioned officer in the Naval Service. Lieutenant Samuels entered the Coast Guard Service originally as a steward's mate. In the years which followed, he advanced steadily through the ranks until he became warrant officer and boatswain at the Manhattan Beach training station. Appointed to the board of education there, he served as instructor in practical seamanship and regulations. Following a recent tour of duty in the active war zones, Lieutenant Samuels is now studying for further advancement at Fort McHenry, Md.

The other two commissioned Negro officers in the Coast Guard, Lt. Joseph J. Jenkins of Detroit, Mich., and Ensign Harvey C. Russel, jr., of Louisville, Ky., are bother graduates of the United States Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn., where both entered through competitive examinations. Both are now on active duty.

92nd Promoted

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 5TH ARMY IN ITALY—(By Cable)—Among the twenty-three officers of the 92nd Division combat team promoted here October 1 were four first lieutenants who were made captains.

They are Hurlon Dunlan, Oklahoma City; Jesse E. Jarmon, Indianapolis, company commanders who received battlefield promotions; Capt. Allan L. Johnson, Jackson, Tenn., and Alonzo W. Farr, of New Jersey, munitions officer.

Nineteen others were elevated from second to first lieutenants. They are:

Alonzo M. Frazier Charlie M. Hanson, Jr., Edmund H. Oxley, Jr., Claude Paige, William H. Pener, George W. Alfred, John H. Armwood, John W. Bailey, Benjamin J. Benton, Arthur A. Brown, Edward F. Cothren;

Benjamin L. Davis, Julius J. Dickerson, Lyman V. Jeffries, Lionel Ladmirault, Aurelius B Myles, Marion E. Thatcher, Robert G. Van Meter, Joseph V. Vego Lawrence S. Lacey;

Lieutenant Oxley, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is the brother of Lawrence Oxley of Washington, and Lieutenant Bailey is a native of eastern Maryland.

Gen. Davis Visits Troops in France

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE.—(By Cable, Censored) —Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis arrived in France recently for general observations and to spend part of his time with the special pictorial unit making movies of colored troops.

Maj. Home Roberts of the War Department Bureau of Public Relations, and Carlton Moss, special consultant, are accompanying the general.

Expressing a desire to remain in France until the war ends, General Davis said: "I am interested in seeing what colored troops are doing, how they are living and taking care of themselves; also what recommendations I may make to cause them to feel better."

Exchange Autographs

The general signed my short-snorter dollar bill and I signed his. Then both of us made Edward Toles, Chicago Defender correspondent, pay for not having his.

General Davis was immaculate in his new battle dress, but Major Roberts was having difficulty with his new field boots. Moss was looking most uncomfortable in GI clothes.

At a press conference the general said he could not answer questions as to whether colored units, WAC's or nurses are coming here, because they are not his department.

However, he expressed hope that all soldiers would respect the friendly French people, particularly women.

Saw 4 Nazi Robots While in England, General

47k-1944

Tribune – Washington, D.C.
10-14-44

10-14-44

TAAF MEDICAL OFFICERS PROMOTED—Capts. Halley B. Taylor and Elliotte J. Williams, Officers at the Station Hospital of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., were recently promoted to their present rank. Both Captain Taylor, a medical officer, and Captain Williams, an administrative officer, have performed their duties skillfully and efficiently, winning the admiration of the cadets, officers and enlisted men. They are shown being congratulated on their success by Col. Richard C. Cumming, post surgeon. Captain Taylor, left, of Washington, was commissioned from the Medical Reserve Corps on June 10, 1943. He received his B.S. degree from Howard in 1938, his M.D., from the same institution, in 1942. He was a member of the Howard ROTC for four years and was commissioned a second lieutenant from that source in 1938. His father, the Rev. Halley B. Taylor, resides at 1715 First Street, N.W. Captain Williams was commissioned a second lieutenant from the Medical Administration Officers' Candidate School, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., May 29, 1942. His mother, Mrs. Georgia L. Williams, lives at 507 W. 159th Street, New York City. Official AAF Photo.

NOW 1st LIEUTENANT
Tribune – Savannah, Ga
HUBERT
9-14-44

GODMAN FIELD, KY. Willi[illegible] Lt. Hubert is the son of John J. Hubert of Savannah, Ga., ha[illegible]W. Hubert, 2201 Ogeechee avebeen recently promoted in the[illegible]nue, Savannah, Ga.
army air forces. He was promoted from second lieutenant to first lieutenant.

1st. Lt. Hubert is group statistical control officer and special staff adjutant to the commanding officer of the 477th Bombardment Group.

1st. Lt. Hubert is a graduate of Hampton institute, was awarded a fellowship for study of rural economics and sociology under sponsorship of Fisk university, Tuskegee institute and the Farm Security Administration. He was an instructor at Trinity junior college, Athens, Alabama. 9-14-44

1ST LT. DAVENPORT KILLED IN ACTION

Argus – St. Louis, Mo.
5-5-44

Former Newspaper Photographer Was In South Pacific

Two days after he wrote a letter to his mother, telling her of hard fighting with the enemy and asking her to pray as she never had before, First Lieutenant Oscar Paul Davenport was killed in action in Bougainville, April 6. His mother, and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown, 4156 Enright avenue, received a telegram from the War Department last Friday notifying them of his death.

Davenport, was a popular newspaper photographer for the former St. Louis Call for some years and was known by many persons who had seen him taking pictures at football games and various events. 5-5-44

Was Highest Ranking

Davenport was for a time the highest ranking young army officer from St. Louis. Due to the fact that he had attended the old CMTC camp at Fort Riley, Kansas, and finished with a fine record, he had received a reserve officer's commission in 1936, the year he graduated from Sumner High School.

He was inducted in 1942 and was sent to Fort Benning, Ga., thence to Fort Huachuca, where he spent six weeks in maneuvers and finally to the Los Angeles Barracks from where he was sent overseas last January 1. His entire time here he was training officers

For six weeks after sailing he was reported missing, believed to have been on a ship that went down.

Won Praise 5-5-44

After arriving in the South Pacific, Solomons, he was assigned to combat troops. His military ability won him compliments from his superior officers and the respect of his men in the stiff jungle fighting.

The news of his death was a great shock to his mother to whom he had been an unusually close and obedient child, as well as his wife, Mrs. Olive Smith Davenport, who was at the University of Arizona. Mrs. Brown stated that in his last letter he told her and his stepfather to keep their chins up and pray harder than ever for he was in actual duty and must look after his men as best he could to protect them.

Lt. Davenport, Jr., was 31 years old and a loyal member of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. Others of his survivors are a daughter, Patricia Ann, 5 years old; father, Rev. Oscar Davenport, Sr., of Webster Groves; two brothers, Eugene and Marion of Chicago; uncles, a grandmother, aunts and nephews.

FINDS MORE HARMONY, LACK OF RACIAL FRICTION ON WAR FRONT THAN ON HOME FRONT

Weekly New Orleans La.
8-19-44

Headquarters, European Theater of Operations.—Brig. Gen. O. Davis of the Inspector General's Department reported that "There appears to be more harmony and lack of racial friction in the combat zone than is found behind the lines."

The general, on temporary duty in the European theater of operations, has just completed a brief tour of American Negro units in France that covered an area of more than three hundred miles of liberated territory. This visit to Normandy was the ninth time that General Davis had been to France and the second time he had inspected installations at the front lines. 8-19-44

"I am thoroughly pleased with the performance and the conditions under which Negro troops are operating here, especially their performance under fire," the general declared. "Nobody knows except the men in the front lines how important it is for them to keep up their excellent records," he added.

He also revealed that commanding officers had related several instances of heroism which indicated unusual valor among Negro troops.

During his trip the general moved rapidly past the wreckage of German equipment and through countrysides punctuated with ruins of villages, exhibiting a physical stamina that drew praise from younger officers. 8-19-44

The highest ranking Negro officer visited soldiers repairing small arms and motorized equipment damaged by mines and enemy

These films depict Negro troops in action. 8-19-44

A number of film shorts of Negro troops in combat are being produced under the direction of appeared unusually high Major H. A. T. Freeland, who is eral Davis. He renewed acquaintance with Corporal Maurice C. Jennings of One Bainbridge Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., a company clerk in an amphibious truck company, Army Service Forces; Captain J. W. Coppersmith and Private Walter C. Fullford of 801 Cherokee Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., Officer C. M. Bennett of the Army tation Corps truck company.

On the last day of his tour, the general visited men of a barrage balloon battalion which previously had been commended by General Dwight D. Eisenhower. He also viewed the first moving pictures taken of a Signal Construction battalion by the Special Coverage Section, Army Pictorial Service.

Paratroop Unit Gets 6 Looies

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Athletes, Students in Newly Commissioned Unit

FORT BENNING, Ga. — The first officers for the all-colored 555th Parachute Infantry, six lieutenants recently received their coveted "wings" and joined their cadre of enlisted men for further training of the volunteer chutists.

Sixteen enlisted men, the first colored paratroopers, qualified a few weeks ago and now are engaged in processing more volunteers.

3-18-44

Officers, Background Listed

The new paratroop officers are:

First Lieut. Jasper E. Ross, Chicago, a 1940 graduate of Howard University, commissioned through the ROTC there, who was formerly attached to the 795th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Second Lieut. Bradley Biggs, Newark, N.J., one time professional football player, who was attached to the 758th Light Tank Battalion;

Second Lieut. Clifford Allen, Chicago, Northwestern University graduate, formerly attached to the Air Security Base Battalion at Camp Butner, N.C.; Second Lieut. Edward D. Baker, Chicago, formerly professional basketball player and postal clerk, who served with the 92nd Infantry Division;

3-18-44

Second Lieut. Warren C. Cornelius, Atlantic City, Temple University graduate and professional boxer; and Second Lieut. Edwin H. Wills, a pre-medical student at Fisk University, who served with the 370th Infantry.

Army appoints Negro adjunct

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.

10-16-44

WASHINGTON — The assignment of 1st Lt. W. Robert Ming, Jr., to the Labor Branch of the Industrial Personnel Division of the War Department was announced this week by Col. William J. Brennan, Jr., Chief of the Labor Branch. Lt. Ming's assignment to this division was made as a result of conferences several weeks ago with Under Secretary of War Patterson in which officials of the Urban League pointed out that Negro officers should be utilized in dealing with inter-racial labor problems in the various Army Service Commands.

10-16-44

Lt. Ming at present is assigned to the general staff of the Industrial Personnel Division in Washington. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School. Prior to entering the armed forces, he was assistant professor of Law at Howard University Law School and a member of the Washington OPA legal staff.

News — Birmingham, Ala.

DIES OVERSEAS—Lt. James W. Holloway (above), of Birmingham, died Sept. 10 in France as a result of injuries received in a vehicle accident while on duty with the Army Signal Corps, according to a telegram received from the War Department by his widow, who resides at 32 Eighth Avenue, North. Memorial services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Sixth Avenue, South, Baptist Church.

10-20-44

English Queen Cheers Wounded Officer Abroad

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Fisk Graduate Says He Was 'Very Surprised'

8-9-44

HEADQUARTERS, AIR SERVICE COMMAND, UNITED STATES STRATEGIC AIR FORCES IN EROPE—"All of you so very brave and we are so proud that you are fighting for us." These are the inspiring words by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth of England, that cheered Second Lieutenant James A. Bowman, of 6520 Evans Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, a patient in a U. S. Army General Hospital located somewhere in the British Isles..

Queen Elizabeth was escorted through the hospital by Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, Deputy Theatre Commander; Major General Paul R. Hawley, Chief Surgeon, European Theater of Operations; Colonel Lester M. Dyke, Commanding Officer of the hospital: Captain Frances F. Kasmark, Chief Nurse, and the Queen's Lady in Waiting, the Honorable Mrs. Geoffrey Bowlby. Her Majesty stopped to talk with several wounded soldiers and visited many other wards of the hospital.

8-9-44

Lieutenant Bowman, 25--year-old officer of a combat engineer regiment, landed in France 14 days after D-Day. He said, following the Q[illegible] to his bed[illegible] was never so surpris[illegible] I won a $57 wrist watch on a Chicago amateur program." Quite elated, Bowman could hardly wait to tell his fellow patients how the Queen questioned him about his health and honed that he would be up and about soon.

8-9-44

A graduate of Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, where he captained the 1941 football team, Bowman is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Bowman of the Evans Avenue address. He has a brother, Henry, 16, and a sister, Hannah, 17, both residents of Chicago. His achievements included his nomination on the All-Southern Eleven in 1941 as fullback and his election to "Who's Who" in the college world from Fisk in 1942. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Phi Fraternity.

Two things worry Lieutenant Bowman: How soon he can rejoin his fighting Engineers and what affect will the slight stiffness in his left arm have one his playing of the piano.

13 Lts. Promoted in Fighter Group

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ADVANCED ALLIED AIR BASE, Italy. — First Lt. Everett W. Johnson, Jr., 22, of 2901 Pierce Drive, Philadelphia, is among the thirteen officers here of Col. Benjamin O. Davis's fighter pilot group who won promotions this week from the rank of second lieutenant.

7-15-44

Lieutenant Johnson, group armament officer and former Xavier University student, is married and his wife, Mrs. Alberta S. Johnson, lives at his Philadelphia address. The coupe have a 3-year-old child.

Seven Pilots Elevated

Other officers winning promotions, seven of whom are pilots are:

Lts. Surgeon N. Ellington, 24 of Winston-Salem, N.C., pilot Vernon B. Lincoln, 29, of Cleveland, Ohio, supply officer; Freddie E. Hutchins, 23, Donalsonville Ga., pilot; Dean B. Mohr, 25, Detroit, squadron communications officer; Henry P. Bowman, 23, of St. Paul, Minn., armament officer;

7-15-44

John F. Briggs, Jr., 23, Anderson, Ind., pilot; Jack D. Holsclaw 24, of Portland, Ore., pilot; Langdon E. Johnson, 26, Rand, W.Va., armament officer; Walter L. McCreary, 26, New Orleans, pilot; James F. Reynolds, St. Louis, squadron communications officer; Lowell C. Stewart, 25, Los Angeles, pilot; James M. Conley, 28, Livingston, Ala., pilot.

Medical School Graduates 15 Men

People's Voice — New York

6-17-44

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa.—Fifteen Negro Officers were graduated from the Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, Pa. last week. This increased the number of Negro Medical, Dental, and Veterinary officers to receive diplomas from this National Training Center which is the Army's only military school for training Medical Department Officers for field duty.

The fifteen officers, all lieutenants, were members of the 53rd Officers Class graduated at exercises in Tugo Hall after completing six weeks training for duty as Medical Officers with troops in combat.

The officers in that class graduating were:

6-17-44

Robert H. Bailey, San Antonio, Tex.; Thomas J. Carter, jr, Elmira, N. Y.; Wendell F. Cox, Nashville, Tenn.; Perry J. Flowers, Dallas, Tex.; Richard A. Granger, Glen Cove, N. Y.; Lucien H. Holman, Alton, Ill.; George W. G. Lopez, Washington, D. C.; Edward R. McDaniels, jr, Baltimore, Md.; Harry M. McLinn, Washington, Pa.; James D. Mitchell, Columbus, Ohio; Allenby Pearman, Montclair, N. J.; Henry W. Robinson, jr, Washington, D. C.; Robert J. Swain, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Lawrence W. Thomas, Springfield, Ohio, and Frederick S. Perry Washington, D. C.

Gen. Davis In France Talks To Our Steward

Informer — Houston, Texas

8-12-44

By OLLIE STEWART

Afro-Informer War Correspondent With Invasion Forces in France

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WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE—Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis arrived in France Monday for general observations of colored troops in this theatre. Part of his stay will be spent with a special pictorial unit that is making a movie of colored troops operating here.

Gen. Davis was accompanied by Major Homer Roberts of the War Department's public relations office in Washington, and Carlton Moss, special consultant.

A desire to remain in France until the war ends was expressed by the veteran general.

8-12-44

"I am interested in seeing what colored troops are doing, how they are taking care of themselves, and also what recommendations I can make to cause them to feel better,"

BRIG. GEN. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS

8-12-44

he assuringly said.

Upon meeting the general I signed his "short snorter" bill and he signed mine. Then both of us made Edward Toles, Chicago Defender reporter assigned here, pay for being.

General Davis looked immaculate in his new battle dress, but Major Roberts encountered difficulty with his new field boots and Moss looked anything but comfortable in "GI"

Mrs. E. D. Howe of Suffolk, was ment, however, he expressed hope that all-soldiers would respect the rights of friendly French people during his re-especially women.

Sees Robots

General Davis says our pilotless lines over England during reaction: "They don't like lightning; either they strike or they don't."

At his first press conference the general said he could not answer questions regarding colored combat units, Wacs or nurses coming here, because they are not in his depart-

commissioned second lieutenant Army on Oct. 27 at the Officers Training School, Camp Lee, Va.

Before his induction, Lt. Howe was a coach and instructor of physical education at Huntington High School for six years. He received the B. S. degree from Virginia State College and

Commissioned As Second Lieutenant

Newport News, Va. Steven

Edward Howe, son of Prof. and

47k-1944

Labor Leaders Meet Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis In France

The Whip – Miami, Fla. 9-16-44

9-16-44

During his tour of Army installations on the continent, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis posed with labor leaders touring the European fronts. They are, left to right: David J. McDonald, Secretary-Treasurer of the United Steel Workers; Sherman H. Dalrymple, President United Rubber Workers; R. J. Thomas, President United Auto Workers, CIO; General Davis, Frank P. Finton, Director AFL; Eric Peterson, Executive Vice President of the International Association of Machinist (AFL) and Albert L. Wegener, Inter-National Brotherhood Electrical workers.

A Historic Picture

Afro American – Baltimore, Md.

For those who missed this picture of General B. O. Davis riding a tank in France, we reproduce it from last week's paper. Here is a historic photograph. It's the first appearance of a U.S. colored general on a battlefield in any war. It is true that he is past the retirement age and that he is in France to supervise the making of combat movies of colored troops as well as to make inspection; but the fact remains, he is there. He's wearing the new bucket helmet that gives him the appearance of having his head inside a waste basket; but his eyes are bright and smiling. Regulation O.D. uniform has been replaced by a battle jacket and, although you can't see it, he wears high shoes into which the bottoms of his trousers have been stuffed.

8-26-44

Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis

In his nostrils is the smell of battle, not much different from what he went through in the Spanish-American War or the Mexican expeditions.

8-26-44

Yes, you are seeing a picture of our first general on his first battlefield, and if we can persuade the President to promote qualified colored Army officers on the same basis as others, we should have a colored general in combat before the war is over.

Who's Who Of Negro Fliers Among Those Granted Leaves

Journal & Guide – Norfolk, Va.

6-10-44

ADVANCED ALLIED Air Base in Italy—(Via Air Mail)—Mr. and Mrs. America, prepare to welcome your favorite heroes of World War No. 2. You might well kill the fatted calf and prepare the feast for many of the key men of America's most famous Negro air squadrons are on their way to the good old United States of America.

The list of the seven passengers who left sunny Italy recently enroute home reads like the Who's Who of Negro Aviation. You probably already know who they are but, just for the record, let's put down the names of these pioneers who set out to prove that the airmen of the race were the equal of any other airmen on earth and who did prove it conclusively in the famous first fighter squadron. They are:

SECOND C. O. LEAVES

Major George S. "Spanky" Roberts, scrappy commanding officer, whose principal objective is to see his young son for the first time. "Spanky" hated to leave the squadron he had commanded since the command was relinquished last September by Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., and when the time came to say goodbye he was obviously emotionally affected although in all of his cocky, callous manner as a squadron commander no one would have thought that he had any soft emotions.

Major Roberts will hie himself first to his home in Fairmont, W. Va., where he will get a much deserved rest. And then, who knows what will be given this popular fighter pilot to do. Perhaps then he will belong to the people and to the Army. Many of you may get a chance to meet the man who led this famous squadron.

6-10-44

MOST POPULAR

Captain Charlie "Buster" Hall, No. 1 air hero of this war, who has three German victories to his credit and who has long been the most popular name connected with the squadron. It was Charlie Hall who got the first "Jerry" attributed to this flying group and who, as its senior flight leader and first flyer promoted overseas, has been the big name of the unit. Charlie plans to head for Terre Haute, Ind., to see his wife and to enjoy the life of a "Hoosier" for a short time.

Then he will try to do his best at whatever job the Army puts him to and he will probably make the regular hero's circuit of town halls, auditoriums, and parades.

He is hoping for a quick return to combat and told us that he'd rather come back with some fighter group, preferably one which would give him further association, in the job of fighting, with the men he has grown to know in his old squadron. "Funnyman" Charlie Hall is a fighting man and he won't want to stay in the home front lines too long.

ABOUT WILEY

6-10-44

Captain James T. Wiley of Pittsburgh, Pa., just wants to see his family for a while and get a little rest from the ardous task of flying missions in combat so steadily. Captain Wiley, one of the oldest as well as one of the best flyers in Negro aviation, stayed in front of the squadron's parade from the very start until he quit active flying a few weeks ago. He was the first pilot in the squadron to get fifty missions and was the first to get eighty.

He was taken off flying status after reaching the 88 mark. Said Jimmie Wiley: "After a brief rest I'd rather get back over here. I'll be more good over here than back in the states." The quiet, unassuming flight leader who has been the inspiration of much of the success the squadron has gained because he was able to get close to the new men and inspire them, looks and acts quite unlike a fire-eating fighter pilot but he knows his job and does it well. You'll enjoy meeting him.

CAPT. CUSTIS

6-10-44

Captain Lemuel Rodney Custis, of Hartford, Conn., was the squadron's capable operations officer until he departed. Just how the men felt when the time came to leave was best expressed by Captain Custis who told us: "It is difficult to express oneself at a time like this.

Sure, I am glad to be going back to the folks at home for a time and have frankly looked forward to this with great anticipation. But when the time comes to go

This parody on the language of the draft board became a by-word in the squadron and when he said "Greetings" the pilots on that little list he carried with him knew that this was IT for them. I'm sure that if he makes any speech-es in America, he will begin them

6-10-44

Custis would be missed here, and leave the men with whom he said "great show" whether it's over you've fought this battle as pioneers, the feeling is quite different from what you thought it would be. However, we'll be back and will give them a great show." That phrase, "great show," is a favorite with Captain Custis and it will be greatly missed here, he's always known to want a ion will be serious tone:

WILL BE MISSED

6-10-44

by saying "Greetings."

CAPT. CARTER

Captain Herbert Eugene Carter, the diminutive "dapper dan" of the squadron, hails from Tuskegee Institute and will be heading back there to his young wife as soon as he sets foot in the USA. "Gene" Carter while a flyer had always been interested in the engineering aspects of the planes he flew and consequently had done the engineering job — normally the function of a ground officer— in addition to his other duties as a flyer.

6-10-44

His leaving creates two holes in the organization but the little fellow who did two men's work deserves a rest and I'm sure that the Army can find some valuable spot for a chap with so much energy and enthusiasm for this business of flying. It's hard to say who will succeed him as the neatest dresser in the squadron.

OTHERS GOING HOME

So far, that's a sizeable hunk of rank to be coming back in one lump. But there are two first lieutenants also in the lineup. They are: Lt. Willie H. Fuller, of Tarboro, N. C., a huge man who towers over everybody else in the organization and just about the biggest comic in the whole air forces, Lt. Willie Ashley, the "joker" from Sumter, S. C.

There you have a lineup of first class fighting men. They have done a great job over here. They deserve a "great show" from the folks back home because they carried a heavy load and discharged their responsibilities to the credit of themselves and the folks they represented. Adding their combat missions together, I find these men have, collectively, faced death over enemy lines a total of nearly 500 times. They dread their roles as heroes back home more than combat. But bear with them and they'll give you a "great show."

Negro Officers Gain High Rank At Ft. Huachuca

People's Voice
New York N.Y.
3-25-44

FT. HUACHUCA — Announcement has just been made through the office of Colonel Edwin N. Hardy, Ft. Huachuca's commanding officer, that four ranking medical officers have been recently promoted. The officers receiving promotions are: Lt. Col. Median O. Bousfield to grade of full Colonel, Major Dehaven Hinkson, Major Roscoe C. Giles and Major Harold Thatcher, to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonels.

All four of these officers are on duty at the Fort's Station Hospital No. 1. Col. Bousfield is the commanding officer; Lt. Col. Giles, Chief of Surgical services, and Lt. Col. Thatcher, Chief of Medical services, and head of the Department of Venereal Disease.

Col Bousfield is from Chicago, where he formerly held the position of director of Negro health for the Julius Rosenwald Fund. He entered military service June, 1942, to serve as commanding officer of Station Hospital No. 1, Ft. Huachuca.

3-25-44

Lt. Col. Hinkson is from Philadelphia, Pa. He has the distinction of having organized and operated the first U. S. Army Hospital headed by a Negro Medical Officer, at the Tuskegee Army Flying School. He had previously served with the Army during the 1st World War, having seen overseas combat service with the 92nd Division as a Medical Corps Officer. He retained a commission in the Medical Reserve Corps, and was promoted to grade of Major in 1925.

"Caterpiller Club" Pilot At Tuskegee

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.
10-14-44

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—First Lieutenant George R. Bolling of Phoebus, Va., the first pilot of the 99th Fighter Squadron to be shot down in combat and parachute to safety, was recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

The former Hamptonian was flying patrol duty on July 11, 1942, the day after the initial landing in Sicily by Allied troops. His plane, "Jinkey," was hit by flak and began to burn. He bailed out and floated into the Mediterranean, 4,000 feet below.

The late Sam Bruce circled the helpless pilot to ward off enemy planes. Spending 24 hours adrift in a dinghy, he was finally picked up by a U. S. destroyer and set ashore in Sicily. Bolling spent the next four days on a small coastal boat resting and was finally delivered to his unit in Africa.

10-14-44

Bolling was most impressed "over there" by the performances of enemy aircraft and the youth- ... prisoners.

Wife Knew of Col. Davis's Promotion Before He Did

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
6-10-44

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ADVANCED AIR BASE IN ITALY—(By Cable, Censored)—Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., received official notification of his promotion from the rank of lieutenant colonel on Monday, shortly after returning from a flight with the group of fighter pilots he now commands.

Accompanying the notification, dated June 1, was a congratulatory telegram from his wife, Mrs. Agatha Davis, 527 W. 157th Street, New York. "Damn," said the colonel, "my wife knew about this before I did."

(EDITOR'S NOTE—News of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis's promotion to the rank of full colonel first reached his father, Brigadier Gen. B. O. Davis, last week through the AFRO.)

Asked how he planned to celebrate the promotion, he said by going on another important flight with his group.

6-10-44

Headed Pioneer Squadron

Colonel Davis, just 31, formerly commanded the 99th Fighter Squadron, which was activated in October, 1942, at Tuskegee as the first all-colored fighter squadron in aviation and participated in the North African and Sicilian campaigns.

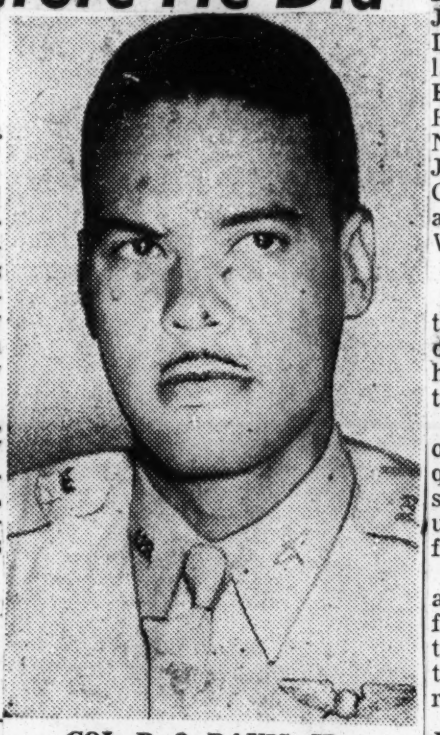
Following temporary assignment to Selfridge Field, Mich., he brought the group he now commands to the Mediterranean theatre in February.

A 1936 West Point graduate, the colonel formerly attended Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and the University of Chicago. He was graduated in 1938 from the infantry school at Fort Benning, Ga., and won his wings at Tuskegee in 1942. Prior to assignment to Tuskegee, he was stationed at Fort Riley, Kan. Colonel Davis is the son of Brigadier Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the Inspector General's Department in Washington.

6-10-44

Philadelphian Promoted

Another promotion in this fighter group is that of Capt. Louis R. Purnell, 24, of 101 Weaver Street, Philadelphia, who was raised from the rank of first lieutenant on Sunday.



COL. B. O. DAVIS, JR.

Captain Purnell celebrated his promotion with an extra piece of friend chicken at dinner, then returned to his work as assistant group operations officer.

A pioneer graduate of the Tuskegee flying school, he was formerly overseas with the 99th Fighter Squadron, returned to the States in October, 1943, and requested assignment to the present new fighter group. He is unmarried and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Purnell of Cape May, N.J.

8 Get Air Medals

Eight air medals have been awarded to pilots of the pioneer 99th Fighter Squadron for meritorious achievements while participating in Anzio Beachhead flights last winter. P-40 Warhawk pilots receiving these honors include:

First Lts. Robert W. Diez, Portland, Ore.; Elwood T. Driver, Trenton, N.J.; Clinton B. Mills, Durham, N.C.; Clarence W. Allen, Mobile, Ala.; Lewis C. Smith, Los Angeles; 2nd Lts. Leonard W. Jackson, Fort Worth, Texas; Wilson V. Eagleson, Bloomington, Ind., and Charles B. Bailey, Puntagorda, Fla.

6-10-44

All are credited with destroying Focke-Wulf 190's. Lieutenants Jackson and Mills shot theirs down on February 7, and Driver on February 5, while the other victories were registered January 27.

Blood Donated

Ten enlisted men of the P-39 Fighter Squadron commanded by Capt. Robert Tresville this week donated one pint of blood each to the Allied blood bank following a call for O type blood to be used for men wounded in the present Italian campaign.

They are 1st Sgt. Arthur Mabry, Los Angeles; S/Sgts. James E. Johnson, Philadelphia, and Sidney L. Evans, Anquila, Miss.; Sgts. William Shuford, Detroit; Broadus Butler, Mobile, Ala.; Ambrose Hughes, Dallas, Texas; Clarence Nowell, Spartanburg, S.C., and James C. Atchinson, Sacramento, Calif.; Cpls. Willie L. Allen, Philadelphia, and William F. Keene, Washington.

6-10-44

No Segregation

The blood is handled by a military medical laboratory where five officers and twenty-eight men have been working night and day to meet the current demand.

Officials at the center pointed out that, although there is an adequate supply of plasma sent overseas by the Red Cross, many casualties require whole blood transfusions to pull them through.

Donors have been soldiers from all ranks and all races, and as far as could be learned, no attempt is made to follow the pattern set by the Red Cross in segregating its blood plasma.

HAS 2 SONS OVERSEAS

BALTIMORE — Henry J. and James B. Hannell, sons of Mrs. Emily J. Hannell of 1220 McCulloh Street, are both serving abroad.

Lt. Edward S. Hope Engineering Officer

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

PEARL HARBOR, T. H.—Lt. Edward S. Hope, USNR, former member of the staff of Howard University, Washington, D. C., for fifteen years, is now on duty overseas in the Fourteenth Naval District as an engineering officer.

11-18-44

Lieut. Hope left Howard in May, 1944, to become the first Negro commissioned a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy. His wife and two children, Edward Jr., 9, and James Lynn, 6, remain in Washington.

After completing indoctrination school at Davisville, R. I., Lieutenant Hope was retained there to assist in the Allied Military Government training course. He reported for overseas duty in the central Pacific area on October 20, 1944.

He graduated with an A. B. degree from Morehouse College in 1936 and M. S. in engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Ed. D. from Columbia University in 1944. His father, for whom the Liberty ship, JOHN HOPE, was named, was president emeritus of Atlanta University and Morehouse College, and was reputedly the first Negro to become a full professor in the United States.

Following college graduation he worked as an engineer for a year in Hawaii. Lieutenant Hope is married to the former Miss Jesse W. Lear, USNR, and has two children, Edward Jr., and James Lynn, USNR. Mrs. Hope is a graduate of Wellesley College and Columbia University and was formerly a member of the faculty of Howard University. Before entering the Navy, Lieutenant Hope was employed by the U. S. Navy, Bos'n Charles ... Ensign ... Arbor, ... and ... USNR.

47k-1944

General B. O. Davis in England

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-5-44

Attending the Sunday morning open air services at a U.S. Army headquarters somewhere in England are (left to right, in front row) Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general of the Services of Supply in European Theater of Operations; Brig.-Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the Inspector General's Department; Carlton Moss, technical adviser to the Special Coverage Unit, Army Pictorial Service; and other officers and enlisted men of the headquarters. (U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

1-6-44

TWO TUSKEGEE OFFICERS BOOSTED IN RANK—Col. Richard C. Cumming, post surgeon, recently promoted to his present rank, and Chaplain Douglas L. T. Robinson, recipient of a major's leaf, are shown congratulating each other at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Both are specialists in their fields, the former administering to the physical well-being, and the latteer to the spiritual well-being of the personnal at TAAF.

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.
9-15-44

9-15-44

BOMBER OFFICER—GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—Junius R. Savage, 24, Squadron Adjutant of the 616th Bombardment Squadron (Medium) 477th Bombardment Group has recently been promoted from 2nd Lt. to 1st Lt. He was promoted for efficient performance of his duties. 1st Lt. Savage, of St. Louis, Mo., was formerly a professional baseball player and has played in Mexico. He is a graduate of the Adjutant General's School, Ft. Washington, Md.

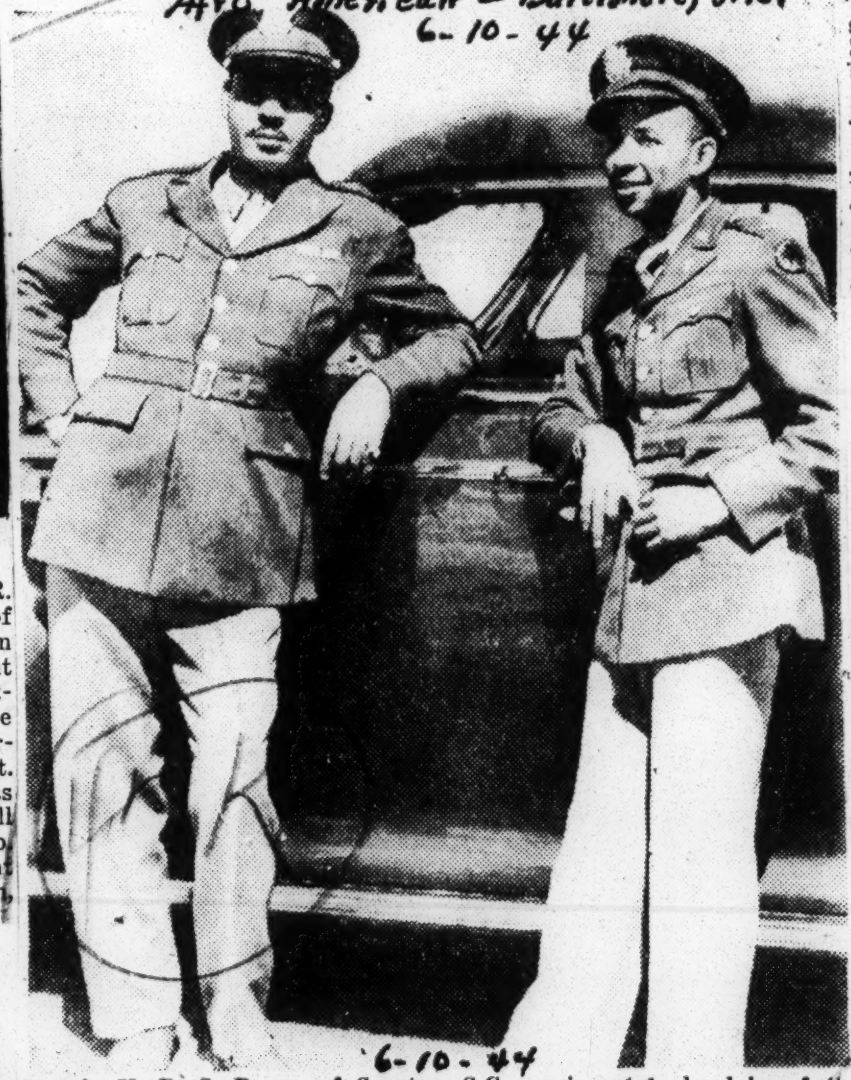
Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

AIR INTELLIGENCE—Lt. John D. Silvera of New York City, one of a group of 20 Negro officers studying at the School of Applied Tactics for Air Intelligence at Orlando, Fla. The officers will complete the course June 14.

6-10-44

92nd Chaplain and Aide

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
6-10-44



6-10-44

Captain K. D. S. Pogue of Sumter, S.C., regimental chaplain of the 92nd Division, shown with his assistant, First Lt. Douglass Hall, at Fort Huachuca. Captain Pogue spent eighteen months overesas.

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
8-19-44

National Guard General Nominated For Promotion By The President

Tribune — Brooklyn, N.Y.
10-2-44

The White House announced that the Senate had received from the President the recommendation for the temporary promotion of Brigadier General Raymond S. McLain to the grade of major general.

General McLain, a 54-year-old veteran of the Champagne and Meuse-Argonne offensives of the last war and of the Sicilian, Italian and Normandy campaigns of this war, entered the military service as a private of the Oklahoma National Guard in 1912. At the end of the World War he was a captain commanding a machine gun company of the 36th Division. After serving as Chief of Staff of the 45th Division, National Guard, for several years, Colonel McLain was promoted in 1937 to the grade of brigadier general and assigned to command the 70th Field Artillery Brigade of that division. He served with conspicuous participated in the Normandy invasion as artillery commander of the 45th Division in the Sicilian and Italian campaigns and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action.

10-2-44

Because of his outstanding combat record and battle experience, General McLain was transferred to England, and he was advanced to the grade of major general.

10-2-44

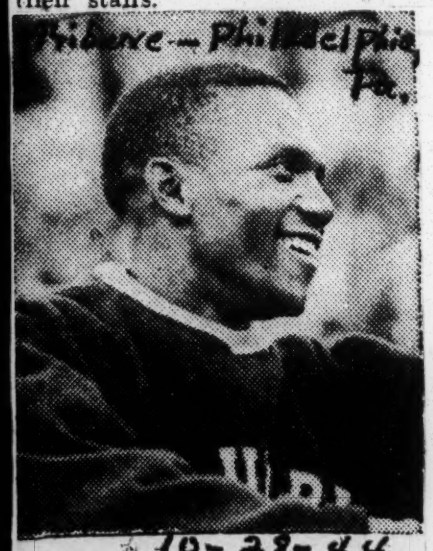
General McLain was born on April 4, 1890, in Washington County, Kentucky, and was Presi-

Army Names First Industrial Personnel Commissioned Officer

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World
10-7-44

The assignment of First Lieutenant W. Robert Ming, Jr., to the Labor Branch of the Industrial Personnel Division of the War Department was announced this week by Colonel William J. Brennan, Jr., Chief of the Labor Branch, according to a communication addressed to Julius A. Thomas, Director of the Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League. Lieutenant Ming's assignment to this important division was made as a result of conferences several week ago with Under Secretary of War Patterson in which officials of the Urban League pointed out that Negro officers should be utilized in dealing with inter-racial labor problems in the various Army Service Commands. 10-7-44

Lieutenant Ming at present is assigned to the general staff of the the Industrial Personnel Division in Washington. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School and has distinguished himself in the practice of law. Prior to entering the armed forces, he was Assistant Professor of Law at Howard University Law School and a member of the Washington OPA legal staff. He brings to the new assignment a wide experience in the law and training in the work of the War Department's Industrial Personnel Division Urban League officials said that the Commanding Officers of the various Service Commands have been requested to add Negro officers to their staffs.



Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
10-28-44

With U. S. Forces In France —Second Lieut. Ben Johnson, the former track sensation from Columbia University, who went to Berlin in 1937 as a member of the U. S. Olympic team, is headed again for the Rhineland, this time in a different role.

Johnson is serving with one of four all-Negro officered Quartermaster truck companies operating on the famous "Red Ball Express Highway," over which vital supplies for the far-flung front lines of the U. S. Armies in France and Belgium are sped.

To the disgust of Hitler's vaunted "Supermen," Johnson's teammates captured 13 first places out of the Olympic 21 events, with Johnson taking the lead in his event. Jesse Owens, the Cleveland track ace, also now serving in the Army, took first honors in three contests.

10-28-44

The officers and enlisted personnel of these trucking units were formerly members of an antiaircraft artillery (automatic weapons) battalion which underwent its "ack - ack" training at Camp Davis, North Carolina, but was converted into trucking units when the need for transportation became acute. They were rushed to France in August to assist the lightning drives of the First and Third Armies.

A native of Hamilton, Va., Lieut. Johnson is married and resides at 500 Yark street, Burlington, N. J.

93rd Division Sergeant Wins Bar On Field

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
10-28-44

WITH THE 93rd INFANTRY DIVISION In The Southwest Pacific Area—The first enlisted man of the 93rd Infantry Division to be commissioned on the field was First Sergeant Ewel Polk, of 315 South Medio Drive, Los Angeles, California, who received the honor as the result of meritorious service against the enemy.

A veteran of 14 years of soldiering, Second Lieutenant Polk received his commission on September 10. In his role of first sergeant, Lieutenant Polk ably

Commissioned In Field

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

10-28-44

First Sgt. EWEL POLK

assisted his commander, Captain Frederick W. Hawksworth, in bringing his company through a Jap ambush without serious casualties.

Lieutenant Polk attended school in Waco, Texas, and has a brother, Albert who resides in Oakland, California.

Capt. Roberts Sets Record; Wilson Escapes

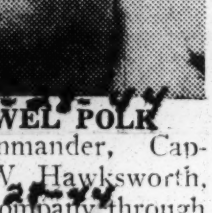
Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By LEM GRAVES, Jr.
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright. Reproduction Forbidden)

ADVANCED ALLIED AIRBASE IN ITALY, May 4. (By Cable, censored)—Capt. Leon C. Roberts, Prichard, Ala., became the first Negro in history to complete 100 aerial combat missions, and 2nd Lt. Theodore Allen Wilson, Roanoke, Va., made his initial parachute jump, thus gaining membership in the mythical Caterpillar Club, all in one exciting operation over the Anzio beachhead today (Thursday).

10-28-44

5-13-44



CAPT. ROBERTS

Wilson, is the son of Mrs. Julia B. Wilson, 47 Patton avenue, N.E., Roanoke. His wife is the former Miss Doris Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Scott, 851 Washington avenue, Norfolk Mrs. Scott is a Journal and Guide employee.

Mrs. Wilson, a graduate of Virginia Union University, is residing at 213 W. 123rd street, New York City. Lt. Wilson is a former Union student.

(Captain Roberts was the youngest of the original 99th Fighter Squadron who went overseas last April. He will be 23 on June 29. He is one of the only three of that original group still in combat, most of the others having been returned to the United States on furlough or reassignment.—Ed.)

5-13-44

Lt. Wilson was flying on Capt. Roberts' wing when flak hits disabled his P-40 Warhawk. It was his third combat mission since joining the squadron overseas a few weeks ago. (He was a visitor in Norfolk just last February, before his overseas assignment).

The flight went out to divebomb enemy gun positions north of Anzio. Lt. Wilson tried to nurse the ailing ship back to the Anzio landing strip, but the engine failed. He stepped out, "hit the silk" at 2,500 feet, and tumbled over as he reached the earth.

ROBERTS STOOD BY

Capt. Roberts circled overhead and followed Lt. Wilson down to make sure of his safe landing.

Operations officer of the squadron, Capt. Roberts has never been seriously hit, never had to parachute to safety, and never had to crash-land his plane, although he has picked up about eight flak hits on his 100 missions. 5-13-44

(Capt. Roberts will be remembered as the youthful pilot who shortly after the 99th reached Africa struck a high tension electric wire and ripped two-thirds off the tail of his aircraft. It was a training flight over French Morocco but Roberts maneuvered the plane to a safe landing without getting a scratch.—Ed.).

LT. WILSON FLIES AGAIN

Wilson came down to safety in the middle of a hospital area, and a few hours later flew another repaired P-40 back to his base. He admits that he felt more nervous flying the repaired plane back over enemy territory than he did when his original ship began acting up. 5-13-44

He explained that the repaired Warhawk had no ammunition and, having lost his headset for the radio-telephone system, during his parachute jump, he was unable to communicate with ground stations or other Allied craft in the area.

Lt. Wilson said: "I feel lucky I was not attacked on that flight alone back to base."

But he was apparently unruffled by his first jump and next day took his regular turn on the line. He had not a scratch on him and appeared perfectly calm.

Lt. Ralph Metcalfe Selected to Attend Special Service Sch.

Weekly — New Orleans, La.
10-14-44

Lt. Ralph Metcalfe, Olympic track star stationed at the Army Service Forces Training Center, Camp Plauche, New Orleans, has been selected to attend the special services school at Washington and Lee University, Va., camp officials have announced.

Lt. Metcalfe, who prior to entering service was a faculty member and coach at Xavier University, New Orleans, is assistant athletic and recreation officer for the Third Regiment of the ASFTC, Camp Plauche. 10-14-44

He was commissioned recently after attending the Transportation Corps officers candidate school at the New Orleans Army Air Base.

West Point Graduate

Age — New York, N.Y.
5-27-44

WEST POINT, N. Y.—Cadet Henry Minton Francis, son of Dr. and Mrs. John Francis, of Washington, D. C., was among the graduates at the U. S. Military Academy last Tuesday. He was immediately commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Army.

Boags Commissioned In Negro Class at Hondo

News Courier — Charleston, S. C.
5-27-44

Walter N. Boags, 27, of 248 Ashley avenue, recently was presented silver navigator's wings and commissioner a second lieutenant in a class of negroes at the Hondo army air field, Hondo, Tex. Lieutenant Boags completed 18 weeks of intensive training involving 15,000 miles of practice combat flight in twin-engine training craft.

Legion Of Merit For Army Chaplain

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
10-19-44

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—(A N P)—Last week I met the officer who recommended the Legion of Merit award for Chaplain Herbert C. Dubra of Gulfport, Miss., the first American chaplain to set foot on New Guinea soil. During the course of an interview with Col. Ivan L. Bennett, chief of Chaplains on Gen. MacArthur's staff, here in the SWPA, I learned that he was the one that had made the recommendation to GHQ. The award was given for out-of the second chaplain to be honored. The only other chaplain thus honored is with a unit.

The chaplain of a Negro engineers battalion, also the first here, from April, 1942, to March, 1944.

47k-1944

Tuskegee Pilots Hear Navy Officer At Graduation

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
9-16-44

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The navy took over at the Army Air Forces graduation exercises of class 44-H at the Tuskegee Army Air Field on September 8, when Commander Daniel W. Armstrong, USNR director of recruit training for Negroes, U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., delivered the main address to the assembled throng gathered in the post chapel.

Commander Armstrong, an eloquent and provocative speaker, stressed the importance of team-work in modern warfare without which there would be no final victory. The youthful commander pointed out we must not overlook the splendid record already established by the many thousands of Negro sailors who have been assigned to the Pacific area and who for many many months have been paving the road to Tokyo. Many of these men, unheralded and unsung, have been doing a job that is nevertheless being written into the pages of our past, present and the future victories in the Pacific. 9-16-44

Nearing the conclusion of the speech, he stated, "From what I know and have learned about your proficiency in the performance of your duties, may I convey to you a message from the Navy, a message which makes every navyman thrill with pride when he sees the flags go up on the signal hoist of the flagship, Job Well Done."

Cadet honors to the first three ranking cadets in order of their standings went to 2d Lt. John Lyman, Whitehead, Jr., St. Paul Polytechnic Institute, Lawrenceville, Va.; James Coleman, 1421 Sloman street, Detroit, Mich., and Emmett Rodney Anders of 420 E. Willow street, Carbondale, Ill.

Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer, presented the letters of appointment to the new officers, while Lt. Col. Donald G. McPherson, deputy for training and operations, issued silver wings to the single and twin engine pliots.

Tribune—Pittsburgh, Pa.
July 1, 1944

HEROIC CHAPLAIN—Capt. James L. Jones, U.S. Army chaplain, of Dallas, Tex., has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry under fire at Anzio Beach. He also wears the Purple Heart. Attached to a combat Quartermaster unit of the Fifth Army, Captain Jones has returned to the United States for a rest.—U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.

34 Pilots End TAAF Training

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Graduates Hear Great Lakes Commander

VIRGINIAN LEADS

Some to Fly Bombers, Some Fighter Planes

9-16-44

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Commander Daniel W. Armstrong, director of colored recruit training for the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, delivered the main address to the thirty-four pilots finishing their training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field on Friday.

Commander Armstrong stressed the importance of teamwork in modern warfare, without which there would be no final victory, and expressed pride in the record already established by the many thousands of colored sailors who have been assigned to the Pacific area.

He also praised the graduates' reputation for proficiency in the performance of their duties.

The first three ranking cadets in order of standings were: Second Lts. John L. Whitehead, Jr., Lawrenceville, Va.; James Coleman, Detroit, and Emmett R. Anders, Carbondale, Ill.

Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer, presented the letters of appointment to the new officers, while Lt. Col. Donald G. McPherson, deputy for training and operations, issued silver wings to the single and twin-engine pilots. 9-16-44

Twin-engine pilots in the class included:

Lt. Warren E. Henry, Plainsfield, N.J.; F/O Russell C. Nalle, Detroit; F/O Elijah J. Oliver, Birmingham; Lt. Paul J. Bonseigneur, Chicago, and F/O Frederick H. Samuels, Philadelphia;

Also the following student officers: First Lt. Luther Goodwin, Bakersfield, Calif.; First Lt. John A. Rector, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Second Lt. Robert S. Brown, Minneapolis, Minn.; Second Lt. Augustus G. Brown, New Orleans, and First Lt. James A. Hurd, Leavenworth, Kans.

The single engine pilots were:

Lt. George E. Hardy, Philadelphia; Lt. Edward S. Bishop, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Second Lt. William M. Cousins, Philadelphia; Second Lt. Lawrence I. Miller, Los Angeles; F/O Milton S. Washington, Willow Grove, Pa.; Second Lt. Emmett R. Anders, Carbondale, Ill.; Second Lt. John L. Whitehead, Lawrenceville, Va.; F/O William P. Armstrong, Providence, R.I.; F/O Edward E. Manley, Los Angeles; Second Lt. Carl E. Carey, St. Louis; Second Lt. James Coleman, Detroit; F/O Morris E. Grant, Chicago; Second Lt. Samuel G. Leftenant, Amityville, N.Y.; F/O Samuel Mathieu, Birmingham; Second Lt. William H. Holloman, St. Louis; Second Lt. Steven Jenins, Columbus, Ohio; 9-16-44

F/O Robert Johnson, Pittsburgh, Pa.; F/O Charles Cooper, Washington; Second Lt. Felix M. McCrory, Yuma, Ariz.; F/O John W. Squires, St. Louis; Second Lt. George E. Franklin, Joliet, Ill.; F/O Charles A. Lane, St. Louis; and the following student officers; First Lt. Albert Lieuteau, New Orleans, and Second Lt. Herbert C. Barland, Chicago.

Promoted To Captain

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.

4-16-44

1st Lt. CHARLES G. CAMPFIELD, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Campfield, Sr., of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., who was promoted to the rank of Captain on March 15. His wife is a resident of Philadelphia. Captain Campfield has been assigned to duty with the Anti-Aircraft Replacement Training Center at Ft. Eustis, Va., where he began his basic training in February, 1942. He was graduated from OCS at Camp Davis, N. C., in November, 1942 and was promoted to 1st Lieut. a year later.

Squadron Commander

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.

4-15-44

First Lieut. EDWARD C. GLEED, of Lawrence, Kans., a graduate of the University of Kansas, is a squadron commander in a fighter group operating in Italy under the command of Lieut. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. The son of Mr. Herbert T. Gleed, of 618 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas, he was a press photographer in civilian life. He received his commission at the Tuskegee Army Flying School. (U. S. Army Air Corps photo.)

Over 200 Negro Chaplains Go Through Harvard 'U'

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-8-44

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—(ANP)—Nine colored chaplains were among the group of 189 to graduate from the Army chaplain school located at Harvard university, Col. John K. Howard, commanding officer of the Army training schools at Harvard, was the commencement speaker.

OVER 200 NEGRO GRADUATES

These nine graduates brings the number of colored chaplains to over 200, since the school was moved from Fort Benjamin Harrison. All of the chaplains left for their stations immediately after the ceremonies. The officers underwent training in grave registration, gas detection, first aid, Army administration and routine. Ranging in rank from first lieutenant to lieutenant colonel, the chaplains occupied Perkins and Conant halls, once used by graduate students at Harvard.

HOMETOWNERS LISTED

Baugh, Crossett, Ark.; Dennis D. Nelson, 2nd, Nashville; Jesse W. Arbor, Chicago; George C. Cooper, Wilson, N.C.; James E. Hare, Fort Pierce, Fla.; Frank H. Sublett, Evanston, Ill., and William S. White, Jr., Chicago.

3-25-44

Upon completion of this course of training, the officers will be assigned to duty initially either at the U.S. Naval Training School, Hampton, or at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes.

2 Made Warrant Officers

Also announced was the elevation to the grade of warrant officer of Boatswain Charles B. Lear of Canton, Mo., and Acting Pay Clerk Willie Powell of San Diego, Cal.

3-25-44

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Powell is at sea and will report to Great Lakes upon his return.]

TRADITION BROKEN

Two Others Get Rank of Warrant Officer

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—As a result of the Navy's recently announced policy of selecting colored candidates for commissioning officers in the U. S. Naval Reserve, twelve men were appointed to temporary rank of ensign (deck) (V(S)) (specialists) to rank from February 23.

3-25-44

The men appointees, who were directed to report to the commanding officer at Great Lakes for temporary duty under instruction are:

Two from D. C.

Philip G. Barnes and Graham E. Martin, Washington, D.C.; Reginald E. Goodwin and Samuel E. Barnes, Cincinnati, Ohio; John W. Reagan, Los Angeles; Dalton L. dental, medical, civil engineer corps and supply corps will be commissioned from civilian life.

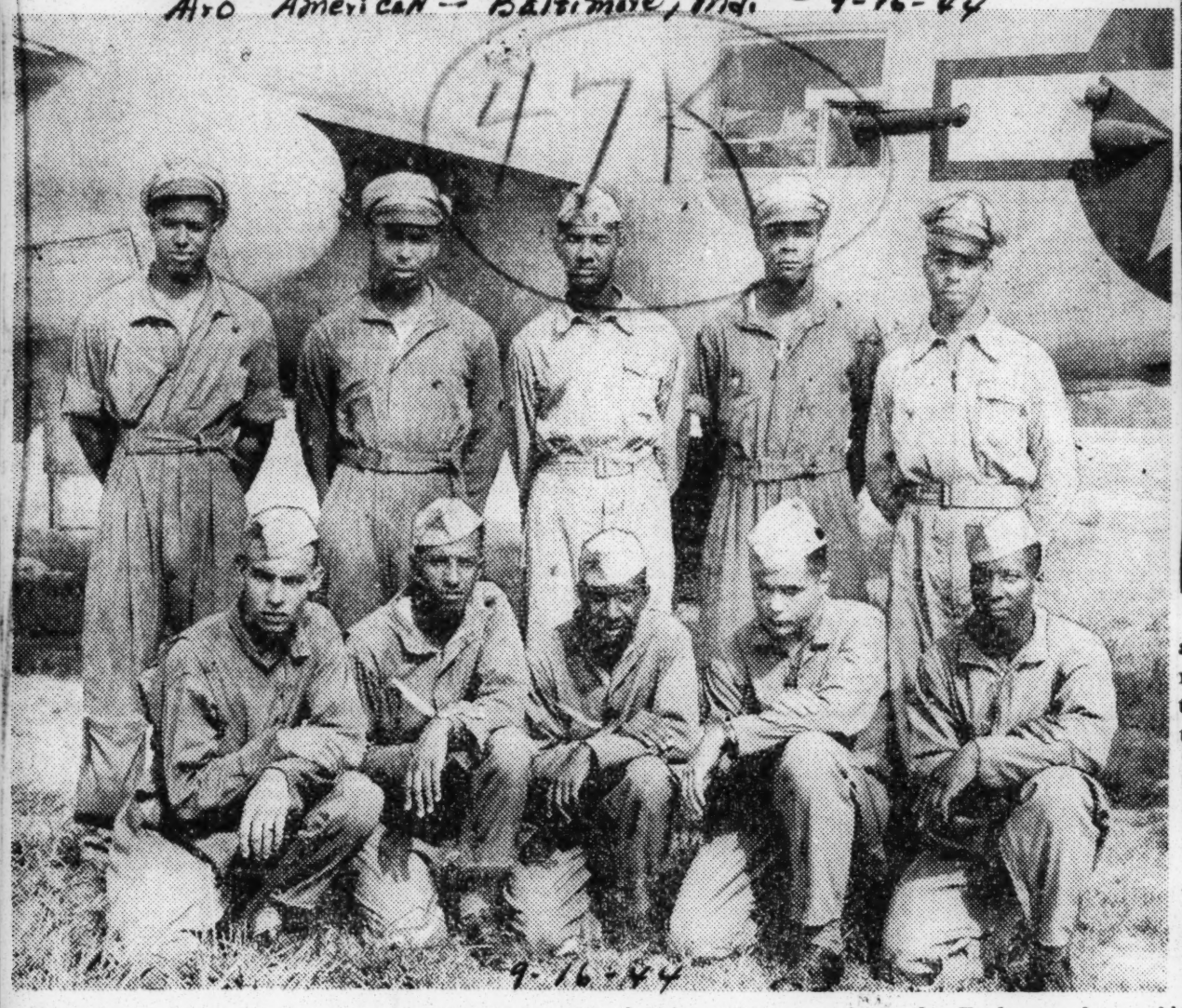
Twelve Made Navy Ensigns

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

First Commissions

Bomber Pilots Complete Training at TAAF

Afro American -- Baltimore, Md. 9-16-44



9-16-44

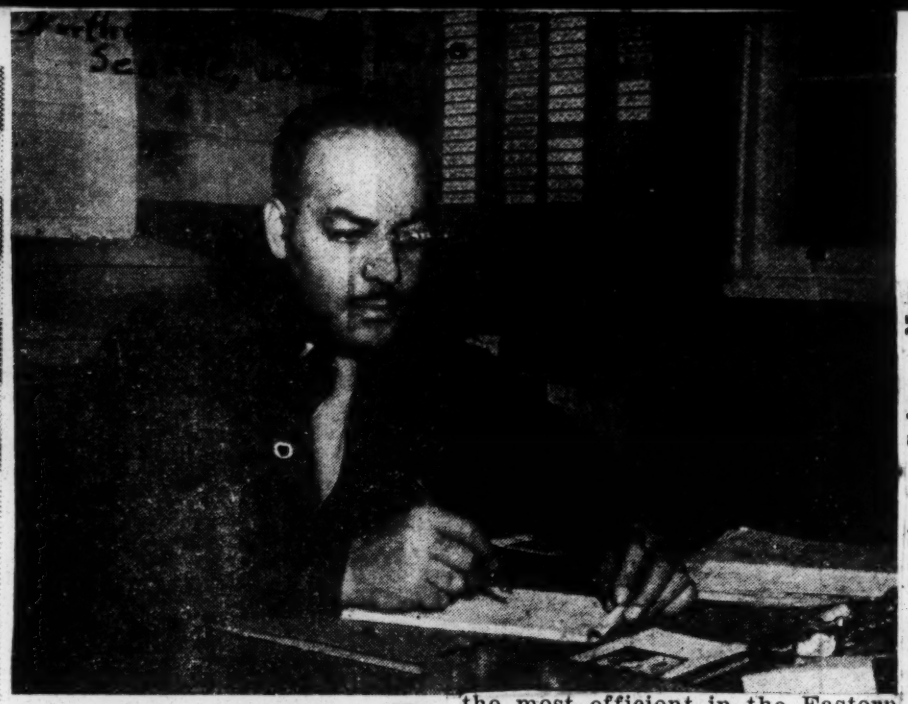
Bomber pilots who received their ratings as operators of twin-engine aircraft at the Tuskegee Army Air Field September 8. Shown, left to right are, kneeling: Lt. Warren E. Henry, Plainfield, N.J.; F/O Russell C. Nalle, Detroit; F/O Elijah J. Oliver, Birmingham; Lt. Paul J. Bonseigneur, Chicago; and F/O Frederick H. Samuels. Philadelphia; standing (student officers) 1st Lt. Luther Goodwin, Bakersfield, Calif.; 1st Lt. John A. Rector, Pittsburgh, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Robert S. Brown, Minneapolis, Minn.; 2nd Lt. Augustus G. Brown, New Orleans, and 1st. Lt. James A. Hurd, Leavenworth, Kans.

Fort Huachuca's Quartet of Colonels

471C

Afro-American— Baltimore, Md.

Members of the staff at Fort Huachuca's Station Hospital No. 1 who were recently elevated in rank. They are, left to right: Col. Midian O. Bousfield of Chicago, commanding officer; Lt. Cols. DeHaven Hinkson, Philadelphia; Roscoe C. Giles, Chicago, and Harold W. Thatcher, Kansas City.



Lt. Theodore A. Haith, of Seattle, Wash., was recently promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant in the Medical Administration Corps at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, where he serves as medical supply officer, according to an announcement by the Tuskegee Army Air Field office of Public Relations.

Seattle Pharmacist Advances in Grade

Northwest Enterprise Seattle, Wash. 5-17-44

Lt. Theodore A. Haith, of Seattle, Wash., was recently promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in the Medical Administration Corps at the Tuskegee Army Air Field where he serves as medical supply officer, according to an announcement by the Tuskegee Army Air Field office of Public Relations. 5-17-44

Lt. Haith, who in addition to his duties as chief of medical supply, serves as post pharmacy officer, holds a pharmaceutical degree (Ph. C.) from the State College of Oregon. During his college days the newly-promoted officer was elected to membership in Rho Chi National Honorary Pharmacy Society in recognition of his extensive research in the field of alcoloidal chemistry. The results of his research in the field were widely published in various professional pharmaceutical journals. 5-17-44

As medical supply officer at the air field, Lt. Haith ras supervised the medical supply until it is now recognized as one of the most efficient in the Eastern Flying Training Command.

Lieut. Haith is a Seattle boy, graduate of Broadway High, one year. University of California, 4 years North Pacific College, School of Pharmacy, Portland, Ore., and he spent several years in Columbus, Ohio. 5-17-44

He received his first commission at Carlysle, Pa., transferring to Tuskegee, Ala.

FLIGHT OFFICER

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

9-6-44

Flight Officer CARL J. WOODS, son of Mrs. Jess Woods of Mars, Pa., was recently commissioned from the Aviation Cadet Corps at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. The twenty-two year old pilot attended Pennsylvania State College from 1941 to 1943. He is now undergoing transitional flight training at this station. (Official USAAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

First Looeys At Ft. Benning

Ga. 9-14-44

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(ANP)— Five reception center officers have been promoted from second to first lieutenants, Col. John P. Burkholder announced. Promoted were 2d Lts. Delwin A. Mills, of Paris, Tex., Roland E. Bing Jr., Oakwood, Tex.; Leroy William H. Hobson, post commander. In connection with their promotion, they received letters of commendation from Brig. Gen. Wilgerly, commanding officer of the reception center, has announced. Hampshire and Ronald T. Nelmes of Long Beach, Calif.

Five Are Made

Daily World—Atlanta

From Quaker State To Fort

4-3-44

2nd Lt. Rose L. Elliott is one of the senior members of the Army Nurses Corps stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Lt Elliott entered the Army Nurses Corps in 1941, and was assigned to the Fort in November, 1942. She was formerly Chief Surgical Nurse at Sea View Hospital at Staten Island, N. Y. She finished her nursing course at Mercy Hospital, and the University of Pennsylvania and the Henry Phipps institute. She is registered with the Pennsylvania and New York state boards of nursing. Lt. Elliott's interesting hobbies are out-door sports, music and dramatics. (Apache Sentinel Photo).

47k-1944

Chaplains

Chaplains Carry On With Poised Invasion Forces

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 5-27-44

BY TREZZVANT W. ANDERSON
WITH THE INVASION FORCES IN ENGLAND—(ANP)—Poised here in Great Britain, with the entire world waiting breathlessly for "D-Day", Negro soldiers doing their jobs in the supply lines, the construction zones, signals sections, anti-aircraft artillery and other allied arms are not forgetting their "men of God," their chaplains who are busy doing their part preparing for the job which lies ahead.

There are four chaplains in my engineer aviation unit. Each takes a special interest in the affairs of the personnel of his unit. Three are captains and the other is a first lieutenant.

Captain James E. Mayo hails from Cleveland and is an Episcopalian. He is the debonair lad of the group, and the first to have made the rank of captain.

Capt. Robert A. Bryant, is a native of Philly and has a brother living in New York City. He is the athlete type, and was at one time an All-American athlete at Lincoln university in Pennsylvania, where he graduated from both college and theology. He is a Baptist. 5-27-44

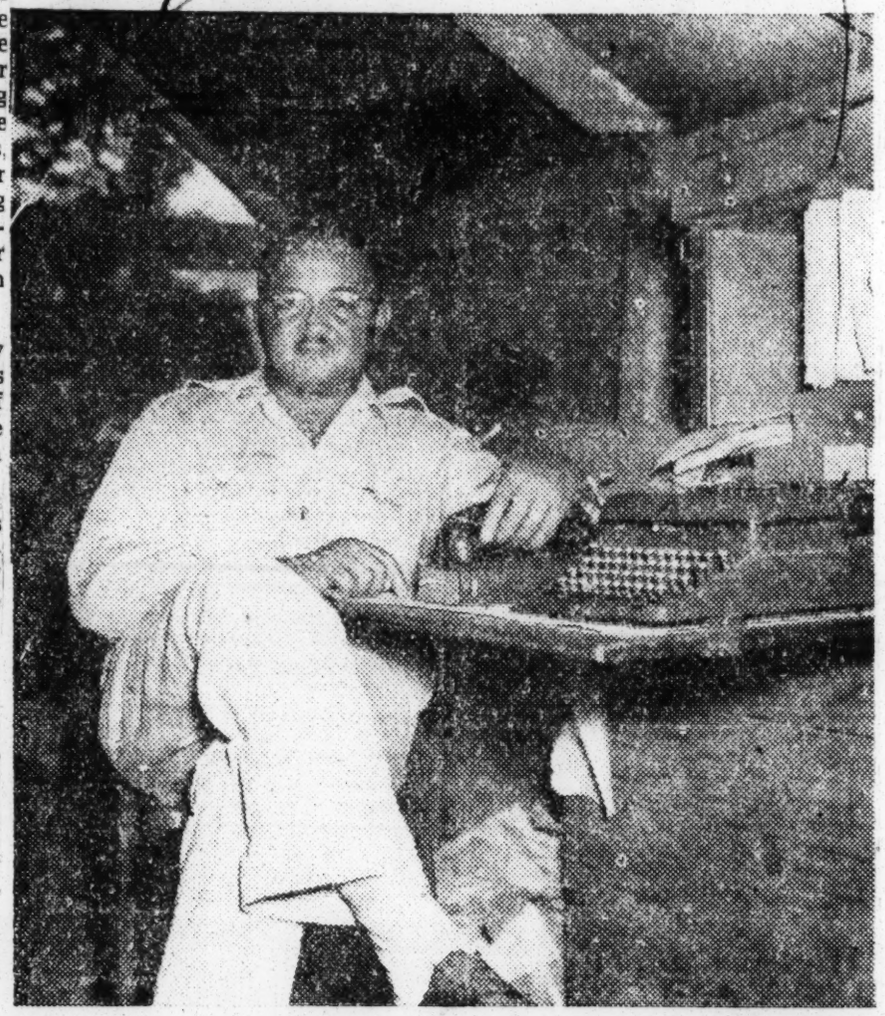
Captain William M. Perkins comes from the mountains of Hinton, W. Va., and was in college at Virginia Theological seminary and college, Lynchburg, back in the days when I was a college boy, and "Bumble" Brown and "Mel" Whedbee were the great All-American footballers of Seminary. Captain Perkins holds an extra distinction; he was the father of the famous "Army Negro Chorus," the noted musical aggregation from our unit which made history on September 28 and 29 at London's Royal Albert Hall.

First Lieutenant Henry Cary Booze, our other chaplain, comes from Port Arthur, Texas and pastored at the Lee Tabernacle M. E. Church, Navasota, not too far from Houston. He is the youngest of the group. 5-27-44

During April, these four teamed up to rack up a total of 1,189 separate ministeral missions, in which 24,643 individuals took part actively.

Chaplain In Jungle Home

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 6-11-44



Chaplain (Captain) Robert H. Alexander is shown comfortably seated in his new home and office somewhere in New Guinea. Chaplain Alexander has been overseas nine months. Prior to his going overseas, he was stationed at Camp Stewart, Georgia. He is a graduate of Morris Brown College and Turner Theologica Seminary, and also a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity

6-11-44

7k-1944

Officers

C. O. Says Biased Setup Maintains Social Customs

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
8-5-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WALTERBORO AIR BASE, Walterboro, S. C.—(ANP) Negro officers of the former 553rd Pursuit squadron and accompanying ground crew walked out of the base here last May because the commanding officer of had, on the day of their from Selfridge Field, estab- a segregation policy that is in effect.

William M. Prince, the commanding officer of the when I talked with him on it is not an attempt to estab- race segregation or discrimi- It is merely an effort to with the State and social cus- which have existed in this countries."

is on the post also a serv- store for enlisted men. There may obtain sodas and odd which may or may not be at the post exchange. personnel is barred em-

OFFICERS' MESS

regulations do not allow had one officers' club a post. To get around that Prince authorized two "offi- mess halls," one for Negroes one for whites. The method operation is the same as that a club, the purposes are iden- but they are two in number. was like that the day the men arrived, and has remained that

8-5-44

Col. Prince is from Laurinburg, C. but that doesn't influence decisions, he says. Both he Mrs. Prince are affable peo- He's been in the Army 16 Among the three objec- he saw as his job was this "to acclimate" the colored of- and enlisted men to a "hos- area."

Before our conversation had end- he was constrained to admit he would "make no distinction whatsoever, except where it comes social intermingling." A the- and a soda fountain, not to the "mess halls," then, facilities which afford social mingling.

"ACCIDENT"

On the base are two post ex- ranges without designation and being all men stationed there. Most of them happens to be in the Negro area for convenience. There is a library open to all, and a gym- nasium which is utilized by all. It is not infrequent that both Negroes and whites find recreation here either in some form of game. A bowling alley has recently been added, however, and the "RTU" (replacement training unit—mean- ing Negroes) was offered two nights a week. Lt. William Bailous delivered the message to the commanding officer that his group preferred not to use the alley at all on such terms.

8-5-44

Capt. Jack Albert Walton, the Protestant chaplain, early invited the RTU to worship at the base chapel, and some of the men have accepted. The Catholic priest from outside has been just as cordial.

No one could recall any "incident" occurring between the men of the two races. None felt that any would occur.

While the theatre matter is the main sore spot of the men, there are others that make for their unhappiness and low morale. Taking the flying trainees first, they point out:

8-5-44

The supervisory personnel is almost exclusively white, there being but three Negro officers out of the 21 holding positions from flight leader up to flight commander. Five of the group are either first lieutenants or captains. The three Negroes are First Lts. Graham Smith of Ahoskie, N. C.; Walter Lawson, Newton, Va., and Spann Watson, Hackensack, N. J., all flight leaders, all experienced in overseas combat. Until he was dismissed from the service a few weeks ago by a court-martial, 1st Lt. Charles W. Drydon was another. The men are aware that in all, some 13 men have returned from the 99th with ratings as high as major, the experience of some of whom might well have been utilized in fitting the new organization for their tasks.

FEEL THEY DESERVE PROMOTIONS

8-5-44

While many of the men have only recently received their wings, there are others who feel that deserved promotions have been purposely withheld from them. While at Selfridge Feld the "ratings" of "senior" and "junior" second lieutenants were established among themselves as satiation. Jesse Williams, II, second lieutenant, got his rating in August, 1942, is a skilled engineering officer, but cannot fully understand why he has been held back.

A white second lieutenant is in command of combat intelligence although his assistant is a second lieutenant 17 months his senior in point of rating. The opinion is generally held that promotions or assignments are not made on the basis of merit. While there is not complete agreement on this point, the belief is held by some that white supervisors (instructors) are satisfied to see the trainees get in their flying hours regardless of the quality of the training.

8-5-44

LACK LIVING QUARTERS

Gunnery practice is given at Myrtle Beach, 110 miles northwest from Walterboro. The RTU trainees are taken there under the supervision of a white flight leader generally. The first time they went they were fed at the officers' mess. The next time, however, it was the enlisted men's mess hall. Most of them refused to eat. Nor are they welcomed at other fields when forced landings happen because eating facilities are denied at the officers' hall or club. Unless there is a colored group there with whom they might eat, they go to town or go hungry.

In the town of Walterboro there are but nine colored homes which have indoor toilet facilities. Living space of any kind is scarce. Some of the men have their wives with them and so live off the base. But the Army makes no provision for such arrangements. Whites endure the same drawback.

Ground personnel have things to kick about also.

8-5-44

Forty men in communications asked Colonel Prince to transfer them to other assignments or to other outfits because, among other things, they felt they were being used below their top skills; because in spite of the presence of a Negro commanding officer, 1st Lt. Hayward J. Burns, orders were still coming from white supervisory personnel; because it seemed their unit was actually being depleted and abolished, particularly their homing section.

The medical detachment expressed unhappiness because they had not been permitted to function out of the base hospital, but rather had to utilize an ill-fitted shack with sadly inadequate facilities. Lt. Col. Norbert Sullivan, base surgeon, explained that he had on two occasions requested the Negro commanding officer for the detachment, Lt. Frank H. Jordan, to transfer his men and supplies to the hospital, but that he had failed to do so.

8-5-44

47k-1944

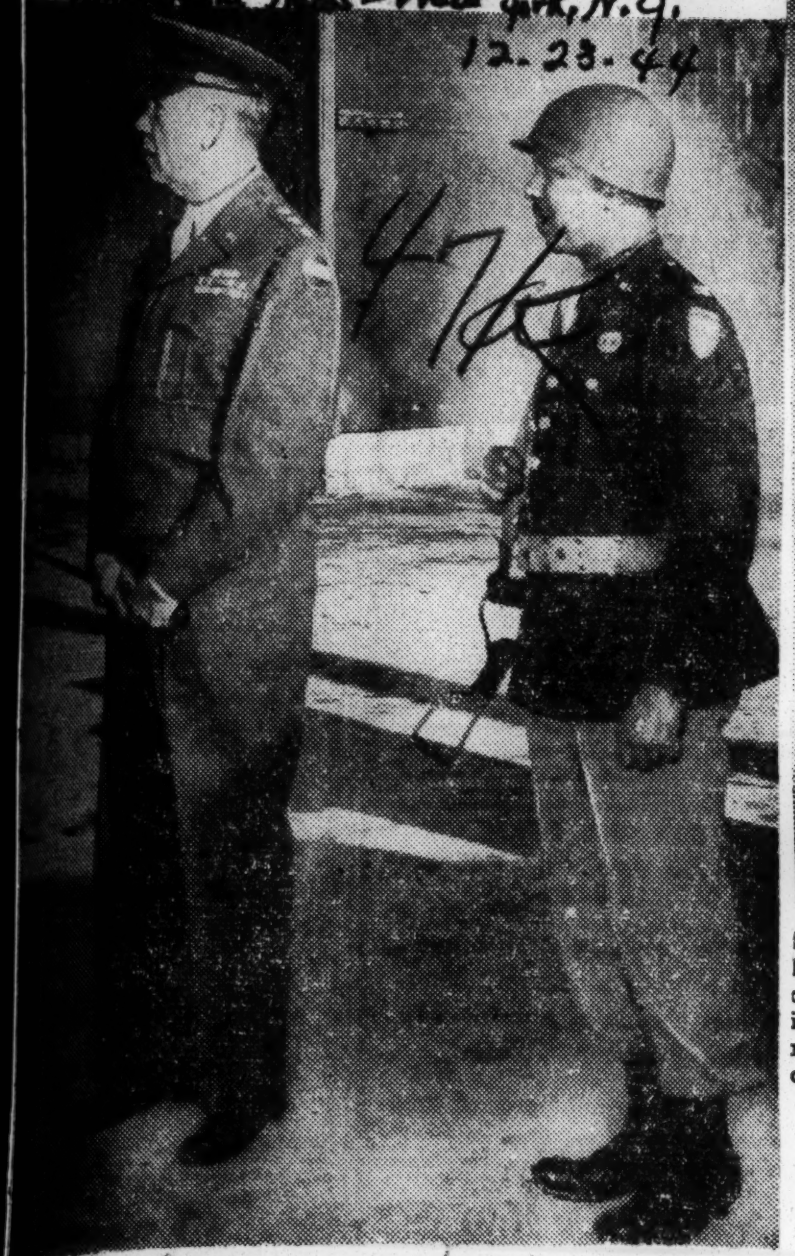
Officers

Harlemite Commands the 555th

Associated Negro Press — New York, N.Y.

12.23.44

47



HERE DURING a recent inspection at Camp Mackall, North Carolina, is Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, Commanding General of the Army Ground Forces, and Capt. James H. Porter, commanding officer of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, the only Negro parachute unit in the world. Capt. Porter's home is in New York City.—(U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

JOSEPHINE BAKER

Internationally famous singer and dancer who was a resident of Paris, France at time of the German invasion, has been given a commission as a second lieutenant in the French Women's Auxiliary Service of the DeGaulle air force. Miss Baker was one of the repatriots released from Vichy, France by the Germans in an exchange of prisoners last year.

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

47k-1944

Officers- Army

Officers of the 332nd Fighter Group relax at the bar of a rest camp in Southern Italy. They are, left to right, Capt. William K. Allen, Medical Corps, of Columbus, Ohio; Capt. Elwood T. Driver, Trenton N.J.; Lt. Henry B. Scott, Jersey City, N.J., and Lt. John B. Quick, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Army Won't Press Charge of Bigamy

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

7-8-44

Says Chaplain Has One Wife in Washington, Another in Georgia

FT. BENNING, Ga.—Captain James R. L. Pinn, chaplain in the U.S. Army, is still here. His resignation of April 22 has not been accepted.

The War Department, rather than place possible military charges of bigamy, told the AFRO that Chaplain Pinn had been given permission to resign.

Still on Active Duty

His papers are now awaiting action at the War Department, and until such action goes through, Chaplain Pinn is on active duty.

AFRO reporters discovered a Mrs. Pinn No. 1 living with the chaplain's father in Washington. She gave her name as Mrs. Pauline Pinn.

7-8-44

The alleged Mrs. Pinn No. 2 is known to enlisted personnel as Mrs. Barbara Pinn. No maiden name was used.

Employees said the Pinns occupied quarters here and that Mrs. Pinn is a civilian employee.

which is under the command of Lt. Col. Demaurice Moses of New York City.

Black Dispatch--Oklahoma City, Okla. 12-16-44

Chaplain in 92nd Promoted; Nazis Drop Leaflets Urging Desertion

The Call Kansas City, Mo. 12-29-44

By MAX JOHNSON

(War Correspondent Who Has Replaced Art Carter in the Italian Area)

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY.—Chaplain Douglass F. Hall, serving with the 92nd division on this Fifth Army front, was promoted from first lieutenant to captain, according to an announcement made here last week.

Chaplain Hall entered the service last December, was assigned to a regiment in the 92nd in February and came overseas last August. He has since been serving with his regiment in the combat area.

Was Newspaper Columnist

Prior to joining the army, he conducted an editorial column, "Seen From My Window" for the Baltimore Afro-American and did other staff work. He married just before his overseas shipment.

Among the first to greet me as I joined this outfit was Captain Leroy Clay who holds the job of assistant executive officer of the division. He is the only officer of his race working as an attache to the staff of Major Gen. Edward M. Almond, the 92nd commander. Another ranking chaplain is Lt. Col. Louis J. Beasley.

Subsequent introductions to the personnel in some of the divisional units, including recently attached replacements, made joining the 92nd seem like "old home week," since I found here many officers and men whom I accompanied overseas.

Major James D. Fowler, West Point graduate, Major George P. Lawrence and Captain Frederick Davison, all of Washington, are among the old friends I met.

Nazis Drop Propaganda

Activated at Fort Devens, Mass., February, 1941, and serving as guard for vital installations throughout the New England States, the 92nd was the first of its kind to reach the European theater intact with an all-colored officer personnel. The unit is still intact under these officers.

The Nazis on this front are repeating their former procedure of dropping propaganda leaflets on the 92nd front line troops. The latest leaflet this week asks the men what they are fighting for and "why risk death when loved ones are at home waiting for them." Picturing two colored babies, one leaflet states "These children want daddy home safe" and adds that comfortable camps with full facilities for communicating with their families in America awaits colored soldiers who desert. 12-29-44

I have heard no reports of desertion. Activity is otherwise quiet on the front and limited to patrols.

Two Chicagoans Get Captain Promotions; Stationed In D. C.

Age - New York, 8-12-44 N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The promotion of two Chicagoans, First Lieutenant James A. McLendon, 409 Oakwood Boulevard, and First Lieutenant Lycurgus J. Conner, 4805 Champlain avenue, to the rank of captain in the Judge Advocate General's Department, was announced last week by the War Department.

Captains McLendon and Connor are assigned to the Office of the Judge Advocate General here, McLendon being detailed to the Claims Division and Conner to the Military Justice Division.

A graduate of Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, and the Northwestern University School of Law, Evanston, Illinois, Captain McLendon received his commission from the Adujant General's Officer Candidate School at Fort Washington, Maryland, on Februry 3, 1943. He was first assigned to the Office of the Judge Advocate General on September 9, 1943. 8-12-44

Captain Conner, a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School at Chicago, was commissioned a first lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Department on March 17, 1943. He was inducted into the Army in September, 1942, and was assigned in turn to the Reception Center at Fort Custer, Michigan, and the Basic Training Center at Camp Lee, Virginia.

Recall Eboue's Help To Allies

Pgh. Courier, Pa 5-27-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — With confirmation of his unexpected death Wednesday evening, May 17, in the French hospital in Cairo, Egypt, the family of Governor General Felix Eboue of French Equatorial Africa and his capital seat in Brazzaville have been showered with official condolences from all parts of the world.

Immediately after the famous leader's death, Frederick J. Mann, U. S. consul general in Brazzaville, made an informal expression to his family on behalf of the United States, while, Friday morning, through Secretary of State Cordell Hull, a message was forwarded from the State Department.

RALLIED FORCES TO ALLIES

M. Henri Hoppenot, minister plenipotentiary and delegate of the French Committee of National Liberation in the U. S., lauded Eboue as a leader of the resistance who

FELIX EBOUE

"succeeded in rallying colonies to General DeGaulle and the Free French." He said France had lost one of her best citizens and patriots.

As soon as it learned of his death, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its executive secretary, Walter White, cabled a message of condolence from national headquarters which asserted that "the world owes him a debt of gratitude for his decisive role in turning the tide of war."

WAS SYMBOL OF AFRICAN SELF-RULE

Paul Robeson, the internationally famous actor and singer, who is chairman of the Council on African Affairs, Inc., New York City, said, "Not only Africa, but the whole world has lost a great man" . . . and Dr. Max Yergan, executive director of the same organization, commented, "Governor Eboue was one of the foremost figures in the present-day progressive development within Africa, a man who symbolized the ability of Africans to govern themselves."

HEADED AFRICA'S THIRD LARGEST POLITICAL DIVISION

Fifty-six years old at his death and a man who exercised authority over more than three and a half million people in an area of almost a million square miles, Eboue was the first and only Negro to hold the uppermost French colonial rank of governor general. He was born in Cayenne in French Guinea and, after his education in the Ecole Colonial in Paris, entered the colonial service as a student administrator in Equatorial Africa. For 24 years, he remained in the province, holding various governmental posts until 1931, when he was named secretary-general of Martinique. Four years later, he was appointed governor of the French Sudan and, in 1936, he was transferred to Guadaloupe as governor, a post he held until his return to Equatorial Africa in 1939.

STAUNCH DeGAULLE SUPPORTER

Eboue was an early supporter of Allied General deGaulle. In 1940, he was accused by the Vichy regime of collaborating with de-

Courier Went Behind Scenes With Eboue'

Two Courier foreign correspondents—R. Walter Merguson and Edgar T. Rouzeau—had the distinction of meeting, interviewing and winning the friendship of General Eboue', Merguson in 1940, 30 years after he had first seen him as a military student, and Rouzeau last spring, when Eboue', who became a world figure in 1939, had also become a key man in Allied strategy for winning the war. Both Merguson and Rouzeau were the general's guests in the royal palace in Brazzaville.

Gaulle and Colonel deLarinat, former chief of staff for the French Army in the Near East, to revolt against the armistice in the Lake Chad region. He was dismissed from his post of governor general and the rank as an officer of the Legion of Honor, but General deGaulle quickly restored him to civil control of Equatorial Africa less than two months later.

In the Brazzaville conference earlier this year, where new French colonial policies were formulated, Governor Eboue was the outstanding figure. His proposals for raising the social, political and economic conditions of the African masses while preserving the best of their own culture formed the principal basis of the conference's decisions.

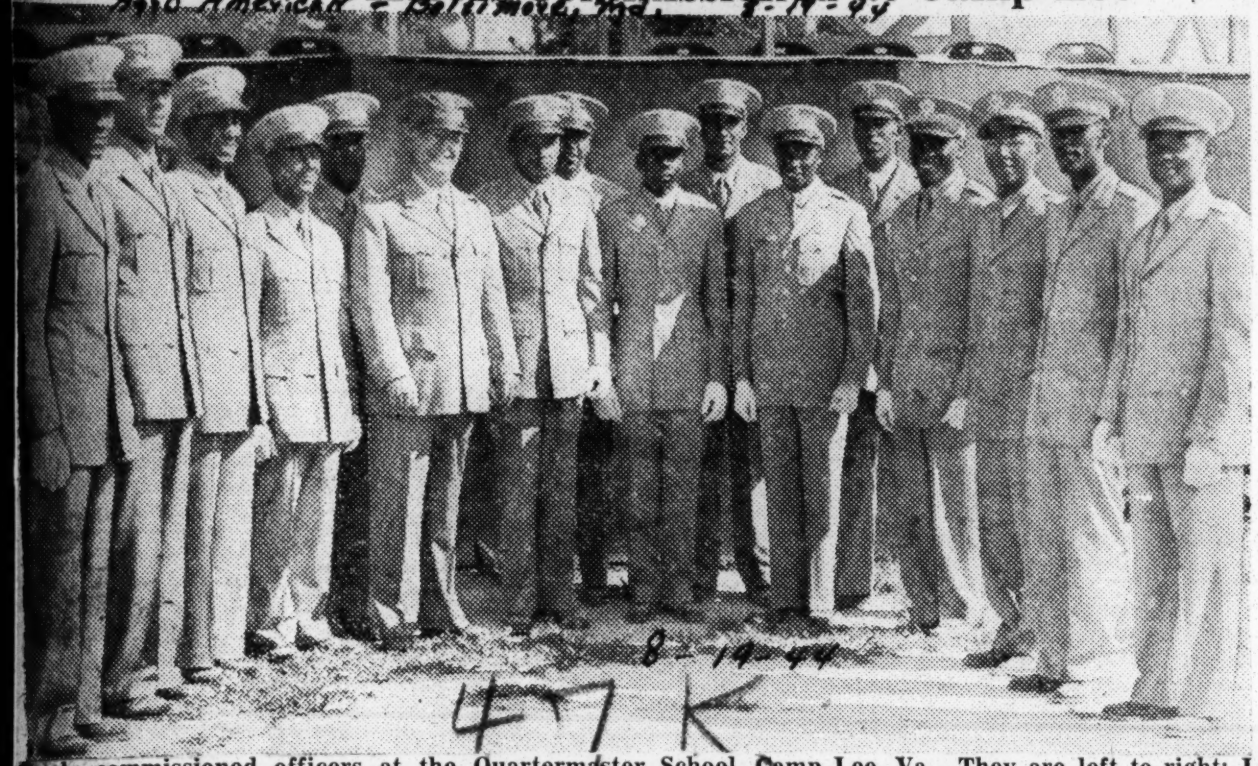
Governor Eboue is survived by a widow and three children.

47k-1944

Officers Army

15 New QM Officers Commissioned at Camp Lee

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 8-19-44



8-19-44

47K

Newly commissioned officers at the Quartermaster School, Camp Lee, Va. They are left to right; Lts. Wendell P. Holmes, Jr., Brunswick, Ga.; John E. Mason, Portsmouth, Va.; Robert G. Gerrard, Chicago; William H. Walcott, Jr., 4047 Aspen Street; Philadelphia; Arthur G. Scott, St. Louis, Mo.; Authur H Quallo, NYC; Samcul T. Daniels, 1424 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore; Husie S. Cross, 1708 Swann Street Northwest, Washington; Henry T. Hawkins, Jr., Los Angeles; Leonard L. Veal, Cleveland; William P Waters, 1602 Thirteenth Street, Northwest, Washington; Earl W. Rowe, Arkon, Ohio; Albert N. Whiting, 2419 Shannon Place, Southeast, Washington, D.C.; Virgil D. Perryman, New Orleans, La., and Everett L. Jones, 509 S. Broad Street Philadelphia, Pa. Also in photo is Brig. Gen. Don B. Scott, who addressed the graduates.

A Historic Picture

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 8-26-44

For those who missed this picture of General B. O. Davis riding a tank in France, we reproduce it from last week's paper. Here is a historic photograph. It's the first appearance of a U.S. colored general on a battlefield in any war. It is true that he is past the retirement age and that he is in France to supervise the making of combat movies of colored troops as well as to make inspection; but the fact remains, he is there. He's wearing the new bucket helmet that gives him the appearance of having his head inside a waste basket; but his eyes are bright and smiling. Regulation O.D. uniform has been replaced by a battle jacket and, although you can't see it, he wears high shoes into which the bottoms of his trousers have been stuffed.

8-26-44

Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis

In his nostrils is the smell of battle, not much different from what he went through in the Spanish-American War or the Mexican expeditions.

8-26-44

Yes, you are seeing a picture of our first general on his first battlefield, and if we can persuade the President to promote qualified colored Army officers on the same basis as others, we should have a colored general in combat before the war is over.

General Davis Still on Tour

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Says Combat Zones Show Better Harmony

INSPECTS UNITS

Views First Movies of Signal Corps Battalion

8-19-44

HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS — Brig.-Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the Inspector General's Department, reported recently that "there appears to be more harmony and lack of racial friction in the combat zone than is found behind the lines."

The general, on temporary duty in the European Theater of Operations, has just completed a brief tour of colored American units in France that covered an area of more than three hundred miles of liberated territory.

This visit to Normandy was the ninth time that General Davis had been in France, and the second tiem he had inspected installations at the front lines.

Praises Men Under Fire

"I am thoroughly pleased with the performance and the conditions under which colored troops are operating here, especially their performance under fire," the general declared.

8-19-44

"Nobody knows except the men in the front lines how important it is for them to keep up their excellent records," he added.

He also revealed that commanding officers had related several instances of heroism which indicated unusual valor among colored troops.

During his trip, the general moved rapidly past the wreckage of German equipment and through countrysides punctuated with ruins of villages, exhibiting a physical stamina that drew praise from younger officers.

Inspects Various Outfits

He visited soldiers repairing small arms and motorized equipment damaged by mines and enemy strafing.

He observed signal linemen stringing wire right up to the front, inspected the work of quartermaster baking companies, and talked with truck drivers of the Transportation Corps who had participated in the St. Lo offensive.

Pvt. Robert E. Griffin of Durham, N.C., was personaly commended by General Davis for the excellent condition of his 2½-ton amphibious "Duck" which carried the general and his party out to a cargo vessel.

The party also watched men of a port battalion start supplies rolling toward the front lines.

Renews Acquaintances

The soldiers' morale, he said further, appeared unusually high. He renewed acquaintance with Cpl. Maurice C. Jennings of Brooklyn, N.Y., an amphibious truck company clerk, and Pvt. Walter C. Fullford of Pittsburgh, a member of a Transportation Corps truck company.

8-19-44

On the last day, the general visited the barrage balloon battalion, previously commended by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, and viewed the first moving pictures taken of a signal construction battalion by the Special Coverage Section, Army Pictorial Service.

Series of Pictures Made

A number of film shorts depicting colored soldiers in combat are being produced under the direction of Major H. A. T. Freeland, assisted by Carlton Moss, speical adviser.

Others working with them are Major Charles Dollard of the Morale Service Division, Capt. J. W. Coppersmith and Flight Officer C. M. Bennett, of the Army Pictorial Service.

4 Commissioned Lts. in Engineers

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

FORT BELVOIR, Va.—Four men were commissioned second lieutenants in the Corps of Engineers upon completing the sixtieth Officers' Candidate course here recently.

They were:

Reginald E. Crocker of Schenectady, who was inducted November 17, 1942, and stationed at Camp McCain, Miss.; Ernest A. Hood of NYC, inducted July 22, 1942, who served with a calvary unit at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.;

9-2-44

Washington Man

George A. Patterson, 309 F Street, Northwest, Washington who entered the army May 14 1941, and served with the Engineers at Fort Myer, and William J. Roger of Macon, Ga., who received his B.S. degree from Johnson C. Smith University, who was inducted November 19, 1942, and served with the combat engineers at Fort Huachuca.

4 New Officers Arrive in Italy

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

2nd Largest Infantry Group Also Lands

BRAZIL UNIT MIXED

Joe Louis to Begin Tour of Italy

7-29-44

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ADVANCED AIR BASE IN ITALY (By Cable, Censored) — Four new ground officers joined the fighter pilot group this week. They are:

First Lieuts. Bayard K. Colon, public relations officer, 400 Convent Avenue, New York City; Granville Warner, 155 Lefferts Place, Brooklyn; Second Lieuts. Richard Allen, St. Paul, Minn.; and Orville Akers, Los Angeles.

First Lieut. John Gibson of Chicago also returned after a rest in the States.

Joe to Begin Tour

Sgt. Joe Louis, after a tour of England, has reached the Mediterranean theatre and will appear in exhibitions in Italy beginning late this week.

A colored infantry unit, elements of which were trained at Ft. McClellan also arrived in Italy peditionary force arrived.

Brazil Unit Mixed

The latter includes many brown-skinned soldiers and the mixed army makes America's separate forces conspicuous by comparison.

7-29-44

The arrival of the Brazilian army was hailed everywhere as the soldiers declared, "We are here to fight."

Awaiting Orders

The disposition of the colored fineries were blasted.

infantry group, the second largest Another group soared into Nor-

foot unit to reach Italy within the them Italy, giving protective cov-

past six months, is undetermined er for bombers hitting the impor-

at this time. The division is now tant seaport of Genoa.

awaiting orders.

Since last week's brilliant victories, the Mustang pilots have not encountered enemy opposition, though missions have carried

due at Hampton, Va., where he was promoment as a track man, boxer and captain of track and boxing.

Commissioned At Ft. Benning

11-18-44

FT. BENNING, Ga.—William James Furcron of Phila., Pa., was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States. November 8 upon completion of the Officer Candidate Course at the Infantry

School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Lieut. Furcron is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham and Victoria Furcron of 2528 W. Gordon street, Philadelphia, Penn.

The new lieutenant was inducted into the Army on July 4, 1942 and served with the 350th F.A. Bn. Fort Sill, Oklahoma before going to Officer Candidate school four months ago. He held the rank of S.Sgt. before being commissioned.

He is a graduate of Hampton Insti-

Local Soldier

Philadelphia, Pa.

47 k

Promoted On Field

Tribune—Philadelphia

11-18-44

The daring commander of a company of the 92nd Infantry Division now fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy, who was reported missing in action by the War Department on November 3. Captain CHARLES F. GANDY, the first officer of the Negro division to be promoted in the field by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, won the admiration of his men because he "wouldn't ask a soldier to do anything that he wouldn't do." He made his home in Washington, D. C.—U. S. Signal Corps Photo from BPR.)

Executive Officer at Tuskegee Promoted

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — First Lt. James A. Tibbs of Montclair, N.J., who was commissioned from the Army Air Forces Administration Officers' Candidate School: Miami, Fla., on April 16, 1943, was recently promoted to his present rank at the Army Air Field here.

4-9-44

Lt. Tibbs

A graduate of Ohio State University in 1936 and a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Lt. Tibbs, the son of Richard Tibbs of Montclair, is married to the former Miss Mary S. Gardner of Nashville.

Lt. N. E. Haines Killed in Action

Balt. Sun
12-9-44 Md.
Afro-American

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—Mrs. Emma Carter of 1111 Archie Avenue has been notified by the War Department that her son, Lt. Norris E. Haines, recently was killed in action in Italy.

Lieutenant Haines was commissioned at Fort Benning, Ga., and was attached to an infantry unit. He spent a furlough with his family prior to going overseas.

Has Brother in India

He was a graduate of the Atlantic City High School and received advanced military training at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Among the survivors are a brother, Sgt. Victory E. Haines, who is in the AAF in India; a sister, Mrs. Jean Garrett, and an aunt, Mrs. Rosita R. Monk, all three of Atlantic City.

TANK DESTROYER OFFICER

Tribune—Savannah, Ga.
12-21-44

12-21-44

1ST. LT. LEONARD NEAL BURCH, of Georgia, a special service officer of the 614 Tank Destroyer battalion, is now serving somewhere in France.

Burch, a native of Columbus, Ga., student of the University of Illinois and Chicago's Embalming college, is the husband of the former Rachelle Atkinson King, native of Anniston, Ala., who is now residing in Chicago and teaching in the public school system there. Burch, a civilian pilot, also studied in Chestertown, Md., and Cleveland, Ohio—(Atlas News Photo Service)

Chaplain's School

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Nine colored chaplains were among 142 graduated from the Army Chaplains' School at Harvard, bringing the total of colored chaplains to the house to over 100.

Col. John [illegible] Sherrard, commanding officer of the training schools at Harvard, delivered the commencement address. The chaplains, ranging in rank from first lieutenant to lieutenant colonel, left for their stations following the ceremonies.

The chaplains, denominations, [illegible] served as civilian clergymen, and home states are as follows:

[illegible] Morris, Baptist, Chicago, Ill.; Luther W. Oldfield, Episcopal, [illegible], Wis., [illegible], D.C.); [illegible], Presbyterian, Cincinnati, Ohio; James C. Grady [illegible], Oregon, [illegible], N.C. (North Carolina); Earl W. Jones, Sr., Baptist, Louisville, Ky. (Kentucky); Lonnie F. [illegible], Baptist, [illegible], Okla. (Oklahoma); Andrew [illegible], Baptist, Houston, Tex. (Texas); Willard [illegible], Episcopal, [illegible], [illegible], Ga. (Georgia); Alphonso [illegible] Wilson, Methodist, [illegible], [illegible].

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
-44

47k-1944

Officers- Army

Call— Kansas City, Mo.
12-8-44

COL. DAVIS, BACK FROM WARS, GREETED BY TUSKEGEE HEAD.—Col. B. O. Davis Jr., (right), who recently returned to this country from the European theater of war, is being greeted by Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute, where Col. Davis was stationed before going abroad. Col. Davis, on furlough from his station in Italy, spent a week at Tuskegee. He spoke in highest praise of the brilliant work being done by Negro fighters in the war zones. He brought greetings from Captain William Campbell of the 99th squadron. Campbell is a native of Tuskegee institute.

First Photo of Lt. Col. Davis at His Field Desk in Italy

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
5-13-44

5-13-44

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of fighter group at his field desk in Italy where group's pilots maintain ceaseless vigil over Allied convoys along western coast of peninsula.

Gen. Davis Placed on European Staff

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
12-7-44

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis has been permanently assigned to the staff of the inspector-general in the European Theatre of Operations, it is learned here.

Gen. Davis has been in the theatre since July. At that time he accompanied Carlton Moss, playwright, and Maj. Homer Roberts of the press branch, during the shooting of films for a follow-up to "The Negro Soldiers."

The assignment of Gen. Davis to the European theatre gives rise to the belief that conditions overseas are not as desirable as they should be.

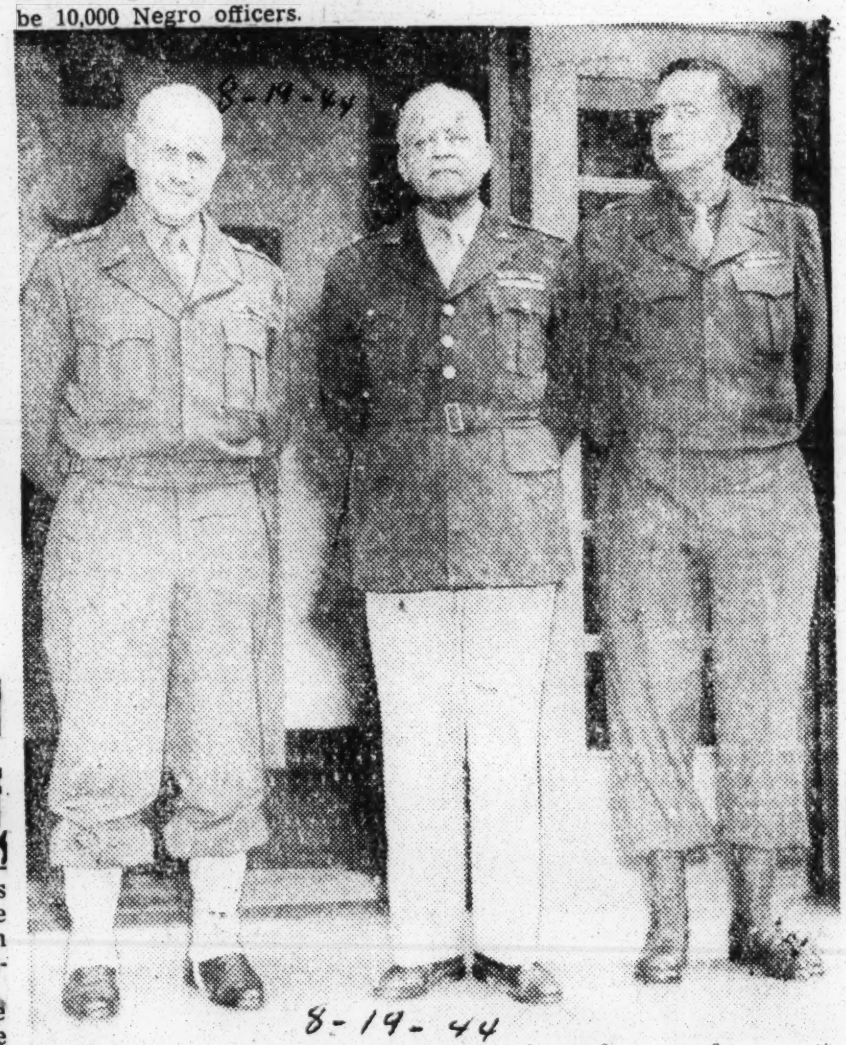
A War Department source here pointed out last week that there are now more colored soldiers overseas than there are in the continental United States.

Gen. Davis Anxious To See 10,000 Officers

Age — New York N.Y.
9-12-44

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE. — Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, commenting upon racial differences to war correspondents Monday night, said: "When I was in London two years ago our own soldiers didn't get along so well with one another, but now on this side I have been told there is no racial unpleasantness. The morale of the Negro troops in Normandy is very high;

The Negro general also said that there are 700,000 colored troops in the Armed Forces along with 5,000 commissioned officers. He said he is awaiting the time when there will be 10,000 Negro officers.



8-19-44

8-19-44

Pausing for a chat and photo before they leave for a conference at a U.S. Army Headquarters, somewhere in England, are (left to right): Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis and Brig. Gen. W. G. Weaver.

Captain Pruitt Paid Tribute At Lincoln U.

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.
12-29-44

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 14—Following a glorious tribute to an American Citizen by the City of St. Louis recently in which President Sherman D. Scruggs and six male students participated, Captain Wendell O. Pruitt was honored here at Lincoln University in a fitting manner. On the program, a part of Wendell Pruitt Day, so designated by the Mayor, President Scruggs spoke while the six young men served as Guard of Honor for the occasion.

Captain Pruitt accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Paige, to the campus in response to a joint invitation extended by the Committee on War Information, The Women's League and the Men's University Club. Gov. Forrest C. Donnell and Mayor Jesse Owens were in attendance.

St. Louis Mayor Welcomes Flyer Back From Overseas

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
12-8-44

St. Louis Proud of 332nd Pilot

Afro-American Balt., Md. 12-23-44

Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt (center) 332nd Fighter Group pilot, receives official welcome in his city as St. Louis observes "Capt. Wendell O. Priutt Day" in his honor. At left is Mayor Aloys P. Kaufmann, who led the celebration, and at right, N. A. Sweets, publisher of the St. Louis American, weekly newspaper Captain Pruitt's record includes the destruction of three German planes in combat and eight on the ground. and assistance in the sinking of an enemy destroyer.

ST. LOUIS. — (ANP) — With a flight record of 70 missions to his credit, Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt, 24 years old and the first Negro fighter pilot from St. Louis to return home on leave after combat duty, visited the mayor's office last week and was congratulated for his outstanding achievements

Sharing honors with a co-pilot for sinking an enemy destroyer by machine gun fire, Capt. Pruitt quietly told the mayor how their bullets struck and exploded a powder magazine. Added to his record also was the shooting down of three enemy planes and destruction of eight ground planes.

Modestly describing his successes as "just a lucky hit," when the mayor called the sinking of the destroyer a fine piece of work, Capt. Pruitt was advised that a special day would be proclaimed in his honor.

"The going got pretty rough at times," Pruitt stated, "but I'm fortunate in not having been sick or injured during my nine and one-half months overseas."

The young pilot's flights took him to the Italian area where several bullet holes were shot in his ship, a P-51 Mustang, but he was uninjured. Before returning to the United States he had flown 70 missions.

His plane was named the "Alice Jo," after the girl friend of his squadron leader and his own girl friend, Miss Alice Charlston of Detroit, whom he plans to marry when the war is ended. Miss Charlston is likewise a pilot.

12-8-44

Capt. Pruitt, son of Mrs. Melanie C. Pruitt of St. Louis, was attending Lincoln university at the time of his enlistment. He is the possessor of the distinguished flying cross and the air medal with four oak leaf clusters.

When the mayor asked if there were anything the city could do for him during his furlough, Capt. Pruitt answered "No," and added that he just wanted plenty of rest.

Kansas Pilot Dies in Italy

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

Lieutenant Beryl Wyatt a Former K.S.T.C. Student

5-12-44

INDEPENDENCE, Kas. — Word of the death of Second Lieut. Beryl Wyatt in Italy was received Friday by his wife, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sumner R. Wyatt, 405 S. 14th St. Previously they had been notified that Lieutenant Wyatt, a pilot had suffered injuries, a brain concussion and a fractured leg, in an accident. According to a message dated April 27 from a chaplain, the pilot's death occurred in a hospital in Italy.

5-12-44

The chaplain's letter stated that the lieutenant was "both an officer and a gentleman," and that he had been given a Christian burial. Further information would come from other sources, the chaplain said.

5-12-44

Lieut. Wyatt left for overseas duty in January, after receiving advanced training at Selfridge field, Mich., for several months.

A graduate of the Independence high school in 1939, Wyatt attended the local junior college where he played an active part in the Y.M.C.A. and took a CAA

LT. BERYL WYATT

Rep. Dies' Special Committee to course. He enrolled in Kansas

General Davis on European Tour

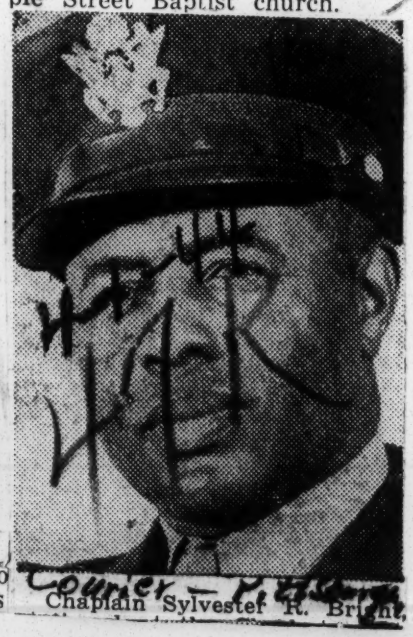
Afro American 8-11-44
Baltimore, Md.

Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the War Department Inspector General's office, chats with S/Sgt. Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, somewhere in the European Theatre of Operations, where Louis has been putting on exhibitions for GI's during the past several weeks.

State Teachers college at Pittsburg where he enlisted in the air corps. He was called into service in November, 1942, and received his wings and commission at the Tuskegee, Ala., army air field on August 17, 1943. From there he went to Selfridge field.

The pilot's wife, the former Lula Mae Henderson of Alton, Ill., and 18-month-old daughter, Elizabeth Ann, have made their home with his parents.

Other survivors are a sister, Mrs. Jeanette Kenoly; a brother, Pvt. Charles Wyatt of Indiantown Gap, Pa., and his grandfather, Rev. Charles Teal, pastor of Maple Street Baptist church.



Courier—Pittsburgh

Chaplain Sylvester R. Bright, stationed at the Charleston, S. C.) Port of Embarkation, who has been promoted to the rank of captain.—Photo by U.S. Army Signal Corps

471-1944

YOUNGEST MEMBER IN RED CROSS UNIT

Fay Sandifer, daughter of Mrs. Nettie Sandifer, and youngest member of the overseas Red Cross units, has just arrived in Calcutta, India. Prior to her Red Cross appointment she was employed at the Bureau of Internal Revenue in New York City.

Miss Sandifer who is a graduate of Shaw University, was listed in "Who's Who" among college and university students in America. She served as president of the YWCA, and was a member of the Shaw University Choral Society. She is a graduate of Dudley High School in Greensboro, N. C. Since her arrival in New York she studied at Washington Business Institute.

She is the sister of Elfreda Sandifer, program director of the Harlem Defense Recreation Center. Another sister, Ocey Smith, has been stationed in Australia for the past nine months with the American Red Cross. Two brothers and two nephews are serving in the Armed Forces.

Plight Of Woman Red Cross Worker Overseas Revealed

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN

(U. S. War Correspondent for NNPA)
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DUTCH NEW GUINEA—(By Courier)—Perhaps the second side of a woman Red Cross overseas worker is her temperament after being caught in a deluge. She then sees that the job calls for something far beyond a patriotic-stricken personality who feels that a woman's hand on the brow of a tired soldier is the medicine he needs.

She's drenched and her hair hangs in strings—without grace. Her shoes and legs are caked with mud. And the more feminine she steps the deeper sinks her boot. She's not so attractive because the rain has drained off her 'ammunition.' You laugh, and she tells you point-blank to "go to hell," and that she's "as good a soldier as you any day." Then she braces her shoulders and matches you stride for stride.

'Funny-Looking Face'

One peek under the wet brim of her G-I hat shows a dripping, funny - looking, determined face. This time she laughs. You can't help admiring the spirit in the slim, wet human being pulling alongside.

During a stopover in the Markham Valley, this correspondent saw two of our workers, Clare Wells, of Detroit; and Naomi Holland, daughter of a retired army officer of Virginia. Recent arrivals in these parts, both were trying to makeup dainty sleeping quarters out of a tin hut. Excluding the girls, the only ladylike element in the shack was the bottles and jars of cosmetics. Powder had sprinkled over the floor. There was some pink things on the line stretched across the bare room they called kitchen.

Bed rooms were hard, with hard army cots. Folded blankets served as pillows. Tables and cloth cabinets were provided. That was all save pictures, books, and accumulated thumb-worn letters. On the front steps sat a susan-eyed black hound dog who peeked through the screen. In the rear, the river flowed gently.

Face Rugged Life

As these women workers move northward they will face this rugged life, more and more. They must face on equal terms with the men the worst enemy of all — New Guinea with its bad lands and climate. And New Guinea gives no quarters.

It is a job far from easy. Setting up clubs and being social workers for men who are sometimes hostile toward women whom they feel have taken part of their freedom away. Last year when they wanted a bath, they simply pulled off and jumped into the river. They talked a strong language, didn't shave, often went shirtless. At the first, men resented this interference with a rugged jungle existence. War was a man's business.

When the first arrivals reached Port Moresby little problems jumped up. For instance, where they bivouacked there was but one officer's latrine. This one had to be shared until additional facilities were provided. Regular hours established. Then elements of the unit moved forward and all latrines were filled in—as is military procedure.

They're There To Stay

Another time, during the early stages, the command issued an order that two armed guards were to accompany the girls wherever they went. Reminded one of the occasion when Mrs. Roosevelt on an inspection tour of hospitals in Australia, ducked into a rest room. The press was at her heels. They respectfully waited near the door—slightly impatient.

Now these unimportant items are water under the bridge. The women look like they are here to stay. They are hardened and tough and take their job rather serious. They are soldiering gamely under the most unfavorable conditions, in the world's worst terrain. They're just a bunch of "reg'lar guys."

One mess sergeant remarked after his chow was refused by a sweating Red Crosser. "You know she had the nerve to kick about the food. She's getting to be just like the other guys."

15 Red Cross Aides Arrive In Australia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Arrival of fifteen more colored Red Cross workers in Australia was announced this week by American Red Cross National Headquarters.

They are:

Beatrice A. Bianchi, assistant club director, 1745 T St., N. W., Washington, D. C.; Ollie Lou Booker, staff assistant, 367 Pine wood street, Toledo, Ohio; Robert A. Brooks, assistant field director, 933 Fairfield street, Aiken, S. C.; Willie Beatrix Calhoun, staff assistant, Orangeburg, S. C.; Marie B. Clark, staff assistant, 1420 Duncan street, N. E., Washington, D. C.; Priscilla M. Collins, staff assistant, 419 U. street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Robert H. Donahue, assistant field director, 514 Townsend street, Wilmington, Del.; Elabeth C. Gilliam, staff assistant, 189 Stevens avenue, Columbus, Ohio; Myrtle Gross, staff assistant, 717 Maywood street Toledo, Ohio; Mary Dade Howard, staff assistant, 814 Rhode Island avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C; Adolphus D. Hughes, assistant field director, 155 V street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Amanda Elizabeth McKee, staff assistant, 474 W 141st street, New York City; Irmah LaHevinne Moore, recreation worker, 555 Edgecombe avenue, New York City; Hermoine P. Sutler, staff assistant, 614 N. First street, Richmond, Va.; Mary Alice Warren, staff assistant, 2911 Washington avenue, New Orleans, La.

Miss Moore was a traveling evangelist for the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia before her Red Cross appointment. She is a graduate of Sumner High school, St. Louis; National University, Chicago; Wilberforce University; Butler University Indianapolis, and Payne University.

SIX WOMEN ARRIVE IN ENGLAND FOR CLUB POSTS

Mrs. Minnie M. Street, Louisville, Ky. — Miss Grace Smith, Dayton, Ohio — Miss Ida Billee Wood, Somerset, Ky. — Miss Margaret C. Lamb, Hampton, Va.

Miss Alice Rae Meacham, Washington, D.C. — Miss Marie C. Wilburn, St. Louis, Mo.

12 Women Are Among 15 Who Arrive in Australia for Red Cross Work; Many States Are Represented in the Group

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Arrival of 15 more Red Cross workers in Australia was announced this week by American Red Cross national headquarters. They are:

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Irmah LaHevinne Moore, recreation worker, 555 Edgecombe Ave., New York City.

Hermoine P. Sutler, staff assistant, 614 N. First St., Richmond, Va.

Mary Alice Warren, staff assistant, 2911 Washington Ave., New Orleans, La.

Former Editor In Group

Miss Bianchi was an instructor at West Virginia State college, Institute, W. Va., before her Red Cross appointment. She is a graduate of Howard University, B. S. 1931, and M.A. 1936. Mrs. Brooks will remain in Aiken during his service overseas.

Miss Calhoun, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Calhoun, State college, Orangeburg, S. C., taught at Riverside Grammar school in that city before joining the Red Cross

Miss Booker, daughter of Newitt R. Booker, of Toledo, Ohio, was employed by the Indiana Avenue Branch of the Y.M.C.A. in that city before joining the Red Cross staff. She is a graduate of Libbey high school and attended the University of Toledo.

Before his Red Cross appointment, Mr. Brooks was associate editor of the Lighthouse and Informer, Columbia, S. C. Previously, he was manager and partner in the Jackson Funeral Home, Aiken, S. C. He is a graduate of Washington high school, Massillon, Ohio; Adelbert college, Western Reserve university, A. B. 1929 and M.A. 1936. Mrs. Brooks will remain in Aiken during his service overseas.

staff. She is a graduate of Claflin College high school and South Carolina State college.

Until her Red Cross appointment, Miss Clark was employed by the Washington, D. C., Board of Education. She is a graduate of Dunbar high school, Howard university, B.S. 1933 and M.S. 1935 and Fordham university. She is the daughter of William S. Clark, of Washington.

Recreation Workers Represented

Miss Collins was employed by the War Production board, Washington, D. C., before her Red Cross appointment. She is a graduate of Food Trades Vocational high school, New York city.

Mr. Donahue was employed by the Walnut Street Branch of the Y.M.C.A., Wilmington, Del., before joining the Red Cross staff. Previously, he was director of recreation for the USO, New York city. He is a graduate of Newport, Ky., high school, and attended the University of Cincinnati and Knoxville college. Mrs. Donahue will remain in Wilmington during his serivce overseas.

Miss Gilliam, granddaughter of Stephen Cromwell, of Columbus, Ohio, was employed by the Office of Chief Engineers, Washington, D. C., before her Red Cross appointment. She is a graduate of Central high school, Columbus, and attended Central Business Training school.

Evangelist Among Workers

Mr. Hughes was employed by the War Department, Washington, D. C., before his Red Cross appointment. He is a graduate of Central high school, Galveston, Texas, and Paul Quinn college, Waco, Texas, and attended Howard university. Mrs. Hughes will remain in Washington during his service overseas. 11-17-44

Before joining the Red Cross staff, Miss McKee was employed by the Picatinny Arsenal, Dover, N. J. She is a graduate of Kentucky State college, Frankfort, Ky., and Cornell university.

Miss Moore was a traveling evangelist for the African Methodist Episcopal church in Philadelphia before her Red Cross appointment. She is a graduate of Sumner high school, St. Louis; National university, Chicago; Wilberforce, Ohio, university; Butler university, Indianapolis and Payne university.

Mrs. Sutler is the daughter of Walter S. Peyton, of Richmond, Va. Before her Red Cross appointment she attended Virginia State college, Petersburg, Va.

Miss Warren, daughter of Mrs. Lena Warren, of New Orleans, La., was employed by the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., before joining the Red Cross staff. She served as a volunteer with the Hearthstone War Workers club in that city. She is a graduate of McDonogh No. 35 high school and the Y.M.C.A. school of Commerce, both in New Orleans.

Serving Overseas

Afro American - Baltimore, Md.

8-26-44

MISS NAOMI M. HOLLAND,

graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, has recently arrived in Australia to serve as a personnel service director with the American Red Cross. Miss Holland is also a graduate of West Virginia State College, and was employed as a child welfare worker for the Virginia State Department of Public Welfare, Richmond, prior to her appointment with the Red Cross.

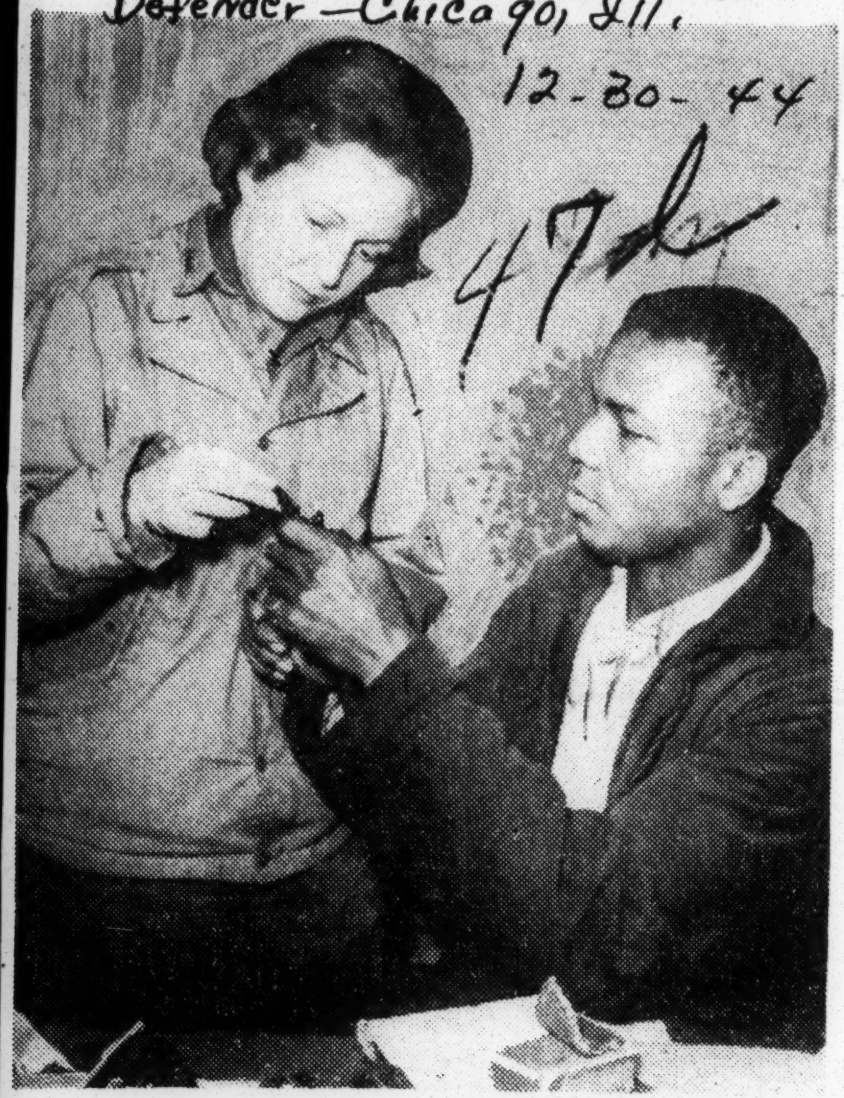
471-1944

KEEPING WOUNDED BUSY

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

12-30-44

47b



Busy hands keep the mind off troubles, according to Miss Edith Blake of Detroit, Mich., American Red Cross Social worker at an evacuation hospital in France. Though supplies near the front are kept to essentials, Miss Blake carries with her materials to establish an arts and crafts corner for ambulatory patients wherever this emergency hospital happens to tent up. Here she is helping Pvt. Joseph Ellis of Durham, N. C., punch holes in a watch strap. He has just put the finishing touches on the elaborately laced leather cigarette case in the foreground.

471-1944

B. T. Washington Center
Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.
'One Of Best In Country'
8-12-44

STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.—The Booker T. Washington Recreation Center, Stapleton, Staten Island, attracts upwards of 800 GIs daily from Staten Island Terminal and the Fox Hills Cantonment. Since it opened in April of this year, it has had over 60,000 servicemen and women as guests.

Over 60,000 servicemen and women have referred to it as the "USO." Actually, it is operated under the auspices of the New York City Defense Recreation Committee which sets up, equips and operates similar centers in and around New York. The director of the Center, Clarence DeHart, and his assistants let it go at that since both organizations operate toward the same end; providing recreation and entertainment for troops.

'Best Equipped' 8-12-44

The Center, one of the best equipped in the country, has chalked up an enviable record in its four months of operation. This can be attested to in part by the number of enlisted men and women who have visited it. It has developed a variety of activities designed especially to divert and entertain the soldiers after a hard day at the various installations of the Terminal. Many top flight entertainers, including Una Mae Carlisle, have participated in its program.

'Most Popular'

Thursday nights have proved to be the most popular at the Center, for then there are hostesses from Brooklyn, Staten Island, and Manhattan. "Eyes" Carter and his band, a great favorite with the GIs, and dancing. Attendance on Thursday usually ranges from 800 to 1,200, the peak having been reached on Thursday, June 27, when 1866 servicemen and women visited the Center. These figures, of course, represent the total overall attendance for the day, including the lounge, snack bar, billiard tables, reading room, etc., as well as the dance. 8-12-44

Another popular feature at the Center is the monthly birthday party held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. GIs who had birthdays during the month are guests and receive gifts. The soldiers, especially those far from home, thoroughly appreciate and en- the delightful evening planned for them.

...ces have proved to be one of the mainstays of the Center and a second one is held during the week on Saturday night. This time the hostesses come from the local Tri-Shore Unit of the AWVS. The success of many of these dances is due largely to the support of these local groups.

Added Attractions

The modern game room on the second floor of the Center has also turned out to be quite popular with the GIs. It now boasts five pool tables in addition to the ping-pong tables, juke box, settees, lounge chairs, and convenient writing and reading sections. 8-12-44

Of the more than 60,000 servicemen and women who have used the Center's facilities, few have missed enjoying the free sandwiches and cakes served at the snack bar, which is well-kept and which has yet to come up short on a cold bottle of pop.

Germans Call It "League of Lonely War Women"
Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
10-28-44

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Eastern France

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WITH INVASION FORCES IN EASTERN FRANCE—(Censored)—If womenfolk on the home front are about to conclude that theirs is almost an unbearable lot because their GI Joe has been away for a year or more, they should be reminded of how the German women are faring. The desperate circumstances to which the trend of war has forced them uncovers an old situation with a new name. These women call it "Verein Einsamer Kriegerfrauen"—(League of Lonely War Women).

Max Johnson

Here is a copy of a circular distributed in German areas:

"THE GERMAN WOMAN AT WAR

"DEAR FRONT SOLDIER:

"When will you come back on leave?

"When will you be able again to forget the hard duties of a soldier and exchange them for a few days of joy, happiness and love? Back at home we know of your heroic struggle; however, we do understand that even the bravest gets tired and that he needs a soft pillow, tenderness and healthful pleasure. 10-28-44

"WE ARE WAITING FOR YOU!

"For you who have been compelled to spend your leave in a foreign town; we are waiting for you whom the war has robbed of his home, waiting for you stands alone in the world without a wife, without a fiancee, without a flirt.

"WE ARE WAITING FOR YOU!

"Cut out our badge on this letter. Display it visibly on your glass in every tea room, in every bar which is in the vicinity of a railway station; soon a member of our League of Lonely War Women will take charge of you, and the dreams you dreamt in the front line and the longings of lonely nights will find fulfilment. . . . 10-28-44

"It is you we want, not your money; therefore ask for our membership card at once. There are members everywhere, since we German women understand our duties toward our country and towards those who defend it.

"Naturally, we are not unselfish—for years and years we have been separated from our menfolk, surrounded by all those foreigners; naturally we long to have again a real German boy to press him to our bosom. Don't be shy; your wife, your sister or your sweetheart is also one of us.

This is the badge which German women ask their soldiers to display in bars and tea rooms.

"We think of you but we also think of the future of our country. He who rests, rusts.

(Signed)
"League of Lonely War Women
(Verein Einsamer
Kriegerfrauen)."

Somebody is going to be awfully surprised and maybe a little confused when I begin displaying the above badge—just for the hell of it.

The Negro In Latin America
Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.
10-7-44

By HAROLD PREECE

Argentine War Plot Against U. S.

On Sept. 7th, Secretary of State Cordell Hull told a press conference that Argentina was the "headquarters" of "the Fascist movement in this hemisphere" as well as "a potential source of infection for the rest' of the Americas." 10-7-44

On September 8 I received from trusted sources, this secret war memorandum of the GOU fascist clique headed by Dictator Juan Peron, which rules Argentina.

This is the first time that the note has been published in English. It shows conclusively that the present Argentine government, dominated by the GOU, plans to attack the United States in a battle for hemisphere supremacy once that she can "soften up" our strongest Latin American ally, the partly Negro republic of Brazil.

Meanwhile, Argentina has already won some of the objectives set out in this infamous plot. She has won over Paraguay and Bolivia. Chile is wavering between Argentina and the United States. Brazil's position is none too secure since the dismissal of pro-United Nations Foreign Minister Aranha and his replacement by a man said to be friendly to the Argentine GOU.

I believe that this note is as important as the notorious Tanaka memorandum, drawn up by Japan long before Pearl Harbor, and revealing exactly what was to happen when the Tokyo military clique took to the war path. 10-7-44

Remember when you read this notice that Argentina hopes to build a great "Aryan" empire at the expense of Latin America's Negro-Indian majority. Remember and act if you don't want your boys fighting a Third World War before the blood has dried from this one. The note says:

"On June 4, 1943 the GOU (United Official Groups) talked of war against America.

"The war has demonstrated clearly that individual nations cannot defend themselves individually. The era of the 'nation' is being replaced, little by little, by the era of the 'continent'. Yesterday, feudal states united and formed the 'nation'. Today, nations must unite to form the 'Continent'. This is the finality of the war. 10-7-44

"Germany is effectuating a titanic force to justify the European Continent. The largest and best prepared nation will have to govern the destinies of the Continent in formation. In Europe this nation will be Germany.

"In North America the controlling nation will be, for a time the United States. But in South America, there does not exist a nation sufficiently strong so that its hegemony may be admitted without discussion. Today only two nations could assume this hegemony: Argentina or Brazil It is our mission to make our tutelage possible and indisputable."

Knew Dies' Constituents

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

This letter is in answer to your editorials and newspaper articles, inferring that Martin Dies is dead politically.

I practiced medicine in and near his Congressional district for twenty years. I was thrown with dozens of his constituents daily. Every single man, woman and child in that neck of the woods loves him whole-heartedly, respects him and will go all the way for him. The opposition to him is composed of imported Eastern radicals; people of foreign birth, C.I.O. and Northern Negroes in the Beaumont, Orange and Port Arthur shipyards.

In conclusion I will add that the veterans of World War I and American Legion in that district are for him 100 per cent, tooth and toenail.

All the exposures of scandal, traitors, un-American activities, brought to the public eye are truth and you and everyone else know it.

Whitley City, Ky. P. S. TAULBEE.

GETS RED CROSS OVERSEAS POST
Interracial Review — Staten Island, N.Y.
12-21-44

DANIEL W. CHESTNUT, 1937 graduate of Atlanta University School of Social Work, who has just been appointed to overseas duty by the American Red Cross. Mr. Chestnut is a graduate of South Carolina State A and M college and has been employed in the social work field in St. Louis, Mo., where he also served as a member of the mayor's racial relations commission.

Bob Weaver's WMC Position Filled At Last

Call - Kansas City, Mo.
10-13-44

But Job Still Is Subordinate

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — Appointment of Benjamin F. Wilson of Gary, Ind., as chief of the Minority Group Service of the Bureau of Placement for the War Manpower Commission last week fills the long-existing vacancy which occured when Dr. Robert C. Weaver resigned to accept the directorship of the mayor's committee on Race Relations in Chicago last January.

One of the reasons given by Weaver for his resignation was the futility of trying to accomplish a worthwhile job so long as the Minority Group Service was kept in a subordinate position in the agency. There has been consistent demand that the position he added to the Commissioner's staff, where it would be in position to work more effectively for the utilization of minority groups in war industries. WMC Commissioner Paul V. McNutt and his staff have resisted all pressures for such a change.

The job was turned down by three Negroes to whom it was offered because of refusal of the agency to elevate the position to a place in the agency where it could be effective.

Mr. Wilson, the new appointee, has been identified with civic, religious and interracial matters in Indiana for a number of years. In 1941, he served on the governor's committee dealing with fair employment of Negroes in Indiana industries. 10-13-44

He has been an active member of the Gary Council of Churches, and is a member of the Indiana Bar. Much of his time has been devoted to postwar planning as a member of the Gary Plan commission. A member of the American Legion, he is chairman of the employment committee of the Legion of the First District of Indiana.

He is a graduate of Boston university School of Law, and attended Howard university for three years after his discharge from the Army in 1919. He is a native of Brinkley, Ark.

The appointment of Wilson takes effect immediately.

D.C. Interracial Canteen Is Victory for Democracy

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
12-16-44

At the Labor Canteen's Institute, Thursday evening in the auditorium of the Agriculture Department, Washington, hostesses were given certificates. Shown are, left to right, Misses Dorothy Shatson, Ruth Weinrich, Lillian Taylor and Jeanette Gillerman, making the presentations. They all work together in racial unity.

WASHINGTON city like Washington represents a victory of democratic force "The existence of a successful interracial canteen in a Southern

he realization of some of the things for which we are fighting," said Miss Dorothy Shatson, white, this week.

Said Miss Shatson:

"The canteen welcomes service men and women and provides hostesses for them, regardless of race, creed, or color. This idea simply horrified many of our 'important people.' That such a center not only has existed for 10 months, but actually continues to expand and grow, has been a surprise to them. What this simple fact means in terms of the community is obvious."

In giving a summary of meetings a recently held canteen institute, soldiers told of their ideal hostesses. 12-16-44

It was brought out that service men should be approached by hostesses in a warm and friendly, but not a domineering way.

Prejudice Dispelled

The subject of "interracial unity" it was brought out that whatever is done, either in dispelling the prejudices of white servicemen who attend the canteen or in providing an oasis of true democracy for the colored service men is a worthwhile contribution toward the goal of American unity.

Maritime Union Canteen Free from Discrimination

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
12-16-44

The National Maritime Union Canteen, at 346 W. Seventeenth Street, is unquestionably the most democratic one of its kind in the city of New York today.

Operating without the slightest trace of prejudice or bias in its relations with merchant seamen and their relatives who crowd the hall every Saturday night, this canteen is effectively following the regulations laid down by its parent, the NMU, in that no discrimination because of race, creed, or color is allowed at any time.

The dancers mix freely here, where at the more famous Stage Door Canteen, only two or three mixed couples at the most were seen by the AFRO on the dance floor. There's no restraint . . . no timidity at all. The AFRO found more than 75 per cent of the couples were members of opposite races.

No Individual Tables

At the Stage Door Canteen, it was also noted that colored service men usually sat at individual tables, but at this Canteen this was not seen.

Miss Terry Penman, national director of the Women's Auxiliary, told the AFRO that one-third of the hostesses are colored. 12-16-44

"That's not because we have any fixed quota," she laughingly added. "For our part, they could all be colored . . . but they were the largest number we could get to volunteer for this work.

"We've been very fortunate in getting the best of entertainment every week. Cafe Society has been very generous, and so have many other Broadway entertainers. We always have a good orchestra because we know seamen love dancing."

Lew Ogull, assistant publicity director, told the AFRO that the canteen opened up only last September and that he had sent publicity releases to white newspapers about it.

One Up on Stage Door

"Strangely enough, none of them assigned any reporters to do a story on the canteen," he said. "I can't understand why, especially when the Stage Door Canteen gets all the publicity. Our racial policies are far superior to theirs. They attempt to eliminate prejudice, while we don't know such a thing exists here." 12-16-44

It isn't difficult to understand why this canteen operates this way. With merchant seamen all over the world freely associating with, working, and fighting alongside peoples of other races, they are learning that jim crow is as stupid as it is vicious. Also, with men like Capt. Hugh Mulzac, of the Booker T. Washington, sailing the seas and preaching and teaching tolerance, it's small wonder that seamen behave as they do when they reach shore.

Other canteens sponsored by the USO and civic-minded organizations can never hope to achieve the same level the NMU canteen has attained, as long as our fighting men are taught in the camps and on the battlefields that it is right to discriminate, and that it is a just part of our American way of life.

Canteen officials know this, and are handling the situation very delicately. However, this treatment is a detour from the road to freedom and equality.

95 Recreation Buildings Built By FSA For Race

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
11-1-44

Atlanta Servicemen's Center Houses Over 3,000 Monthly

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Since Pearl Harbor, ninety-five community recreation buildings partially or wholly financed by Federal funds have been constructed or programed for Negroes, the Recreation Division of the Office of Community War Services, Federal Security Agency, reported this week. These buildings are situated in 29 States and the District of Columbia and involved an expenditure of more than $4,500,000.

Seventy-two of these buildings were programed by the United Service Organizations, twenty-three programed by local authorities responsible for recreation. All will benefit by the Community War Fund drive now in progress.

Each building constructed with Federal funds has to meet certain specifications as to size and service. Buildings constructed for the military are of standard type in four sizes varying from an area of 10,700 to 3,680 square feet of floor

No accurate figures are available at this time as to the number of persons who visit these centers annually, the Community War Services reports says, but the work, in several cities was cited as typical of that being done at these centers. The Atlanta, (Ga.) Soldiers' Service Center showed a monthly attendance of 3,000, half of whom were soldiers, sailors and marines. In many cities, the recreation center has become a sort of "Town Hall" for the entire community. 11-1-44

As valuable as these buildings now are, and as effective as they seem to be in serving wartime recreation needs, their serviceability will be enhanced in the rehabilitation days ahead when the returning veteran and the war worker come back home to take up the pursuits of peace, the report points out.

471-1944

The Globe Trotter

Daily World 6-11-44

Another Barrier To Be Broken

Atlanta, Ga.

VETERANS OF World War I have really missed the boat by not conducting during the past quarter century a vigorous, unrelenting, uncompromising campaign for full integration into both of the major veterans' organizations, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

It is a mistake, which if not immediately rectified by an insistent, determined drive for justice, might well defeat all of our hopes and desires of being accorded the status of first-class citizenship in the post war era.

MACKAY

For at the end of this war the most powerful political group in America will not be labor, nor the farm bloc, industry, liberals or conservative. It will be the veterans, numbering more than twenty million men and women of voting age, returning from the wars.

WILL GET RESULTS

Whatever these veterans decide they want, they will get it. Make no mistake about that. Whichever political philosophy they decide to support, be it liberal or conservative, that philosophy will prevail in post-war America, for they will have the votes to place in power those candidates who will back up their wishes. 6-11-44

They will be strategically organized and the organization which will spearhead their political activities will be the American Legion.

That the two million or more Negro veterans will have comparatively no voice in this powerful political bloc can be blamed wholly on the thousands of Negro World War I veterans dwelling in the South, who during all these years have not stood up and militantly fought the racial limitations Southern states have placed on membership in the American Legion.

DENIED MEMBERSHIP

The refusal of American Legion state adjutants in Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, Texas, Alabama, Florida and Arkansas to issue Negro veterans charters to form American Legion posts is more vicious in its display of hateful racial arrogance than the outlawed, but still unbroken white Democratic primary.

It is more vicious for it perniciously and bluntly says to Negro veterans in those states which furnished almost seventy per cent of all the Negroes in the Army during the last and this World War, you are good enough to go out on the field of battle and fight; you are good enough to bleed and die, but because your face is black, you are not good enough to share any of the benefits that might accrue as the result of your service to your country.

That this deliberate and foul discrimination can and must be smashed and now goes without saying. For its implications on the position of not only our boys and girls now going through unmitigated hell in the all-out campaign to defeat the arch race-hater, but on the very future of our status in the post war period is all too clear. 6-11-44

VETERANS MUST LEAD

Here is a field that needs as much attention as we now give to making real the Supreme Court's unequivocable decision on the white primary. It is a fight that by its very nature must be spearheaded by veterans of World War I, but which should have the whole-hearted support of all.

The full integration of Negro ex-servicemen into these veteran's organizations, particularly the American Legion, could mean the difference between victory and defeat in our home-front campaign.

Two million Negro veterans with full representation would form a potent voice crying out for justice not only for the black man who saw service, but for full equality for all Americans, irrespective of color.

COULD CHANGE TREND

They could by joining with the more liberal elements of the Legion push that organization away from its conservative trends of the past and place it on the side of those forces which are trying to make America all that its leaders profess to the world it is.

They could enlist new friends in the unrelenting fight we must wage to remove the stigma of second-class citizenship with which we have been cursed for lo these many years. They could get across to white veterans to whom it probably has never occurred that if a man is good enough to fight for his country, he is good enough to work for it. 6-11-44

All of these things and more could become reality in post-war America to those of us who have worked so long and hard for them if veterans of the last war combine their efforts with veterans already released from service in this war to demand their right to membership in an organization created for all of the people by the Congress.

It is a fight well worth the effort, one which could mean a short cut to the achievement of all the just demands made by black Americans for the past three quarters of a century.

American Legion

47L-1944

American Legion

Negroes Organize New Legion Post

Danville, Va., Register

The formation of a new colored American Legion post at Chatham was announced last night by G. K. Linkous, state department membership chairman.

Post 71 already has 33 members and leaders are expecting several more to join in the next few weeks.

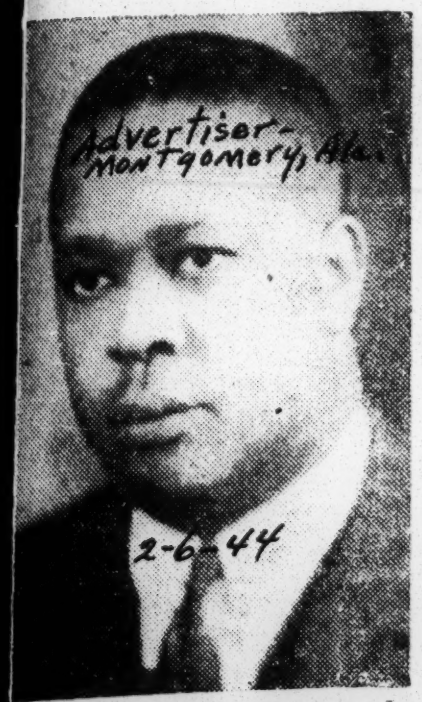
Officers of the new post include: Hughes Dillard, commander; Matthews Johnson, first vice commander; Thomas Lovelace, second vice commander; C. A. Cook, adjutant; Robert Berger, finance officer; James Miller, chaplain; A. C. Cook, service officer; L. A. Thomas, historian, and George Fuller, sergeant at arms. January 11, 1944

Members of the executive committee are: Roy Clement, William Adams and John Hodnett.

Those credited with the organization work were Distirct Vice Commander E. T. Jones of Danville, and Legionnaires Linkous W. L. McCollum, G. B. Wagner J. I. Yates, F. W. Kappas, all of Post 10; B. O. Henderson and J. S. Flood of Danville's colored Post 26, and District Commander L. M. Menefee from Rocky Mount.

Linkous stated that this puts the Fifth District farther ahead in the state membership race.

Friends Made



James A. Johnson, commander of Britton G. McKenzie Post No. 150 of the American Legion, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., is receiving from service men overseas letters and cards of thanks for the smokes which were sent by the Post through solicitation to which the public generously subscribed. Sgt. Richard Wilson, 34150052, APO, 525, care of Postmaster, New York City, New York, was the first to write after receiving the smokes. He said: "Thanks a million for the cigarets. They were enjoyed by all.

LEGIONNAIRE

Lieut. Willa B. Brown of Chicago, was made a member of the Theodore Roosevelt Post No. 30, American Legion, at a special ceremony in Omaha, Neb. Lieutenant Brown is an outstanding aviatrix, secretary of the National Airmen's association, director of Coffey Aeronautical School and only colored flight leader of the Civilan Air Patrol.

Delegates Chosen For State Legion Meeting

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., June 18.—The Britton G. McKenzie Post No. 150, of the American Legion, has named the following Legionnaires delegates to the State Legion Convention which will be held in Montgomery, Ala., July 3-4: James A. Johnson, commander; Capt. James A. Kennedy, first vice commander; E. H. Cravens, adjutant; Capt. R. S. Darnaby, publicity director; G. B. Love, second vice commander; Milton Hicks, G. C. Washington, Robert E. McDonald, past commander; Jeff Russell, sergeant-at-arms; Guy R. Pickett, service officer; Walter A. Vines, finance officer; Alto B. Fleming, veteran of World War II; R. S. Springfield, Archie Williams, Willie Gage, Bennie Braziel, Ledyard Sampson, J. E. Butler and James May. Alternates named are James Story, Elwood Rhodes, Samuel Anderson, C. Hall and J. J. May.

The Britton G. McKenzie Post has a membership of 301. The Post will have representation at the national meeting which will be held in Chicago in September.

47L-1944

Auxiliary Policemen

THEY ARE MAKING A FINE RECORD

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

4-29-44

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—(SNS) — Above is a crack group of Chattanooga Auxiliary Policemen, who have been making a very fine record since they were organized and appointed by Chief of Police. Homer D. Edmondson. Reading from left to right front row, are: A. G. S. Gaines, C. Boston, John McDonald, W. M. E. Thornhill, A. J Thomas, U. S. Brown, E. Hickman; Back row, L. V. Haley, George Powell, E. D. Slaughter, R. T Thompson, Goe Gyons, F. F. Johnson and E. Wilson. This group handled successfully the mammoth throng of people that attended the National Baptist Regional Convention, here March 14-16, at the Memorial Auditorium, the Mt. Paran and Emanuel Baptist Church.

They also handled the crowd at the Play Land Shaw Carnival that was at Lincoln Park, April 10-15. Much favorable comment has been heard about this group of Policemen, for their manner of dealing with the public. They are courteous, polite, but yet positive. Many of the officials of the National Baptist Convention praised the group highly for the manner in which they went about their duties at the Convention. Mr. Wilcox, owner of the Playland Show, said, he was highly pleased with the work of the Chattanooga Colored Auxiliary Police. 4-29-44

It was one of the finest groups that he had met. This group, with a few additions, patroled the Lincoln Amusement Park during the 1943 season, and the conduct there during the season was the best in History, according to a statement by those in a position to know. They are scheduled to patrol Lincoln Park again the 1944 Season.

47L-1944

Women of Harlem AWVS Fight Waste

PM - New York, N.Y.

Nothing will be wasted in Harlem if the women of the Harlem Workshop can prevent it.

Remnants, worn and torn clothing, even pillow ticking, are sure to be rescued and made into something useful at this branch of the Colonial Park Unit, AWVS.

All sewing and renovating is done at the headquarters, a rent-free store at 266 W. 135th St., which is open every day and some evenings, too.

During the past year, more than 750 children's garments were made there which were distributed through various agencies.

Because of the high price of material, however, there probably will be a lot less new clothing made in Harlem this year. 1-13-44

Although much of the material which is made into children's clothes is donated by the AWVS, a great deal must be bought outside as well as thread, tape, needles and other materials.

1-13-44

Old clothes are salvaged, cleaned, mended and pressed. Mrs. Mable Miller is putting finishing touches on a pair of boy's pants.

Patchwork type of baby blanket is being made from odds and ends by Mrs. Hamilton Travis. 1-13-44

Photos by Wilbert H. Blanche, PM

At the Harlem Workshop, necessary garments for children are made. Mrs. Rebecca Heath (left) and Mrs. Helena Jackson are cutting a baby's gown. 1-13-44

Mrs. Helena Jackson, member of the Workshop who does most of the buying, told this department that prices had gone up in Harlem as much as 60 per cent on some materials. A standard width of cotton batting, for instance, which was 69c a yard, is now 98c a yard. Sateen, formerly 29c, is now 49c.

As a result, she is forced to go out of the neighborhood to do her shopping. In order to get good buys, she said, she has to travel to the East Side or shop "under the bridge"—a section from 110th St. to 116th St., where goods are sold out in the open.

Since membership of the Harlem Workshop is rather small and most of the members hold full-time jobs and do their sewing in the evenings, the time that goes into the actual making of the garments is extended. Despite this, however, the work gets done. 1-13-44

Not only do these volunteers help to alleviate the shortage in children's clothes, they also learn how to conserve and remake clothing so that they can apply the knowledge in their own homes.

Hats Off!

PM - New York, N.Y.

7-27-44

Hats off today to Mrs. Daisy C. Reed, director of the AWVS Corona Teen-Age Club, for her vision and persistence in bringing into reality a healthy social plan for the youngsters of her community. Mrs. Reed, a former child-care worker for 30 years, was directly responsible for the first AWVS-sponsored Teen-Age Club in New York. The idea proved so worthwhile that other AWVS centers picked it up with marked success.

47L-1944

NAACP Buys $40,000 In Bonds Honoring 99th Pursuit Pilots

AFC — New York, N.Y. 7-8-44

At a war press conference Saturday in the Army Public Relations Office, 90 Church street, Walter White announced the purchase of $40,000 worth of Fifth War Loan Bonds for the NAACP in honor of the two distinguished 99th Pursuit Squadron pilots, Captains, Charles B. Hall and Lemuel Rodney Custis, Mr. White said:—

"The N.A.A.C.P. is delighted to purchase through Captain Charles B. Hall and Lemuel R. Custis $40,000 of the Fifth War Loan bonds. We wish, however, to emphasize not the purchase of the bonds, which every American should purchase to the limit of his ability. Instead we wish to pay tribute to two gallant American soldiers who incidentally happen also to be Negroes. 7-8-44

"It was my privilege recently as a War Correspondent to see the 99th Pursuit Squadron in action in Italy. We are proud of the D.F.C. which Captain Hall won. We are proud also of the brilliant record of Captain Custis and of the other three Negro fighter squadrons now playing so important a part in the battle of Italy.

"It is our hope that America will show these and others of the 700,000 American Negroes now fighting in the war that the democracy they fight to preserve will be more fully given them and other minorities than has been proved in the past. One question asked me anxiously by colored soldiers on all the battlefronts I have visited is. "To what will we return in America? Will it be only to shoeshining jobs and the Ku Klux Klan?" 7-8-44

"What will America's answer be?"

Mrs. FDR Answers Dixie Solon On CIO Canteen

Courier- Pittsburgh, Pa.
2-26-44

By HARRY McALPIN, NNPA Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The recent opening of the Washington Labor Canteen for servicemen here, sponsored by the CIO, which was attended by Mrs. Roosevelt, was the subject of an attack by Representative McKenzie (Democrat) of Louisiana, who criticized the "co-mingling" of the races.

Mrs. Roosevelt, in replying to the criticism, said Representative McKenzie "seems to be misinformed."

"Apparently," she said, "the congressman doesn't realize both white and Negro members compose the unions sponsoring the canteen. It is sponsored by the Industrial Labor Council of that area. Naturally, if whites and Negroes work together, their union, when it sponsors a canteen, cannot put out one group of its members. As usually happens, the people choose their own friends."

UNDERSTAND HARDSHIPS

She also declared that in order that there shall be no cleavage between our returning servicemen and the people at home, Americans on the home front must make an effort to understand the hardships endured by our fighting men.

Representative McKenzie inserted his criticisms into the Congressional Record, and included a clipping from the Washington Post, which said Mrs. Roosevelt had attended the opening ceremonies and had congratulated the CIO's Union Council on establishment of the canteen. 2-26-44

He said he was "shocked" and "stunned' by the Post item which said there were both white and Negro girl hostesses at the event.

"How can anyone," he declared, "be a party to encouraging white girls into the arms of Negro soldiers at a canteen dance while singing 'Let Me Call You Sweetheart'?"

CONDEMNS ACTIVITIES

"I wonder if the sponsors really believe in the co-mingling of the races and the resulting evil of co-habitation.

"Have these people no regard for the traditions of the South or the culture of the white race?

"Do these people honestly believe that the white people of this nation have reached such a low point of moral and social decadence that they have no pride in race or family and willing to accept all comers?

"Don't these people understand that such activities do not contribute anything to the uplift or culture of the Negro race, but do tend to mongrelize the white race?"

He said no good could come of such co-mingling — "not even political." "I deplore and condemn with all the intensity of my soul the promotion of such activities," he added.

Backward State's Congressman Wails for Race Bars at Canteen

Tribune - Washington, D.C.
2-26-44

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose consistent attempts to practice the ideals of true democracy have drawn ire of race-baiters, faced a new attack last week by a Congressman from one of the most backward States of the Nation.—Rep. Charles E.McKenzie, native of Monroe, La.

(Ed. Note—Believe it or not, but figures say Louisiana, Lousyana, is more illiterate than Mississippi, home State of Senator Back-to-Africa Bilbo, "mayor" of Washington. Reports say that Louisiana had 1,204,647 persons aged 25 and over, and that 154,482 had only first grade schooling; Mississippi had 1,043, 584 aged 25 and over, and 69,119, with first grade education.)

"Seems Misinformed"

When McKenzie last week criticized the "co-mingling" of the races at the recent opening of the Washington Labor Canteen at 1212 Eighteenth Street, Northwest, for all servicemen, regardless of race, Mrs. Roosevelt, honor guests at the event, replied politely that McKenzie "seems to be misinformed."

The race-baiting Congressman injected his criticism into the Congressional Record, and included a clipping from the Washington Post which said Mrs. Roosevelt was present and that there were both Negro and white girl hostesses at the affair.

"How can anyone," he asked, "be a party to encouraging white girls into the arms of Negro soldiers at a canteen while singing 'Let Me Call You Sweetheart'"? "I wonder if the sponsors really believe in the co-mingling of the races and the resulting evil of cohabitation. Have these people no regard for the traditions of the South or the culture of the white race?" he ranted on.

"Don't these people understand that such activities do not contribute anything to the uplift of culture of the Negro race, but do tend to mongrelize the white race?" 2-26-44

McKenzie declared that he deplored and condemned "with all the intensity of my soul the promotion of such activities."

Chose Own Friends

Mrs. Roosevelt was quoted as saying in reply:

"Soldiers who come there have been in unions composed of both white and Negro members and naturally, if whites and Negroes work together, their union, when it sponsors a canteen, cannot cut out one group of its members. As usually happens, the people chose their own friends."

The First Lady also observed that the hostesses at the canteen were colored and white girls who are workers and members of unions having members of both races.

In reply to the criticism, Joseph Phillips, president of the CIO Washington Industrial Union, operator of the canteen, is quoted as saying:

"We of the CIO in Washington are very proud that we could open the first effective non-Jim Crow canteen in Washington. The CIO has always opposed Nazi theories of racial superiority. We believe that one aim of this war is to eliminate such theories. Our Commander-in-Chief has so expressed our policy.

"When people come to our dances they dance with whomever they choose. Only the reactionaries will fear to leave this strictly personal decision to the individual."

FIRST NEGRO CANTEEN TO OPEN ON FRIDAY

'Garden Grove' Located In LeMoyne Community Center

"Garden Grove," Memphis' first negro teen-age canteen, will be opened formally in the LeMoyne Garden Community Center annex building at 8:15 Friday night, with Mayor Chandler making the dedicatory address.

T. O. Fuller, negro manager, and Hamilton Smith, negro assistant manager, said the canteen will be dedicated to the negro youth of the city. It is sponsored by the Memphis Housing Authority and the Tenant Association of LeMoyne Garden in co-operation with the Memphis Park Commission.

Garden Grove will have a game room in which there will be ping pong, billiard and game tables and a snack bar for soft drinks and sandwiches and a lounge room with magazines and a radio.

Negro boys and girls will supervise the canteen under direction of adults of the Tenant Association. Amateur nights and forums also will be conducted at the center.

J. A. Fowler, executive director, and Walter Simmons, finance director, both of Memphis Housing Authority; John Vesey, chairman of Memphis Park Commission, and others have been invited to participate in dedication of the canteen.

47L-1944

Civilian Defense

NATIONAL COMMENT:

Constitution—Atlanta, Ga.

A REAL PATRIOT

(Lee County Bulletin,
Auburn, Alabama)

He was just a little Negro urchin, a ragamuffin, but he stood out in our estimation as one of the greatest patriots Auburn ever produced.

Passing along the tin can bin on College street early one morning, we saw this little urchin emptying a paper sack containing four empty cans. He was doing his bit to make the world a fit place in which to live.

7-25-44

And what an example he set for the rest of us!

Those four cans had no intrinsic value. That little Negro could not have sold them for even as much as a stick of candy. They were worthless, except as an agency of peace. They could spell the doom of a nation; they could contain enough tin to make the shot that some day might send a Tojo or Hitler to his grave; they could shape the destiny of the world, save broken hearts, turn world chaos into tranquil peace, write finis to the worst tragedy man's history will ever record, bring loved ones back to weeping mothers, and restore brotherly love to its place in a world torn asunder by greed and hatred. Who knows?

$3,000,000 spent in recreational work for Negroes

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif. 8-7-44

WASHINGTON — The Federal Government has expended more than $3,000,000 through the office of Community War Services in assisting 166 community-planned recreation programs for Negroes since 1941, James W. Geater, recreation specialist of the OCWS told the State Recreation Conference and Workshop for Negroes at Tugaloo College, Jackson, Miss. this week.

Under a program of mutual assistance, Mr. Geater said, 79 community recreation buildings have been constructed or renovated and staffed and programmed for Negroes. He further declared:

"Under this program the 166 communities have drawn Negro personnel into their community planning program. These representatives serve either on the authoritative overall committee or are members of a functional committee. Through this representation and active participation, Negro responsibility is enlisted which contrbutes to community well-being."

8-7-44

The Mississippi Workshop for Negroes is the third recreation conference in which the OCWS Recreation Division has shared the sponsorship. The first was held in Florida under the State Defense Council, the second in North Carolina, under the State Recreation committee and the University of North Carolina.

471-1944

General

Negro Jurist Assails 'Peace Now' As Pro-Hitlerites Invade Phila. Churches

Magistrate Rainey Exposes Pacifist Disguise of Group

The Worker
New York, N.Y.
2-13-44

By Walter Lowenfels

(Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA. — The pacifist division of Hitler's peace-now front was assailed this week by a Negro jurist as it attempted to smuggle its poisonous propaganda into the ranks of the Negro people. The Negro leader was Magistrate Rainey.

Last Sunday evening, A. J. Muste, peace-now ringleader, invaded one of Philadelphia's leading Negro churches, the Mt. Olivet Tabernacle Baptist Church. Using the Jim Crow issue as an entering wedge, Muste made a peace-now plea.

Muste spilled his defeatist poison after Rev. Marshall Shepard, the pastor and former State Representative, had left. When one of the assistant pastors heard Muste's treacherous talk, he spoke up against it.

Sunday afternoon, Muste and Rustin were the stars at an inter-racial conference held in Fellowship House, which half a dozen outstanding Negro leaders unwittingly attended. Among the white participants was Mrs. Winifred Chambers, chairman of the committee on Race Relations and Minority Problems of the Women's International League. She boasted:

"As the war gets more and more unpopular we hope to recruit more and more members."

However that same Sunday Magistrate Joseph Rainey, denounced the organizations which are actively propagandizing for a Hitler peace and raising money for it, under a pacifist barrage.

Magistrate Rainey named the following pacifist and pacifist-dominated group[s], many of whose members oppose a negotiated peace, but who are allowing their organizations to be used for Hitler's purposes:

The American Society of Friends, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Committee to Oppose Conscription of Women; Fellowship Foundation; Fellowship of Reconciliation, headed by Muste; and the National Council for the Prevention of War, the Libby-Taft organization.

Magistrate Rainey spoke at an emergency conference at which the American Youth for Democracy launched an attack on the negotiated peace forces. Another speaker, who warned the trade union movement to be on guard from peace now representatives, was John Brown, vice-president of the big New York Ship Local 1 of the CIO Shipbuilders union. 2-13-44

Sunday night, Dr. Henry J. Cadbury, long associated with the American Friends Service Committee, and now professor of Divinity at Harvard University, brought forth all the Norman Thomas, Hartmann arguments for a Hitler-peace without victory before a small audience at the Friends Race St. Forum.

Climax of a week-end in which Hitler, while taking it on the chin on the Eastern Front, got a lot of help behind the lines in the U.S.A., came Monday morning when Dr. Albert Palmer, president of the Chicago Theological Seminary, apologized for Japanese atrocities at a United Peace Chest fund meeting sponsored by Negotiated Peace leaders in the Bellevue Stratford Hotel.

Said Dr. Palmer to a group of about 100, mostly middle-aged ladies:

"Unfortunately, the powers that be found it necessary to have Japanese atrocity stories at this time to sell bonds. People are swallowing their bait, hook, line, and sinker."

Said Francis Paul, executive secretary of the AYD: 2-13-44

"Frederick Libby, one of the pacifist peace-now ringleaders, admitted at the Bellevue Stratford meeting this week that their aims are the same as the Hartmann-American First 'Peace' group which has been exposed as accepting Nazi supporters. However, the peace-now pacifists present a respectable veneer,

"They don't call themselves Peace Now' but advocate it under different names, as Magistrate disclosed. Their camouflage has deluded and confused some well-meaning people. We expect many patriotic organizations will join our youth movement in exposing and defeating the sinister peace now propaganda that the Peace Strategy Board has organized under various fronts at its Philadelphia headquarters, 1924 Chestnut St."

City's Request For Negro Center Again Refused

Jefferson City
Centerville, Miss.

Mayor Omer Carroll wishes to bring to the attention of the public the letter reproduced below. Mayor Carroll states that he has written four times to the Federal Works Agency, Atlanta, Ga., citing the tremendous need in Centreville for recreation facilities for negro servicemen. Each time his request has been turned down by the War Department because the project has not been "justified as being essential to the war effort."

The letter follows:

REGION 3
20 Fifth Street, N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia

Project No. Miss. 22-194
Recreation Facilities
(Colored)
Centreville, Miss.
PP&C; FLK; ep

Honorable Omer Carroll
Mayor, City of Centreville,
Centreville, Mississippi

Dear Mayor Carroll:

Reference is made to your application for Federal assistance in the construction of recreation facilities for negro service men. 6-30-44

In accordance with your request, the application has again been referred to the War Department for recommendation as to the construction of the facilities; however, the War Department would not recommend the project as being essential to the war effort. The project has, therefore, again been deferred until such time as the project can be justified as being essential to the war effort. 6-30-44

Assuring you of my cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,
O. T. RAY,
Regional Director.

Negro Kids Get Salvage Award

Negro children in Public School 157, St. Nicholas Ave. and 127 St., were given special awards yesterday for their record set in the wastepaper salvage campaign.

Grover A. Whalen, chairman-director of the Civilian Defense Volunteer Office, presented the awards to the kids, who collected 40,000 pounds of wastepaper during the past month. N.Y., N.Y.

The first WPB-CDVO Salvage Division buttons were given by Whalen to the individual children who collected as much as 175 pounds of paper. Two grand prizes of $5 each, donated by Blumstein's Department Store, were given to Herbert Campbell, 12, who brought in 1,000 pounds of wastepaper, and Dolores Blake, 12, who collected 300 pounds.

Morale Jumped as R. C. Girls Served Fighter Pilots in Italy

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.
12-16-44

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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15TH AAF AIRBASE IN ITALY — The morale of the Fighter Group was elevated by leaps and bounds recently when two petite girls stepped from a clubmobile to serve refreshments to fighter pilots just returning from a long-range escort mission into enemy-held territory.

The two workers, first colored to operate clubmobile service in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations, are Miss Edith Cheatham, 27, 32 Hunter Street, Ossining, N.Y., and Miss Katherine Austin, 26, 10918 Pasedena Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. 12-16-44

Prior to arrival overseas, they were assigned to Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland and also to the Service Center in Washington, D.C. Miss Cheatham was a business student at New York University, and Miss Austin, student at West Virginia State College, majoring in sociology, prior to employment by the Red Cross.

U.S. Gives Up Haitian Rubber Project, Land

Afro-American, Balt. Md.
5-27-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP)—The U.S. government, acting through its Rubber Development Corporation, has written off $8,000,000 as a total loss in its Haitian cryptostegia rubber project, according to official reports this week.

The land, formerly used for the rubber project, will be returned to the natives. However, an experimental station at Gonaives, as well as several other stations in various other areas, will be con[illegible]d this year under an appro[illegible]ion of $100,000.

Tribune-Chicago, Ill.

Wide World photo

HOSTESSES AND GUESTS at the snack bar of the CIO canteen in Washington.

Harlem-Riverside CDVO Does a 100% Community Job

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

By LOLA PAINE 8-18-44

The Harlem-Riverside Civilian Defense Council at 3502 Broadway has become a real neighborhood center—and the neighbors go for it in a big way. So do the kids.

Almost any day you can go around the corner at 147th St. and see Spanish, Greek, Negro, Catholic, Russian, Italian and Jewish kids working away at their CDVO Victory garden. They're raising peas, string beans, tomatoes and lettuce where an old rubbish lot used to be.

Back at the office you can take a look at the monthly reports which this CDVO branch sends to headquarters. You'll find that during June and July its volunteers sold $51,193 in bonds and sent 1,500 magazines and 800 books to the armed forces. Since its inception a year ago, it has sent a total of 10,000 books, all collected by the kids.

Sure enough! They've discovered a stringbean. Alfred Lindo, 10-year-old Negro gardener, Tony Maneates, 12 years and Greek, and Anthony Moga, 11 and Spanish, are pleased as punch over their stringbean patch. Alfred's father works at Stage Door Canteen and his mother works for Postal Telegraph. Tony's dad works in a shipyard. Anthony swelled with pride over his brother Emanuel who's a bombardier in Italy —DW Photos.

WHAT IT MEANS 8-18-44

"Civilian defense," said Mrs. Bernice Feinne, executive secretary of the Council, "means a lot when you really think about it. Civilian defense means keeping up the morale and the war effort of your neighborhood. We have a big job to do because there are no centers or clubs in our entire area—which spreads from 110th to 155th Streets and from river to river."

Some of the work that Harlem-Riverside is doing? Aside from bonds, gardening, books and interracial work, there's a whole string of other neighborhood activities. For example, even the kids took part in getting ballot applications to soldiers. They made a sign saying, "Come in for Official Election War Ballot Applications," and plenty of soldiers walked in asking for bundles.

CHORAL GROUPS 8-18-44

This council has already helped to establish three interracial choral groups—one in a church, one with the Girl Scouts and one with a synagogue. It has become a center where soldiers' families come in to ask about allotments and the dozens of other questions on their minds. It has sent hundreds of volunteers to OPA, the Harlem Hospital, the Red Cross and to the Treasury during the Fifth War Loan drive. It is a clothing depot for Russian War Relief.

Miss Miriam Shapiro, secretary of the Broadway branch, told us that no other organization can "reach the people as we can. If we want to call 200 parents of 100 children we know, the parents come readily.

Summing up the work of the Harlem-Riverside Council, Mrs. Feinne said, "Our ideas don't go to the files. They go to the community."

Calls Tampa's Aux Policemen A Crack Unit

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
1-29-44

400 Uniformed Men Included In Four Companies

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A crack Negro auxiliary police unit is included among nine companies of Hillsborough county's auxiliary police force in Tampa, Fla., John H. Spencer, director of auxiliary police training, said in his annual report to the Office of Civilian Defense, OCD has announced.

The report, also submitted to Police Chief McClelland in Tampa, said that the full organization of more than 400 men included four companies in a mobile battalion, two in traffic patrol service, and one on motorcycle duty patrolling military routes. Another, a medical unit equipped with a trailer, stretchers and first aid equipment, is manned by a doctor and male nurse.

EQUIPPED WITH UNIFORMS

All members of the auxiliary force are now equipped with khaki uniforms, side-arms and other regulation equipment and are required under the police training program to perform an assignment once a month. All must complete 30 hours of service to receive a certificate of training. Each company meets once a week for military drill and instructions in first aid and bomb and gas emergencies. 1-29-44

During 1943, the report said, auxiliary police reported for duty 1,091 times and accumulated 10,088 man hours of service, the equivalent of 1,261 eight-hour days which based on police pay would have cost the City $7.318.

The report praised Mayor Albert R. Knapp, commanding officer of the auxiliary force whom Spencer credited with the high record of efficiency that has been attained since the force was organized. Spencer, pointing out the extensive service given the city, recommended that plans be made for a continuation of an auxiliary police department after the war.

Commenting on the report, Chief McClelland commended Major Knapp and all members of the force for their cooperation.

Crystal Fauset Out Of OCD—Gets Democratic Post

Defender
Chicago, Ill
1-29-44

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Missing from the limelight of publicity since Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt withdrew from active participation in the administration of the Office of Civilian Defense, Mrs. Crystal Byrd Fauset, former race relations director of that office, is again in the public view.

Authentic reports are that Mrs. Fauset is now a field representative for the National Democratic committee—the only Negro and the only woman holding an official position with that committee.

Mrs. Fauset's withdrawal from the OCD was unattended by the fanfare that accompanied the resignations of Judge William Hastie and Dr. Robert Weaver from their government positions. The OCD has been inactive in the field of race relations for many months. Her new position, however, promises to put her in a position of strategic importance.

She has been a leader in the Democratic party in Pennsylvania for a number of years. Considerable rivalry for control of the Democratic machinery among Negroes has existed between her and Dr. William J. Thompkins. Dr. Thompkins has been ill for some time.

Negro Men Wanted

FROM 75 to 100 Negro men are required for volunteer aides in St. Philip, Dooley and Community Hospitals, and the Office of Civilian Defense, under whose auspices volunteers are being recruited, is anxious that this number make themselves available.

Richmond is the first and only city in the United States to train colored men for service as hospital volunteers, and there is a great need for such workers. PRESIDENT W. T. SANGER, of the Medical College, and ROBERT SYCLE stressed this need at a recent meeting attended by Negro air raid wardens. Thus far, only 15 have signed up for the classes which are to be offered next month, so that many more are needed. Those desiring to apply should communicate with the Volunteer Service Bureau in the Allison Building, dial 2-0144, and thereby aid in relieving the serious shortage of help in the St. Philip, Dooley and Community Hospitals.

Richmond has pioneered in this effort, and our colored population will certainly wish to respond to the appeal in a measure commensurate with the emergency which exists. Under the plan, Negro men are given a chance to alleviate the suffering among their own people in local hospitals. It is a worthy objective, and one fully deserving of their wholehearted support.

471-1944

Frances Williams Made Race Relations Officer

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.

Chester Bowles, OPA Director, has announced the upgrading, or the promotion of Miss Frances Harriet Williams to the office of Administrative Assistant OPA Consumer's Division Race Relations. 8-25-44

Miss Williams has been with the OPA for some time, during which she has done some field work, but her chief interest has been the integration of Negroes in OPA work. The fact that eleven per cent of the employees of the OPA in Washington are colored people, many of whom are in the highest salary brackets, speaks eloquently of her activities in their behalf. Her new position is a reward for efficient service.

Miss Williams is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Williams of St. Louis and was formerly on the National staff, Y.W.C.A., from which she has a leave of absence.

OPA Ends Office of Racial Adviser

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

As a part of the announced policy of the Office of Price Administration to decentralize its activities, Administrator Chester Bowles has announced that the functions of the Office of Racial Relations Adviser of OPA will be transferred to the various field offices and to other operating divisions of the agency. 8-12-44

Mr. Bowles said that this step was taken, along with the transfer of a number of activities of the field, in order to assure more direct, immediate and effective operation of the price control, rent and rationing programs in colored communities.

Miss Williams Promoted

"Miss Frances Williams of St. Louis, Mo., who has been on the OPA information staff and the various units which antedated this body since July, 1940, will act as my personal assistant in this field," Mr. Bowles said. "She will be assigned for administrative purposes to the office of the executive officer." 8-12-44

The transfer of the functions of the Racial Relations Office will be made "in such a manner as not only to assure no loss of our program, but rather to provide direct responsibility for effective action in each of the program fields," Mr. Bowles said.

47L-1944

OPA

Name 1st Negro to New Harlem Rationing Board

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
3-24-44

Alan L. Dingle, noted Negro attorney, was sworn in yesterday as volunteer chairman of the newly formed Harlem War Price and Rationing Board by Daniel P. Woolley, regional office of Price Administrator. Simultaneously, OPA announced the opening of another board in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area, which Judge Myles Paige of Special Sessions Court, is expected to head.

The establishment of boards in depressed Negro areas comes after a year-long campaign for effective community control of prices and rationing.

Dingle is the first Negro board chairman in New York State. Both boards will begin functioning next week.

The Harlem board will be located at 144 W. 125th St., with Franz Byrd as chief clerk. All personnel, Negro and white—will be selected from civil service lists. It will cover the territory bounded by 110th St. to 155th St., from river to river and will service approximately 600,000 persons. This area was formerly handled by OPA boards at 1775 Broadway or at 1130 St. Nicholas Ave. Harlemites, however, found these boards inconveniently located. For a while, a price branch operated in the 136th St. branch of the Public Libary. This office was unable to handle cases properly. 3-24-44

The Stuyvesant-Bushwick board will serve a population of 350,000 in Brooklyn and will operate in the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, 265 Nostrand Ave.

Judge Paige's appointment awaits Mayor LaGuardia's final okay since no city employee may accept a post without his sanction.

'Through these new boards," Woolley said, "we hope to bring more effective compliance with the OPA regulations in sections of the city which have been far removed from previous OPA centers of activity, and from which have arisen many complaints of inadequate protection."

The campaign to get a Harlem board was speeded up last year after the outbreaks in Harlem, due in large part to widespread unrest over high prices and black markets.

Tell OPA More Negroes Needed

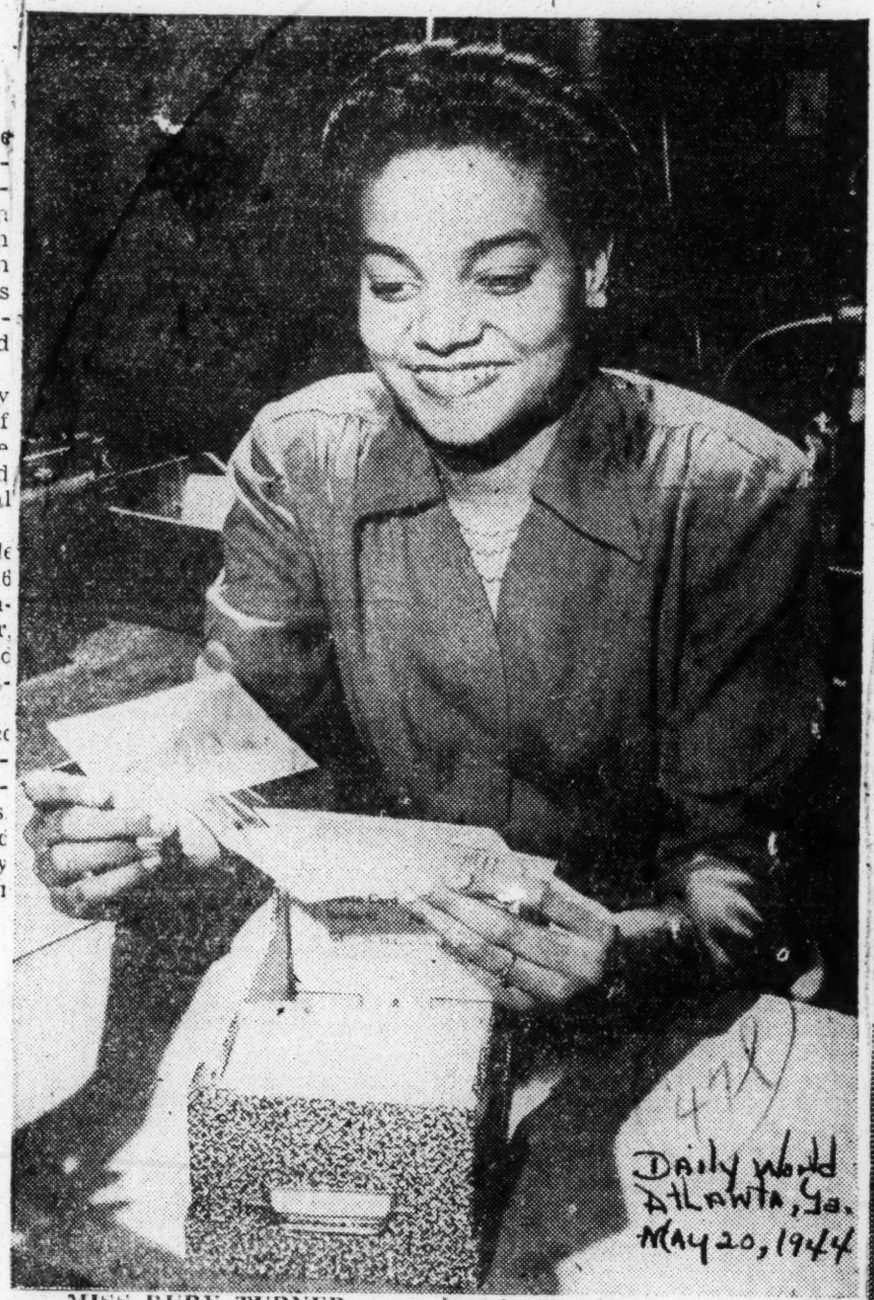
WASHINGON—(A N P)—The National Consumer Advisory committee has advised Price Administrator Chester Bowles that an increase in Negro personnel on war price and rationing boards in district and regional OPA offices is necessary as a means of ensuring that information on price and rent control reaches the Negro.

The consumer advisory body also recommended recruitment of additional Negro members for price panels and as price assistants, and asked for increased informational services to the Negro press.

The recommendations were made after the meeting March 15 and 16 of the full committee of 26 members which include Miss Ella Baker, New York, NAACP official, and Mrs. Grace Townes Hamilton, Atlanta Urban League. 3-26-44

The committee also reiterated its stand in favor of dollars-and-cents price ceiling urging that extension of flat retail price ceilings which consumers can recognize and help to enforce, to hardware, dry goods, work clothing and similar items.

Her System Eases OPA Work



MISS RUBY TURNER

Commodity clerk in a Saginaw, Mich., local rationing board worked out a system for keeping track of applications for extra shoes which saves time for both the board and families filing application. The system, which was reported to National OPA headquarters in Washington, D. C. may be adopted by other boards — Harold Boucher Photo from OWI

ed by many of the members of its local offices.

Miss Ruby Turner, the Saginaw commodity clerk, among her other duties, processed applications for supplementary shoes. Families with a number of small school children are the most frequent applicants. The Genesse county Board No. 1 found one of its chief problems to be determination of the merits of the needs for shoes.

The system Miss Turner devised enables her to see at glance how a family's shoe leather should hold up. Previously, the clerk would have to go through a number of application forms.

Miss Turner used ordinary filing cards and filled out one for each family applying for extra shoes. On the back of the card, she listed all members of the family and on the front she made notations as to when each member was issued a supplementary shoe stamp. This saved hours of time and eliminated a search through hundreds of applications.

The new system was put into operation several months ago by Miss Turner and is being watched by other boards, which may adopt it. The members of her board were impressed with Miss Turners' initiative and efficiency and the local daily newspaper published a picture and a feature story on her work.

Record Plan Aids Officials In OPA

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga. 5-20-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) —How one Negro girl, a commodity clerk for a war price and Rationing Board in Saginaw, Mich., worked out a system for keeping track of applications for extra shoes, easing the burden of the ration board and saving time for the families who apply, is a well known story in her community, the Office of Price Administration said.

The OPA national office in Washington released the story this week as an example of the type of community service being perform-

Heads OPA Board

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
7-7-44

7-7-44

JAMES M. NABRIT, Jr.

An outstanding chairman of an important War Price and Rationing Board in Washington, D. C., James M. Nabrit Jr., executive assistant to the president of Howard University, presides over the 12

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Arnold Hill Functions

8-8-44

The OPA this week is face
dilemma in meeting the
of Congress in its recently
ed budget to broaden its field.
tions with no increase in funds. It
has decided as one step in this
direction to discontinue its race
relations office, but is frantically
trying to avoid any appearance of
-suggestion at this politically im-

Office Will Be On Way Out Of

Continued

Atlanta

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(CNS)

Nat'l OPA Office

Negro and white members of Local Board, Number 34, serving a mixed population of 65,800 in Washington's Northwest section. Mr. Nabrit, who has been board chairman since 1943, is especially proud of the work done by his price panel. He is the son of the Rev. James M. Nabrit, former pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Atlanta.

portant time of curtailing its program of fair-dealing and its interest in the success of its program in Negro communities.

Standing out like a sore thumb in the picture is T. Arnold Hill who on July 15 of last year was named special assistant to the OPA administrator to handle race relations, by Prentiss Brown, then heading the OPA. Mr. Hill was formerly assistant director of the Office of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration under Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune and prior to that had spent 25 years with the National Urban League. 8-8-44

Mr. Hill has been advised by letter over the signature of Chester Bowles, present OPA administrator, that after review of the functions of the various offices in the national headquarters and the need for cutting out 300 positions, it has been decided to transfer the functions of his office to the operating divisions and the field. Mr. Bowles says he and his staff will assume full responsibility for policy .The change is to go into effect August 15.

But the labor groups, both AFL and CIO, and the politicians are opposed to Hill. They have turned a deaf ear to his pleas and are urging the OPA to turn over the functions of Hills' office to Frances Williams, employed in the Consumer division of the agency.

Other race relations advisers in the government, desiring not to be quoted have expressed the opinion that the important thing is preservation of the race relations functions and the principle. They see the OPA move as one to get rid of Hill and not the function of race relations. 8-8-44

Hill feels he is the victim of an inside job and that he has been knifed in the back."

Hill Defjnitely Out Of O. P. A.

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—That T. Arnold Hill, race relations adviser at OPA, definitely is to be terminated was indicated here this week by R. R. Brooks, assistant to the administrator, who told the NNPA that an office has been set up in "administrator's row" for Miss Frances Williams, who Chester Bowles has announced will be a special assistant to him to integrate the Negro into the functions and programs of the OPA. 8-27-44

The decision to discontinue the race relations office and transfer the functions to the operating divisions and to the field service was revealed in an NNPA story of two weeks ago. Hill's efforts to get the agency to change or modify its decision, through conferences with the administrator, were of no avail.

Mr. Hill is at present confined to the hospital. He will, according to Mr. Brooks, be given ample opportunity to find another position. Rumor has it that he may go to the United Nations Rehabilitation and Relief Agency.

47L-1944

Bias Charged To Red Cross In Africa, Mid-East

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
2-23-44

Official Denies Assertions Of Former Aide

NEW YORK—(A N P)—The Red Cross is accused of being responsible for the jimcrow policy against Negro soldiers in North Africa and the middle east. The charges were made by John H. Faulk, a white former American assistant field director stationed at a camp in Cairo.

In an interview, the former aide said he is convinced that Negro service men have formed a universal distrust for the organization supposed to be their big brother because it refuses to permit them to attend dances and admits them to clubs at furlough centers with a condescending "do come in, you're colored." He termed the policy as one of "passing the buck."

2-23-44

Faulk, a former English instructor at the University of Texas, was rejected as an enlistee in the armed forces because of an eye defect. He jointed the Merchant marine and served on a tanker for eight months. Prior to his entrance into the army he was a Rosenwald fellow and devoted his time to collecting Negro folk lore in rural Texas and Louisiana. He called his recently resigned post with the Red Cross, "useless."

PREJUDICED SUPERIORS

"While the Red Cross makes every effort to disclaim official responsibility for its inability to wipe out discrimination," he said, "I found to my surprise many of my superiors had decidedly prejudiced views toward the Negro soldier."

"There are many Red Cross men overseas who do not approve these practices. But they are seemingly in the minority. Consequently, it was my impression that the Red Cross is trying to make the best of an unhappy situation without taking a definite stand against discrimination."

Faulk said he was constantly reminded by his superiors that he had been sent overseas by "American money to maintain the 'status quo!' "This, he said, was most apparent in the instances of Negro servicemen.

2-23-44

Explaining that joining up with the Red Cross seemed his only chance to get overseas with the troops, the former Red Cross worker explained that upon his arrival overseas he asked to be stationed with Negro troops, "because through my work I had become deeply interested in Negro problems."

NOT GIVEN PREFERENCE

The authorities approved he said, but did absolutely nothing about planning him where he wanted to be. He was stationed instead, with white troops to keep them informed on homefront happenings and to encourage the soldiers' families to write.

"No one in this country knows American boys overseas are going through, soldiers of all ancestry—Negro, Jew and Gentile," he declared, and added, "and it would be doubly hard for anyone to understand what Negro troops have to put up with."

2-23-44

In comment on Faulk's assertions, Harold G. Anthony, Red Cross publicity director in Washington, said that the former English instructor had arrived in North Africa about the time Red Cross activity was being dismantled along with the closing down of the military theater there.

"As to his second charge," Anthony said, "our clubs are open to white and Negro alike. That's definitely Red Cross policy.

"It is disagreeable to the white soldiers when Negroes enter the clubs. That is not our fault. If things are as bad as Faulk says they are the Red Cross is not responsible for the situation."

TUSKEKEE SCHOOL OPENS

TUSKEGEE, June 20.—The second annual Red Cross leadership school at Tueskegee opened Monday, with an enrollment of more than 100. Members of the military personnel from five U. S. Army camps are among the enrollees. They will be housed at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, according to Capt. Fred Minnis, special service officer at the air field.

Post Chronicle
6-20-44

Red Cross

5,000 Yank Troops Greet 47 Red Cross Nurses, 'Somewhere In New Guinea'

Defender - Chicago, Ill.
1-1-44

AT AN ADVANCE BASE SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA.—This place is very much like a small country town where the arrival of the train is the hyperdermic for daily conversation which is otherwise limited to the state of one's health, the condition of crops and the weather. The arrival of each boat brings either fresh news from Australia or the good old United States—and it is welcomed. But nothing yet has excited this jungle full of Yankee troops more than the recent arrival of 47 women. Had Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill arrived on the same boat, their presence would have been overlooked just as much as the disembarkation of two chaplains and a Red Cross field director passed unnoticed.

Efforts were made for the soldiers to meet the young ladies, but for all the good intentions of those handling matters, everything went wrong.

The girls arrived unheralded one afternoon and that night more than 5,000 soldiers jammed the inadequate Red Cross Recreation Hall to meet them. The best that could be done that night was to allow each girl to stand on the refreshment counter so she could be viewed by all and introduce herself over a loud speaker system.

The next day was the busiest in the history of the Red Cross here. From morning until 10 p.m., when the girls retired to their double fenced, well guarded compound tired and weary, the recreation hall seethed like a bee's nest. It was impossible for Red Cross officials to estimate the number of men who visited the place during that day.

The next day brought even better news. There was to be a dance that night—in fact, two of them, for a later announcement stated that the eight Negro girls would entertain in the recreation hall of a quartermaster unit for Negro troops.

Anyone knowing how hungry these soldiers are for female companionship can easily imagine what happened. At each affair the girls were outnumbered 200 to 1 by soldiers in well scrubbed khakis, glistening faces and plastered heads. The press was so great that there was no room for dancing—in fact no room for all the soldiers who tried to push into the two buildings. And the number of soldiers steadily increased until fear was expressed for the safety of the girls. So the MP's were called and the young ladies escorted to their compound.

The next suggestion was better. it was decided that the girls, in small groups, would visit various outfits in their own areas. This was all right except that before they got around to visiting them all the girls were shipped to various clubs throughout the Southwest Pacific.

* * *

Meet Johnny Jukebox, the animated Wurlitzer. You call the number, he sings the tune. It all started one night when Pvt. Joseph Johnson of Brooklyn, crawled into his cot in a tent adjacent to mine and began singing one popular tune after another. Next morning I told him how I appreciated his serenade. Next night as he started singing the jukebox idea struck me, and I started requesting tunes by numbers. There was some confusion at first, but we soon had that ironed out by adopting the automatic hostess idea. Now I drop my nickle in the "machine," similating the sound of a coin falling into a slot, and request my selection by number. Johnny knows what I want to hear, and after clearing his voice, occasionally making one or two false starts, he gets on key and begins to sing.

1-1-44

In the army he's a linesman in the communications section for which work he has a good background. In high school he took an electrical course and then worked several years in a plant manufacturing electrical appliances.

He sang a little too. Not professionally, just for his friends at parties. He has a good baritone voice and encouraged by the requests he gets from others who have adopted the jukebox idea, he's taking his singing seriously.

* * *

Every soldier in our outfit has become an amateur physician since the issuance of jungle kits. Intended for use by soldiers when separated from their units and medical facilities are not available, the kits contain five yards of one-inch waterproof adhesive plaster, a can of footpowder, 200 halazone tablets for the disinfection of drinking water, a solution for athlete's foot, five grams of sulfanilamide, a small first aid dressing, two bottles of "Skat," an insect repellent; 30 atabrine tablets, 24 aspirin tablets, a jar of salt tablets, eight sulfadiazine tablets, 16 1-inch adhesive absorbent compresses, and two iodine applicators.

* * *

One does not live as effortlessly in the jungle as at home where we resort to the medicine chest only when we're ill. Here there is a daily medical ritual which must be observed if one wishes to survive the many tropical enemies of man Here's what we have to do. Every other day take an atabrine tablet which offsets malarial symptoms; put a salt tablet in each canteen of water; check water to see that it's chlorinated; wear leggings as protection against scrub typhus bearing ticks; avoid bathing in streams which have not been checked and approved by medical authorities; keep a coating of oily, foul smelling insect repellent (which also repels your friends and sensitive nostrils) on all exposed body surfaces; wear long sleeves and close collars after dusk; sleep under a mosquito bar; sterilize mess gear before and after eating; have all cuts, bruises, scratches and sores attended to promptly and regularly; wear respirators when driving riding or walking along dusty roads; keep feet, armpits and crotch clean, dry and powdered and finally don't miss a meal.

1-1-44

* * *

Saw the following sign in front of a shack inhabited by several officers:

WELCOME
SUNOVA BEACH HOTEL
rates
$1 with straightjacket
$5 without
SECLUDED
10,000,000 miles from everywhere

* * *

I took one of my inflation bags, intended to increase my buoyancy when fording streams, blew it up and found it makes a nice pillow.

* * *

The curiosity of these soldiers in a jungle full of weird insects and rodents has taken a scientific turn. One group, erecting a tent, came across a snake about four or five feet long and little thicker than a broom handle. Instead of killing it, as some were inclined to do, they got strings and pegs and staked it to the ground, speculated on its source, its sex, its name, its species. its usefulness, its attitude toward friendly human beings and its diet. This done, they forced an atabrine tablet down its throat and waited. Nothing happened. They opened a jungle kit and fed it one of every kind of tablet they could find. Still nothing happened. A soldier lugging a five-gallon can passed, saw the crowd and stopped to watch. The can contained gasoline. They took some and poured it down the snake's throat. The snake didn't die. Someone suggested making a pet of it. An argument developed over whose snake it was. Someone said look and pointed at the snake It was dead. Now they're wondering what killed it.

1-1-44

* * *

My five-foot friend, Pfc. Clarence Brown of Camden, N.J., working with pick and shovel the other day, told me that the army is like a big WPA project.

Gets Red Cross Overseas Post

Weekly Review - B'ham, Ala.

2-5-44

47

Washington, D. C.—James E. Jackson (right), first Negro to be appointed as accountant by the American Red Cross, is congratulated by Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the Red Cross administrator of general services. He will serve as club accountant for Negro-staffed Red Cross clubs in Great Britain.

Mr. Jackson was formerly employed as finance officer by the Philadelphia regional office of the War Manpower Commission, assigned to the National Youth Administration in the State of New Jersey.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—First Negro to serve the American Red Cross as an accountant, James E. Jackson, of Camden, N. J., has arrived safely in England, the Red Cross announced this week. In his overseas post Mr. Jackson will act as accountant for several Negro-staff Red Cross clubs for servicemen on leave in the British Isles.

Before his Red Cross appointment, Mr. Jackson was employed as finance officer by the Philadelphia regional office of the War Manpower Commission, assigned to the National Youth Administration in the State of New Jersey. His home was in Camden, N. J., where his wife, Mrs. Alma Gray Jackson, is a public school teacher.

He was graduated from high school at Fairmont, W. Va., and studied accounting at West Virginia State College, at Institute, W. Va.

1-30-44

In joining the Red Cross staff, Mr. Jackson followed the lead of his former supervisor in the War Manpower Commission, Howard M. Stoner, who is a Red Cross assistant field director. In his new job he sees an opportunity for his "most effective contribution to the war effort and to the betterment of relations between the races." He is one of many Negroes serving in Red Cross clubs in all theaters of war.

Accountant With Red Cross

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga
1-30-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — James E. Jackson (right), first Negro to be appointed as accountant by the American Red Cross, is congratulated by Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the Red Cross administrator of general services. He will serve as club accountant for Negro-staffed Red Cross clubs in Great Britain.

Mr. Jackson was formerly employed as finance officer by the Philadelphia regional office of the War Manpower Commission, assigned to the National Youth Administration in the state of New Jersey. 1-30-44

Jersey. (Photo by Jerry Waller).

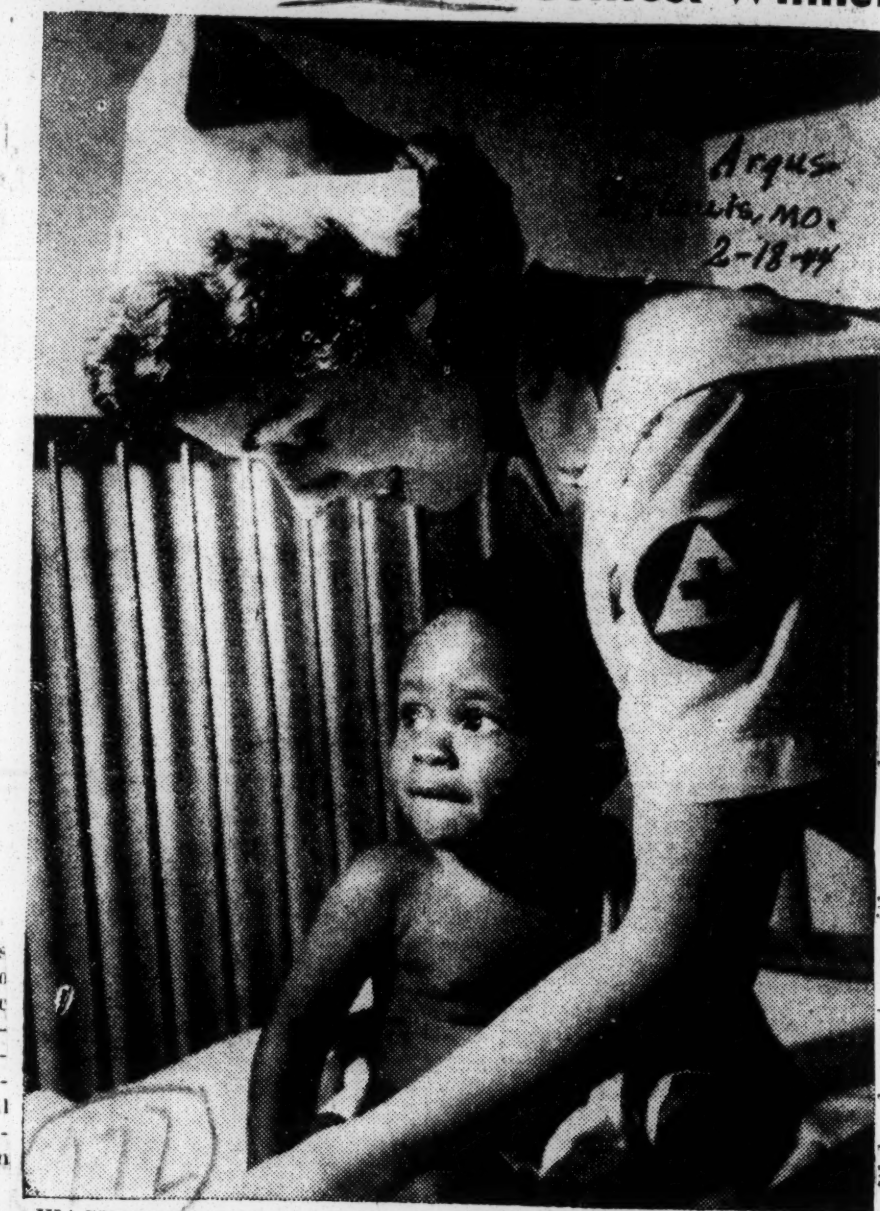
First Accountant

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

Is With Red Cross

1-31-44

2nd Place Red Cross Contest Winner



Argus-St. Louis, Mo.
2-18-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Second place in the monthly contest of the National Photo Awards of the American Red Cross went to Toni Frissell, 480 Lexington avenue, New York City, for her entry entitled "Nurse's Aide," showing a Red Cross Nurse's Aide bathing a baby in Bellevue Hospital.

The award included a $100 War Saving Bond, contributed by the Photographic Society of America, to the winners. 2-18-44

The Red Cross will soon launch a gigantic drive for funds to carry on its important service.

—Photo from American Red Cross, Washington, D. C.

EX-AID MAKES CHARGES

Argus-St. Louis, Mo.

Says Bias Exists In Fighting Zones

2-18-44

NEW YORK, Feb. 16—William Fisher, former U. of Texas instructor and former American Red Cross assistant field director in a Camp in Cairo charged in an article in the New York P.M. Feb. 15, that the Red Cross had allowed itself to be associated with Jim Crowism in the minds of soldiers serving throughout North Africa and the Middle East.

Faulk said while the Red Cross disclaims official responsibility for its inability to wipe out discrimination, he found to his surprise many of his superiors had decidedly prejudiced views toward the Negro soldier. He stated that he was constantly reminded by them that he was sent overseas by U. S. money to maintain the status quo, and was denied his request to be stationed with Negro troops.

Cites Attitude

He reported one of his superiors as saying to him: "You don't understand the nigger problem, although you're a Southener. You have to make them sweat." The superior, existed "an universal distrust in Faulk said, had been a Brooklyn policeman. "It would be hard for anyone to understand what Negro troops have to put up with," he said.

Faulk said he had talked with hundreds of Negro service men regarding "do come in, you're colored," which, he said, was as in keeping with Negroes enter the away as barring them Faulk collected Negro folk lore in rural Texas and Louisiana on Rosenwald fellowship before

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2-18-44

471-1944

Red Cross

At Birthday Party On Guadalcanal

Atlanta Daily World ATLANTA(3), Ga

11-28-44

GUADALCANAL — Celebrants receive presents at a birthday party sponsored by American Red Cross for enlisted men in service club here. The men are, left to right, Jimmy Golightly GM 3/c, Oklahoma City, Okla; Sgt. Louis August, Miami, Fla.; Truman Wayne Flood, S 1/c, Tulsa, Okla.; Pvt. Clarence Thomas, Detroit, Mich.; Pfc. Hozel Florence, Miami, Fla.; Sgt. Mitchel Wahlen, Chicago, Ill.; Sgt. John H. Scott, St. Louis, Mo.; Miss Mabel Tibbitts American Red Cross, Marquette, Mich.; Sgt. Elvan Whiteleather Effingham, Ill.; Pvt. Mike Maples Youngstown, Ohio.

American Red Cross Service Club Opens In English Town; Jesse Chiles Heads Staff

2.4.N.Y.

HULL, England.—"We made it!" beamed American Red Cross Club Director Jesse Chiles, 835 Beecher street, Walnut Hill, Cincinnati, Ohio, to a bleary but happy, only half an hour before the official opening ceremony at a large, new Red Cross club in this seaport town.

Newsweek 9-2-44

In 24 hours, Chiles, with his American Red Cross staff of two, Miss Wilma Smith, 1320 Burdette avenue, Cincinnati, and Miss Helen Bruce, 528 Ninth street, Muskogee, Okla., had completely closed down one club in the same city, and reopened full scale operations in another.

The old club could no longer accommodate the hundreds of GI's who had homesteaded there. Consequently it was a matter of pride to the club staff that they could accomplish the Herculean task of changing the club from one location to another without depriving American soldiers of a place to eat and sleep for one single day.

The official opening ceremony, at which the club was turned over to the U. S. Army, entailed elaborate preparation, and was attended by a large number of British townspeople who had assisted in the breakneck conversion project. Flowers were showered on the staff, and were massed in every corner of the spacious canteen and recreation hall.

Highlighting a varied two-hour program of music was Mrs. Margaret Simms, American Red Cross entertainer known in the States as the "Songbird of the South." Chaplain W. L. Bell, 82 Weeden street, Augusta, Fla., led a made chorus of Negro enlisted men. Rounding out the afternoon's show were soloists and choral groups from the city.

A formal speech of acceptance was made by Lt. Col. G. C. Heldenfels, of Beeville, Texas, U. S. Army Port Commander, in reply to Mr. H. H. Palmer, Skowhegan, Maine, American Red Cross zone executive, who turned the club over to the Army.

Included among the large cross-section of enthusiastic allied boosters present at the opening were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Hull; the Sheriff and Sheriff's Lady, and other city officials; representatives of the British Army and Navy; members of the British Red Cross; representatives of the Ministry of Works, Food and Labor, the clergy and a large corps of British volunteers.

9-2-44

Here's A Busy Nurse's Aide

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

11-25-44

11-26-44

MRS. ROSEBUD MARTIN, Red Cross volunteer nurse's aide, helps this young patient of Pittsburgh's Presbyterian Hospital get well and strong again with devoted care. Mother of two children, Mrs. Martin makes time in her busy schedule for community service outside the home. She serves as a nurse's aide from 7 p. m. to 11 p. m. daily, and has given a total of 648 hours to this service at Presbyterian Hospital. She is now recruiting a new class for Red Cross nurse's aide training in her community. In addition, Mrs. Martin is chairman of the House Committee and a member of the Committee on Management of the YWCA, and a sponsor for the Girls' Friendly Society of the Holy Cross Episcopal Church.—American Red Cross pohto.

ENLISTS RED CROSS WORKERS

Pittsburgher Kansas City
12-29-44 Kansas

Washington, D. C.—Mrs. Mary Cheney, newly appointed assistant to the Director of Employment, American National Red Cross, will assist in recruiting Negro personnel for overseas assignment.

Before joining the Red Cross staff, Mrs. Cheney was secretary to Mrs. Izetta Jewel Miller, Federal Works Agency, in Washington. Prior to that, she was women's page editor of the Chicago News-Ledger in Chicago, and a correspondent for the Chicago Defender in New York City. She served as personnel director of an educational survey sponsored by the U. S. Department of Interior, and was personnel supervisor of the Federal Theater Project, both in New York.

Mrs. Cheney is a member of Phi Delta Kappa sorority, New York chapter, and has been an active volunteer worker for the NAACP in New York. (Photo by Dan Riordan, Red Cross Photographer.)

CHICAGOANS MEET LORD MAYOR IN ENGLAND

Chicago Defender Ill. 12-23-44

Ligon Buford, front row left, and Miss Josephine Matson, front row right, American Red Cross workers stationed in England, were recent guests of the Lord Mayor of Lancashire and his wife, front row center, and friends. Lord Mayor Eccles congratulated Buford and Miss Matson on the great job they are doing in Manchester conducting a Red Cross club for American and Allied soldiers. Buford, who recently returned to the U. S. on leave, and Miss Matson are both Chicago residents. — Harry Wilkinson photo.

St. Louisan Among Six New Red Cross Aides Overseas

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.
5-12-44

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Safe arrival in England of six women for assignment to Negro-staffed clubs was announced this week by the American Red Cross. The group includes one assistant club director, one personal service director and four staff assistants. They are: Minnie Mae Street, assistant club director, 2308 W. Chestnut street, Louisville, Ky.; Marie Cathryn Wilburn, personal service director, 4201 Cook avenue, St. Louis, Mo.; Ida Billee Wood, staff assistant, 306 S. Maple street, Somerset, Ky.; Alice Rae Meatham, staff assistant, 1919 3rd street, N.W., Washington, D.C.; Margaret Cormick Lamb staff assistant, Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.; Grace Smith, staff assistant, 717 Dennison street, Dayton, Ohio. 5-12-44

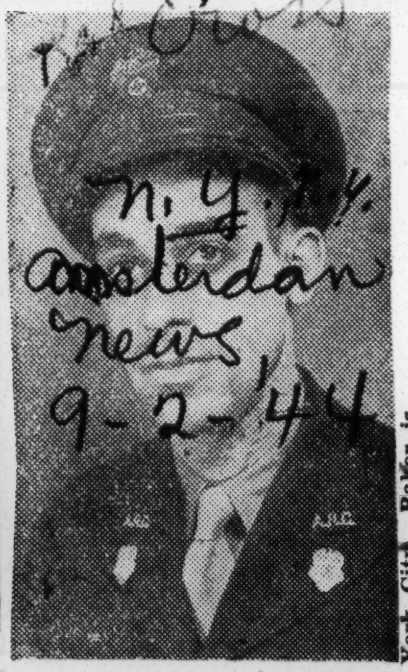
Miss Wilburn is a graduate of Stowe College, St. Louis, Mo., and Atlanta University School of Social Work. She taught school in Clayton, Mo., and later was employed as a clerk and placement secretary by the St. Louis Urban League.

5-12-44

MARIE CATHRYN WILBURN, 4201 Cook avenue, St. Louis, Mo., personal service director, whose safe arrival in England is announced by American Red Cross.

On Duty In India

N. Y. Amsterdam News 9-2-'44



BLANCHARD A. BAKER, American Red Cross club director, whose safe arrival in India was announced last week, is a resident of 555 Edgecomb Avenue, New York City. Baker is one of 150 Negroes now serving overseas with the Red Cross. Before his Red Cross appointment, Baker was YMCA Boys' Secretary in Montclair, N. J., and previously directed a USO club in Portsmouth, Va., was activities secretary for the Harlem Y.M.C.A., New York City, and executive director for the Stamford, Conn., Negro Community Center. Mrs. Baker will remain in New York during his service overseas.

471-1944

Red Cross

Drives Red Cross Jeep Over In England

World - Memphis, Tenn. 10-20-44

ENGLAND—At the wheel of a Red Cross jeep is Elizabeth McDougald, of New York City, director of an American Red Cross Club in Great Britain. Miss McDougald arrived in England early in 1943 as a personal service director and was assigned to London's first Negro-staffed club, the Duchess. She was formerly a social service worker on the research staff of Fisk University. She is the daughter of Cornelius McDougald, New York City, and Mrs. Gertrude E. Ayer.—Photo by American Red Cross.

Hero's Wife Won't Help Red Cross

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

NEWARK, N.J. — "I will have nothing to do with the Red Cross," said pretty, plump brown-skin Mrs. Grace Gibson of 94 Barclay Street. 3-18-44

As she talked, she looked at the photograph of her husband, Cpl. Carl Gibson, who is hailed as a hero for leading a rescue party through a drenched minefield near Rome to save twenty-four wounded men.

"I am proud of my husband. I hope nothing happens to him. I ...pporting the war effort 100 ...n' but

"By segregating the blood of colored people and white people, the Red Cross is helping to keep alive the very thing our soldiers are trying to destroy.

Don't Give Best Protest

"The best form of protest against the Red Cross jim crow is not to support it at all. That is the stand I believe my husband would want me to take despite whatever aid the Red Cross is giving soldiers on the battlefield.

"Our men are fighting to destroy the ideal of racial superiority. They are fighting and dying along with men of other races because they believe in freedom and equality."

The Gibson's 9-year-old son cuddled up to his mother as she spoke. 3-18-44

Corporal Gibson was cited by Capt. Benjamin Bender, medical officer, for going through the mined field to carry wounded men out.

"I know he would something like that," Mrs. Gibson said. "When he was home he was always helping someone."

Former Insurance Man

Prior to induction the corporal was special officer for an insurance company. He was inducted in May, 1942, and has been overseas a year. His home town is Newport, R.I.

Mrs. Gibson is the former Miss Grace Watkins of NYC. Two other Gibson boys are William, with the Merchant Marine, and John, in the Army.

Red Cross Club In North Africa Has Mixed Staff

Defender, Chicago, Ill
3-25-44

SOMEWHERE IN NORTH AFRICA—(ANP)—There is one spot where the armed forces go in North Africa that they find a true picture of democracy at work. That is in the popular "Oasis" Red Cross club where Clifford Minto is serving as acting director and as field director also.

There are four professional workers, all American, working in this club under Minto's direction. Two are white and two are colored. One of the white girls is a graduate of Hunter college, New York, where she received her A.B. degree. She was formerly employed by the public welfare department in New York City. The other has both an A. B. and A. M. degree from the University of Michigan, is a writer and has had stage experience as well. 3-25-44

One of the colored workers is a graduate of West Virginia State college; the other has an A. B. from Columbia university and was formerly a teacher in the public schools of Washington, D. C.

There are a number of non-professional members in the staff. These include French, Arabs and Jews. Cooperation and effective work has been the record of the club.

Tells Of 20 Months Overseas With Red Cross Club Workers

Argus - St. Louis, Mo.

Interested listeners crowded every available space of the lecture room and hallway at the Wheatley YWCA last Sunday afternoon to hear Miss Geraldine Dyson, returned Red Cross worker on rotation leave, tell of her oversea observations. 8-18-44

Graphically and dramatically related were her experiences from the sea-sick passenger bound for parts unknown to the greeting in London by Sidney Williams and of her work in Africa and Italy. After weeks of internship she was sent to historic Casablanca, where she, with her co-workers, set up a Red Cross Club from "scratch." Despite the difficulty of acquiring necessary equipment (a period of months being often required to secure paper napkins) they soon had a library, snack bar, game room, and lounge to serve thousands of G.I. Joes. 8-18-44

The same thing was done in Italy and in both clubs they met the same type of problems: keeping the drunkest drunk contented (they were never turned away) serving as very competent M. P.'s, being the mother to them, counseling them about family difficulties, dancing and entertaining them, and in every way trying to keep the soldier happy.

"Homesickness," said Miss Dyson, "is the hardest thing for the G.I. to endure" and she encouraged the folk back home to write cheering letters to the soldier over there and to write them often.

American Red Cross Club In Naples, Italy — New Yr. E., All-Negro Staff, Free From Discrimination

6-10-44

NAPLES, Italy. — During an inspection tour of all American Red Cross club installations, here recently, Major General Arthur R. Wilson, in command of the Peninsular Base Section, manifested particular interest in the latest addition to the list. This was the Liberty Club for enlisted men, which continues the name and tradition of a similar club which until recently the Red Cross operated in Casablanca. Though the new Liberty Club in Naples has an all-Negro staff, as in the case of all Red Cross clubs, its use is not restricted to Negro troops; and American enlisted men of all races frequent it in numbers.

Another point of interest for the General was the ...ning of its elaborate program of movies, stage shows, concerts and walls by the GI discussion groups, are: Assistant ...rees, Pvt. Roy B. Director Geraldine Dyson, 4128 En...cock street, Brook... right avenue, St. Louis, who for... Cpl. Singleton L. merly taught physical education in ...Dickson street, St. the public schools there; and Sara ...though Pvt. Hewitt R. Johnson, 12 Upton street, Cam... the employ of a bridge, Mass., who served with the ...painting firm, Cpl. Boston Soldiers' and Sailors' Recre... ...er before done any ation Committee during 1941-42. ...work. Neither man 6-10-44 "You've done a fine job here, and ...d a mural before. I'm delighted." was General Wil... for the most part son's comment as he finished his in... ...orous side of Army spection of the club. His special in... ...e considered terest in it dates from the time when ...he officiated at the opening of its Cross Workers, and was under ...Sidney Williams, predecessor, the Casablanca Liberty ...verseas for the Red Club. The latter, like the one in ...did social work in Naples today, was staffed by Negroes ...the same direction, Sidney Williams and his assistant, Miss Dyson

make cannot disturb patrons who want to magazines in the library drowse and dream in luxury of an upholst...

followers on by themselves in a great lounge, converted from the kind of paraded cell the noise they

6-10-44

Seven More Red Cross Workers Arrive Safely in Italy; One a St. Louisan

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
7-7-44

AMY ANN BOOTH

7-7-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Safe arrival in Italy of seven more Negro Red Cross workers was announced this week by American Red Cross National Headquarters. Five women and two men are in the group, which includes:

Ethelyn A. B. Adger, staff assistant, New York City.

Amy Anna Booth, recreation worker, St. Louis, Mo.

William H. Eberhardt, program director, Greensboro, N. C.

Elizabeth Jackson, recreation worker, Chicago, Ill.

Marie M. Leach, recreation worker, Montclair, N. J.

Raymond Miller, program director, Bridgeport, Conn.

Katherine Richardson Tyler, recreation worker, Dawson, Ga.

Mrs. Adger served as dean of hostesses at the Harlem Defense Recreation Center until her Red Cross appointment, and previously was a buyer for Mme. L. Boses in New York City. 7-7-44

Before joining the Red Cross staff, Mrs. Booth was health recreation secretary for the St. Louis Y. W. C. A. She previously directed recreation for the USO in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., was a teacher in the Brentwood, Mo., schools, and girls' director of Wesley House in St. Louis. She is a graduate (A.B.) of Lincoln university, Jefferson City, Mo.

Mr. Eberhardt was employed by the Federal Works Agency, Washington, D. C., and previously was a juvenile court worker in Greensboro, principal of Elk Park, N. C., high school, and principal of Cerro Gordo, N. C., elementary school. He is a graduate of A. and T. college, Greensboro, and attended Howard university, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Eberhardt will reside in Washington during his overseas service.

Before her Red Cross appointment, Miss Jackson was a physical education instructor, Chicago Park District, Ill. She is a graduate of Wilson Junior college, Chicago, and Johnson C. Smith university, Charlotte, N. C. She also attended the University of Chicago and George Williams school, Chicago. 7-7-44

Miss Leach was employed by the Social Security Board, Baltimore, Md., before her Red Cross appointment. She attended Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y. She is the daughter of James E. Leach, of Montclair, N. J.

Mr. Miller, who recently returned to this country after a year's service with the Red Cross in North Africa, has been reassigned. He came to the Red Cross from the Bridgeport, Conn., Y. M. C. A., where he was in charge of work with Negro members. He was program director and later headworker at the Wharton Settlement House in Philadelphia between 1932 and 1942. He attended the University of Iowa, Springfield (Mass.) college, Temple university and Howard university. Mrs. Miller will reside in Philadelphia during his overseas service. 7-7-44

Before coming to the Red Cross, Miss Tyler was a recreational and social hostess at Eglin, Fla. She is a graduate of Allen Normal school, Thomasville, Ga., Knoxville college and Atlanta university.

OTHER PAPERS SAY—

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
6-25-44

THE RED CROSS
(The St. Louis Argus)

The Red Cross organization is now in a drive to raise funds for its annual budget. The service of this organization to humanity is well known to the public. Its service has been and still is of great benefit to the men and women in the armed forces of the United States as is attested by thousands of men and women of our race who have benefited because the Red Cross has answered their appeal for assistance in so many ways. The unborn baby is depending on the Red Cross to carry the news of its arrival to "daddy" overseas; the mother is depending upon the Red Cross to administer to her needs.

Help the Red Cross that it may in turn help those who cannot help themselves.

Of course we do not approve of the attitude of the National Red Cross in the matter of the blood bank and shall continue our fight against its undemocratic practice, but despite its attitude toward the blood bank it is rendering a service we need. Help the Red Cross drive.

A Tribute To Race Troops

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Red Cross Opens New Liberty Club In Italy

By OLLIE HARRINGTON, Courier War Corespondent

NAPLES, Italy—The American Red Cross formally opened its new Liberty club in the shadow of the famous Garibaldi statute, the bomb-spattered memorial to Italy's great liberator. The new club is staffed entirely by Negro personnel and it situated in an area predominantly occupied by colored troops. 5-6-44

Director of the new club is Sidney Williams, on leave of absence from the Cleveland Urban league. Mr. Williams is to be assisted by Miss Geraldine Dyson, St. Louis, Mo., and Miss Sarah Johnson, Boston, Mass.

MURALS CARRY THEME

They opened the first Liberty club in a badly damaged movie theatre which had been completely reconstructed by members of a colored Engineer Battalion under the direction of 1st. Lt. Thomas W. Jackson Harrisburg, Pa. Mural decorations for the building were executed by Cpl. Singleton Harris, St. Louis, Mo., and Pvt. Roy Hewlett, Brooklyn, N. Y. Theme of the murals is the part colored Americans have played in the fight for liberty and democracy since Crispus Attucks fell on the Boston Common. 5-6-44

The new club was dedicated last Sunday. A large group of the civilian population of Naples was entertained along with hordes of G.I.s. All people employed by the club are Italian civilians and are under the supervision of T/Sgt. Robert Smith, Washington, D. C., Pvt. George Pottinger, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Pvt. Sam Reed, St. Paul, Minn., brother of Dwight Reed, of football fame.

Red Cross Workers Report On Services In Three Different Theatres Of War

Age — New York, N. Y.
6-3-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—American Red Cross operations overseas were reported this week by four Red Cross workers recently returned from duty in three different theaters of war, the Office of War Information said. The workers were Mrs. Dorothy B. Hamilton, of Greensboro, N. C., who served as staff assistant with the Red Cross in Great Britain; George W. Goodman, of Washington, D. C., who was director of the Great George Street Club in Bristol; Raymond E. Miller, of Bridgeport, Conn., club program director in North Africa, and Sylvester Lee Reeder, Washington, D. C., field director in the South Pacific.

The four are among a total of 139 Negro men and women (50 men and 89 women who have been on assignment with the Red Cross in Nergo-staffed clubs and with service men on active duty in four theaters of war. Of these, 31 are in Australia, seven in the China-Burma-India theater, 77 in Great Britain, and 24 in North Africa. They include six field directors and assistant field directors; one assistant field director (recreation); eight recreation workers; 21 club directors; 19 assistant club directors; 22 program directors; 18 asistant program directors; 16 personal service directors, and 28 staff assistants. 6-3-44

Mrs. Hamilton served in two clubs during her eight-month stay in Great Britain. In addition, she was on special assignment for a while with the 200-voice Negro choir which toured England and Scotland. Before joining the Red Cross staff, she was Girl Reserve secretary in Atlanta (Ga.) YWCA, and prior to that, served as Dean of Freshmen Women at Bennett College in Greensboro, N. C. She received an AB degree from Bennett College and a M.S.W. degree from Atlanta University School of Social Work. 6-3-44

Mr. Goodman, for 16 months the director of one of the largest Red cross Clubs in Great Britain, was executive secretary of the Washington Urban League for three years before he accepted the Red Cross post. For ten years before coming to Washington, he served as executive secretary of the Boston Urban League, and, prior to that, as membership secretary of the Pine Street YMCA in St. Louis and as field executive on the national staff of the Boy Scouts of America. He is a graduate of Lincoln University in Pennsylvania; attended the New York School of Social Work, and received an M. A. degree from Boston University in 1933.

Mr. Miller, who has been on duty in North Africa for the last 12 months as program director of the Red Cross club in Oran, came to Red Cross from the Bridgeport (Conn) YMCA, where he was in charge of work with Negro members. He was program director and later head worker at the Wharton Settlement House in Philadelphia, between 1932 and 1942. He attended the University of Iowa, Springfield (Mass College, Temple University, and Howard University. 6-3-44

Mr. Reeder, who has spent 18 months with the Red Cross in the South Pacific, served as both field director and acting club director in that theater. For 12 years before going overseas, he was employed at national headquarters of the Red Cross in Washington, D. C. He attended Storer College, Morgan College, and Howard University.

Red Cross

Liberia's Women Give $1,000 to Red Cross Work

Globe & Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Donors Laud Fine Service American Institution Is Performing Abroad

10-27-44

Washington, D. C., (OWI)—Women of the Republic of Liberia, West Africa, gave tangible evidence of their interest in the peoples of war-stricken areas this week when they made a contribution of $1,000, through the National Red Cross of Liberia, to the international work of the American Red Cross.

A check for this amount was brought to Washington this week by Lester A. Walton, United States Minister to Liberia, who is now in this country on official business, and presented to Dr. Louis I. Dublin, assistant to the chairman of the American Red Cross, acting for Richard F. Allen, vice chairman in charge of insular and foreign operations.

10-27-44

Mr. Walton took the occasion to thank the Red Cross for the work that organization is doing for service men in foreign fields. He told Dr. Dublin:

"The broad humanitarian work the Red Cross is doing among our armed forces all over the world is one of the bright spots in an otherwise somber picture."

The minister to Liberia spent four days in Washington conferring with and reporting to officials of the State Department. It was his first trip home in almost two years and he was warmly greeted by many friends in Washington.

10-27-44

A letter from the National Red Cross of Liberia to the American Red Cross, signed by Mrs. Jannette L. Howard-Cooper, president, was presented to Dr. Dublin along with the check.

When Jo Baker Visited Red Cross Club

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga. 11-10-44

SOMEWHERE IN NORTH AFRICA — Josephine Baker and party are shown here with American Red Cross officials when she visited the Victory Red Cross Club in Africa. Seated, left to right, are Capt. Gaston Hanbuck, French Army; Edward R. Rodriguez, Washington, D. C., Club Director; Josephine Baker; Stewart L. Williams, American Red Cross) Red Cross Director for North Africa. Standing left to right: Condine Chonez, Elizabeth Jackson, Chicago, Club Program Director; Violette Jaquimini; Chequita Lonewolf, secretary, Washington, D. C., an unidentified member of Miss Baker's party, and Rachel Windsor, Weston, Mass.—(Photo from:

11-10-44

Red Cross Women Cheer Ledo Boys

World — Memphis, Tenn.

11-10-44

By EVELIO GRILLO

WITH THE U. S. ARMY IN CHINA, BURMA AND INDIA — (ANP)— Since Director Blanchard Baker and his staff of Red Cross workers took over the enlisted men's club at Ledo base, things have been jumping.

Things, of course, were bound to jump when the Red Cross sent Jeanette Dorsey of Cuthbert, Ga.; Willie Lee Johnson, Austin, Texas; Virginia Bailey, Boston, and Fay Sandifer, New York, to work among the builders of the Ledo road.

They were the first of our girls that many of the men in this area had seen in over two years. Although the girls have been rushed off their feet since they arrived in Assam, it has not prevented the development of a well-rounded and popular program of recreational activities for the GI's that crowd the club each day.

Take, for instance, the first weekly cabaret party, a real innovation in entertainment up this way. I walked in on Jeannette, Wil Virginia and Fay, just as th were putting the finishing touc ed to decorations for the evenit

The men of Company "B" f the new well-known "Hairy Ears" unit were the guests at the inaugura party. This was the first time since leaving the states that this group has had the opportunity to dance with American girls.

No cabaret party could merit the name, without a floor show, and Program Director Felix Payne of Washington, D. C., and his soldier assistant, 1st Sgt. Arthur Bowles also of Washington, saw to it that a first rate program was on hand.

11-10-44

Other members of the band included Cpl. Courtland Carter, Pvt. James Buxton, and Pvt. Samuel Nelson, all of New York; Paul Gonzales, Rhode Island; Cpl. Walter Gordon, Calif.; Cpl. Ernest Cotton, Tenn.; Pvt. Albert Graves, Kansas; Pvt. Joseph Drew, Chicago; Pvt. William Goosbie, Penn.; Pvt. Albert Richardson, Indiana; Cpl. Aldridge Gibson, Penna.; Sgt. Roy Lomba, Mass.; Pvt. Ronnie Lewis, Texas and Sgt. James Mann.

Adventures in a Red Cross office

A MAN at the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Red Cross phoned us last week and said we ought to do a story about Mrs. Sady Williams, intake supervisor at the Williamsburg branch office. Most residents of that section were very poor and the additional burdens that war has thrust on its wives and mothers have very often been just a little too much to bear. "Mrs. Williams," he explained, "is mothering half the community out there."

So we took down the address, 60 Graham Ave., and went out. It is a neighborhood where old frame buildings look as though they should be haunted and where signs on dusty shop windows are lettered in many tongues. We climbed the stairs to the second floor of the red brick building where the Red Cross offices are and landed in a large, gloomy reception room.

Bed in an office

Some 50 men and women were sitting in chairs lined against one wall, facing a row of tiny offices where interviews were going on. Most of the sitters had letters or government forms in their hands and they sat silently.

We were directed down the hall and Mrs. Williams, a round-faced Negro woman wearing glasses, welcomed us into her small, bare-walled office. It was equipped with two old-fashioned chairs, three desks and a bed. We asked why the bed was there. "We have to have it," she said, "for women who faint." She explained that the fainters usually were women who had received telegrams from the War Department about sons who had been killed or wounded.

"They seem to come here the minute they get them," Mrs. Williams told us. "Often they are hysterical before they get to the door. We can hear them coming up-stairs."

We asked if any recent case had stuck in her mind as dramatic.

"Oh, my, they're all dramatic," she said. "This is a place of crisis." She thought a moment, then added: "There was a girl in here not long ago who had us all worked up. Everybody was simply straining to help her. She was a charming little thing and in bad trouble.

Ticket to happiness

"She was pregnant and unmarried. Her soldier boy friend was in a Southwestern camp. She said she was too embarrassed to come right out and ask him to marry her. He didn't know of her condition. desperate.

"We wired our field man at the camp to see her to and learned that the boy had been alerted by his parents had and was due to ship out at any moment. She was

Mrs. Sady Williams, intake supervisor for Williamsburg branch of Brooklyn Red Cross.

He told our man he would gladly marry the girl, whom he said he loved, if he could get home. This, of course, was impossible. We bought a train ticket for the girl and rushed her off to his camp.

"Here in the office we were holding our breath, fearing she would be too late. She just made it. They were married down there by the chaplain. When she came back she came in to thank us. She was so pretty and happy we hardly recognized her. We sure got worked up about that girl." Mrs. Williams's face broke into a warm grin.

Through the thin partition we had been hearing other voices and we noticed that Mrs. Williams was giving them half an ear. Suddenly she said, "That worries me," and excused herself. She was back in a few minutes, looking relieved.

She told us a serviceman's wife had just phoned; her baby was ill with pneumonia and she was ill, too. The doctor had just said he would not visit her again because she was unable to pay him.

We asked what the Red Cross would do.

"We're phoning the doctor and guaranteeing payment of his bill," she said. "Then a case worker will call on the mother and see what else is needed."

Problems were piling up. What were some of the others that had come into the office that day, we asked. Here are a few Mrs. Williams told us about:

Hundreds of troubles

First thing that morning a man who was slated to enter the Army had come in with this story: When he passed his physical he thought he would be inducted soon, so he quit his job. But the call to the colors hadn't come when he had expected, and now his money was gone and his family destitute. The Red Cross arranged to take care of his family until his Army check comes through.

A mother who hadn't heard from her soldier son in three months came in distracted. The boy's name was referred to the Foreign Correspondence Bureau, which will report back.

A discharged veteran who couldn't get his old job back because his service had affected his health got help in filing a claim. He wil get further help in obtaining disability compensation if he's entitled to it.

Then Mrs. Williams went through some papers on her desk and came up with a chart. "We handled 645 cases like that last week," she said. "We had a few unmarried mothers who had borne children to servicemen. I'm proud of the job we do with cases like that. The men nearly always want to do the right thing, sending back money and promising marriage as soon as they get home."

Inherited a need

Did all these problems, we asked, carry over into Mrs. Williams's private life. Her brow puckered. "You know, that worries me," she said. "I forget the office the second I leave it. We've done our best, so I don't worry. Now, that isn't right, is it? All the people who get along seem to think about their work 24 hours a day."

We said she seemed to be getting along pretty well, and asked what had led to her appointment as intake supervisor. She dropped her head to one side and appeared to be thinking. At last she said: "You want to give a service, and you want to give it so badly you keep trying and trying, and finally a way will come for you to give it."

What was behind this need of hers to serve?

"Oh, nearly everyone has it. I think," she said. "In my case I suppose I inherited it from my father. Before his death, he owned two shops in Washington where he made special shoes for people suffering with foot deformities. He felt he was helping humanity a little that way."

Mrs. Williams, who is the wife of Dr. Joseph A. Williams, a dentist with offices in Brooklyn and Manhattan, was graduated from Teachers College, in Washington, D. C., and then got a teaching position in Harlem.

"The inability of some children to meet the educational standards worried me," she said, "so I began to study child welfare and child psychology so that I could do something about it."

She has worked as a home relief supervisor, and in the children's division of the Department of Welfare, but has been with the Red Cross for the last two years. She also is president of the New York Chapter of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club of America and edits *Responsibility*. She has two grown daughters.

Her guiding principle, she told us, was that "The best way to make sure I get what I need is to see that my neighbor gets what he needs."

"Has your color ever been a hindrance in your work?" we asked her.

"I just don't think about being a Negro," Mrs. Williams said. "That seems to make other people forget it, too. My color certainly hasn't stood in my way at the Red Cross."

Just then our photographer got set, and he interrupted with his request to "Look pleasant."

Mrs. Williams turned toward him with an easy smile and said, "I always try to."

Works For Our Boys

AT THE WHEEL OF A RED CROSS JEEP, Miss Elizabeth McDougald, well known New Yorker, works at her job of directing the Red Cross Club in Great Britain. Miss McDougald arrived in England early in 1943 as a personal service director and was assigned to London's first Negro-staffed club, the Duchess. The daughter of Mrs. Gertrude E. Ayer and Mr. Cornelius McDougald of this city, she was formerly a member of the research staff at Fisk University.

Arrive In Australia

10-28-44

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Three Negro American Red Cross workers have arrived in Australia, it was announced at Red Cross National Headquarters this week. All three previously served with the Red Cross at Ft. Huachuca. They are: Alma M. Priestly, hospital social worker, 4827 Chestnut street, New Orleans; Elizabeth P. Green, hospital recreation worker, 1333 Monticello street, Pittsburgh, and Esther Bakker, secretary, 1709 Before her Red Cross appointment in April, 1943, Miss Baker was employed by the Southern Pacific Railway company, San Francisco, and Merchants Express corporation, Oakland. She is a graduate of Urbana high school and attended the University of Illinois.

Miss Green, daughter of Mrs. Lillian R. Green, joined the Red Cross staff in October, 1942, when she was assigned to Ft. Huachuca. She was employed previously by the Juvenile Aid bureau, New York City, and by the New York Department of Welfare. She is a graduate of Westinghouse high school. Pitts-

E. P. Priestley, has been in Red Cross service since August, 1943. Before the she was employed by the War Production board, Washington, and by the New Orleans Housing authority. She is a graduate of Xavier high school, Xavier business college and Xavier university, A.B., 1934.

Red Cross Women

Defender—Chicago. Ill

Ex-Omaha scholar directs Red Cross club in London

Tribune-Los Angeles, Calif.
6-26-44

LONDON.—Lucyle McAlister of Omaha, Neb., has finshed her job as director of Negro work for the USO after visiting 37 of the 48 states, and has joined the American Red Cross as assistant director of operations at the Red Cross' Duchess Club here.

Miss McAlister, who is Mrs. Emment Avant of Omaha, in private life — has been busy at the Duchess Club setting up the machinery for various phases of club life. Her latest job was organizing the club library. It's finished now and a neat catalogue of library books, plus a card index for names of boys who take them out, awaits the Negro soldiers on leave in London.

Honor graduate of Omaha's Central High School, Miss McAlister took her teacher's training at the University of Nebraska and served as principal in schools in Kentucky for six years. During summer holidays she woked in banks, insurance companies and law firms.

After serving as supervisor of the model school at Kentucky State College and holding the same responsible position at the Kentucky State Feeble-Minded Institute, she went back to college and took her B.A. at Louisville Municipal College and her M.A. in Sociology at Fisk University.

6-26-44

The scope of her educational background is suggested by her Masters thesis on "Prominent Persons of Negro Blood in Brazilian Society," in four languages: Portuguese, English, French and German.

will bring to his audiences a first-hand account of the operation of Red Cross clubs there. As director of the Great George Street Club in Bristol, Mr. Goodman has supervised the provision of recreational eating and sleeping facilities for thousands of servicemen on leave in that area. Operation of such clubs, as well as the continuation of many other Red Cross services to the armed forces, constitute the major part of the Red Cross program. The Red Cross War Fund campaign, which will open March 1, has as its national goal the sum of $200,000,000, ninety per cent of which will be spent for services to the armed forces. 2-12-44

Mr. Goodman attended high school in Hartford, Conn., and holds degrees from Lincoln University and Boston University. He also attended the New York School of Social Work. He served for a short time as field secretary for the Boy Scouts of America in New York City, and as membership secretary of the Pine Street YMCA in St. Louis, Mo. After ten years in the employ of the Boston Urban League, he came to Washington, D. C. with the Urban League, where he served until his Red Cross appointment.

While in this country, Mr. Goodman may be reached through national headquatrers of the American Red Cross. Organizations desiring to secure him as a speaker should contact the executive officers of the local Red Cross chapter.

George Goodman Back From England; Speaks For Red Cross Fund

Age-New York, N.Y.
2-12-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Among overseas Red Cross personnel returning to the United States for speaking assignments in major cities prior to and during the Red Cross War Fund campaign, is George Goodman, director of one of the Negro-staffed Red Cross clubs in Great Britain. Mr. Goodman, former executive secretary of the Washington (D. C.) Urban League, will spend the months of February and March in this country, according to an announcement by Mr. Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the administrator of general services, American Red Cross.

Having served in Great Britain since October 1942, Mr. Goodman

Wisdom Dictates Support Of Red Cross National War Fund Campaign

Tribune-Philadelphia, Pa.

THE American Red Cross is currently engaged in a nation-wide campaign to raise $200,000,000, the largest goal it has ever set itself. Philadelphia's quota of this fund is $6,543,000. 2-19-44

We believe that colored Americans can give to this drive in this city and elsewhere and, at the same time, continue their strenuous protest against the stupid, undemocratic and un-American policy of collecting and depositing the blood of colored and white donors in separate "banks."

In all fairness to the Red Cross, it ought to be said that the "blood bank" policy is forced upon them by the Army, for whom the blood is being collected. Nevertheless, it is regrettable that not a single Red Cross policy-making official, in Philadelphia or elsewhere, has had the courage or the decency to protest against the Red Cross being used to prosecute a program which has caused such bitter resentment on the part of 15,000,000 loyal citizens.

After all, however, the collection of blood is but one aspect of the Red Cross activities and is a temporary one, occasioned by the national emergency. Its other services have been, in most if not in all cases, available alike to all citizens, irrespective of color.

With these two facts in mind, we believe that colored Americans, in Philadelphia and elsewhere, would be doing themselves a disservice by failing to help the organization achieve its goal; especially when it is understood that such cooperation is not indicative of any lessening of the resentment against the insult implied in the separate "banks," or any letting up in the protest against discriminatory practices of the Red Cross, whether forced on it by the Army or due to some short-sighted Red Cross official who prefers to be un-American and undemocratic. 2-19-44

Let us support the Red Cross drive in Philadelphia even if, as was done in a nearby city, we attached to our contributions a printed slip declaring our relenting fight against the organization's discriminatory policies, whether forced upon it by the Army or arising within the organization itself.

Red Cross Film Makes Apes of Our Soldiers

Afro American-Baltimore, Md.
3-4-44

By MARGARET LEWIS
WASHINGTON

Stooping far below its professed international policy of good-will toward all men, the American Red Cross has aimed another slap at colored service men through a current movie entitled "By His Side," distributed by the War Activities Committee of the War Department.

The only close-up scene of colored soldiers in the reel, depicts them in a stereotyped ante-bellum role, each of the ten or twelve men wearing apish grins, clapping their hands and "yassuhing" as one of their number does a bang-up job on some limehouse boogie-woogie in an ARC club.

Contrast this scene with others in the film, which runs about 12 minutes, where Red Cross nurses are tending the sick and wounded (white only), showing men how to enjoy themselves, writing letters for the seriously wounded who cannot write for themselves, giving material and oral counsel and handing out doughnuts, coffee and phonograph music from clubmobiles, and white soldiers going about normal chores occasioned by war and you get the picture.

Shown as Stevedores

Purportedly made by the March of Time, the only other scenes where colored appear are in the background, loading and unloading trucks, and serving as stevedores. 3-4-44

Not a single colored Red Cross club director, program director, field assistant, or other administrative person is shown. If there is any mixing of the races in ARC Clubs, it is not shown in "By His Side."

Newsmen of the capital were shown the film at Lichtman's Republic Theatre on Wednesday, as guests of Shep Allen and Rufus Byars.

The consensus was that the War Activities Committee and the Red Cross ought to hear the protests of colored Americans to the showing of the race in so contrasting and incongruous a role with that of other soldiers.

Our Fighting Men Should Come First

Journal + Guide—Norfolk, Va.

OPENING of the Red Cross campaign to raise $200,000,000 for war work brought up for renewed discussion the Red Cross policy of segregating the blood of Negro donors to plasma banks. From Washington announcement was made that the policy would be continued. This, we hope, will not cause anyone to withhold a contribution of cash or blood from the Red Cross.

To do so would not result in a change in the policy. It might easily result in the adoption by the Red Cross of a measure of indifference to the needs of our boys in the armed forces. Such a policy is not inconceivable in an organization that would let a white boy die for the want of new blood rather than give him the precious plasma distilled from the fluid of a healthy Negro's veins. 3-11-44

This sort of stigmatization of race in the present global warfare is one of the rejections of the facts of science and of the principles of human brotherhood which must wait on time for correction.

It is something that points up the extremes to which race prejudice may lead. Let us continue to register our astonishment and our disapproval, but let us not demonstrate the same prejudice and cruelty to which we are subjected in this instance. The total welfare of our kin who must do their share of the fighting and the suffering of the horrors of war should come first.

3-11-44

Reports from overseas are to the effect that the Red Cross is ministering in many ways to the health and comfort of all soldiers, regardless of race. These reports have been brought back by responsible members of the race who have witnessed these acts of mercy. Our contributions will serve to get something done that is necesarry **now**. Remember that behind the racial policies of the Red Cross are the racial policies of our government, of our army and our navy. We deplore these policies, we will do everything in our power to replace them with more civilized action, but we must not do anything **now** which will bring unnecessary suffering to our men who are out there in the fighting and who are in need of what the Red Cross has to offer them.

Cooking Guide For War Prisoners Ready

Courier, Monroe, La. 4/4
7-11-44

American Red Cross national headquarters has indicated," said Capt. Walter J. Love, recently appointed Prisoner of War representative for the Tuskegee Institute Chapter of the American Red Cross.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 10.—"If American prisoners of war aren't exactly in a position to 'cook with gas,' at least they will get some help on how to cook with supplies at hand.

being shipped in bulk for distribution to prison camps in Europe. standard food packages. American prisoners are Captain Love stated. The is not for general dis-, but one copy is alloted group of 20 to 30 men in camps.

booklet contains recipes structions on how best to

Red Cross Opens More Jobs To Race

Daily World Atlanta Ga. 8-18-44

The American Red Cross is now hiring Negroes as junior and senior corespondents and stenographers, Jesse O. Thomas, Assistant to the Director of General Services of the national organization, revealed in Atlanta Thusday.

This marks another step forward by Negores in the Red Cross organization, which generally had followed a policy of hiring no Negroes on the national staff until Mr. Thomas' appointment.

Mr. Thomas explained that the increased staff was the result of an expanded program in the Red Cross organization which is charged with maintaining the majority of contacts between service men and women and their families. Matters of casualty notification, requests for increased compensation or loans and other numerous personel problems are now handled by the agency. 8-18-44

A short time ago, Mr. Thomas met with directors of the Red Cross and recommended that with the increase in responsibilities and duties of the enemy, Negroes should be employed as correspondents and stenographers. His recommendation was accepted and a directive sent out to the Red Cross employment setup opening up these capacities to Negroes.

Mrs. Vashti Norwood Chandler of Philadelphia, Pa., a graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, was appointed Senior Correspondent and located in Washington. Her first job is to recruit other correspondents and stenographers. Qualified stenographers interested in the $150 monthly jobs with the American Red Cross may contact Mrs. Chandler at headquarters, 18th and "E" Streets, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Thomas revealed that since his appointment to coordinate Negro relations with the Red Cross setup, Negroes hae been named to the staff in such numbers that their yearly pay approaches the $500,000 mark. He stated that there are now open 73 positions for overseas appointments to the Red Cross staff.

Red Cross Head To Continue Old Policy

Atlanta Ga. Daily World 8-15-44

NEW YORK — (SNS) — In response to a letter from Basil O'Connor announcing continuation of the blood plasma segregation policy, Walter White expressed sharp disappointment about the attitude of the newly appointed Red Cross head. In a communication to the latter, Mr. White said: "I had honestly hoped that you would show more courage and forthrightness in your approach to what is one of the most shameful episodes and practices in this war for human liberation."

Referring to the southern orgin of the United States Surgeon General responsible as a single individual for the establishment of the unscientific policy now being protested on all sides, Mr. White pointed out "It had been our hope that the American Red Cross would have the moral courage to admit that it had made a mistake and that it would have initiative enough to say frankly to the Honorary president of the American Red Cross, the President of the United States, and to the Army and Navy that it could not be a party to a practice and doctrine which savors more of Hitler's theory of a "master race" than of a democracy." 8-15-44

Denouncing the excuse made by Basil O'Connor that "From the point of view of all the people of the United States, the present arrangement is the best possible in all of the circumstances," Mr. White declared in closing, "It is this same lack of moral courage which is responsible, from my personal observations in four war theatres of operations, for the surrender to and the spreading by the Red Cross of patterns of segregation and discrimination which hold it not only up to question of its bona fides, but America as well."

Red Cross Club Opens In Cherbourg For Negro Soldiers; Gen. Benj. O. Davis Accepts Honors

Age-New York, N.Y. 8-26-44

CHERBOURG, August 9 (Delayed) —The American Red Cross Liberty Club, officially opened here last night and accepted on behalf of the soldiers by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, is staffed by one of the first Negro Red Cross workers to arrive in France.

Club Director Claude Walton, 3015 California street, Denver, Colo., and his assistants, La Verne Birch, 106 Harrison street, Roxbury, Mass., and C. Gladys Martin, Rural Route 2, Topeka, Kan., will operate the club.

Gen. Davis was flown from England in order to be present at the opening ceremonies. Also participating were Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding Service of Supply; Maj. R. L. H. Nunn, representing the British Army; and Dr. Paul Renault, Mayor of Cherbourg.

Speaking for the enlisted men who will use the club, Gen. Davis said, "I am sure I convey to the American Red Cross and to the American people your thanks for this gift that gives us somewhere to come to relax." 8-26-44

Gen. Davis pledged to the Americans, to "our allies, the English, and to our hosts, the French," that "the men for whom you are making this club available are going to join with you and give you everything we've got."

To the soldiers themselves, he said, "I have found in the American people a great majority joining with you to see that you get the benefits you deserve from this great struggle. Under conditions of combat and adversity, people become more tolerant. All Americans are going to return home with a feeling of comradeship that has grown here and congealed into mutual respect."

Mr. Walton, Miss Birch and Miss Martin then turned the club over to the soldiers. 8-26-44

Representing them, Pfc. Herman J. Humble, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Humble, 1314 S. East Street, Lebanon, Ind., accepted the club, getting an ovation rivalling the General's from the crowd of soldiers who jammed two floors of the building that had been Cherbourg's largest department store.

Six Negro Women Arrive In England For Red Cross Duty

Informer-Houston, Texas. 8-26-44

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)— Safe arrival in England of six women for assignment to Negro-staffed clubs was announced this week by the American Red Cross. The group includes one assistant club director, one personal service director and four staff assistants. They are: 8-26-44

Minnie Mae Street, assistant club director, 2308 W. Chestnut street, Louisville; Marie Cathryn Wilburn, personal service director, 4201 Cook avenue, St. Louis; Ida Billee Wood, staff assistant, 306 S. Maple street, Somerset, Ky.; Alice Rae Meacham, staff assistant, 1919 3rd street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Margaret Cormick Lamb, staff assistant, Hampton institute, Va.; Grace Smith, staff assistant, 717 Dennison street, Dayton, O.

Red Cross Employs First Negro Help As Professionals

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y. 10-14-44

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—The National Red Cross has employed Negroes in professional categories in the home service division for the first time in its 62 years of existence, according to an announcement last week.

High praise has already been given the six women senior correspondents employed here in what is known as the Printcraft building. The high calibre of these women is said to be stimulating favorable comment concerning not only their unit production, but their unusual training for the positions they occupy. Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the administrator of general service, was also lauded for his social engineering skill and the integration of qualified colored employes into the Red Cross service.

Within the near future a colored person may be honored as guest speaker during the graduation exercises of overseas trainees, it was reported. These classes are composed of both Negro and white trainees and are conducted at the American University here.

SOMEWHERE in New Guinea—Trained as a psychiatric social worker, Clara Erline Wells is on duty as a personal service director at American Red Cross Club No. 5. At the club, at remote encampments and in hospitals in this theatre, Miss Wells devotes herself to filling the needs of servicemen far from home.

—American Red Cross Photo

witness as "a perfect example of co-ordination of the Red Cross tradition of immediate action in emergency and of the will of the American people to help those who have been struck by disaster."

R. C. Worker

Amsterdam News 7-1-44 New York, N.Y.

Praise Red Cross For Work In Port Chicago Disaster

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa. 8-5-44

PORT OF CHICAGO, Calif.—Rehabilitation of damaged homes in this area, wrecked in the twin ship explosion here on July 17, is under way with estimates being gathered by American Red Cross to determine the amount of rebuilding needed to restore families to pre-disaster status. The splendid co-ordinated work of the Red Cross in bringing relief to the military and civilians suffering injuries in this appalling explosion has drawn praise up and down the West Coast.

Although injured, Navy and civilian personnel on the base—many of them Negro men—were cared for by the Navy, the full facilities of the Red Cross were offered and meals were provided for a full detachment of Marine guards whose mess hall had been leveled by the blast. In addition, feeding utensils and equipment for sons were supplied, and stores of blood plasma, initially

Red Cross chapters throughout the area were placed on the alert for disaster personnel and preparation in case of need. Red Cross provided 150 cots and blankets so that the home-less of the Port of Chicago might have a place to sleep. To further the operation of the town, the Red Cross furnished four portable light units Coleman lanterns in the area were placed in operation on a 24-hour basis, and several Coleman stoneman, the shelter and feeding center set up by the Canteen Corps. The entire operation of the Red Cross was described by one eye-

ON SCENE IMMEDIATELY

A few minutes after the Port of Chicago disaster struck, volunteer Red Cross chapter were on their way to the devastated town with relief supplies. Among the first to arrive were Don Cramer, acting director of the Pacific area; Lawrence Woods, field director at Camp Elizabeth McNeily, field representative of the Red Cross Service for the Pacific

471-1944

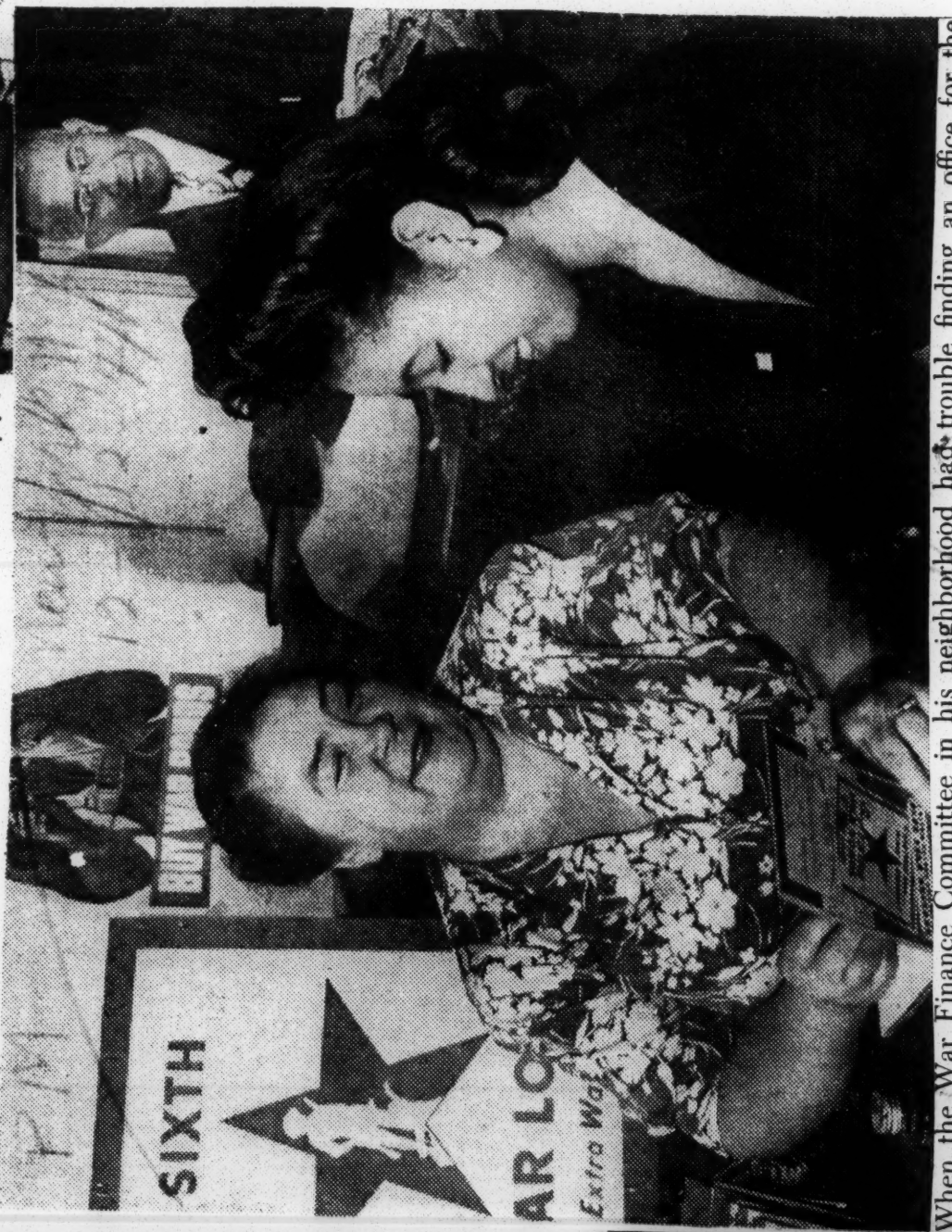
Sixth War Loan Campaign

NEVER TOO LITTLE—Four-year-old Jean Colun, of 2487 Griggs, gets an appreciative grin from Frank N. Isbey, head of the Michigan War Finance Committee, after she presented him with a check for $15,000 in the Sixth War Loan campaign. The check represented a War Bond purchase by the Children's Division of the Metropolitan Funeral System of Detroit.

Call — Kansas City, Mo. 11-24-44

COMPOSE SONGS FOR SIXTH WAR LOAN CAMPAIGN.—Recordings of two songs by Negro composers to be used in the Sixth War Loan drive which began Monday, November 20, have been made by the radio division of the War Finance division. These songs are, "The War Bond Man by Andy Razaf (right), which is sung by Frank Sinatra, and "Thats Why I Buy War Bonds," by J. Rosamond Johnson (left) which is sung by Bob Hanson.

—OWI Photo.



When the War Finance Committee in his neighborhood had trouble finding an office for the Sixth War Loan Drive, Cyril Henry, who operates a tailor store at 433 Edgecombe Ave., offered them half of his shop as an office. While Mrs. Katherine Williams, left, area chairman, and her secretary, Gloria Carol, concentrate on selling Bonds, Henry goes about his business in the back part of the store. (*Have you bought your extra Bond in the Sixth War Loan yet? If you havent, get that money up today!*)

471-1944

United Seamen's Service

Prince George Hotel Open to Negro Seamen

Norfolk, Va., Pilot
7-18-44

Taken over only yesterday by the United Seamen's Service, the Prince George Hotel, Eighteenth and Church streets, last night was offering rooms to Negro merchant seamen at nominal rates comparable to those charged at the U. S. S. Fairfax Hotel on City Hall avenue, Harold C. Crandall, port area director, announced.

Some 50 seamen can be housed there, and the building was found to be in such fine condition that delay for remodeling will not be necessary. On an advisory committee headed by Horace Christopher, port area executive committeeman and executive secretary of the Huntton YMCA, are J. Eugene Diggs, P. B. Young, Sr., John H. Ward, David E. Longley, W. L. Hamilton, W. T. Mason, F. W. Lewis and David Austin.

Known as the U. S. S. Prince George Hotel Residential Club, the building will provide a snack bar in the section which once was a night club, and volunteer workers will offer entertainment and recreation. Personal services for seamen guests will continue to pass through the port area personal service office in the Taylor building.

7-18-44

Among First Taken Over

Crandall said the Prince George is one of the first hostelries to be taken over by USS for housing Negro seamen. Upwards of 100 such facilities are in operation throughout the world for the service of merchant seamen.

B. E. Davis, owner and proprietor of the Church street hotel, will continue to manage the establishment and will retain his present staff.

"The port area committee," Crandall said, "has realized for some time the pressing need for suitable accommoodations for Negro merchant seamen. We believe, after an extended survey, that we have an ideal facility, and one which will be appreciated by the seamen."

471-1944

UNRRA

6 On UNRRA Overseas Staff

Argus—St. Louis, Mo.

11-19-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—Six Negroes have been appointed to the overseas staff of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, at salaries of $5600 each, according to a recent announcement of the agency naming three additional administrative assistants.

The last appointees are A. L. Kidd, of Tallahassee, Fla., former registrar at Florida A. and M. College; Maxwell Bohanan, of Minneapolis, Minn., formerly connected with the Minneapolis Board of Welfare; and Julius Jerome Robinson, until recently the race relations adviser of the Farm Security Administration.

All of these appointees receive orientation training at the University of Maryland and are expected to receive their assignment in about eight weeks.

Negro prepares to serve UNRRA overseas soon

Los Angeles, California Eagle

11-20-44

WASHINGTON—Earl Pruitt, of Louisville, Ky., has been appointed an administrative assistant for the European mission with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, the agency announced this week in Washington.

Mr. Pruitt went to UNRRA from the Louisville Municipal Housing Authority where, since 1938, he has been manager of the Beecher Terrace Housing Project.

He was born in Louisville in 1901 and received his education at the Louisville Municipal College and Simmons University, from which he received an LLD degree.

Mr. Pruitt is taking the UNRRA orientation course at the University of Maryland and expects to be sent overseas in about 6 weeks.

47L-1944

USO

Miami, Florida Gets Spacious USO Center

47 Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 2-19-44

MIAMI, Florida. — (SNS) — Hall Crowder, Program Director of Officer's Candidate John D. Silvera, is telling the six hundred and fifty men and women who witnessed the opening of the new USO Center in Miami. "What the USO Means to the Service Man." Mr. Silvera hails from New York City and expects to receive his bars within the next two weeks. He is active in public relations.

2-19-44

Other platform guests are Honorable J. Finley Wilson, IBPOE of W., who gave the main address, Honorable Leonard K. Thomson, Mayor of the city of Miami, who brought the city's greetings to the cheering crowd; also Brigadier General L. A. Lawson, Commanding Officer Army Air Training Station No. 1, who spoke for the Army, welcoming the USO as a fine addition to the ciyt's efforts to make the service man feel at home; Judge C. S. Robertson Chairman of the USO Council in Miami is the presiding officer. The Judge is well known for his interest in the personnel of the Armed Forces, and draws no line when there is an opportunity to make himself felt by helping.

2-19-44

In the backgrounds are Mrs. W. F. B. Ward, wife of the Director of the USO-YMCA operated unit at Homestead, Fla.; and Mrs. Tressie

FIRST LADY AT USO EXHIBIT

Age-Herald, Bhm. Ala. 2-12-44

WASHINGTON — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, former director of Negro affairs of the National Youth Administration, are shown visiting the National Museum to see the exhibit of Arts and Crafts objects made in USO workshops. Mrs. Mary Tobias Dean (left), USO Arts and Crafts program specialist, explains the mural painting loaned the exhibition by the Phyllis Wheatley YMCA in Washington. The mural is the work of Private Percy Ricks and Miss Doris Brown, last year's prize-winning students at the Howard University School of Art.

The USO Second Anniversary

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga

The Atlanta Service Men's Center for Negroes, located at 1000 Hunter Street, will climax its second anniversary observance today with a number of gala events, designed to give wholesome and home-like entertainment for our boys away from home. Dr. D. H. Stanton, Secretary of the Atlanta Division of the American Bible Society, will bring the anniversary message. The famous Reception Center Chorus at Fort Benning, Georgia, will give special numbers on the closing program today, together with other music to be furnished by Chief Specialist Graham Jackson and Mrs. Elsie Foster Evans. 6-4-44

Looking back to the time when the Center was first proposed, citizens can well recall the strenous objections to such an undertaking so near the Washington High School, where the girl students would be thrown into intimate touch with the soldiers. Against the wishes of many of the citizens, the better judgment of some of our leading citizens, officials proceeded with the Center, and today, it has become an established institution and a vital force in the entertainment for soldiers and a meeting place for our most careful citizens.

Not only do we boast of the fact that no scandal, killing or stabbing has been reported at the Center, but we are proud of the favorable impression it has made upon the soldiers who gather there from time to time as they sojourn in Atlanta from their various army posts. It is reputed to be not only one of the finest in the country for Negro servicemen, but along with it soldiers have repeatedly remarked that the Atlanta citizens are the most hospitable of any group of citizens anywhere they have chanced to visit. 6-4-44

That is as it should be. Who among us would dare deny the indisputable fact that the soldiers make up the very cream of our nation's crop, not only as physical specimen but likewise in idealism and future promise? Indeed these boys come from our very homes and they, each of them, is some mother's son.

We congratulate the officers and the management of the Center on their record and wish for them and the soldiers every good luck which can come to those thus engaged.

47L-1944

USO

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Other platform guests are Honorable J. Finley Wilson, IBPOE of W., who gave the main address; Honorable Leonard K. Thomson, Mayor of the city of Miami who brought the city's greetings to the cheering crowd; also Brigadier General L. A. Lawson, Commanding Officer Army Air Training Station No. 1, who spoke for the Army, welcoming the USO as a very much needed addition to the city's efforts to make the service man feel at home; Judge C. S. Robertson Chairman of the USO Council in Miami is the presiding officer. The Judge is well known for his interest in the personnel of the Armed Forces, and draws no line when there is an opportunity to make himself felt by helping.

In the backgrounds are Mrs. W. E. B. Ward, wife of the Director of the USO-YMCA operated unit at Homestead, Fla.; and Mrs. Tressie

FIRST LADY AT USO EXHIBIT Age-News York, N.Y. 2-12-44

WASHINGTON — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, former director of Negro affairs of the National Youth Administration, are shown visiting the National Museum to see the exhibit of Arts and Crafts objects made in USO workshops. Mrs. Mary Tobias Dean (left), USO Arts and Crafts program specialist, explains the mural painting loaned the exhibition by the Phyllis Wheatley YMCA in Washington. The mural is the work of Private Percy Rickta and Miss Doris Brown, last year's prize-winning students at the Howard University School of Art.

The USO Second Anniversary

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga

The Atlanta Service Men's Center for Negroes, located at 1000 Hunter Street, will climax its second anniversary observance today with a number of gala events, designed to give wholesome and home-like entertainment for our boys away from home. Dr. D. H. Stanton, Secretary of the Atlanta Division of the American Bible Society, will bring the anniversary message. The famous Reception Center Chorus at Fort Benning, Georgia, will give special numbers on the closing program today, together with other music to be furnished by Chief Specialist Graham Jackson and Mrs. Elsie Foster Evans. 6-4-44

Looking back to the time when the Center was first proposed, citizens can well recall the strenous objections to such an undertaking so near the Washington High School, where the girl students would be thrown into intimate touch with the soldiers. Against the wishes of many of the citizens, the better judgment of some of our leading citizens, officials proceeded with the Center, and today, it has become an established institution and a vital force in the entertainment for soldiers and a meeting place for our most careful citizens.

Not only do we boast of the fact that no scandal, killing or stabbing has been reported at the Center, but we are proud of the favorable impression it has made upon the soldiers who gather there from time to time as they sojourn in Atlanta from their various army posts. It is reputed to be not only one of the finest in the country for Negro servicemen, but along with it soldiers have repeatedly remarked that the Atlanta citizens are the most hospitable of any group of citizens anywhere they have chanced to visit. 6-4-44

That is as it should be. Who among us would dare deny the indisputable fact that the soldiers make up the very cream of our nation's crop, not only as physical specimen but likewise in idealism and future promise? Indeed these boys come from our very homes and they, each of them, is some mother's son.

We congratulate the officers and the management of the Center on their record and wish for them and the soldiers every good luck which can come to those thus engaged.

Goes to New York

Advertiser - Montgomery Ala.

REV. W. E. HOGAN

Rev. W. E. Hogan, pastor of the First Congregational Christian Church, and director of the USO Club, 215 Monroe St., has been selected religious consultant of all negro USO clubs in the United States operated by the Young Men's Christian Association. This new assignment places Rev. Hogan on the national staff of the YMCA with headquarters at 347 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y., taking him from the pastorate of the church. 7-5-44

Hearty appreciation and thanks to him for his liberality in helping maintain regular church services, and his thoughtfulness of those unable to attend, are being extended by the members.

Ad-Advertiser, Montgomery Alabama 7-16-44

MISS ELIZABETH LEMON

The National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association announces the appointment of Miss Elizabeth Elaine Lemon as director of Negro work at the USO Club, which it operates at Enterprise Highway. Miss Lemon succeeds Mrs. Ophelia Ligon, who will direct Negro activities at the USO Club in Elkton, Md.

Miss Lemon holds a degree in English and social studies from Ball State Teachers College in Indiana, and M. A. from Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City. She has been a physical education teacher in Winston-Salem, N. C., and a teacher and principal of the Atlanta University Laboratory School. She joined the USO division of the National YWCA a year ago.

Miss Lemon is skilled in organizing and directing groups in folk dancing, dramatics, art and crafts, and public speaking

Across The Desk

By LUDLOW W. WERNER

3-11-44

USO ABROAD — Tom Johnson, of the Overseas Division of the USO, sent a most interesting letter to this desk the other day from Hawaii where he is stationed. The letter should make interesting reading because so many of our boys from Harlem are stationed in the Hawaiian area. Age — New York, N.Y.

"I have just completed a maze of personal identification which is absolutely necessary in this part of the world or should I say in this part of the United States," Mr. Johnson wrote. He continued: "In between my finger print processing and completing personal history forms I have sandwiched in a few of the sights of Honolulu, which is said to be the largest city in the world embracing some 540,000 square miles. This beautiful rambling city by the sea with its even year round temperature and an annual rainfall of about 30 inches is just draped in the most beautiful species of multi-colored plants and flowers. The green lawns, beautiful parks and hillsides are actually lovely.

"The city is most progressive with its modern buildings, boulevards, schools, piers, sewers, public utilities, police department, public recreation and playgrounds, social agencies, hospitals, etc. The rural plantation areas are very large and most modernistic. Really, the plantations are small cities within themselves with their ultra-modern community recreation centers, kindergarten, hospital, stores, barbershop, post office, etc.

"After traveling around the island and seeing the huge, in fact the largest pineapple plantation in the world about 20,000 acres, an orderly, green and almost endless panorama on the rich plateaux around Wehiewa in addition to many others, you can hardly imagine that in the mainland pineapples, processed, are on the ration list. One of the largest pineapple canneries in the world is also located on the island of Oahu. In addition to the large pineapple industry, fields of sugar cane reach out all over the island.

"There are many things to see in Hawaii, but with everyone hard at work producing toward winning the war you hardly have time to cover all of the special points of interest. Many of the peace time sights are no longer available but are now restricted areas. 3-11-44

"I am just getting under way here and have been assigned to the USO Central Office Staff serving as a coordinator and public relations persons for USO in the area of special services to Negro troops stationed in the Territory.

"The services of the Overseas Division of USO are just about like those given in the Mainland — personal services, housing, canteen services, informaton, sports and athletics, social recreation, mobile service to detached troops, camp shows, etc. The general problem here is a real shortage of hostesses to serve in the USO Clubs. The number of men to women is terrifically out of proportion as far as USO is concerned; however, everybody concerned accepts the situation with a smile and carries on in the next best way.

"The spirits of the men are high and they really appreciate what USO is trying to do for them. Our men, like other soldiers here, are making a real contibution to the total war effort and seem to be taking things in their stride. I have had the opportunity of visitng the camps and areas where our men are stationed. In talking with them they are anxious to know how things are back in the states, when do you think the war will be over, are there many 'jodies' left and what they expect to do when they get back home. Very frequently I cross an old acquaintance and we generally have a real 'gum session' about things back home.

"Lieut. Faulkner Watts and I had a long chat about the Harlem YMCA, the staff, and also about some of the spots around town. Sgt. Ollie Edinboro, of the Harlem Boys Club, is leading his basketball squad in two of the local basketball leagues; Sgt. Major Dick Wales, of Franklin, Ind., stopped by to say hello. Pvt. Sonny Jeffers, of the Washington Grays, is coaching a baseball team in the Honolulu league and a star pitcher in the fast Hawaiian league. 3-11-44

"We had a real session covering our experiences in the Negro National League while he was with the forces of Cum Posey and I ran around with the Philadelphia Stars. I was also lucky enough to get a long chat with Colonel Chauncey Hooper, of New Yrk City, a few days ago out on the field.

"Our men here are receiving very fine treatment by the native people and generally speaking are getting along fine. All public places of recreation, hotels, etc. are open to them and for the most part the men are taking very good advantage of these opportunities.

(Editor's note: The next seven lines of the letter were censored)

"Really what the USO wants to do is to make things as pleasant for our troops as humanly possible. I have made some recommendations as to how the scops of services to our men might be broadened and I feel we are making some real progress. Various special group activities: tours, horseback riding, boating, deep-sea fishing, good old fashion picnics and barbecues, private dances and a wide range of sports and athletics, are getting special attention from the various units. Camp Shows are beginning to reach our gang. Speaking of shows, the men are more than anxious to get some of our top radio, stage and screen stars out this way. They are anxiously awaiting the day when the Army or USO Camp Shows or someone can send out Lena Horne — or some of our other top stars."

Ad Service here, all colored, was set up 22, 1943. The Western s of Alabama donated the which was furnished by visor, Mrs. Pearl Bell. Mercedes J. Hopkins, di- the lounge, joined the s staff in July, 1942, as colored case worker in Creek, Mich., and has Fayetteville, N.C., five months.

ory committee and staff of the USO Travelers' Aid Service, Tuskegee, Ala., has announced the formal opening of the USO Troops in Transit Lounge here, Thursday, with open house from 8 to 12 midnight.

AFRO-AMERICAN BALT., MD.

Lounge for Traveling GI's to Open in Ala.

CHICHAW, Ala.—The advis. The office for the first USO 11-18-44

471-1944

USO

Cast of Streamlined "Porgy and Bess"

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Here is the first and only picture of the USO Camp Show Company of "Porgy and Bess," posed on the steps of Radio City, where the group went just a few minutes before their final passport check-up. This is the first and largest production of this type to be sent overseas by USO Camp Shows to entertain service men. It was produced and directed by Dick Campbell, with music directed by Eva Jessye. From left to right are: First row—Catherine Van Buren, Frances Brock, Dick Campbell, director and producer; Eloise Uggams, Elizabeth Scott, Gladys Goode; Second row—Thomas Moseley, manager; Audrey Vanterpool, Carmine Brown, Julia Latimer, Robert Woodland, George Narshall; Third row—William Veasey, Josiah Albright, John Garth, Bobby Johnson, David Davies and Sol Bryson. — (Solomon photo.)

3,000,000 VISITS PER MONTH MADE TO USO'S BY NEGROES

Christian Recorder

1944

NEW YORK—Visits to the USO service centers by men and women of the armed forces increased from 1,000,000 monthly this time last year to 3,000,000 this year, it was revealed this week by Henry W. Pope, national director of services to Negroes, at the organization's national headquarters in the Empire State Building.

In order to keep pace with the increased demand for recreational facilities for service men and women in the states, the USO increased its centers which cater exclusively to Negroes from 118 last year to approximately 300 this year. This does not include the more than 100 local community centers in the country which receive substantial grants from the USO to enable them to serve men and women in uniform.

The USO is a member agency of the National War Fund, which comprises 22 war emergency agencies. The National War Fund is supported by the American public's voluntary contributions to 10,000 local community war fund campaigns.

1944

Mr. Pope, who supervises the work of the centers serving Negroes, made it clear that the 300 centers mentioned above do not take care of all the Negro soldiers, sailors, and Wacs, for many of them stationed in northern areas are served in USO centers that service all service men regardless of color.

More than 2,400 paid trained professional and non-professional Negro workers are employed at the centers, Mr. Pope said. This represents an increase of at least 33 per cent over last year in personnel. Negroes are employed in capacities having local, regional, and national responsibilities. With pride and public gratitude, Mr. Pope revealed that approximately 75,000 persons, largely women, volunteered their services to USO centers zeal to deliver mankind to a fuller life, he took unlimited risks. His courage was so keen that it needed no bolstering of dark passion. In facing the conflicts of life he stood dauntless. Either for or against. His contribution to the A. M. E. Church is inestimable. By the power of the Giver of every perfect gift, he leaves to carry on, a son, Rev. J. M. Nelson whom people highly esteem; J. W. Nelson, Jr., a son, who is with the army serving his country as a true and brave citizen; a daughter, Mrs. E. J. Larry, who is highly affiliated with the educational world and is also the wife of a minister; a wife, Mrs. B. F. Nelson, who [illegible] hostesses and other workers during the past twelve months. This figure represents an increase of 25,000 volunteer workers over last year.

Calloway heads servicewoman canteen

Los Angeles Tribune

NEW YORK—The newly-formed Negro Entertainment Committee has named Cab Calloway chairman of its proposed Canteen for Negro Wacs and Waves. Present plans call for two canteens to be located in New York City and Chicago. Until now there have been almost no adequate recreation facilities for Negro servicewomen. "It is the purpose o this committee", stated Mr. Calloway, "to remedy this condition."

Other members of the committee include Paul Robeson, Duke Ellington and Lena Horne.

Mississippi Mayor Urges USO For Negro Soldiers

Informer — Houston, Texas
6-17-44

CENTERVILLE, Miss.—(ANP) —A peculiar twist was added to the protracted fued which reportedly has simmered between the white citizenry of Centerville, and the Negro soldiers, stationed at Camp Van Dorn, when it was revealed this week that Omer Carroll, mayor of Centerville, has twice addressed communications to O. T. Ray, regional director for the Federal Works agency, at Atlanta, Ga., urging the establishment of a USO for Negro soldiers in Centerville.

Those who recall the widely-publicized riot last year in Centerville, involving local police officers and Negro soldiers, may have developed the conviction that the entire white populace of Centerville became permanently prejudiced against improving the welfare and status of Negro soldiers at Camp Van Dorn. This possibility then doubly highlights the significance in the action of Mayor Caroll who, when interviewed as to the probable reactionary feeling of hostile Centerville whites as to his campaign for a Negro USO, exclaimed that he "didn't care a 'hoot' about them."

6-17-44

Initial efforts at securing a Negro USO building in Centerville were rejected by the FWA upon the grounds that there was a "lack of war connected needs." Accordingly, Negro soldiers, at Camp Van Dorn, have been compelled to seek recreation at the Baton Rouge USO and Southern university, over 30 miles distant.

Sensing these conditions, on May 29, Mayor Carroll again wrote Ray stating that the lack of proper recreational facilities for colored troops in as small a town as Centerville creates a serious condition both for the military authorities and civil authorities to handle. I was in conference last week with one of the authorities who handles a large share of these colored soldiers, with reference to a method of cooperation between our officers and theirs in handling this situation to keep down as little friction as possible, and I was forcibly impressed with their problem, as well as ours, due principally to the lack of recreational facilities. I am wondering if there is possibility of getting a review of our application in light of the increased number of colored soldiers now located at Camp Van Dorn?"

6-17-44

Mayor Carroll gave evidence of his genuine interest in the proposal by promising to donate personal land as a site for the colored USO building. The rest now is up to the Federal Works agency.

Negro Artists Make Up One-Tenth of USO Shows

Tribune — Washington, D.C.
10-7-44

One-tenth of the entertainers who are giving performances to servicement on the USO-Camp Shows circuit are Negroes, it was revealed last week by Dick Campbell, director of Negro shows. Currently there are 175 colored performers employed in the United States and on foreign soil, he said.

There are at present seventeen colored shows operating in the country and two overseas.

USO-Camp Shows is that branch of the USO, a member of the National War Fund, which supplies live entertainment to the armed forces both at home and abroad. It was established at the request of military authorities in November, 1941, and is supported by contributions to 10,000 community war funds representing the National War Fund.

10-7-44

Listeners Range to 5,000

Negro artists are participating in practically every form of entertainment, Campbell stated. Servicemen and WACS at home and abroad have been entertained by a variety of performers, from Cab Calloway, the Hi-de-ho swing king, to Marian Anderson, top-ranking concert artist.

These colored artists, like the white artists, play to audiences ranging from 500 to 5,000 eager listeners in uniform. They play also to white and colored audiences. They serve at salaries much lower than they would normally earn in commercial show business, it was pointed out.

They have gone out for months at a time, not knowing their final destination, placing themselves in the hands of the War Department with the knowledge that they are fighting the war in the way they know best. They have played in all sorts of temperatures and weather, often putting on their shows to the competition of roaring guns and raiding planes.

10-7-44

They play on an average of nine performances a week for months at a time. During the period of a year, these 175 Negro performers play to an estimated audience of 8,800,000 service men and women.

NEW POST—Hugh Gloster of Atlanta, Ga., has been appointed USO assistant regional executive in charge of services to Negroes in Region 7, according to Mark L. Entorf, USO regional executive.

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Hugh M. Gloster

Made USO Aide

8-12-44

ATLANTA, Ga.—Hugh Morris Gloster, professor of English at Morehouse college, a professor on leave, has just taken over as associate regional executive, in charge of USO services to Negroes in Region VII. The announcement was made by Mark L. Entorf, regional executive, at USO headquarters here this week.

"We are fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Gloster," said Mr. Entorf. "His record as a student and educator, and as program director of a USO club in Huachuca, Ariz., during the past year, have eminently qualified him for his present position."

3,000,000 monthly visits made to USO'S by Negroes

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
9-11-44

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9-11-44

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Mr. Pope, who supervises the work of the centers serving Negroes, made it clear that the 300 centers mentioned above do not take care of all the Negro soldiers, sailors and Wacs, for many of them stationed in northern areas are served in USO centers, that service all servicemen regardless of color.

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9-11-44

cilities for Negro service men and women were limited should be open to them as well as whites. Another suggestion for improving other relationships was that Negro-white YMCA and YWCA organizations be given greater financial support by their communities, to enable them to afford more recreational opportunities to Negroes of the communities, as well as those at nearby military establishments.

It was also suggested that Negro churches assume a greater share of the responsibility than they have heretofore, and that they broaden their programs to meet the needs of a greater proportion of youth and adult groups in their communities.

9-23-44

Reports from labor study committees of widespread discrimination against Negroes in employment in the Trenton and New Brunswick areas were received at last night's session. A report on the Trenton area said many industries needing women still refused to hire Negro women, despite an acute labor shortage which had put some pro-

Jerseyites Attack Alleged Segregation In USO Centers

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.
9-23-44

TRENTON—Alleged discrimination against Negro service men and women in USO centers, and against Negroes in recreational centers generally, was protested last Tuesday by members attending the first session of a two-day Central New Jersey inter-racial clinic.

Mayor Andrew J. Duch, of Trenton, told the meeting that such discrimination was one of the "most critical and crucial problems of our time."

Speakers urged that USO clubs in communities where recreational fa-

duction six months behind schedule.

The meeting urged establishment of a permanent national fair employment practices committee, and also a State committee of similar nature.

The Very Rev. Frederick M. Adams, dean of Trinity Cathedral, and chairman of a committee to study the housing and health problems in Trenton, had charge of this phase of the discussion and presentation of data. Dean Adams was assisted by Robert Queen, George W. Hancock, the Rev. Frank S. Niles, F. Harold Johnson, Mrs. Marie Pickens and Mrs. Ira Dickerson.

Devotional services were conducted by the Rev. Harry B. Pine.

Dr. George E. Haynes, director of the clinic, gave the statement of purpose and procedure of the meetings. Case reports were given from four committees. John Morrow, of Bordentown, served as co-ordinator at the Tuesday morning session.

Mrs. Bennett Cooper was chairman of the Tuesday afternoon session, when the clinic discussed "Leisure Time Activities for Civilians and Soldiers." Speakers and leaders at the afternoon session were James W. Geater, of the FSA, Washington; Hilmar Jensen, Mrs. Lillian Jackson, Mrs. Elizabeth Herron and the Rev. Canon Robert D. Smith. The Rev. Clayton Lime led the devotional period. 9-23-44

The session Wednesday evening was in the First Presbyterian Church with Karl G. Hastedt, president of the Council of Churches, presiding, and devotional services conducted by the Rev. Edward Allen Morris. The clinic discussed "Employment and Labor."

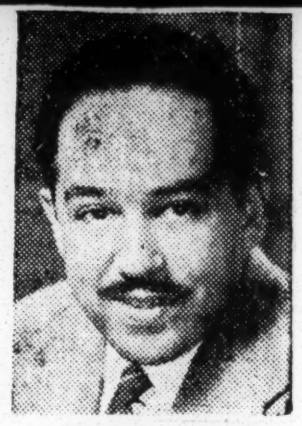
HERE TO YONDER

By LANGSTON HUGHES

Center of America: Fort Riley

I AM WRITING this column in Texas where spring has already come in full warmth and blossom. Folks are walking around in their shirt-sleeves and the red-bud and flowering peach are in brilliant bloom. The purple iris are in flower and the grass is green. There are even flies buzzing already at screen doors.

Last week end I spent most enjoyably as a guest of the Pawnee Place USO club at Junction City, Kans., serving the Negro soldiers of Fort Riley where I saw the shaft marking the geographical center of the United States within the confines of the Fort. I grew up in Kansas so I sort of felt back home. The



Langston Hughes

club's director, the rotund and jovial William J. Neal, met me at Topeka with the station wagon, accompanied by a charming WAC, Lt. Aurelia Harris with a rich pink-brown complexion exactly like Josephine Baker's. Also there to greet me was Miss Velma Ellis, pretty hostess of the Whitside Service club in her snappy blue uniform.

First thing we did was have lunch in the Union Pacific station, then we headed westward toward the home of the old 9th and 10th Calvary, where our late great Col. Young held forth. And where more recently, Joe Louis took his basic training. And where now many youngsters of color, both male and female, yet to make a name for themselves (for numbers of them are still kids) are learning what army life is all about.

Variety of Services

A TWO HOUR drive over the rolling Kansas plains brought us to Junction City and the Pawnee Place USO club, named after the Federal Housing project for colored families nearby. It was mid-afternoon and the club was quiet, so Mrs. Lena V. O'Neal, the assistant director, Miss Lela Aska, program aid, and Miss Nadine Foster, the secretary, showed me about the large, well-kept, and beautifully equipped club, the largest of the three USO clubs in town and the only one with its own new and complete building—for the two white clubs are housed in portions of other old buildings not especially designed for the purpose. The Pawnee club has a large combination auditorium-dance-hall and game room, a delightful lounge and snack bar, a library, and furnishings, offices, and rest rooms.

The club is under the auspices of the Salvation Army and members of the armed forces of all races are welcome, but its guests are mostly colored. I was amazed at the variety of services it offers from movies, games, and dancing to the care of babies when army wives gather for club meetings or bridge parties. Mr. Neal and Mrs. O'Neal—no relation—the "O" separates them—told me that the club stages shows, sponsors a series of out-door Sunday vespers, promotes boxing matches, lends books, plans trips through its volunteer Travelers' Aid service which also helps finds rooms for soldiers or their guests visiting in town. The club also gives language classes, encourages art and literary expression, promotes a Victory Garden contest and canning bee among soldier-wives and townspeople, has a girls' chorus, has a Christmas gift committee which makes and distributes gifts at holiday time, especially to hospital patients, and helps soldiers struggling with Christmas parcel wrapping or last minute gift selections for the folks back home.

The staff does its best to bring special entertainment to the soldiers, taking advantage of theatrical and other celebrities appearing in Kansas City or nearby towns. They have brought to the club, Lou Swartz, eminent woman monologist of St. Louis, the Lincoln University Mixed chorus, the Kansas City Baptist Choral group, the soloist, Betty Wilson, and that charming young singer studying at the University of Kansas, Nadine Brewer. But, with Junction City being slightly off the beaten track, they find it hard to induce artists to visit them, so they help the boys create their own entertainment.

Fifty Hours' Service

MRS. O'NEAL pinned on my lapel as I was leaving a little USO pin denoting fifty hours volunteer service to the USO—in my case, service through poetry for, by the time these lines reach print, I shall have read my poems before soldier audiences in USO clubs from Harlem to Fort Huachuca, Arizona. In the New York and Hollywood areas, Negro stage and movie celebs have been most generous in entertaining our folks in uniform. But the South and Middle West receive but little of outside fame and frolic. So listen, Rochester, Hazel Scott, Ethel Waters, Marian Anderson, Dorothy Maynor, Roland Hayes, Rex Ingram, and others often going back and forth to Hollywood! Stop off for a day at Fort Riley or Fort Sill or Fort Leonard Wood and give the boys and WACs at the heart of America a break with your genial talents. You'll have one of the grandest audiences in the world who'll show their appreciation in a big way. And the folks who run these USO clubs are most cordial hosts. I wish I was as funny as Rochester, as musical as Hazel Scott, and as dramatic as Rex Ingram—what a show I could put on then!

Benning USO Attracts 75,000 G. I.'s Weekly

COLUMBUS, (ANP) — With a weekly average of 75,000 soldiers pouring into Columbus from nearby Ft. Benning, the USO colored army-navy YMCA, general headquarters for these soldiers, last week celebrated its fourth birthday.

The USO, officially opened July 27, 1941, is said to be the only one of its kind functioning as an army and navy project for Negro men of the armed forces. Opening of the center brought felicitations from outstanding leaders the country over, including a telegram from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The moving spirit behind this smoothly operated project is E. E. Farley, executive secretary. Farley, who has had more than 19 years experience as worker among Negro soldiers, is considered an authority on soldier problems.

Bethune, Spaulding On National USO Council

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Mrs. Mary Bethune, founder and president of the national council of Negro women, and C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance of Durham, are serving as members-at-large on the newly formed national USO council.

The council, headed by Mrs. Maurice T. Moore, is made up of USO chairmen and vice chairmen from every state and a group of civic and business leaders serving as members-at-large.

47L-1944

USO

USO SERVES WAR WORKERS OF COAST INDUSTRIAL AREA

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.

7-24-44

1. K P treat—a group of convalescent sailors come to dinner of real home cooking which they help prepare. 2. Renetta Rembert sketches a sister shipbuilder at weekly art class. 3 & 4. Sewing and knitting classes at the USO-NCCS Club help women war workers relax after a hard day's work in the shipyards.

WAR Production workers in Vallejo, California, one of the largest shipbuilding centers in the country, depend on the USO, member agency of the National War Fund, for many of the home-like pleasures and companionships which they could not otherwise enjoy in this gigantic temporary industrial city. Vallejo, once a quiet town adjacent to the Mare Island Navy Yard, has boomed in population and shipbuilding activity since Pearl Harbor.

7-24-44

Especially do Negro women workers look to the USO-NCCS at 1209 Georgia Street, Vallejo, for leisure-time recreation and friendships. This club serves as a rendezvous after hours for the majority of the 3,000 Negro workers — mostly women — employed in the city's shipbuilding industry. The club also serves Negro members of the armed forces stationed nearby.

Arts and crafts, a well-attended sketching program, cooking classes, sewing groups, bingo parties, "Mix 'N' Mingle" hours, Saturday night dances, Sunday night songfests and community sings are among the facets of the club program. On Monday nightsing the National War Fund, opwomen visiting the club have aerates approximately 3,000 units nourishing, home-cooked mealfrom Alaska to the Caribbean there and spend the evening atand from Nova Scotia to Hawaii. sports and other recreational games.

7-24-44

Recently the Women's Industrial Organization, composed of war workers from the Mare Island Navy Yard, invited a group of 50 sailors wounded in the South Pacific to be their guests for the evening, including supper at the club.

Women war workers comprise the majority of the 200 junior and senior hostesses at the club, maintained by the USO. They not only attend the dances and work with the director on special hobby groups, but also travel to three of the largest camps and naval bases nearby for post parties.

7-24-44

The USO which is financed by contributions of Americans in every town and hamlet throughout the country, through local community war funds represent-ing the National War Fund, operates approximately 3,000 units from Alaska to the Caribbean and from Nova Scotia to Hawaii.

C.I.O. Booklet on 'Races of Mankind' Called 'Weapon'

Register, Des Moines, Iowa March 14, 1944

New York—The board of directors of the USO Friday upheld the ban imposed by the organization's president, Chester I. Barnard, on distribution of the popularly written scientific pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," to servicemen through USO centers. Some of the board members voted against Barnard's stand, and for resumption of circulation of the pamphlet by the USO.

The vote followed an appeal by Irving Abramson, chairman of the National CIO War Relief Committee, who appeared at the session on the invitation of the USO's executive committee. Abramson described the booklet as a major weapon in the war against bigotry and racial tolerance.

"I am very grateful to those members of the USO board who upheld the position of those desiring to propagate the democratic principles outlined in "The Races of Mankind," Abramson stated after the meeting. "While we regret the majority's decision, the CIO will continue as before to support the USO. However, it will also continue its fight for democracy and inter-racial understanding."

In his address to the board members, Abramson replied to the position of President Barnard, who was previously reported as having said that "The American people . . . cannot stand behind (the USO) if we attempt to promote the special political or social interests of churches, races or national and economic groups," by saying:

Stands by Statement

"I stand by that statement and adopt it, in fact, in support of our position because the book is not attempting to promote the interests of any one race, but to support them all and to show they are all equal."

The disputed pamphlet is a study of racial questions prepared by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, Columbia University anthropologists, and published by the Public Affairs Committee, a non-profit educational organiaztion. It attacks race prejudice which it calls "a comparitively modern disease," by an exposition of the common history of mankind, and contends that intelligence tests show no difference between the races when economic and educational advantages are equal.

The CIO committee's chairman pointed out that the USO is currently distributing, and has in the past distributed, other pamphlets issued by the Public Affairs Committee, dealing with other social and economic problems. He found it difficult, he said, to understand why the board prohibited this one, which deals with tolerance.

"Our organization feels very strongly about this issue," he added, "since it involves the fight against Hitler's Aryan race creed, which brought about this bloody conflict. Is it not important to inform servicemen of the evils of bigotry, intolerance, and racial hatreds, and to teach them the principles of democracy?"

The CIO, which began distribution of the pamphlet to members of the armed forces on its mailing lists after Barnard had demanded its removal from USO centers, is one of the largest contributors to USO activities through the National War Fund.

Gloster Named USO Associate Executive

Daily World, Los Angeles August 31, 1944

Hugh Morris Gloster, Professor of English at Morehouse College, presently on leave has just taken over as Associate Regional Executive, in charge of USO services to Negroes in Region VII. The announcemnt was made by Mary L. Entorf, Regional Executive, at USO headquarters in Atlanta Wednesday.

"We are fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Gloster," said the Regional Executive when interviewed in his office concerning the appointment. "His record as a student and educator, also as program director of a USO Club in Huachuca, Arizona during past year have eminently qualified him for his present position."

Gloster later attended At-versity and for the Ph. D. he received at that institution.

Gloster earned his A.B. degree at Morehouse College, Atlanta University where he earned two scholarships along with a A General Education Board fellowship's degree — achievementslow during his years of work, 1938-which paved the way for post 1939, for the Ph.D., Mr. Gloster, in graduate work at New York Uni- the summer of 1940, was an Alpha

Phi Alpha research fellow. Throughout his graduate study, too, he maintained a straight-A average in his field of specialization. 8-2-44

Always interested in literature

HUGH M. GLOSTER

and languages, this young man, whose father and mother, Professor and Mrs. John R. Gloster, were pioneers in Negro education in West Tennessee, founded and became the first president of the Association of Teachers of Language in Negro colleges.

Born in Brownsville, Tennessee, he was, during years of residence in Memphis, a member of the Board of Directors of the Community Welfare League (National Urban League affiliate) and of the Executive Committee of the NAACP. He also served as co-director of the YMCA Literary Guild, co-chairman of the LeMoyne College Building Campaign and as general chairman of two annual Boy Scout financial drives.

In 1943, securing a leave from Morehouse College, Mr. Gloster attended the USO Orientation Institute at Columbia University and was elected chairman of his class composed of representatives of the six USO agencies. 8-2-44

Assigned to a club in Fort Huachuca, Arizona where he was program director, Mr. Gloster received the commendation of Army and USO officials for his work in program, publicity, and Post and community relations.

Mrs. Gloster, his wife, the former Louise Elizabeth Torrance, and their daughter, Alice Louise, born January 6, 1943, live at 562 Pulliam Street, Atlanta.

Roosevelt-Bethune Pic Barred as 'Controversial'

People's Voice - N.Y., N.Y. 4-1-'44

WASHINGTON—The USO recently barred from the "white" press a picture of three of the nation's leading women, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Mrs. Mary McLeod and Mrs. Mary Tobias Dean, USO arts and crafts program specialist, simply because of mixed colors. It was disclosed that the incident occurred at a USO exhibit of arts and crafts in the national museum here the latter part of January.

Among the visitors at the exhibit were Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Bethune. After much hesitation a USO press agent permitted his photographer to shoot the picture of the women grouped along with Mrs. Dean. The photo was subsequently sent to E. V. Hale, USO publicity director, who said that its release to "white newspapers would be too controversial.

TOO CONTROVERSIAL

"I decide on any picture and make decisions as they arise," Hale commented. Distribution was not made to the white press, he said, "because I felt that it might stir up prejudice in certain communities in which USO has for a long period of time been striving to achieve certain practical results in cooperation between Negroes and whites.

"Anything which tended to stir up such prejudice in these communities would, in my opinion, do more practical harm to the USO and to the Negroes there than all the good that publication of the picture might conceivably accomplish elsewhere." 4-1-44

It is recalled that the USO, a few months ago, branded the pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," a scientific study about mankind and equality of the human races, as too "controversial" for the boys who come to USO centers to read.

Two Officers' Wives Appointed Hostesses in Boston Canteen

BOSTON(ANP)—Early this week the appointment of two colored senior hostesses was announced at the Boston Stage Door canteen. This action by the Theatre wing was just the opposite of the policy followed by the Boston Commons Buddies Club-USO, which does not allow the intermingling of colored hostesses with white servicemen.

The two women are Mrs. Mabel Sandridge and Mrs. Alezia Gourdin of Boston, wives of Maj. Henry Sandridge and Col. Edward O. Gourdin both of the 372nd Infantry Regiment stationed in New York City. Both women are well known in Boston social circles.

Ray W. Guild, Boston civic leader, led the earlier fight against the discriminatory policy of the Buddies Club on the Boston Commons, and this action by the Stage Door Canteen followed conferences by Julian D. Steele of the Boston NAACP and Mrs. Osgood Perkins, director of the Boston Stage Door Canteen. In taking this forward action, the canteen has already enrolled over 20 colored hostesses. The plans call for at least two on duty at all times with no restrictions of any sort being placed upon them or the participation of colored service men who use the facilities.

Lounge for Traveling Gl's to Open in Ala.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 11-18-44

CHEWHAW, Ala.—The advisory committee and staff of the USO Travelers' Aid Service, Tuskegee, Ala., has announced the formal opening of the USO Troops in Transit Lounge here, Thursday, with open house from 8 to 12 midnight.

The office or the first USO Travelers' Aid Service here, staffed by all colored, was set up December 22, 1943. The Western Red Cross of Alabama donated the lounge, which was furnished by its supervisor, Mrs. Pearl Bell.

Miss Mercedes J. Hopkins, director of the lounge, joined the USO TAS staff in July, 1942, as the first colored case worker in Battle Creek, Mich., and has served in Fayetteville, N.C., five months.

'PORGY AND BESS' GROUP SET FOR OVERSEAS

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 10-28-44

This is the first and only picture of the USO Camp Show Company of "Porgy and Bess," posed on the steps of Radio City, where the group went just a few minutes before their final passport check-up. This is the first and largest production of this type to be sent overseas by USO Camp Shows. It was produced and directed by Dick Campbell, with music direction by Eva Jessye. From left to right are: first row, Catherine Van Buren, Frances Brock, Dick Campbell, director and producer, Eloise Uggams, Elizabeth Scott, Gladys Goode. Second row: Thomas Moseley, manager, Audrey Vanterpool, Carmin Julia Latimer, Robert Woodland, George Marshall. Third row: Wm. Veasley, Josiah Albright, John Garth, Bobby David Davies and Sol Bryson.—Chick Solomon Photo.

10-28-44

47L-1944

USO

Pamphlet Denouncing Racial Prejudice Is Banned By U. S. O.

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

Publication Is Considered 'Too Controversial'

1-23-44

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Circulation of a pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," a recent publication by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, anthropologists at Columbia University has been banned from YWCA-operated USO units, as "too controversial."

The pamphlet, prepared for the Public Affairs Committee, a non-profit, educational organization sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan foundation, explains certain facts concerning mankind and the equality of races; it presents information about man's origin and makeup, and describes race prejudice as a "comparatively modern disease caused by fear."

The trouble began when the YMCA, with the organization's funds, purchased and distributed through its army and navy committee, 50,000 copies of the booklet in YMCA-operated USO units. Chester I. Barnard, USO president upon reading the bare truths of the pamphlet, immediately contacted the YMCA and asked the organization to stop distributing it; later, the USO Board backed its president in his request.

Although the YMCA complied with Barnard's request, under USO Board pressure, the point was stressed that the organization does not agree with the philosophy back of it.

1-23-44

The pamphlet, which urges Americans "to clean house and get ready for a better 21st century," is used by the American Baptist Home Mission Society and Federal Council of Churches, the Jun'o League of America, and many schools and colleges.

More than 125,000 copies of the book have been sold to date.

Brooks Memorial Canteen Serves All:

Westchester Women Act Following USO Jimcro

People's Voice - New York, N.Y.

1-22-44

America is up in White Plains—that is, that part of America which truly believes in the credo, "without regard to race, creed or color." Dixie is up in White Plains, too—Dixie which flourishes on the fascist doctrine of race separation and race superiority. It is Dixie that refuses hospitality to Negro soldiers billeted in Westchester camps. And it is America that motivated a little band of Negro women to organize the Brooks Memorial Volunteers a couple of years ago to serve *all men* in the Armed services of the country.

Up until two years ago, our boys stationed in Westchester camps—our boys who were about to spill their rich, young blood in the cause of democracy—had no recreational facilities open to them nearer than NYC. Even before Pearl Harbor, the USO service center at Depot Plaza, White Plains, was entertaining boys from New York and all nearby places; but then, as now, failed to invite Negro soldiers to dances and parties. When USO officials were approached about this condition—when it was pointed out to them that their club was supported by public funds—they said that the Negro boys were "welcome." But that was as far as they went. They never turned a finger to *make* them welcome.

IDEA BECOMES FACT

Incensed at the situation, Mrs. Eunice H. Wolfe of White Plains invited thirteen women to her home on February 19, 1942. Out of the conversation they had that day, the Brooks Memorial Volunteers of Westchester was born. Scarcely two weeks later, with the aid of other sympathetic people in the community, these courageous women, who had no previous experience in such an organization, opened a completely furnished recreation room for soldiers—American soldiers—"without regard to race, creed or color," at 118 Martine av, White Plains.

That was nearly two years ago. The idea caught on like wildfire. Today there are thirteen units of the Volunteers, with a total membership of 1,200, throughout Westchester county and canteens in Mt. Vernon and New Rochelle. Seven thousand kits have been made and given to soldiers and more than 10,000 servicemen have been entertained at the various canteens. Hostesses are furnished at Camp Shanks and Camp Eastview and parties of women regularly visit and entertain veterans sationed at Castle Point.

1-22-44

WORK WITH USO

"We are not fighting the USO," Mrs. Wolfe, executive chairman, and Mrs. Edna Williams, vice-executive chairman, explained to PV.

"As a matter of fact, we never fail to work with them. (Mrs. Wolfe is on the Board of Management at Camp Shanks). But we do feel that since colored Americans are contributing to city funds out of which the USO gets its quota, and inasmuch as we carry on among boys in the service, we are entitled to our share."

Brooks Memorial is entirely supported by voluntary contributions, mostly by the members themselves, who are taxed $1 monthly, and from proceeds of bridge parties and dances. When they get in a "tight spot," the women said, their husbands help them out.

Letters from all over the world—India, Africa, Australia, the Southwest Pacific, the Solomons, Sicily, from boys who have been entertained at Brooks Memorial, make their sacrifices more than worthwhile, the two women said.

LETTERS FROM BOYS

One from "Frank" on behalf of Co. E of the 372d Infantry which was stationed at Camp Eastview, enclosed a check for $65.17 for the "furtherance of your splendid program." Every man had emptied his pockets and given whatever he had—from seven cents to $3.

And another from Sgt. Pat Capone, an Italian-American in the Armed forces who had enjoyed the hospitality of Brooks Memorial wrote: "At exactly one-half hour ago, I received your swell package (the kit which is given every soldier at departure) of very useful articles. I want to thank everyone of you for your thoughtfulness. You can't imagine how good it makes us feel to know that our friends back home are behind us during these times."

1-22-44

The boys in uniform are grateful for this bit of America in Westchester. They go away feeling that they have, in truth, something to fight for. We on the homefront are grateful, too, for the splendid example of Americanism displayed by heroines who do not march to the beat of the drum.—[MJC].

USO on Fence; Bars Pamphlet From Centers

Peoples Voice - New York, N.Y.

1-22-44

Servicemen frequenting USO centers will be deprived of an opportunity to learn a few facts about race relations, because the USO board of directors decided last week to ban distribution of a pamphlet titled **The Races of Mankind.** Written by two Columbia University anthropologists, Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, the breezy, popular style.

pamphlet is a scientific, impartial Called "too controversial" by attempt to present facts about USO directors, the booklet had man's origin and makeup in a been purchased in large numbers

by the YMCA through its Army and Navy Committee and distributed through the same agency. Fifty thousand copies were placed in YMCA-operated USO units. *The Races of Mankind* was prepared for a non-profit, educational organization called the Public Affairs Committee, sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Its standing. The booklet stresses *immediate* racial understanding as necessary to United Nations unity. statement: "Withdrawal of the policy is "to present facts on portant social and economic tions." Preparation of the let was under supervision of American Association of Scie Workers, including, beside authors, Professor L. C. Dunn, of Bell Telephone Company, zoologist; Professor Otto F berg, psychologist, and Dr. M Smith, anthropologist.

The booklet states facts sc has learned and verified races — showing similarities origin, and pointing up the unity existing among all hu "Urging all peoples to "clean and get ready for a better tw first century" the authors say that fear is a basic reason for prejudices, and that freedom fear will make for better u

discontinued further distribution in USO clubs. The YMCA continues to distribute the pamphlet to its regular YMCA and is fostering its use among its members." 1-22-44

The more than 125,000 copies of *The Races of Mankind* already sold are in use by the following organizations: American Baptist Home Mission Society and Federal Council of Churches, the Association of Junior Leagues of America, and in many schools and churches.

The Smallness of USO

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

The smallness shown by the USO in banning the pamphlet "Races of Mankind" published by the Public Affairs Committee is just the kind of thing that makes one wonder, what are we fighting the war for? "Races of Mankind," a purely scientific treatise by the well known and thoroughly established anthropologist, Ruth Benedict of Columbia University, stated in simple, lay language what a preponderant number of scientists have long since proven and averred: all races are scientifically equal, mentally and otherwise; no race is better endowed than any other. 1-29-44

Intended primarily for use by U. S. soldiers in USO's, the pamphlet was banned because Chester Barnard, USO head, feared that the truth in it would injure the feelings of Southern whites. If the USO is willing to bar any scientific truth because it is concerned about the way it will be accepted by Southerners or Northerners, then the USO is certainly not serving its purpose. On the other hand, it is serving to perpetuate ignorance and prejudice. 1-29-44

We sincerely hope that the USO will see fit to lift its ban on "Races of Mankind" for the information of the benighted and thereby prove to the nation that it itself is not bigoted.

This Story Will Pluck Your Heartstrings...

People's Voice - New York, N.Y.

A TRUE STORY for a New Year. 1-8-44

This is a simple tale of two souls who lived on opposite sides of the tracks. One was a little brown miss from White Plains. The other was the mangled wreck of what once had been a white man.

She wanted to do her bit for her country. She thought the best thing she could do was to make the last hours of the men of the armed forces happy. So she journeyed over to the neighboring White Plains U.S.O. center to enlist as a hostess. White Plains is guarded by Negro soldiers but the U.S.O. center does not admit Negro soldiers. She would not let this change her. Once or twice a week she journeyed to New York City to the Stage Door Canteen on Broadway—the place that knows no color line. It is one of the few strongholds of practicing democracy.

He had already been in the fight. Somewhere in the South Pacific storming some Jap-held bridgehead he had had his face blown to bits. God had been kind and preserved his body. But had God been kind? All the art of plastic surgery, all the inches of skin taken from his body and the bodies of his comrades couldn't remake that face into the normal features of a human being. Had God really been kind?

He was grotesque.

A hole where a mouth had been. Two holes where a nose once breathed. Deep inside of him there was still a heart and a mind and a soul. So he recovered. He forced the army to take him back. He was sailing the next day—sailing to some unknown bridgehead, to some rat-infested rampart of fascism. He wanted to have a final minute of happiness. He wandered into the Stage Door Canteen. 1-8-44

This Thing made in the image of God with his features destroyed by the hatred of man, asked the hostesses for a dance but they turned away—terrified! No one would dance with him. His heart agonized for that brief moment, more than his body had ever hurt. Then the pert little brown lady of Westchester stepped forward and said, "I'll dance with you."

He sailed that night. Weeks went by. Just the other day she received a letter—"somewhere in Italy," and it went something like this:

"My dear Helen:

I will always remember that last night at the Stage Door Canteen. You were so kind and yet what you did you did it without showing you were kind. I appreciate it more now than my humble pen can tell. You see it's like this—our ship went directly to Italy, right into action. I was among the first that landed. I will always remember that last night at the Stage Door Canteen for it was the last time I danced and it was the last time that I ever will dance. That morning we landed I was slightly unlucky — both my legs were shot away.

Yours for a People's Victory at home and abroad.

HARRY."

Now They're Entertaining Our Servicemen 5-19-44

This photo was taken before this quintet sailed overseas, where they are now entertaining our troops in the New Caledonia area. Under the auspices of USO-Camp Shows, they are accompanied by a band when they perform. l. to r., they are: Julie Gardner, accordionist; Kenneth Spencer, singer; Ann Lewis, blues singer, and Ferdie & Flo, comedy team.

47L-1944

USO Stops the Y From Distributing Race Relations Pamphlet at Centers

PM-New York, N.Y.
1-13-44

'Races of Mankind,' Prepared by Scientists, Is Barred as 'Controversial'

By Evelyn Seeley

PM Exclusive

Facts about mankind and the equality of the races apparently aren't fit fare for the boys who come to the USO centers for more than the standard coke and cake.

PM learned today that *The Races of Mankind*, a popularly-written scientific statement by Columbia University anthropologists, Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, has been banned from USO centers as too "controversial."

The pamphlet was prepared for the Public Affairs Committee, a non-profit, educational organization sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, as part of its policy "to present the facts on important social and economic questions." These facts about man's origin and makeup were prepared under the supervision of a committee of the American Assn. of Scientific Workers, including, beside the authors, Prof. L. C. Dunn, zoologist; Prof. Otto Klineberg, psychologist, and Dr. Marion Smith, anthropologist, all of Columbia.

The ban came about in this way:

The YMCA purchased and distributed through its Army and Navy Committee, 50,000 copies of the pamphlet in YMCA-operated USO units. Chester I. Barnard, who left the presidency of N. J. Bell Telephone to serve without compensation as USO president, came upon the pamphlet in a USO center. 1-13-44

He looked at this popularly-presented exposition of the basic facts about races which finds race prejudice "a comparatively modern disease" caused by fear, got in touch with the YMCA and asked them to stop distributing it. He backed up his request shortly with action of the USO board. The pamphlet, whose use in USO centers was being paid for by YMCA funds, was banned.

A Better 21st Century

This booklet states some facts science has learned and verified about races, showing their equality

USO

This Is What USO Calls 'Controversial'

From 'The Races of Mankind'

There Is No Jewish "Race."

An American Brought Up in China Will Speak Chinese.

of origin, their likenesses and their fundamental unity. It says that freedom from fear is the way to cure race prejudice, sums up constructive things being done to combat it, urges us to "clean house and get ready for a better twenty-first century." It relates the need for racial understanding to the immediate experience of the United Nations.

"The reason we asked the YMCA to discontinue distribution is that the booklet seems to bear on the decision of the racial problem," said E. Z. Hale, USO publicity director, when PM queried him about the ban. "It is not the USO's function to decide problems. It is not proper USO policy to attempt to take sides. The withdrawal of the book doesn't imply criticism of the pamphlet—we simply don't want to put out material on either side of a debate. It might be all right to distribute the pamphlet around here, but down South there's a lot of feeling on the matter." 1-13-44

YMCA's Policy

The YMCA assented to the request, under USO board pressure, but not to the philosophy back of it. Eugene E. Barnett, general secretary of the National Council of the YMCA, said today:

"The YMCA has long-established policies which support active efforts to improve race relationships. Mr. Barnard, president of the USO, asked the YMCA not to distribute this material in USO clubs for the reason that literature which could be regarded by a substantial portion of the public as controversial could not properly be distributed by the USO. Mr. Barnard submitted the matter to the executive committee (of the USO) which approved this view. Out of respect for this request the YMCA discontinued further distribution in USO clubs. 1-13-44

"The YMCA continues to distribute the pamphlet to its regular YMCAs and is fostering its use among its members."

These were the official versions of the banning of the Public Affairs pamphlet on race. They did not reflect the storm of protest PM learned arose at the YMCA when the request to ban the book was made.

Chester I. Barnard

Army Uses Pamphlet

USO action on the pamphlet will be taken up at next Monday's meeting of the Public Affairs Committee. More than 125,000 copies have been sold and are in use in all sorts of organizations ranging from the American Baptist Home Mission Society and Federal Council of Churches to the Association of Junior Leagues of America, and in many schools and colleges.

Army Special Services sent it overseas in at least two sets of "assembled discussion materials" for voluntary use.

The Army and Navy Committee of the YMCA has been the largest user of the booklet.

Second Center Will Be Operated Here

Negro Citizens Will Back Center For Service Men. Also Plan Scout Conference Sunday In Reidsville.

Feb. 1944

operation of a Service Center for Negroes in military service. Pattern for the project is to be along lines similar to those for the downtown Service Center for white men already established here and leadership is under direction of Dr. A. Bryce, chairman.

Dr. Bryce said last night that the Negro Center, in a building on South Main street next to Moonglow cafe, will be first used this Friday when a group of Camp But-Negro soldiers and sailors ner Negro soldiers comes here for the Bond auction at two o'clock at Person County Training school, new Center will be an attractive Person and Roxboro Negroes to citizens, it was learned today, will be in soon, probably next week, the but a formal opening of the Cen- place for men of the be

Planned for this Sunday, February is another Negro civic activity, and inter-racial meeting of Boy Mrs. H. H. Scout leaders in Cherokee Council ding for the Cen- in Reidsville. Among those ex- n rent-free by the pecting to attend are Dr. Bryce, ude Trotter. It is Scoutmaster Jones, T. C. Tillman e new Center will and C. J. Ford. Also to attend are voluntary contribu- S. M. Ford, W. Wallace Woods and downtown Court Thomas J. Shaw, Jr., members of n, although some the Inter-racial ted will come from Person district. ady made at time The Negro Scouts of the Cherokee Council join all Scouts in ar Fund drive. America in the celebration of the have already con- and more will 34th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts ling to Dr. Bryce, Movement, February 8-14. be in operation Sunday morning February 13, all ds. A number of Scouts and Cubs will attend church (where services will be held in ob- d sailors have servance of the anniversary. regularly, says On Sunday afternoon, all Scouts is felt that the and Scouters of the Negro Division e an attractive of the Cherokee Council will meet e better type. at Washington High School, Reids-

ter is not expected until next week.

Working with Dr committee composed Claude Trotter and Fountain. Building ter is being given owner, Mrs. Claude planned that the be operated on volunt tions, as is the dow street institution, al funds it is expected contributions already of the United War Fu

Many citizens have tributed furniture an be needed, according The Center will be only on week-ends.

ville, for the special program in observance of Boy Scout Week. Dr. Stanley A. Harris, National Director of Interracial Scouting, will be the main speaker on this program. The program will begin at 4:00 p. m.

G. C. Thompson, Negro Field Scout Executive, has announced that a large delegation is expected from each division of the council. These divisions are Alamance, Caswell, Dan River, Person, and Reidsville.

All Scouts are asked to wear uniforms if they have them. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

USO Refuses to Accept Jim Crow, Delays Parley

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y. 1-28-44

The ominous shadow of Jim Crow, falling across plans for a regional United Service Organization Conference in Chicago Jan. 31-Feb. 3, has caused postponement of this meeting of regional USO officers, many of whom are Negroes.

1-28-44

Ned Hale, USO director of publicity, said yesterday that the week-end conference was being put off because of inability to arrange for equal treatment of Negro and white USO workers in Chicago hotels. Those hostelries which agreed to house Negro guests refused to allow them dining-room facilities.

"The conference was postponed in accordance with our policy to treat our Negro and our white personnel equally," Mr. Hale said. "Their pay is the same, and so is their training and all their facilities, under the USO, whether at our clubs or elsewhere. We will stand for no less than that when we meet for our conferences."

1-28-44

Teachers Hit USO On Race Book Ban

2-9-44

PM - New York, N.Y. 2-9-44

The New York Assn. of Biology Teachers has protested the barring of the pamphlet, *The Races of Mankind*, from USO centers.

In a letter to Chester I. Barnard of the USO, the Association said:

"Denying the use of the pamphlet which popularizes authoritative work of scientists on the problem of races on the ground that it is controversial, is comparable to those historic situations when others refused to sponsor publications containing facts advocating vaccination against smallpox, or disproving the concept that the earth is the center of the solar system.

"Science believes in the equality of races; that the conduct of any race is the result of forces it has been exposed to. We trust that you will restore the pamphlet to the centers inasmuch as the U. S. Army has decided to use it in its orientation courses."

Army Uses Race Booklet Barred at Clubs by USO

PM - New York, N.Y. 1-30-44

Morale Division Orders 55,000 Copies for Use in Orientation Courses'

PM Exclusive

Soldiers, who can no longer pick up a copy of *The Races of Mankind* at their USO club, will find it part of their required Army training.

The Public Affairs Committee, the nonprofit, educational organization which published the pamphlet, announced yesterday that it had received an order from the Morale Division of the U. S. Army for 55,000 copies, "for use in orientation courses."

On Jan. 13, PM disclosed that the pamphlet, a popular presentation of the facts about mankind and the equality of the races, written by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, Columbia University anthropologists, had been banned from USO centers as too "controversial." This action was taken after Chester I. Barnard, USO president, came across it in a YMCA-operated USO club, and brought pressure on the Y to stop distributing it in the USO centers. The Y, however, has continued to distribute it throughout its regular YMCAs.

Third Printing

Up to now, the Committee disclosed, over 190,000 copies of *The Races of Mankind* have been distributed throughout the country—to churches, schools and clubs—and the pamphlet is entering its third printing. 1-30-44

A resolution expressing regret at the action of the USO, and calling for reconsideration of its decision, was adopted yesterday at a meeting of the Board of the Public Affairs Committee.

Making clear that the pamphlet contains only facts generally accepted by cultural anthropologists, and has the approval of the U. S. Army, as well as religious and educational organizations, the resolution pointed out that "the stated objectives of the USO include meeting the educational needs of service men."

"One of the basic reasons for which the present war is being waged is to combat the myth of a superior race," the resolution said. "It is an accepted principle of democracy that facts on all important issues affecting the public welfare should be freely discussed."

Sloan's Statement

At the same time, the Committee made public this statement by Harold S. Sloan, executive director of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, one of the sponsors of the Committee:

"While the Foundation assumes no responsibility for the publications of its donees, I am frank to say that I consider it grossly unfair to call the pamphlet, *The Races of Mankind*, 'controversial' or to infer that it 'takes sides.' It is a statement of race facts as science knows them. 1-30-44

"Of course, if you happen to believe that the earth is flat, you will find every book on geography 'controversial.' I fear that epithet is used by people who don't like to have the facts presented. It is a paradox that the USO should wish to withhold from our service men a statement of the facts on which our democracy is based, and for which they are fighting."

Army Orders Booklets To Curb Race Ignorance

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 2-4-44

Scientific Facts About Peoples Are Explained

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," which was recently barred from USO centers by Chester I. Barnard, USO president, will be used by the army when it was learned this week that the morale division had ordered 55,000 for use in orientation courses.

Written by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, Columbia University anthropologists, the booklet explains scientific truths about peoples and races, upsetting the general idea of many miseducated white Americans about the superiority of races. The Public Affairs committee, a non-profit, educational organization, publishes the booklet.

Even though Chester I. Barnard, USO president, barred the pamphlet when he picked up a copy at a YMCA operated USO last month as being "too controversial," the committee disclosed that over 190,000 copies have been distributed throughout the country to churches, schools and clubs and that the pamphlet is entering its third printing. 2-4-44

"While the foundation assumes no responsibility for the publication of its donees, I am frank to say that I consider it grossly unfair to call the pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," 'controversial' to infer it 'takes side,' " declared Harold S. Sloan, executive director of the Alfred P. Sloan foundation, one of the sponsors of the Public Affairs committee. "It is a statement of race facts as science knows them."

"Of course, if you happen to believe that the earth is flat you will find every book on geography 'controversial,' " Sloan said. "I fear that epithet is used by people who don't like to have the facts presented. It is a paradox that the USO should wish to withhold from our service men a statement of the facts on which our democracy is based, and for which they are fighting."

When the board of the Public Affairs committee met a few days ago, a resolution expressing deep regret over the action of the USO, was written. 2-4-44

"One of the basic reasons for which the present war is being waged is to combat the myth of a superior race," the resolution said. "It is an accepted principle of democracy that facts on all important issues affecting the public welfare should be freely discussed."

In the meantime, the YMCA has continued to distribute "Races of Mankind," which will enlighten service men on the scientific facts about races and peoples.

Negro Units For USO

New Masses - N.Y. 1-4-44

SOME nine weeks ago USO Camp Shows, Inc., assembled the first Negro unit for overseas work. This group toured the islands of the Caribbean and upon its return was invited to give a press report. The unit consisted of actors, singers, and musicians—Willie Bryant, Kenneth Spencer, Roger Juan Ramirez, Betty Logan, and Julie Gardner. Several facts emerged from the report—the thousands of Negro and white, American and British servicemen, voted this program the best in two years' entertainment; the officers and men were most solicitous for the performers' comfort and did everything possible to assure them a pleasant stay. 1-4-44

Further, what struck the members of the unit as the fact overriding all others was the complete absence of Jim Crow. Willie Bryant said that at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, the reception given the group demonstrated "pure democracy." White and Negro officers and men mingled in true camaraderie. Spencer, the sole Negro actor in *Bataan*, was recognized all through the Islands for the fine job he did in that film. The most popular song in his entire repertory was Langston Hughes' "Freedom Road."

One of the things that made the soldiers think most of home was "Ram" Ramirez' Boogie-Woogie piano-playing. I believe this statement, as much as any thesis, proves the integration of the idiom of popular Negro music, blues, and jazz in America's cultural life. Spencer stated further that the most popular entertainer who visited the Islands was a Miss Atwell, British Negro concert pianist. The British troops clamored for her constantly. 1-4-44

There is a shortage of entertainment, both Negro and white, and the hunger for USO programs is incalculable. Implicit in everything these artists said was the regret that the number of Negro entertainers is not in proportion to the total number used

ertainers will soon follow. One Negro unit in two years of overseas entertainment is scarcely commensurate with the ever doubts might have existed on that score would have been speedily dissolved. I ous understand that this same unit is to be sent ng- to Africa, Italy, and other places. The at- overseas troops hope that other Negro en-

JOSEPH FOSTER.

471-1944

Nearly Half-Million Bonds Sold By Negro Division In First Week Of Loan Drive

World — Memphis, Tenn.
6-20-44

The Negro Division of the Memphis-Shelby County War Finance Committee wound up its first week of Fifth War Loan sales with a mammoth parade and mass meeting at the Salem-Gilfield Baptist Church, corner Florida and Iowa, at 3 p. m. Sunday afternoon.

The incomplete records of the Division's workers show that almost $300,000 have been reported at their headquarters, 390 Beale Avenue.

The most outstanding individual sales effort was made by Matthew Thornton, Sr., (Mayor of Beale Street), who has led in all previous war loan drives in individual sales. Thornton's record for the first week of the current drive showed a sale of $12,500.

Following in second, third, and fourth places respectively were Beale Street Elks Daughter Ruler Blanche Jackson, Robert Davidson, insurance man, and Dr. U. S. Walton, dentist. Each had sold in excess of $2000 in bonds.

The first church recorded for the Fifth War Loan bond purchases was the Shiloh Baptist Church.

The first Negro soldier to buy a bond in the drive was Sgt. Willie Williams, who is stationed in England, but sent money back to his mother to purchase a bond in the Fifth War Loan.

The Union Protective Assurance Co., bought $7000 worth for the first week and promises another purchase soon to make its total for the campaign $20,000.

Units for the parade assembled at 2 p. m. at Beale Avenue Auditorium and moved off in two section. The first section, Bugle Crops, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Gorine Beauty School, Foote Homes, and Coca-Cola Courtesy Club. The second section was led by the Beale Street Elks Drum Corps, followed by the Elks' Marching Club, the Past Exalted Rulers Council and Lodge members, Moss Beauty Salon, R. S. Lewis Co., LeMoyne Gardens, and the Southern Funeral Home.

6-20-44

Marshalls for the parade were: Maurice Hulbert and Dr. S. B Hickman.

Principal speaker at the mass meeting was Captain (Chaplain) S. A. Owen, pastor of the Metropolitan Baptist Church here, who has just been placed on inactive duty after two and one-half years of Army service. He based his bond appeal on the needs of service personnel in camp and overseas.

Other attractions planned by the Negro Division for the Fifth War Loan will be a great "Song Festival" at Ellis Auditorium on June 30.

Lt. G. W. Lee, head of the Negro division said, "Eighteen Memphis churches will accept, one each, of 18 Negro soldiers of this community known to have been killed in action, and sell bonds to be dedicated to their memory. During the festival the auditorium lights will be turned off, while a bugler sounds taps. When the lights come on again, the bonds sold by each church group will be dedicated to the memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice for their country . . . then, a singing group of soldiers, who will come all the way from Fort Benning, Ga., and the locally famous Southern Male Chorus, will swing into action, and a hundred voices will echo like winged music through ternity."

Admission to the reserve seats at the Auditorium for the festival will be by bonds. All other seats to the public and to prospective bond-buyers will be free.

The drive will close with a colorful amateur midnight bond show, sponsoored by the Negro Junior Chamber of Commerce and directed by Nat Williams and John Arnold, Jr., at the Beale Avenue Palace Theater. Bonds will also serve as admission to the show, with sales sponsored by 150 USO Lounge hostesses in addition to members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Benning Chorus Will Sing Here

Montgomery Advertiser
Ala. 12-13-44

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The singers will present negro spirituals and a repertoire of other selections in the patriotic vein.

Chaplain Isaac I. McDonald, of Fort Benning, will appear with the chorus. S. J. Phillips, of the U. S. Treasury Department War Finance Division staff is also to be heard on the program.

The chorus is directed by Sergt. Willis Brown, of Minter, Ala., and Sergt. Varnell Ford, of Knoxville, Tenn., is piano accompanist.

A reserved section of the auditorium has been set aside for whites.

6th War Loan Sales Here Go To $115,000

Advertiser-Montgomery
12-22-44

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At a meeting sponsored by the negro division Monday night at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, $7,000 was invested. It was reported that the negro population of Montgomery has accounted to date for nearly a million dollars in bond purchases.

Howard E. Pill, manager for the eighth district, announced yesterday that "Here's Your Infantry," a realistic show depicting the part played in battle by the infantryman, would be shown at Cramton Bowl on Dec. 12 with a cast made up of combat veterans. Army tactics and demonstrations of weapons will be shown, and admission will be to those who have bought bonds since Nov. 1.

Mr. Pill also announced that the war bond office was in receipt of two short films, "Road to Paris," and "Photography Fights," available to any organization that would like to show them.

11-22-44

More show windows on Dexter Avenue are being added daily to the list of those with displays promoting the Sixth Loan. Among those now giving window display space to the bond drives are the Capitol Clothing Store, Bronson's, Silver's and Woolworth.

drove into Vicksburg where they participated in a bond rally and sang over station WQBC to stimulate the sale of $21,625 in bonds.

In Meridian, Mississippi, the people heard the famous aggregation "Stout-hearted Men" and contributed to the Sixth War Loan Drive through the purchase of bonds.

Leaving Meridian, Miss., the famous chorus started on the last leg of the long trip, stopping at Mobile, Ala. Pensacola, Florida, and Montgomery, Tuskegee and Birmingham, Ala.

At Mobile, Ala., listeners over radio station WALA heard them sing patriotic songs and when the bond rally was held at the Big Zion Baptist Church the response was tremendous when the war-minded citizens purchased $600,000 in bonds.

The bond rally in Pensacola, Fla., netted the sale of $8,475 in bonds while the citizens at the city auditorium in Montgomery purchased $67,000 worth.

APPEAR AT TUSKEGEE

At Tuskegee Institute, Saturday evening, the famous chorus sang their most popular features: "It Ain't What You Do," "The Glory Road," arranged by the chorus baritone, Wm. A. Long, "Stout-Hearted Men," and "All Alone" to encourage the sale of $500,000 worth of bonds.

12-26-44

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The chorus participated in bond rallies in Tallahassee, Florida, in Orangeburg, S. Car., Goldsburg, Raleigh and Greensboro, N. Car., an Savannah, Ga. Durham, N. C. bond purchases amounted to more than $4 000,000 and were credited to the appearance of the famed grou during the first week of the four. In Raleigh an audience filed the Memorial Auditorium and bought $2,006.162 worth of bonds when the chorus appeared on the nation-wide network featuring Dr. I. Q. In Durham, N. C., the North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company purchased $2,000,000 in bonds to be credited to the famed singers in honor and appreciation for the colored men and women serving in the armed forces all over the world.

IN KNOXVILLE

The thirteenth stop of the famed G. I. Concert and radio artists netted $1,205.543 in the purchase of war bonds by the citizenry of Knoxville, Tenn. The members of Rotary Club alone in this war-alert city contributed $1,033,600 to the program of the war through the purchase of bonds credited to the chorus. Capt. Richard E. Tukey, Fort Benning Public Relations Officer was present at the Rotarian luncheon and extended greetings to the patriotic members in behalf of Brig. Gen. William H. Hobson, Commanding General of Fort Benning, and Colonel John P. Eddleman Commanding Officer of the Reception Center through whose courtesy the chorus participated in aiding state and local finance committees in the promotion of the sale of war bonds.

The chorus appeared on the campus at Tennessee A. and I. College located in Nashville, Tenn., where it sang to the students of the institution. No bond rally was held. From Nashville it journeyed to Mehphis, Tenn., where it boosted the sale of bonds by $510,300 in bond rallies held at Manassas and Booker T. Washington High Schools and the Ea Trigg Street Baptist Church.

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the Reception Center accompanied them to Knoxville.

Sgt. Willie Brown, director of the chorus, said that the singing soldiers were enthused over the trip and were anxious to go on another to stimulate a greater sale of bonds.

99th HEROES GET OFFICIAL WELCOME; RALLY ENDEARS GOAL

Journal & Guide-Norfolk, Va.

12-23-44

NORFOLK — Six veteran officers of the 99th Fighter Squadron made a triumphant tour of Norfolk last weekend, participated in two bond rallies, one for high school students and one for adults, which netted $37,000 in bond sales, were greeted by the mayor, city manager and city councilmen, were interviewed and photographed by three local papers, and enjoyed a crowded weekend of activities.

In addition, one of the fliers, Capt. Charles B. Hall of Brazil, Ind., the most famous of all Negro aviators, was interviewed by Blair Eubanks on a radio program over Station WTAR.

The six visiting Air Corps men were: Capt. Hall, Capt. Howard L. Baugh, Petersburg, Va.; Capt. Herbert E. Carter, Amory, Miss.; Capt. Maurice Johnson, Washington, D. C.; 1st Lt. Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C., and 1st Lt. Price D. Rice, Montclair, N. J.

12-23-44

All but Capt. Johnson are fighter pilots who have a combined combat mission total of about 450 missions and who hold numerous decorations for heroic action against the enemy in the skies including the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross, which was worn by Capt Hall and by Capt. Baugh. Capt. Johnson is one of the few Negro flight surgeons in the Army Air Corps and was the flight surgeon of the 99th from the time it went overseas until June of this year.

Norfolk extended these fliers a real heroes' welcome and for three days and nights they kept going on a continuous stream of activities. Highlight of these appearances was the talk of Capt. Hall who was the first Negro to shoot down an enemy plane and who was three victories.

12-23-44

The fliers landed at the Norfolk Army Airbase on Thursday afternoon at 5 p. m. They flew to Norfolk in three advanced training ships with which they instruct air cadets at Tuskegee Army Air Field where they are stationed.

The three ships were piloted by Lt. Fuller, former 99th assistant operations officer and present instructor at TAAF, who led the flight from Tuskegee; Capt. Bauch, who just returned from overseas and had been given no assignment at Tuskegee; and Capt. Hall, who is cross country flight leader at the advanced training base. Lt. Rice, who was Capt. Hall's wingman on most of his overseas missions, and who is assistant engineering officer at TAAF, flew with Capt. Hall. Capt. Carter, TAAF engineering officer, flew with Capt. Baugh. Capt. Johnson, flew with Lt. Fuller. Capt. Carter and Lt. Rice, both of whom are pilots, could assist the lifts of their ships by using the dual controls. Capt. Johnson is not a pilot.

The aviators were met at the airport by Lem Graves Jr., Guide war correspondent who spent several months with the 99th in the Italian theatre and who was chairman of the special events committee for the Sixth War Loan Drive, and Thomas W. Young, Guide war correspondent, who first went overseas with this outfit. The fliers were invited to come to Norfolk by the special events chairman, Mr. Graves.

12-23-44

STUDENT RALLY SUCCESS

On Thursday night, the fliers were photographed by the Virginian-Pilot, local daily. The busiest schedule of activities was on Friday. Following a picture and interview for the Ledger-Dispatch, the local afternoon paper, the fliers went to the Booker T. Washington High School where they spoke at an enthusiastic student bond rally. The auditorium was jammed and nearly $3,000 was raised at this rally, a feature of which was the auction, by Van Buren Luke, of an autograph book containing the signatures of the visiting heroes. The book was sold for $800.

At the noon assembly hour at Norfolk Division of Virginia State College, the fliers were enthusiastically received. They then visited the Journal and Guide office.

Mayor J. W. Reed, City Manager Charles B. Borland and the members of City Council received the fliers in the mayor's office in City Hall at 3:30 p. m.

Mayor Reed welcomed the heroes to the city with impressive and sincere remarks during which he offered the facilities of the city to the fliers and wished them a pleasant stay. He paid tribute to the contributions made by the Negro in this war and specifically praised the air heroes for their pioneering efforts in the Air Corps. Col. Borland remarked that he was an old Army officer and that distinctions such as these men had won were not just given away for the asking.

12-23-44

Capt. Hall went on the air two hours before the adult bond rally which was held Friday night in the Booker T. Washington school auditorium.

The rally itself netted $70,000 in War Bond purchases which put the uptown committee several thousand dollars above its quota of $100,000 for the Sixth War Loan drive.

Music for this program was furnished by the Army Base Band of the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation under the direction of M/Sgt. Arthur E. Smith. The Rev. Richard H. Bowling, pastor of First Baptist Church, offered the invocation. Mr. Graves presided. Mr. Young introduced the fliers, each of whom described some aspect of his overseas experience.

WINGS BRING $7,000

John T. Belden, a member of the War Bond committee, conducted the auction of the many rationed articles which were offered for sale. Later, Lt. Rice auctioned off his flying wings for $7,000 with the wings going to P. B. Young, president of the Guide Publishing Company. Two Coast Guard veterans of many invasions, Steward First Class Abram Ellison and Steward Second Class Theodore Raney, were introduced. Mrs. Jessie Smith Sydnor, chairman of the uptown committee on the Sixth War Loan drive, made the closing remarks.

12-23-44

Social activities provided for the fliers included: dinner Thursday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Graves; a reception Thursday night at the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Sydnor; a party, sponsored by the War Bond committee, Friday night at the Seamen's Hotel; the Journal and Guide's annual Christmas banquet, at which they were honor guests, on Saturday night, at Eureka Lodge; an impromptu party given by Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Rivera at the Seamen's Hotel, which Mr. Rivera manages, also on Saturday night; and numerous other small affairs feting the distinguished visitors.

The fliers left the Army Air Field here Sunday at 1 p. m. flying back to Tuskegee.

ATLANTA DAILY WORLD

Howard Students Sell $40,000 In War Bonds

ATLANTA, GA.

12-13-44

Atlanta's biggest patriotic story of the year broke out Monday at the David T. Howard Junior High School, where Charles L. Gideons is principal.

This is the story:

More than 3,000 enthusiastic students, loyal patrons and friends turned out enmasse Monday afternoon in the Wheat Street Baptist Church at a huge War Bond sales rally in connection with the Sixth War Loan Campaign and reported the grand sum total of $40,000 in War Bonds and Stamps sold by students of the school to patrons, friends and various business establishments of the city, with expectation that the fund would total $50,00 by noon today with several reports still out.

12-13-44

YOUNG BATTS HIGH MAN

High man in the sales of Bonds and Stamps was James A. Batts, Jr., who was crowned 'King of Howard" in a contest staged by the students as a result of having reported a total of $10,400, due to the generosity of the Afro-American Life Insurance Company, of which his father is the Atlanta manager.

12-13-44

Highest girl sellers, who were jointly crowned "Queens of Howard" were Misses Ruth and Betty Fuller, daughters of Bishop W. E. Fuller, of the Holiness, who reported a $1,000 war bond sold to their father. Others who ranked high in sales from the student body was Jas. Johnson, who sold a $500 bond to Warren R. Cochrane, executive secretary of the Butler Street Y. M. C. A.; T. M. Alexander, Jr., who reported $400 through his father's insurance offices, and Chief Petty Officer Graham W. Jackson, of the USNR, who reported $5,000 in bonds sold to the Pilgrim Health and Accident Insurance Company, thru the president of the company, S. W. Walker.

Other high scorers with reports were Samuel Kelsey, Walter Cook, Willie Dorsey, Barbara and Frankie Lowe and scores of others, all who are thanked for their patriotic gestures in raising a fund to aid in the continuance of the fight on the enemies of war. Miss Frankie Lowe was named "Elementary Queen," and Willie Dorsey, was declared "Elementary King."

UNCLE SAM AND STATUE EXHIBITED

12-13-44

Gracing the platform neatly and atractively attired as the Statue of Liberty was Miss Marjorie Burney, and on hand dressed as Uncle Sam was Walter Reid, both who drew favorable comments from all because of their display.

Presiding at the feature event was W. L. Calloway, general chairman. The "Star Spangled Banner" was sung, followed by invocation by Rev. W. J. Rowe, and music by the Howard band. Speakers heard were Mr. Cochrane, C. L. Harper, NAACP local chapter president; V. W. Hodges, associate editor of the Atlanta Daily WORLD; T. M. Alexander, of the Alexander and Company Insurance firm and G. L. Chandler, professor of English at Morehouse College. Appearing also were the Naval Air Station band the Howard band and giving final words of thanks and gratitude to all for the part they played in the large success of the project was Principal Gideons.

12-13-44

Present at the program were members of the AWVS who assisted in disposing of the bonds. The Howard band sales elementary; F. Waites, Kenneth Days, E. Bradley, L. P. Jones and M. Baker, junior high, S. M. Dickerson, M. R. Austell, and R. M. Taylor, business contacts; C. M. Gibson, individual contacts; P. E. Johnson, publicity; W. S. Banks, S. M. Smith and M. C. Watson, F. M. Garnett, bondHubert, ceremony and W. L. Calla- chairman.

12-13-44

earlier in the day was not held due to inclement weather.

47L-1944

War Bonds & Stamps

Florida Women Sell $385,000 War Bonds

The Florida State Federation of Negro Women took an active part in the Fourth War Bond drive, acting as the Negro committee in communities where no Negro organization had been set up, and in the larger cities coordinating their efforts with existing War Bond committees. Mrs. Nell Hunter, of the Interracial Section of the National Office, spent 2 weeks making a tour of the State with Mrs. Fannie H. Ponder, president of the Federation, which itself made an investment of $1,000 in the Fourth War Loan drive. Total sales traceable to the activities of these women amounted to $385,000. Photo shows G. D. Rogers, president of the Central Life Insurance Company of Tampa, presenting check for $50,000 to Mrs. Ponder, as his company's investment in the Fourth War Loan drive. His daughter, WAC Sgt. Johnnye Marie Rogers, now stationed at Wendover, Utah, and Mrs. Nell Hunter, of the Washington office, proudly look on.

$106,000 Bond Salesgirl

Gloria brown, a Washington, D. C. student, who was credited by the Treasury Department with $106,250 in War Bond sales during the Fourth War Loan, receives a receipt from Elmer F. Harloff, of the District of Columbia War Finance Committee, for $525 worth of Bond sales on the opening day of the Fifth War Loan. Gloria is 15 years old and a student at the Garnett Patterson Junior High School. She lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Antho / A. Brown, at 1515 Caroline street, N.W., Washington.

7-1-44

Negro Division Completes Plans For 5th War Bond Drive Stressing Invasion

Memphis World — Memphis, Tenn.

6-13-44.

Plans for the Fifth War Loan drive for the Negro Division of the Memphis-Shelby County War Finance Committee were completed Monday evening at 6 o'clock at the office of Lt. G. W. Lee, member of the local War Finance committee and chairman of the Negro unit.

Lieutenant Lee said, "D-Day has at last arrived. Our fighting men have leaped across the English Channel and battered down the gates for freedom for millions of people. Thousands of them are making the supreme sacrifice on lonely beachheads. Thousands of them are plunging up the slopes of glory to plant the American flag on the formost ramparts of the enemy. In this, the greatest battle the world ever saw, black men and white men are fighting and dyilg for the great cause of freedom. Thus, this Fifth War Loan drive will be the most significant of all the bond drives yet launched. I can think of no excues that any of us can make for failing to back the attack with War Bonds. Because all that we are, and all that we hope to be is is due to our country."

Chairman Lee also announced the names of the Executive Committee of colored citizens who will direct the 5th War Loan campaign as follows: Dr. O. B. Braithwaite, Robert Wright, Prof. B. T. Hunt, Prof. J. A. Hayes, Raymond Lynom. Rev. W. H. Brewster, Rev. A W. Womack, L. C. Sharp, J. A. Swayze, Dr. A. N. Kittrelle, Dr. W. O. Speight, John Arnold, Nat D. Williams, R. S. Lewis, Jr., S. W. Qualls Jr., Beniamin Bell, Dr. S. B. Hickman, Matthew Thornton, Sr., Maurice Hurlburt, L. A. Snell, W. P. Nabors. T. H Hayes, Jr., Rev. Ed Stewart, Dr. W. A. Bisson, Dr.U. S. Walton, Harry Cash. The Women's division of the Negro unit is in process of organization under Elks Daughter of Ruler B. Jackson who plans to have a committee of one hunded women to make business and house-to-house canvasses.

The first big War Loan rally is planed by the Beale Street Elks for Sunday evening, June 18, at Gilfield-Salem Baptist Church. Principal speaker for the occasion will be Captain (Chaplain) S. A. Owen, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church, now on inactive duty after having returned from more than two years service in the Army and now at home to resume his pastorate at the local church.

A mammoth parade compdised of many civic and fraternal units will precede the meeting at Gilfield Salem. The meeting will be held at 3 P. M.

6-13-44

Th Negro Junior Chamber of Commerce headed by L. A. Snell will stage near the end of the drive a midnight "Amateur Bond Show" at the Beale Street Palace Theatre.

While the Inter-Church division under Rev. W. H Brewster will organize a huge song-festival for bands at Ellis Auditorium around June 30.

Highlighting the bond drive will be the Reception Center Chorus comprising more than a score of soldier singers with a Memphian Sgt. William Washburn, as narrator, from Fort Benning, Ga., which will be presented in a recital. This will be built around W. C. Handy, Father of the Blues, Mr. Handy who has just recently recovered from a serious illness, has agreed to come back to his first love, Memphis, and give what he can from his feeble storehouse of energy to make the local Bond Drive a success.

NEGROES' BOND RALLY READY

Post — Birmingham, Ala.

7-7-44

20,000 Persons Expected To Attend Legion Field Function Sunday

More than 20,000 persons are expected to attend he Negro music festival and War Bond rally at Legion Field Sunday, H. D. Coke, of the committee arranging the event, announced today.

Chairman A. G. Gaston, of the Negro division of War Bond teams, today called on drive leaders to redouble their efforts to surpass the Negro quota of $1,000,000, as plans for the rally were being completed. 31 quartets on the program, which will begin at 5 p. m. There will be 5000 Legion Field seats reserved for white patrons.

The Negro bond total in Jefferson now amount to $800,000, the chairman says.

7-7-44

A big parade, led by the 60-piece band of Tuskegee Air Base will precede the rally.

The second annual statewide contest for Negro quartets will feature the gathering. There will be

Patriotic Negroes Back 5th War Loan Drive

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

6-17-44

Negro citizens from every section of the nation are planning active support of the 5th War Loan Drive June 12 to July 8 just as they have in past drives. No. 1—shows the purchase of a $10,000 War Bond by the Right Worthy Grand Council Independent Order of St. Luke, Washington, D. C. The check is being presented to Willard W. Allen of the inter-racial section, War Finance Division, Treasury Department. Shown left to right are Mrs. Marie E. Campbell, president Health Unit No. 1; Mrs. Mary E. Smith, organizing deputy; Mrs. Susie B. Smith, district deputy; Miss Grace E. Hall, Right Worthy Juvenile Messenger, and Mr. Hall. No. 2—Dr. William Pickens, of the War Finance Division, sells a $1,000 War Bond to James Reese Europe-American Legion Post No. 5. Shown, left to right standing, are George B. Hunt, post commander; Walter A. Jackson, finance officer; George B. Rygraw, chairman of the board, and Jesse O. Thomas of the Treasury staff. Mr. Pickens is seated. No. 3—Victory tea and War Bond party presented by the Women's Army for National Defense Chicago which assisted in financing the building of a $2,000,000 Liberty Ship in honor of the late Robert S. Abbott, editor and founder of the Chicago Defender. No. 4—Shown here, center, is Mrs. Olivia Jones, War Bond champion mother of Memphis, on the arm of Bishop R. R. Wright of the AME church. Also shown in the picture are George W. Lee, director Memphis branch of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company and Nat Williams, Memphis newspaper man. Mrs. Jones is presented with a $200,000 check for War Bonds dedicated to her nine sons in the armed services. No. 5—Shown here is George W. Lee, chairman of the Negro War Finance Committee of Memphis, shaking hands with "Rochester" Anderson at a War Bond rally. Also shown at the left is E. L. Simon, assistant director of agencies for the Atlanta Life Insurance Company.

National Negro Insurance Men Buy $2,763,000 In Bonds

Informer — Houston, Texas

7-15-44

WASHINGTON. —Fifth War Loan purchases by members of the National Negro Insurance Association amounted to $2,763,000, according to C. L. Towns, chairman of the Association's War Finance Committee in a report to the Treasury Department this week. The bond purchases featured the opening day of the association's annual convention held in Memorial Hall, Louisville, Ky., the week of June 20.

He Buys Extra $100 Bond

Daily World Atlanta Ga.

8-18-44

Perry Rogers, 70, who works in the roads and grounds section of the Post Engineer, Camp Wheeler, Ga., is pictured here buying a $100 war bond in addition to 37.56 per cent of his monthly salary which is invested in bonds. No Rogers didn't save the money in any special way, just putting what amount he could into a bag until he had enough for the $100 bond. Cpl. Earl A. Betz, of Falls Village, Conn., clerk in the Finance Office, made the sale.—(Signal Corps Photo)

WASHINGTON TRIBUNE D.C.

Treas. Has 11,000 Negroes Aiding in War Loan Drive

12-2-44

Substantial purchases of war bonds and stamps are expected to be made among the more than 11,000 Negro employees of the Treasury Department during the period of the Sixth War Loan Drive. Four bureaus of the department alone have an average percentage of 31.75 Negro personnel, according to a study of Negro employment in war agencies.

These anticipated purchases will be of extra bonds, apart from those obtained through regular salary deductions.

Charles S. Bell, administrative assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury, last week, gave out figures on Negro employment in the department.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, he said, has 46.40 per cent Negro personnel; the Treasurer's office has 44.23 per cent; the Foreign Funds Control Office has 20.36 per cent, and the Public Debt Office has 15.92 per cent.

These percentages, according to Mr. Bell, apply to the 7,969 who work here in Washington. To make up the total as of July 31, 1944, there are 3,156, who are assigned in the field. This record of integration is believed to be unsurpassed by any other branch of the Federal Government.

War Bond Savings Clubs For Negroes To Be Organized Throughout U. S. By Committee

WASHINGTON, D. C. — To acquaint Negroes of the United States with the necessity for thrift and economic freedom through the medium of the Treasury War Bond Program, a score of leading American Negroes met here recently and devised plans for forming War Bond Saving Clubs throughout the United States.

Albon L. Holsey, executive secretary of the National Negro Business League, Tuskegee, Ala., was named secretary of the organizing committee in charge of the operation.

In opening the one-day session, Dr. J. E. Walker, president of the National Negro Business League, Memphis, pointed out that Negroes have won high places in every activity of American life except in the field of economics and finance. He referred to the field of letters, music, art, science and sport. In all of these, he said, the American Negro can look with pride and satisfaction, but in the field of economics and finance the American Negro has yet to find his place.

The War Bond Program, he said, offers an ideal medium for Negroes to learn the ways of economy and thrift and it is hoped will light the way to the eventual release from economic thraldom into which Negroes have allowed themselves to drift.

The plan which will be used as a model for the War Bond Saving Clubs is that already established at Pittsburgh, Pa., through the efforts of P. L. Prattis, executive editor of the Pittsburgh Courier and originator of the plan. Under this method, a specified number of citizens organize for the purpose of saving enough money each month to buy War Bonds in whatever denomination their purses will allow. Each individual makes his own purchases in the manner prescribed by law and then present his or her War Bond with the secretary o fthe club for safekeeping. In this manner each organized group can see the economic strides being made through the medium of War Bond Savings and thus is spurred on to greater efforts for thrift.

The Washington meeting was held under the direction of James L. Houghteling, director of the National Organizations Subdivision of the War Finance Division; Dr. William Pickens, chief of the Interracial Section, and Willard W. Allen, chief executive officer of the Interracial Section of the War Finance Divisions.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A veteran flier of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, a prisoner of the Germans after his plane was forced down over Bulgaria, addressed 3,000 government workers at three midnight war bond rallies sponsored by the Public Buildings Administration, Federal Works Agency, in Washington, D. C., during the Sixth War Loan. He is Lieut. Henry A. Wise, Jr., 24, of Cape Charles, Virginia. The Russian advance in Bulgaria freed the allies fliers, but 3500 American airmen and 350 aircraft had been lost while bombing the Ploesti oil field and refineries. The young flier told of visiting one hospital overseas in which only amputation cases were handled. "After you've seen that," he declared, "you wonder whether you're doing enough with your two good hands and your two good legs to win this war and you know that buying an extra bond or stamps is the least you can do." All War Bonds sold to December 31st count towards the 6th War Loan E Bond quota.

SOAPBOX

by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

ARE YOU TIRED of buying war bonds? Read the following excerpt from a letter from 1st Sgt. Morris L. Murray, a lad of Washington, DC, now in the 907th Air Base Security, who has been in the thick of it overseas for more than two years, and who has seen service from the shores of North Africa, on up through Italy and France, and is now Heaven knows where.

"It has been said that there are two wars: one of maps and strategy fought in Washington; and the dirty, cruel one fought on the battlefields. But I know of a third war: a silent one that's fought within the soldier himself, from the moment he leans across the rail of a troop transport and sees America fade out of sight. The combined Chiefs of Staff and the five-ocean battle fleet cannot win this war, for it is not a war of steel and motors.

"The army is winning this third war and is sending men back into this life of killing, waiting and sweating, with much of the ache gone from their hearts and the courage to see it through. The secret weapons used by the army to fight this third war are the Rest Camps, scattered about behind the front lines. When a soldier is sent to a rest camp it is like taking him out of Death Valley and dropping him at 42nd and Broadway.

"An army rest camp is not army at all. There are no tents, no water bags, whistles nor barking sergeants. No long chow lines, movie lines, candy lines. It's a soldier's paradise thousands of miles from home—a sort of dress rehearsal for coming home.

"I happened to spend seven days at one of the camps located in one of the main cities of Italy. I was in a 12-story modern apartment house with venetian blinds, marble stairways, elevators and balconies which overlooked some of the most beautiful scenery in the world.

"I slept on real beds, and shaved at real mirrors that were large and clear. I bathed in a white bathtub, with gadgets that you turn, and water that ran both hot and cold. I pushed buttons on walls and lights came on, and they stayed on until I wanted them out. I ate real American food—steaks, ham and pork chops with gravy. I sat at a table dressed in linen and had salt shakers with salt in them. I had cup after cup of smooth hot coffee and pitchers of real cream. I drank out of dainty china cups, and the lovliest girls in all Italy put the food on my table and asked me if I wanted more.

"I spent seven grand days with guys of all races from the front: guys who had killed and been shot at; guys who talked first hand of the Anzio Express, of Volturno River and Cassino. I rubbed shoulders with guys who fly over Germany day after day and who talk of ME 100's, JU 88's, flak and ceilings. I lifted glass after glass of cognac and champagne to guys who keep 'em flying. I strolled the main drags with guys who unload ships, guys who drive the supplies up to the front.

"I whistled at the girls with all the guys. I just sat and basked in the sun with all the guys. I bought souvenirs with all the guys. And at night I slept in a bed and snored with all the guys.

"We saw street cars and listened to the music of their rumble. We saw civilian clothes, cute babies in baby carriages, couples strolling arm in arm. We saw orange juice stands and decorated store windows. We went to beautiful churches and heard glorious organ music. We read newspapers—late ones. We heard radios. BY GOD, WE LIVED.

"And when the close of the week had come we had won that third war. If it's your bonds that are keeping these camps going, keep buying 'em, America, keep buying 'em."

Exclude Local War Loan Workers From Regional Meeting Here; Snub Felt

New Orleans, La.—Negroes connected with the War Finance Division of the United States Treasury in the sale of war bonds, were excluded from the regional meeting including workers from ten Southern States which was held at the Roosevelt Hotel in this city October 11 and 12. Leaders in the war finance committee in Louisiana stated that they did not even know that there was to be such a meeting until newspaper accounts revealed the fact to them. These leaders further stated that

efforts to have the Negro group contact the Secretary of Treasury of the United States, Mr. Henry Morganthau, Jr., who was in New Orleans to address the meeting, failed entirely. Mr. Taylor stated that he had personally contacted Mr. Leon G. Tujaque, state administrator, as well as Mr. J. J. Knecht, executive manager, both of whom failed to do as requested and both of whom had also failed to explain why even a Jim Crow engagement with the treasury's secretary was impossible.

The Negro division of the War Finance Committee in Louisiana has functioned actively through three drives, the third, fourth and fifth. In New Orleans alone these drives among the Negro group by the committee resulted in the sale of nearly two million dollars worth of bonds. It is estimated that the committee was responsible for more than two million dollars of sales in other sections of the state during the drives.

In other Southern states there are Negroes who have been chosen as associate directors or as coordinators. In Louisiana O. C. W. Taylor was designated as coordinator and placed on the dollar per year basis. The leaders state that they will continue to work in their various capacities but they resent the attitude of the Southerners who seem to be anxious to obstruct the efforts of the United States Treasury.

15-Year-Old Washington School Girl Sets Record in Fifth War Loan Sales

It was a record of some kind, and no one would dispute it except Gloria Brown herself. Here it was, opening day of the Fifth War Loan, and here was Gloria, a 15-year-old student at the Garnett Patterson Junior high school, in Washington, D. C., checking in with $525 in War Bond sales, and the drive hardly under way.

She said that the excitement of the invasion, and the thoughts of what our boys were undergoing over there, had helped her to sell some of the neighbors quickly, but she didn't think the amount was so much. However, considering how hard it is to sell bonds to one's neighbors, or Christmas cards for that matter, everybody thought that Gloria was doing swell.

That is, except Gloria.

"For the Fourth War Loan I sold $106,250 worth," she said. "I want to do better this time, but this start doesn't look encouraging."

A bystander thought he hadn't heard correctly. "You mean you sold $106 worth to start the last drive," he said.

But Gloria shook her head. "The correct figure," she said, "is $106,250." And with that she pulled out a letter of commendation from the Treasury department's War Finance Division.

Yes, sir. There was the proof. And she had another letter from the District of Columbia civilian defense organization, which explained it all. As a messenger in the defense organization, she had been authorized to collect pledges from prospective bond buyers. Neighbors accounted for $6,000 worth, and a bank executive, impressed by the sincerity that Gloria had put into her sales talk, had signed up for a $100,000 bond."

COMMENDED

When the pledges were collected, Gloria received her letter of commendation from the Treasury. Anybody who wanted to could read it. It was right there in black and white, and it brought her much belated recognition. A radio announcer gave her a mention in one of his broadcasts, and the same was true of the Capital's leading newspapers.

All in all, Gloria confided, it adds up to the resolve that she will continue to do her best. "After all," she agreed, "the Fifth War Loan is still young and there's still time to find another banker."

Gloria and her two younger sisters live with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony A. Brown, at 1515 Carolina St., N.W. She is tall for her age and her teachers says that she is exceptionally bright.

Negro Women of Florida Sell $385,000 in War Bonds

U. S. Treasury Photo from OWI.

The Florida State Federation of Negro Women took an active part in the Fourth War Bond drive, acting as the Negro committee in communities where no Negro organization had been set up, and in the larger cities coordinating their efforts with existing War Bond committees. Mrs. Nell Hunter, of the Interracial Section of the National Office, spent 2 weeks making a tour of the State with Mrs. Fannie H. Ponder, president of the Federation, which itself made an investment of $1,000 in the Fourth War Loan drive. Total sales traceable to the activities of these women amounted to $385,000. Photo shows G. D. Rogers, president of the Central Life Insurance Company of Tampa, presenting check for $50,000 to Mrs. Ponder, as his company's investment in the Fourth War Loan drive. His daughter, WAC Sgt. Johnnye Marie Rogers, now stationed at Wendover, Utah, and Mrs. Nell Hunter, of the Washington office, proudly look on.

Colored Women of Florida Sell $385,000 In War Bonds!

4-27-44

The Florida State Federation of Negro Women took an active part in the Fourth War Bond drive, acting as the Negro committee in communities where no Negro organization had been set up, and in the larger cities coordinating their efforts with existing War Bond committees. Mrs. Nell Hunter, of the Interracial Section of the National Office, spent two weeks making a tour of the State with Mrs. Fannie H. Ponder, president of the Federation, which itself made an investment of $1,000 in the Fourth War Loan drive. Total sales traceable to the activities of these women amounted to $385,000. G. D. Rogers, president of the Central Life Insurance Company of Tampa, presented a check for $50,000 to Mrs. Ponder, as his company's investment in the Fourth War Loan drive.

WAR BOND AIDE—John W. Mitchell, of Hampton, Va., has been appointed to the staff of the inter-racial section of the War Finance Committee, the Treasury Department has announced. Mr. Mitchell will be a special consultant in promoting the sales of War Bonds among Negro farmers in connection with his work as Federal Extension field agent for the Department of Agriculture.

An intensive campaign is being planned for participation of Negro farmers in the Fifth War Bond Campaign, which begins on June 12, the Treasury Department said.

War Bond Parade And Rally Nets $52,000 In Sales

7-15-44

Dr. George Snowden of Dillard University and principal speaker at the Special Activities Committee's 5th War Loan Parade and Rally at Shakespeare Park last Sunday afternoon, eloquently urged Negroes to struggle for full citizenship rights. Dr. Snowden's inspiring talk had telling effect for the committee's secretary, John Simon, reported of $52,000 War bonds being bought as an indication. The significant act about the activity was the report that the subscribers were real bond purchasers in majority. A patriotic sense of duty pervaded the throng that participated in the parade and merit the praise of all for the wonderful spirit of cooperation that the rally a success. James Addison Holtry, co-chairman of the committee and president of the Good Citizens insurance company, said "Organization and cooperation are the keys to success. Unless the entire community realizes the importance of cooperating in the winning of this war, the sacrifices made by the young men and women of the Negro race will mean nothing". To show the spirit of the Good Citizens in backing up the men and women in the armed forces, Mr. Holtry purchased $20,000 of War Bonds in the Rally on Sunday afternoon.

Dr. P. T. Robinson, of New Zion Baptist Church, purchased fifty dollars worth of "E" bonds at the Sunday "War Bond Rally" which amounted to an aggregate sum of nine hundred and thirty-seven dollars or more. R. L. Johnson, vice-president and general manager of the Good Citizens, purchased $500.00 of bonds. Miss Neotha Bennett of the Neotha Beauty Salon, purchased $500.00. Hundreds of persons bought bonds in denominations of $100.00 to $25.00.

7-15-44

Greetings were expressed by Mrs. Naomi Borikins, direitor of the Fifth War Loan Drive. Ernest Scott of Transport, Workers of America (CIO), William Spooner, Longshoremen's Union (CIO); Dr. A. B. Menilik, of Defense League, were on the program. Ernest J. Wright acted as master of ceremonies.

Retired Farmer Makes Purchase Of $10,000 Bond

7-15-44

Baton Rouge, La.—The Fifth War Loan in Baton Rouge was boosted July 5 by $10,000 when Pompey Squires, retired Negro farmer, made this purchase, the second such purchase made by him since World War II started. Mr. Squires, who has been on the retired list since 1922, when he sold the major portion of his large farm to the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana, which located there-

Crippled Children Sell $2,022 Worth of War Bonds to Buy a Field Ambulance

7-15-44

chairs and crutches proved no ob-
Wheelstacle to 76 children in the na-
chases of U. S. War Bonds.

tion's capital who raised $2,022 in War Bonds and Stamps as their contribution to the Fifth War Loan.

The story of how they did it, in spite of physical handicaps which compelled them to receive school instruction either at home or in District Hospitals, was brought to light this week by the Treasury Department.

The children, with the aid of the Visiting Teacher Corps of Freedmen's hospital, sold War Saving Stamps to relatives as well as to doctors and nurses. They swelled the total by making articles for sale, and in this manner raised the $2,022 which was earmarked for purchase of a field ambulance.

Wednesday was an important day in the lives of these shut-ins. The new ambulance, sleek and shiny, was dedicated. It rolled up to the grounds of the Freedmen's Hospital Annex and was greeted with cries of surprise and admiration from the juvenile onlookers.

Donald Clark, 11, a victim of infantile paralysis, could not contain himself. "Gee whiz," he said, "she's bigger than I thought."

George Bryant, 14, was equally enthusiastic. Confined with arthritis, he showed promise of becoming a good business man. "She'll make a good truck after the war is over," he told a bystander. "If the government will sell it cheap we might buy it back."

7-7-44

Following the dedication ceremonies, Mrs. Ida Z. Alphin, supervisor of the Visiting Teachers Corps, had this to say: "The children were almost heartbroken because they could not buy the ambulance in time for the big invasion. However, you can see for yourself, they're all happy today."

NEGRO DIVISION SALES IN 5TH WAR LOAN DRIVE SOARS CLOSE TO $600,000 SOLD

Weekly — New Orleans, La.

7-15-44

Returns of the Fifth War Loan drive, which were still coming in on Tuesday, had raised the total in bonds sold well above the city's quota, with incomplete returns showing that the Negro division had sold $564,978 in bonds, it was announced through official sources.

Of that amount $51,400 of bonds were sold at a rally in Shakspeare Park on Sunday, Jas. A. Holtry and Ernest J. Wright, co-chairmen of the special activities committee of the Negro Fifth War Loan group, announced.

Figures released Tuesday disclosed the following amounts of bonds sold through various committees:

7-15-44

Insurance executives' council, W. G. Carradine, chairman, $166,947; professionals, J. L. Procope, chairman, $8,000; special activities, James A. Holtry and Ernest J. Wright, co-chairmen, $51,400; athletic committee, J. V. Hamilton, chairman, $4,000; civic groups, Miss M. D. Coghill, chairman, $12,500; benevolents, Emile Labat and Frank Grimes, co-chairmen, $15,851; labor, J. Harvey Netter, chairman, $42,600; defense industries, James N. Brown and Rev. E. H. Columbus, co-chairmen, $195,725 (Higgins Industries $75,000 and Delta Shipyards $15,500, with returns not yet completed); business committee, Mrs. Ethel F. Turner, chairman, $57,350.

Total war bond sales in the state of Louisiana in the Fifth War Loan drive stood at $137,785,195.50, or 109.3 per cent of the state's quota, it was announced Monday.

7-15-44

From a national standpoint, America had smashed over the top in the $16,000,000,000 Fifth War Loan drive Saturday and returns indicated that the quota would be well exceeded, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau announced that day.

The New Orleans Negro Division of the Fifth War Loan drive was directed by Mrs. Naomi Richards Borikins, with George Longe as parish chairman.

Several outstanding features added much interest to the Fifth War Loan campaign. Among these were the show held at Booker T. Washington Auditorium which presented Muriel Rahn, famous Broadway actress; Dean William Pickens and Negro aviators fresh from the combat zone; the rally and parade held by the special activities committee in Shakspeare Park on Sunday and the boxing benefit carnival held at the Coliseum Arena Sunday, July 2.

The boxing carnival, which presented many ring stars of bygone years, was sponsored by the Athletic Committee, the Veteran Fighters and the Hollywood Boys, with the cooperation of Promoter Louis Messina, and Matchmaker Louis Chattard. J. V. Hamilton was chairman of the affair, which sold $4,000 in bonds.

7-15-44

Others who cooperated with the boxing carnival were Joe Provenzano, Joe Pecoraro, Heard Ragas, who donated the use of the Coliseum Arena, and Chief of Police George Reyer.

The total amount of bonds sold through the Negro division of the Fifth War Loan campaign does not represent the total amount purchased by Negroes of New Orleans, but merely the amount sold through that division.

7-15-44

Bonds purchased by New Orleans Negroes employed by various business establishments and government agencies were reported through other committtees.

New Orleans Negroes Raise $1,000,000 In Fifth War Bond Drive

Age — New York, N.Y.

9-14-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Negroes in New Orleans, La., purchased nearly $1,000,000 worth of War Bonds in the Fifth War Loan drive, according to the final report of Mrs. N. R. Borikins, chairman of the Negro Division, which was made public last week by the Treasury Department.

The drive began with a public mass meeting and program at Booker T. Washington High School, which featured Muriel Rahn, Broadway singing star, late of the operetta "Carmen Jones", and Negro flyers of the 99th Pursuit Squadron recently returned from active duty in Italy. These included Capt. Clarence Jamison and Lt. Allen Lane, who were interviewed.

Addresses were made by William Pickens, head of the Inter-racial Section of the War Finance Division of the Treasury; Leon Tujague, state chairman of the War Finance Committee; C. W. Taylor, State coordinator of the War Finance Committee; John Dane, Orleans Parish director of the Fifth War Loan drive; E. Kirby Newburger, chairman of the New Orleans War Finance Committee and Mrs. Naomi Borikins, chairman of the Negro division. This effort netted $30,000 in war bond sales.

8-19-44

What Negroes Are Doing

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

The Negro Division of the War Finance Committee is promoting a mammoth bond rally at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. This is the last, and it is hoped the crowning event of the Sixth War Loan drive. The division quota of $1,000,000 in the Sixth War Loan drive has not been reached.

This bond rally will be the biggest of its kind ever staged in Birmingham. Special feature will be the choral concert given by the Reception Center Chorus of Ft. Benning, Ga. All of the singers of this "soldier chorus" were well-known artists of note and distinction as civilians before induction into the Army. Since this choral ensemble was formed at the reception center at Ft. Benning, they have become famous for their unique arrangements and distinctive renditions of classical music as well as that of the beautiful and beloved Negro spirituals. So well liked is their music that a Columbus, Ga., radio station features them over the air each week. During the Sixth War Loan campaign the chorus has traveled extensively throughout the Fourth Service Command, giving concerts to assist in the sale of War Bonds. Through their efforts over $7,000,000 have been invested at the various places they have appeared.

Birmingham should be proud to turn out Sunday afternoon for the concert, for one of her native sons, Sgt. William Long, is a featured soloist of this famous singing group. In the group with Sgt. Long will be noted singers from other cities throughout the South.

Another feature of the combined bond rally and concert Sunday afternoon, will be the appearance of two Negro boys who saw active duty in England, France, Africa and Italy, who will relate their experiences on these battlefronts and assist in the bond rally. They are Sgt. Frank Jordan, native of Albany, Ga., who has been in service two years and served overseas six months. He was in chemical warfare in England and France, and was wounded at Cherbourg, France, June 30. Since Aug. 21, Sgt. Jordan has been in Northington General Hospital at Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Pfc. George Larkins, a native of Tallahassee, Fla., who has been in service for two years, 18 months of which has been service overseas in Africa and Italy. He was wounded in Italy May 8 and arrived at Northington General Hospital Oct. 3.

Admission to the bond rally will be free, but complete arrangements will be provided for the sale of War Bonds of all denominations.

Chairman A. G. Gaston, of the Negro Division, urges every Negro citizen of Jefferson County to come to the bond rally and help boost the Negro Division over the top.

The reception center chorus is under direction of Sgt. Willis Brown, Minter, Ala., with Sgt. Varnell Ford, Knoxville, Tenn., as accompanist and Sgt. William Washburn, Memphis, Tenn., as narrator. Traveling with the chorus on this tour are Chaplain Isaac I. McDonald of the reception center, and S. J. Phillips.

* * *

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS of the Metropolitan A. M. E. Zion Church, corner of North 16th Street and Fourth Avenue, will welcome the new minister for this outstanding A. M. E. Zion Church on Sunday morning, Dec. 17, when Dr. J. A. Babbington-Johnson takes charge as pastor.

47L-1944

War Bonds & Stamps

Negro Committee Appointed to Aid in Fourth War Loan

Augusta, Ga., Herald

W. S. Hornsby, prominent citizen of Augusta, has been selected to head the Fourth War Loan Drive among Negroes in Augusta. In commenting on the willingness of local Negroes to cooperate in the Fourth War Loan Drive, Dr. Hornsby stated that Negroes were glad to cooperate and were anxious to "back the attack" by investing in government bonds.

The following outstanding Negro citizens compose the steering committee:

W. S. Hornsby, chairman; Dr. J. A. Evans, Rev. W. R. Mack, Rev. L. A. Pinkston, A. M. Carter, Rev. A. W. Vincent, Rev. M. J. Sherard, John Strother, W. C. Ervin, Dr T. W. Josey, Rev. A. C. Griggs, E. S. Pinkerton, Rev. G. H. Carter, Rev. R. C. Calhoun, J. W. Wallace, W. M. Carpenter, W. S. Harris, Rev. A. R. Cooper, Dr. A. E. Maxwell, Rev. W. D. Morman, W. H. Mays, Dr. J. E. Carter, Dr. J. S. Outler, Rev. Y. L. Yancey, S. M. Jenkins, L. D. Perry.

The following outstanding citizens compose the contact committee:

Mme. S. S. Johnson, Mme. Mary Beasley, Mme. W. W. White, Mlle. Louise Laney, M. Wallace, L. Wallace, M. Anderson, Rev. M. J. Whitaker, W. M. McKinley, Dr. J. C. Collier, T. Bowman R. M. Martin, V. Lowe, T. Williams, T. Kelley, A. Hollman, D. W. Willis, W. S. Hornsby, Jr., Mme. J. B. Jennings, W. J. Mason, I. Abney, Mme. Z. Wigfall, C. L. Wigfall, M. M. Hamilton, Ed Lee, William Grady, W. M. Harris, Joe Robinson, Mme. C. Green, Mlle. R. Gray, Mlle. W. J. Hibler, Deacon E. A. Searles, S. B. Thomas, C. B. Nichols, J. S. Perry, Y. E. Myers, C. W. Johnson, Mlle. Fannie Smythe, Mme. C. E. Jenkins, I. Washington, C. Butler, G. M. Johnson, C. Hickson, J. A. Thomas, J. T. Walker, Mme. M. W. Brown, W. H. Hilborn, J. A. Singleton, H. G. Gaulden, M. Scott.

In the initial meeting of the steering committee, $50,000 worth of bonds were pledged as a starting point in the drive. Both of the above committees have indicated their willingness to cooperate 100 per cent in the Fourth War Loan effort and do all in their power to reach the quota.

Augusta

TWO NEGRO SCHOOLS 100 PERCENT IN THE WAR LOAN CAMPAIGN

Two colored schools have rated 100 per cent in cooperation in the Fourth War Loan drive, according to announcement of Superintendent S. D. Copeland.

These are the Springfield School, of which Frances Smythe is principal; and the Fifth Ward School of which Clara Jenkins is principal.

Grades of various other schools turning in a record of 100 per cent compliance are as follows:

Houghton, grade 3-A, Miss Myrtis McKenzie, teacher, 38 on roll; grade 4-B, Mrs. Leila Bruce teacher, 39 on roll; Grade 7-B, Miss Lavinia Tyler, teacher, 22 on roll; Grade 6-B, Miss Mina Lee Rubenstein, teacher, 31 on roll; Grade 2-A, Miss Irene Philpot teacher, 32 on roll.

William Robinson School: Grade 1-A, Miss Margaret Sheron, teacher, 40 on roll; Grade 4, Mrs. Lena Boyd, teacher, 38 on roll; Grade 6 Miss Ruth Capers, teacher, 44 on roll.

Monte Sano School: Grade 1 Miss Annie Gercke, teacher, 41 on roll; Grade 2, Miss Walden, teacher, 28 on roll; Grade 3, Miss Marian Smith, teacher, 34 on roll; Grade 5, Miss Helen Steed, teacher, 29 on roll; Grade 3 B-2, Miss Virginia Hallman, teacher, 34 on roll.

Martha Lester School: 3-B, Miss Jane McGouirk, teacher, 37 on roll.

John Milledge School: Grade 5, Miss Anne Skinner, teacher, 38 on roll.

Emma Stoughton School: Grade 2, 40 on roll; Grade 3, 24 on roll.

C. T. Walker School: Grade 4, Dolly B. Givens, teacher, 53 on roll; Grade 7-3 R. F. Pinckney, teacher, 31 on roll.

BOND DRIVE SUCCESS AMONG COLORED

Last Monday vening a group of colored citizens were entertained at a concert at the Colored School by the 173rd Army Band of Fort McClellan. At that time $816.00 was pledged in War Bonds and Stamps.

The meeting was arranged by the Negro Business and Professional Men's Club, of Anniston, and the local school board. There were several inspiring speeches by the Rev. H. B. Banks, and other members of th Club. This was the first gathering of this kind among the colored people of Jacksonville and the sponsors of the movement have commended them highly.

Citizens who did not attend the meeting and who wish to buy Bonds are asked to report to Eugene Reid, Jewell Greer or C. L. Wilson so that this amount may be increased.

The following bought bonds: Rev. J. W. Greer, $25; Eugene Reid, $100; Will Jackson, $25; Willie Collis, $25; Tom Leavell, $10; R. T. Morris $18.75; T. B. Foxx, $200; Geneva Caldwell, $18.75; Madge George, $25; William Weaver, $18.75; Bessie Williams, $50; Van D. Jackson, $18.75; J. D. Greer, $18.75; F. D. Stringer, $18.75; Ora Washington. $1.00 Stamps; Henry A. Smith, 18.75; Gilbert A. Jones, $18.75; Jennie T. Fox, $18.75; Anne Glover, $18.75; Harrison Oden, $37.50; Joe Oden, $18.75; Ed Leavell, $18.75.

NEGROES MAKE CONTRIBUTION

Yazoo, Miss. Sentinel

February 25, 1944

$50,542.75 WORTH OF WAR BONDS PURCHASED IN DRIVE

Afro-Americans Purchased $27,000 Worth—Other Buyers Are Listed

Yazoo City, Feb. 24—The Negro people of Yazoo County have made an outstanding co ribution to the success of the Fourth War Bond Drive.

According to a statement issued by D. W. Lindsey, Chairman for the Negro Finance Committee, a total of $50,342.75 (cost price) worth of bonds have been purchased so far in the drive.

The Afro-Americans purchased $27,000 worth to bring their total War Bond purchases to $93,000.

Chairmen of Beat Committees and the amounts sold by each are as follows:

Beat 1—Alma Johnson, $15,330.25

Beat 2—Audubon Elem, $1,083.75.

Beat 3—T. J. Huddleston, Sr., $30,625.00

Beat 4—Lucius H. Harris, $2,054.50.

Beat 5—Simon Burnette, $1,464.25.

Beat Chairmen and their helpers are to be highly commended for their untiring efforts in encouraging their people to respond to the call of their government during this emergency.

Greenville, Ala., Advocate

January 20, 1944

Colored Citizens Are Cooperating In Drive

In keeping with the meeting recently held at the court house, under the direction of Col. Jeff P. Beeland, County Chairman, War Finance Committee, the Colored County Committee, of which D. B. Bennett is chairman, and Elliot Robbins, Negro County Aagent, who has been designated to direct the activities of the Fourth War Loan Drive among the colored population, are making an urgent appeal to every colored citizen to do his best by buying War Bonds and Stamps during this drive.

Rev. Bennett and Agent Robbins make joint statements to the colored people of Butler county: "We have accepted as our quota, $12,000.00, to be sold in bonds and stamps to the colored people of Butler county. We know that you will not fail us in this effort, as everyone responded wholeheartedly during the Third War Loan Drive. In this effort, we are asking the same committee to serve in each community as you did so efficiently during the last drive."

The colored teachers of Greenville are thanked for assisting in getting out some 1,200 circulars to the colored people pertaining to this drive. The following are members of the County Committee, who will assist in all activities of the drive: W. M. Jarrett, H. Z. Franklin, M. I. Brewer, James Herbert, A. B. Carter, W. C. Patton, Rev. E. P. Pugh, and Dave Marlow.

Negro Bond Rally Most Successful

Dr. Hicks Reports Fine Response At Gathering As Well As In Campaign

Sponsored by Dr. J. L. Hicks, Lauderdale county war bond chairman for the negroes, an enthusiastic war bond rally was held Tuesday afternoon at Slater school and bonds to the amount of $5,700 were purchosed. This amount is only the bonds purchased at the rally, as a total of $31,010.15 was purchased during the fourth war loan drive, which closed February 15.

Through the cooperation of Superintendents J. W. Powell and W. Herschel Walker all city and county negro schools were closed at noon in order that the students have the privilege of attending the victory rally.

Prominent on the program was the widely-known negro contralto singer, Nell Hunter, who came prior to the rally and rendered every assistance possible in making the drive a success. She is not only a singer, but leader of the famous Hall Johnson choir of stage and screen and her music on this occasion was greatly enjoyed by all who heard her. Another feature of the rally was the 20-minute air carnival by three army planes piloted by negro pilots from the base at Tuskegee, who dropped leaflets from the sky in recognition of the bond rally effort. The newly organized band from Burrell and Slater schools made its initial appearance and rendered a short program of music.

To The Colored Citizens of Ocilla And Irwin County

Ocilla, Ga., Star

February 10, 1944

Those of you who have read the Ocilla Star of Feb. 3, 1944, under the caption: "Japs Wantonly Tortured, Killed Soldiers on Bataan; Everyone Asked to Buy Bonds to Put an End to the Japanese Brutality."

If you haven't read that article I am asking that you secure a copy from the Star office and read it in order that you might know how our boys are suffering to preserve this country of ours. Most of us are to oold to go, but there are so many ways in which we can help.

Our group is lagging in the purchase of War Bonds. We can't afford not to buy Bonds in this drive if you would help these boys. If every colored person of Irwin County would buy just one Bond that would go a llong way in helping our boys to put an end to the Japanes brutality.

The colored citizens in Ben Hill county have organized the 4th War Bond Drive. Let us show Mr. A. S. Harris, County Chairman, that we are 100 per cent behind the 4th War Loan.

I am asking each colored preacher to tell his people about this War Loan. Each teacher, each businessman and businesswoman, will you please tell the people and encourage them to buy Bonds?

Under Direction of Dr. Long

Colored Business And Professional Groups Buy Bonds

Palatka, Fla., Daily News

February 7, 1944

Emphatically advising the local bond committee that "We are not through yet," the colored business and professional group under the leadership of Dr. J. A. Long and

Sell Over $10,000 Worth

We could easily lend the government some of our surplus money. It will go a long way in helping in this great struggle that we are now in.

As president of the Irwin County Colored Civic League, I am asking all colored citizens to meet at the Ocilla Colored High School at 4 o'clock Feb. 20th. I will have Mr. Harris or one of his representatives to talk with you about the 4th War Loan.

Buy a Bond, will you?

E. C. COLSON, Sr.

Professor A. J. Polk have turned in their initial bond orders totaling $10,000.

The following have purchased to date in the amounts indicated; Ira Ellis $5000.00; Dr. J. A. Long; $2000.00; Dr. C. C. Long, $1000.00; Ben Ellis $200.00; Harold Osgood, $150.00; Dr. N. B. Hester, Mary Lawson, C. S. Belton, William West, Amos Sermon, Clarence Hall, Annie Mae Banks, Amos Brown, $100; Azalea Grocery and J. T. Smith, $50. The following purchased the $25.00 bond: Coney Gray, Roberta Bryant, Marguerita Hill, Carrie Williams, Clarence Singleton, Bob Moorhead, William Hunter, Ollie May Green, Claud Wilson, Fred Bartell, Preston Ruth, Mattie Brewer and Carrie Watson.

When this drive is over the local committee feel that the colored group will have set up a very commendable record.

"Keep Us Flying" Poster Printing Numbers 150,000

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
1-29-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Fourth War Loan poster, "Keep Us Flying," which depicts a Negro aviator and his parachute pack, has met with popularity wherever displayed, according to Willard W. Allen, chief of the interracial section of the Treasury's War Finance Division.

The poster is reproduced from the painting by Mrs. Betsy Graves Reyneau, of Brooklyn, N. Y., whose model was Lt. Robert W. Deiz, University of Oregon graduate and formerly a member of the Portland Symphony.

DONE IN 1942

She met him in 1942 at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., where she was doing a portrait of the late George Washington Carver, noted Negro scientist. Deiz was in training at the Army's 66th Flying Training Depot, located near the school. He received his wings that September.

Deiz is now on duty in Italy. he saw his first action in a dive-bombing raid last September on the harbor of Pescara, on the Adriatic sea. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Deiz, 2254, Thirty-fifth Place, Portland, Ore. 1-29-44

The original supply of 100,000 posters, according to Mr. Allen, was quickly exhausted by demands that followed circularization of a few hundred samples. An additional 50,000 posters had to be run off to take care of the increased demands from thousands of Negro churches and educational institutions, social and fraternal organizations and business establishments throughout the country.

Negroes In Leading Role In 4th War Loan Drive

Defender - Chicago, Ill.
1-29-44

WASHINGTON—Negroes are not only participating in the Fourth War Loan drive as purchasers of war bonds, the Treasury Department announced this week, but they are also helping to sell bonds in larger numbers than ever before.

At present, four full-time executives and a clerical staff in the national office of the War Finance committee are assisting the drive on the national level, and 15 Negro leaders throughout the country are serving as dollar-a-year members of their war finance staffs.

The Inter-racial section of the Defense Savings staff, which later became the War Finance Committee, was set up in May, 1941, under the supervision of James L. Houghteling, assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury, and with Dean William Pickens, noted orator and publicist, as head of the unit. Mr. Pickens began work with one assistant in the main Treasury building, but in a short while two clerks were added and one additional executive, Jesse O. Thomas, field secretary of the National Urban League.

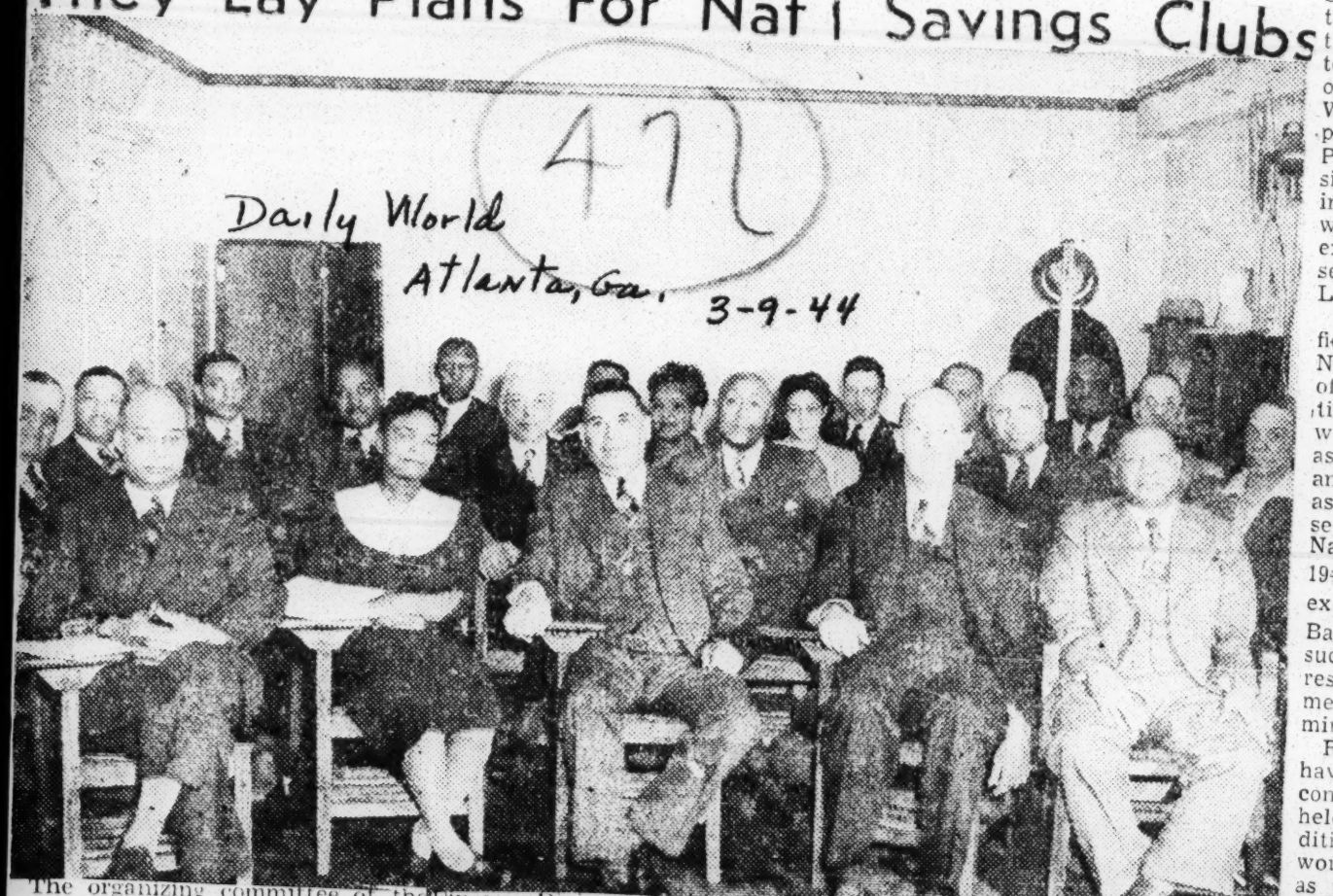
Shortly after Pearl Harbor, two field workers were added. Mrs. Nell Hunter, former staff member of the National Youth Administration, began work among Negro women, and John W. Whitten was assigned to work among fraternal and labor groups. After Mr. Thomas had served the Treasury for seventeen months, he went to the National Red Cross on April 1, 1943. Willard W. Allen, insurance executive and fraternal leader of Baltimore, Md., was appointed to succeed Mr. Thomas. Mr. Whitten resigned recently to become staff member of the Office of Price Administration. 1-29-44

Representatives of this group have spoken before every Negro convention, religious and secular, held in the past two years. In addition, they have addressed the workers of many large war plants, as well as many fraternal groups.

They Lay Plans For Nat'l Savings Clubs

47

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
3-9-44



The organizing committee of the War Bond Saving Clubs with Treasury officials in Washington last week to complete plans for the organization of War Bond Savings Clubs among Negroes throughout the country. Among those present were l to r, front row, P. L. Prattis, Pittsburgh Courier; Mrs. Martha B. Goldman, War Finance Division; Willard W. Allen, chief executive officer, National Organization Division War Finance Division; James L. Houghtelling, director, Nat'l Organization Division; Doctor J. E. Walker, national chairman. Back row, l to r Albon Holsey, Tuskegee; G. L. Townes, Richmond; C. A. Scott, Atlanta; Claude A. Barnett, Chicago; T. M. Campbell, Tuskegee; Jesse H. Mitchell, Washington; Dr. F. D. Patterson, Tuskegee; Mrs. Nell Hunter, Washington; John W. Dobbs, Atlanta; Pickens, Washington (Owl Photo) 3-9-44

Finance Divison; James L. Houghton, Ed Mayl, War Finance Committee; Lester B. Granger, New York City; Charles A. McLean, Winston-Salem; Jesse O. Thomas, Washington; Charles Crain, Washington and Mrs. Rosa Brown Bracy, Tuskegee. Not shown on photo, but present were J. Finley Wilson, Washington, Bishop James A. Bray, Chicago, and Dr. William

Mary Bethune heads bond rally for S.S. Harriet Tubman

WASHINGTON — The Negro citizenry here will have a big War Bond rally July 13, the Treasury Dept. announced this week. It will be held at Griffith Stadium under the auspices of the National Council of Negro Women as part of the council's effort to sell $2,000,000 worth of war bonds to cover the cost of the Liberty ship Harriet Tubman, first ship to be named for a Negro woman.

According to the council's announcement, the program will include a baseball game between the Homestead Grays and the Bushwick Nine, of Brooklyn, N. Y., led by the Tuskegee Clellan Army bands.

The principal address was by the Honorable Luther Patrick. Other speakers at the rally were Oscar W. Adams and James E. Kelley.

Negro division headquarters. A. G. Gaston, chairman, announced bond sales in the fifth drive to total $1,292,000 to top its goal by more than a quarter of a million dollars.

NEGRO VOLUNTEER WORKERS WILL TAKE the field again Monday to sell more War Bonds, Jefferson County is more than $1,000,000 behind its goal in the Fifth War Loan drive, and Chairman A. G. Gaston of the Negro division has asked every volunteer to redouble the efforts. 7-23-44

In this call Chairman Gaston is asking every citizen to place their savings, and as much from their current earnings as possible, into the purchase of extra War Bonds.

Last Sunday afternoon and evening thousands of persons assembled at Legion Field to take part in the War Bond rally, staged by the Negro division of the County War Finance Committee. A colorful parade preceded the program at Legion Field, and was

Calloway Writes Jive Bond Song

Daily World - Atlanta, Georgia
5-20-44

NEW YORK CITY—(SNS)— At the special request of Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgantheau, Cab Calloway has composed the first war bond song in jive, titled, "Rackin 'em Back."

Combining jive-talk with a contagious melody, "Rackin 'em Back" urges bondholders to "stache your bonds away" which means "hide your bonds for safe-keeping." This advice coincides with the Treasury Department's current campaign to dissuade bond-owners from cashing them in before maturity.

3-20-44
Cab will introduce "Rackin 'em

WMC Adopts Program To End Job Discrimination

People's Voice - N.Y. N.Y. 2-12-'44

Special

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The War Manpower Commision has adopted a special new Employment Office Training Program to eliminate discrimination against Negroes seeking jobs, it was learned here this week. The program, under the heading of **The United States Employment Service and the Negro Work Applicant**, will be inaugurated the latter part of this month. Already prepared in the form of a handbook, it will go to each of the 1,500 USES (United States Employment Service) local offices throughout the country, from Maine to Mississippi and from Seattle to San Antonio.

Approximately 20,000 USES receptionists, interviewers, employer-contact and related personnel will receive two 4-hour training sessions for thorough indoctrination. Emphasis is placed on eliminating, among the USES personnel having direct contact with work applicants, any tendencies toward discrimination on the basis of race or color. Accompanying the handbook will be an **Instructor's Guide.**

This marks the first time in governmental history that any specific training material dealing with the handling of Negro work applicants has been sent out under an official stamp.

Author of the plan is Lt. Lawrence A. Oxley, Senior Technical Representative, Bureau of Placement, War Manpower Commission. Lt. Oxley, a veteran of World War I and connected with the Department of Labor for the past ten years, started work on the plan last July. Prior to its final acceptance, the program was tried out by him in Detroit, Louisville, Ky., and Cleveland, O., as a laboratory experiment. It will be formally introduced in each of the twelve WMC regions throughout the country under his supervision.

The program aims to provide USES personnel "with practical tools for coping with the placement of racial minority groups, with special reference to the Negro applicant." It stresses the role of USES representatives in conforming with government non-discrimination policies in placement of workers.

The simple, basic problems of minority groups are explained thoroughly and ways to overcome these problems are a major part of the plan.

Prepared in plain, frank language, the handbook discusses race theories and the race question briefly but thoroughly. The vital need for the employment service worker to drop his or her personal prejudices is stressed, and ways this can be accomplished are outlined.

WMC Adopts Employment Office Training Program To Alleviate Bias Among Negro Applicants

Age - New York, N.Y.

2-12-44

(By Staff Correspondent)

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Practical Program

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Prepared in plain, frank language, the handbook discusses race theories and the race question briefly, but thoroughly. The vital need for the employment service worker to drop his or her personal prejudices is stressed, and ways this can be accomplished are outlined.

The handbook contains a wealth of information about the Negro in relation to the nation's industrial and ecnomic life, including a comparison of the extent of Negro participation in government, war industry and the armed forces during World War I and the current period of World War II.

The actvities of community organizations, such as the National Urban League, the NAACP and the National Council of Negro Women, are introduced as sources of aid in eliminating discrimination against Negroes, and cooperation with such groups is urged. 2-12-44

Also included in the handbook are full text copies of Executive Orders 8802 and 9346 under which the FEPC (President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices) operates; the Operating Agreement between WMC and FEPC on the Non-Discrimination Program; the WMC Management-Labor Policy Committee Resolution Pertaining to Racial Conflicts, and pertinent excerpts

47L-1944

Waste Paper Salvage

Negros Organize For Waste Paper Campaign

Reidsville N. C. Review

A committee has been formed and plans have been worked out to begin immediately the waste paper drive for Reidsville and vicinity, in order that every person in the city might be reached and participate in the waste paper drive.

The project carries a twofold objective: (1) A means of sharing the war effort; (2) Supporting municipal project, in that the proceeds will go for the erection of bleachers in the stadium now under construction.

The city and rural communities have been mapped off in zones. Branch street and Washington High schools will be organized and competition will exist between classes, under the supervision of the principals. A waste paper station will be located in a vacant shed on Lambert street, under the supervision of E. M. Townes. The Boy Scouts will be under the supervision of Scout Master E. L. Price and Commissioner H. K. Griggs, and their dates are likely to be on Saturdays, for collecting and depositing waste paper. There will also be a station at the McLaurin Funeral Home, for those persons in the business section of town, of which E. M. Townes will supervise.

All papers and magazines are asked to be tied in neat bundles before depositing them so they can be handled with ease.

After the paper has been weighed or estimated L. H. McLaurin's truck will come for it, provided there is enough at the various stations and deliver it to the central station, next to The Review building.

Members of the committee as appointed by are: L. H. McLaurin, chairman; A. N. McCoy, booster and secretary; E. M. Townes, supervising business sections; C. C. Watkin and R. L. Hannon, supervising rural communities, and S. E. Duncan, organizing schools.

47m-1944

GI Mechanics Do Miracles

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

n Invasion Repair Shops

8-12-44

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH THE FIRST ARMY IN ORMANDY. — There's a modern I. automobile shop here manned some of the finest mechanics in business that the folks back me would just love to tow those l jalopies into.

t's located in the largest cow sture I've seen in Normandy to te and all parts of jeeps, ducks, ks, trucks and practically any- ng mobile can be repaired here nothing flat.

'Only seven miles away, they're hting like hell pushing damn ns back further each day which ans we should be on the move fore long," said Sgt. Wilson Mal- d, 4312 Michigan Ave., Chicago, mer soda-jerker and cook at rsky's 43rd St. and South Park- y drug store.

'All those South Parkway taxi owboys' I used to serve all night ny, I didn't think that I'd be orking on auto motors so soon." learned from the sergeant how his huge swimming truck worked s he taxied me around the pas- ure. It actually floats without olts just as easy as when I was eing transported in water.

Does Big Business

This outfit is a medium automo- ve maintenance company which as welding units capable of re- airing any damaged automotive ehicle. Busy with trucks, these rease-laden soldiers were under rucks taking out differentials, rear nds, straightening axles and doing jam-up" jobs just like any A-1 ga- age back home. 8-12-44

Considering the vehicles that am each other on the narrow oads here, one can see how this stablishment does such a big busi- ess. Added to this number are hose broken-down on bombed-out oads, and those disabled from lain wear and tear or the seas of aud for which Normandy is noted his season.

Unlike home garages, a full 24- our schedule takes the place of nion hours and Sunday holiday eisure days. If these soldiers can't ork in the open at night because f blackouts, they retire to mobile achine shops and continue to re- air truck parts for the next day's laylight work. There are two weld- ng units, one motor supply unit, nd a motor parts unit constantly urning out finished repaired vehi- les. Arranged around hedgerows ike any modern garage, you are net at the headquarters camou- aged with netting where com- plaints are listed, numbered and shot immediately to the appropri- ate repair unit where men place hem on the waiting list or obtain nechanisms instantly according to he urgency of the situation.

Sgt. Julius Caesar, Jr., 607 N. Sixth St., Waco, Texas, took me over the unit just as if he were in his own shop back home. He told me there were three other compa- nies with Negro personnel handling motor mechanics. He pointed out how proud these men were of rec- ords made in turning out finished products. "They're all trained, hav- ing been to some of the finest mo- tor schools in the U.S. Army.

At the end of the pasture were cleverly camouflaged trucks, hardly discernable from a distance, cer- tainly not from overhead. Here was the small arms section of the com- pany where all types of guns, ri- fles and light artillery are made workable again. 8-12-44

We soon found that this is im- portant work for when I began making inquiries of Cpl. Ivan Ware, 423 Myrtle Ave., Neptune, N. J., about the accuracy of a partic- ular gun he was assembling, out jumped a captain who asked for my credentials. All the weapons that the men were working on at the time were especially being typed as they were captured from the enemy.

"This one," said Cpl. Ware, "is a German machine gun which is very intricate and very cheaply con- structed. Here is a French gun used by the Nazis. All guns came in rusty and covered with mud. In many cases, they were found be- side the bodies of dead soldiers where they had lain until salvaged by us." 8-12-44

Meets Chicagoan

Pvt. Walter Allen, 207 11th Ave., Phoenix City, Ala., held aloft a bright burnished steel machine gun, "Just as good as new and it was brought in yesterday as rusty and muddy as it could be. Now it's ours and will go right back into ac- tion to mow Nazis down."

Near the end of the hedgerow, I found Sgt. Eric Bogle, 5647 Wabash Ave., Chicago, who recently receiv- ed commendation for excellent service while in England. Proudly displaying clipping taken from The Chicago Defender and sent to him by his mother, Mrs. Francy Mc- Kinley, he expressed the opinion that the soldiers' morale is defi- nitely heightened by visits of old Chicagoans with news from home.

There was a momentary sadness as I had to take leave of these good friends but there are other hedgerows ahead filled with boys just like these who although they are not fighting furiously on front lines are nevertheless a hell of a big cog in this wheel that rolls on unceasingly against the enemy.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. 9-2-44

Stewart Describes Triumphant Entry

First Americans in Paris Are Colored Truck Drivers

By OLLIE STEWART

PARIS--The first time I saw Paris her heart was old, and she was not very well fed, but oh, how gay! The heart of France, in fact, was mad with joy because American had arri- ved.

I entered along Avenue De Fontain- ebleau Saturday morning at eleven with Cecil Carnes of the Saturday Evening Post, Tom Henry of the Wash- ington Star, and Dave Baylor of Ra- dio Station WGAR, Cleveland, Ohio. Our jeep was driven by Pvt. Arthur Holton of Lee, Mass.

Our arrival concluded three days and nights of camping on the out- skirts of the city waiting the mop- ping up of the last pockets of Ger- man resistance.

Along the broad boulevards, we saw many vehicles overturned and sandbagged which the enemy had used as barricades in their last stand on Friday, but in a few places where road blocks had been, we saw workmen already making repairs.

Hang Nazis in Effigy

Dummy Germans were hanged in effigy in two places but all signs of organized resistance had disappeared. Americans in ar- mored vehicles in control of cer- tain areas in other FFI (or Fight- ing French or the Interior) were in charge. 9-2-44

Beautiful women dashed into the streets to kiss dusty GI lads, to throw flowers and to offer wine and fruit.

Thousands of bicycles filled the boulevards and crowds lined the streets to wave and shout wel- come.

We set out to enter Paris on Wednesday but were held up about fifty miles away and slept Wednesday night almost in the laps of the enemy. Thursday we tried again but had to turn back, so we took over a deserted cha- teau, bought chicken eggs and had a feast. Friday we rushed the Seine south of the city but 88 shellfire forced us to retreat to the rear of an armored column storming strong-points outside the city, and just ahead of us 200 Nazis were captured after having been shelled into a daze. Friday night, we slept in the open coun- try with our rations almost gone.

Early Saturday, we headed for Versailles but were cut off and rode into Paris without an escort. We found the greatest collection of correspondents in history from every part of the world. Many of them were veterans of former campaigns who expect to return home soon. 9-2-44

This is the city that they have waited for and this is the day that the French nation prayer for. After all, there is but one Paris.

My hotel room was just vacat- ed a few days ago by a German officer who took the key with him. Signs in German still re- main in many parts of the city but the gray Nazi horde is fast retreating toward Berlin which is the last stop on the liberation parade.

Miracle Wrought

A miracle has been wrought here since June 6 and every American family represented in France today can feel proud.

Throughout the tough weeks that I have followed the fighting men from the Normandy beach- head to Paris, I have seen col- ored troops always in the van- guard. Their work has been praised by everybody who has profited by their efforts. This morning on the outskirts of the city I saw a lone truck driven by a colored lad who waved at me as he passed our jeep. I wish that I knew his name but maybe I shall see him again, maybe in Berlin.

First Americans in Paris Were Drivers

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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PARIS (By Cable).—On Sun- day I met the first four Ameri- can soldiers to enter the city of Paris. Members of a company of drivers mentioned previous- ly, they were specially chosen on this occasion to drive Gen- eral De Gaulle's party into the liberated French capital.

They are, Cpl. Arthur Russell, NYC; Cpl. Lawrence Dixon, De- troit; Cpl. Leonard DeMary, Chi- cago, and T/5 Freddie Brown, New Orleans. 9-2-44

Said DeMary, "We were as- signed to French troops enter- ing Paris. Two of us drove the De Gaulle party and the others drove American liaison officers. Bitter street fighting was in progress, but none of us was hurt.

GI Alaskan Highway Builders Honored With Battle Streamer

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.
11-25-44

Fine Record of Men of 93rd Drew Praise From Officials

FORT LEWIS, WASH.,—There was plenty of spit and polish for the 93rd general service engineer regiment recently, when its members, dressed in their finest, stepped out smartly on th Fort Lewis Army Service Forces Training Center parade ground in cadence to martial airs, and were honored with a presentation from the war department of their own unit battle streamers.

Maj. Gen. Joseph D. Patch, commander of Fort Lewis, made the presentation. He was assisted by Col. Frank S. Besson, engineer commander, Col. Charles F. Baish, commanding the 12th group, and the 93rd Regiment commander, Col. Walter H. Hodge.

Famed Regiment Cited

The famed Negro regiment, now stationed at Fort Lewis, was cited along with 16 other units in war department general orders for meritorious conduct in the construction of the Canadian-Alaskan military highway during the period from March to October in 1942.

General Patch personally carried the streamers to the regiment's color standards and attached them.

"I have knowledge of your fine record in Alaska," he said to the soldiers lined up in formation before him, "and you have made a fine record here with us. Good work. Keep it up," he concluded..

The order, published by the War Department and circulated throughout the army, states that the Alaskan project had to be completed "with all speed within the physical capacity of the troops." The route selected for the highway lay across "vast areas of almost impenetrable wilderness vaguely mapped and but little known."

11-25-44

They Made History

A suggestion of the hardships endured by members of the regiment in carrying out their assigned job is contained in the regimental historical annals. Men lived in tents. The temperature was usually around 60 degrees below zero. Tents had to be chopped up from the frozen ground with hand axes when moved.

Some of the areas through which the road was to go had never been traversed except by dog sled or on foot. The engineers were forced to overcome great difficulties imposed by mountainous terrain, deep muskeg, torrential streams, heavy forests—and always bad weather.

Before the battle streamers were presented, Colonel Besson awarded Good Conduct Ribbons to 108 men of the regiment, and congratulated each personally on winning the government honor.

11-25-44

After the streamer presentation, the entire regiment passed in review before General Patch, his staff and other high-ranking Fort Lewis officers. Music for the occasion was provided by the 362nd Army Service Forces band.

An Excellent Job

The regiment set a record of building a strip of road 69 miles long in one month and 12 days, or slightly more than a mile and a half a day. After four months about 240 miles of highway across some of the worst country in Alaska had been completed.

11-25-44

Brig. Gen. Clarence L. Sturdevant, assistant chief of engineers in Alaska, said it was "the best section of road on the Alaskan highway."

The Aleutian Islands were the next stop on their trip ticket. Here, members of the regiment tackled even more difficut construction projects under equally trying conditions.

Early last summer the crack outfit returned to the United States, and is now undergoing additional training designed to further its usefulness. It awaits America's call to any part of the world.

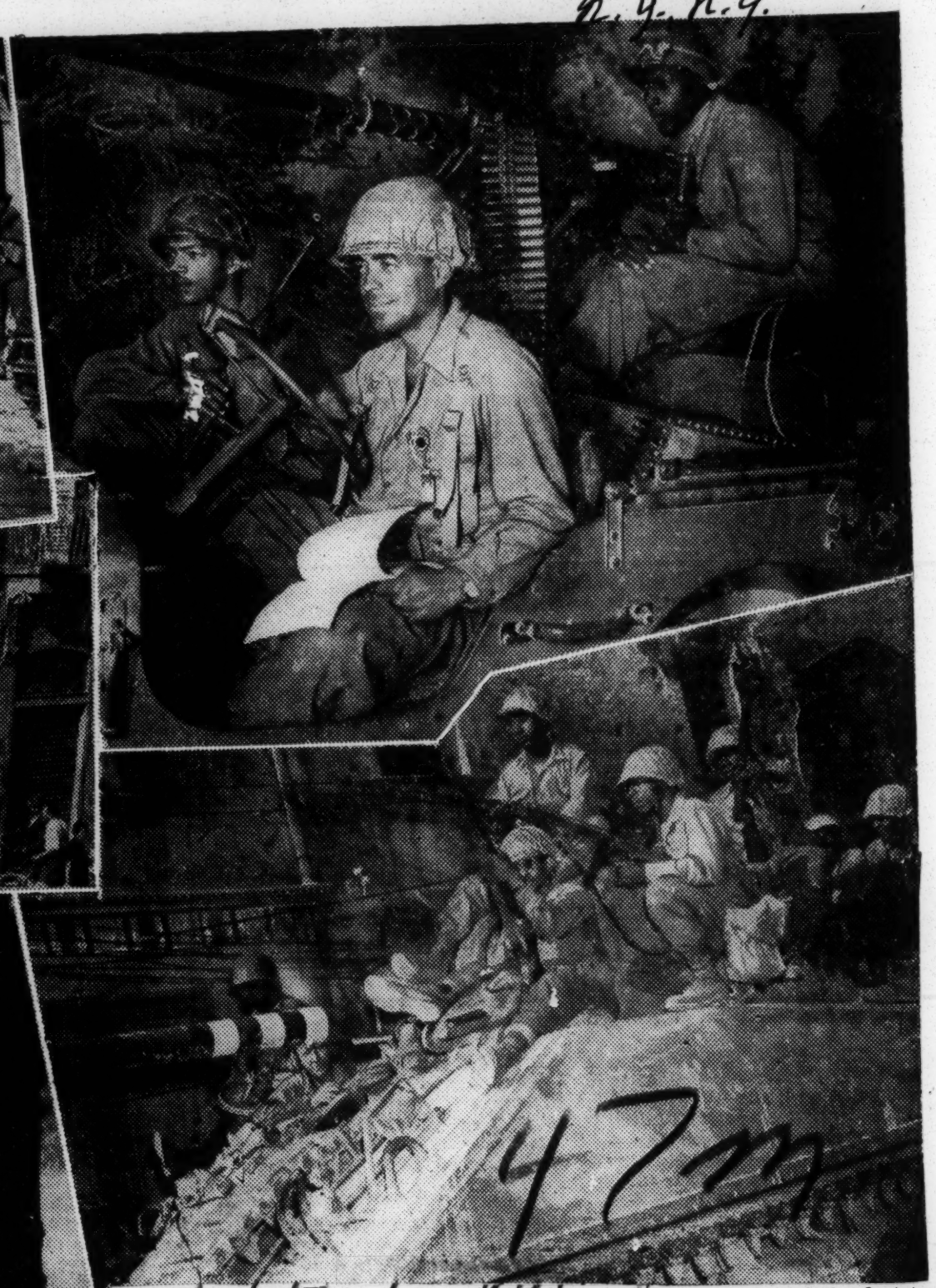
47m-1944

Germans Taste Brown Fist Near Gothic Line

N.Y.N.Y.

New York Amsterdam News 9-23-44

N.Y.N.Y.



TAN YANKS SLUG IT OUT WITH NAZIS ALONG THE ARNO RIVER. Top, left: The first patrol of the 92nd Division to cross the Arno River and return with prisoners, during action with the Fifth Army in Italy. Top, right: Captain Charles F. Gandy, commander of a company of the 92nd Infantry Division, is pictured in his jeep with First Lieut. R. A. Montgomery (left), and Pvt. Harold E. Clemens, of 56 West 127th St., New York City. Captain Gandy has just received orders to take his company across the Arno River near Pontederra. The night before one of his patrols was the first to cross the Arno and return with prisoners. Middle, left: Troops of the 92nd Division riding on tanks on their way to cross the Arno River. Bottom, left: A 105-mm howitzer of a field artillery unit of the 92nd Division, first Negro artillery outfit in Italy, is being fired at German positions across the Arno River. Bottom, right: Troops of the 92nd Division, riding on tanks of an armored division, stop to "take a break" on their way through the Arno River area to the Gothic Line. —U. S. Army Signal Corps Photos

ROGERS SAYS:

The U. S. Is the Only Place Where the Ability of the Negro Soldier Is Questioned

By J. A. ROGERS

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. 4-1-44

SECRETARY STIMSON'S excuse to Hamilton Fish for keeping Negro soldiers largely labor battalions has been completely answered by others; still, I feel that a few more words might be added. First, the trouble began when the Army decided to have jim-crow regiments in order to appease the exploiters of Negro labor in the South, thereby preventing the natural, commonsense course of selecting the most capable men, regardless of color, for those posts calling for technical skill.

Mr. Rogers

I do not think that even the most rabid professional Southerner will deny that there are numbers of white men incapable of doing the work that Secretary Stimson alleges that Negroes, as a group, are poor at doing. In fact, the number of white men in the Army who would be fit only for labor battalions, certainly exceeds the total number of Negro soldiers, competent and incompetent. Why have we not heard anything from Secretary Stimson on the mentally unequipped white men? The reason is that white, able and unable, are lumped together. In the present set-up the incompetent white soldier belongs to the same caste as the ablest white general; while the ablest Negro belongs to that of the Negro farthest down. America is actually fighting her war along color lines, yet, should anyone dare to say that this is a "race" war, he'd immediately be branded as a traitor.

COMPARISON OF TWO WAR RECORDS

There is little doubt that the percentage of Negroes capable of filling high positions in the Army is higher than whites able to do the same because the whites have had better educational opportunities. The report of the Bureau of the Census, June 20, 1942, says on the educational level of men of military age, "Educational attainment, the study indicated, was highest among whites and lowest among Negroes . . . Very great gains in education in the last two decades, however, have taken place in the Negro group. Among Negro men aged 35 to 44 (most of whom had finished their education 20 years ago) only 13 per cent had received one year or more of high school education, while among Negro men aged 20 to 24, 26.2 per cent had attended high school. Data on the educational level of Negro selectees in the present war when compared with similar data from the last war also show a great increase. Thus, 11 per cent of the Northern Negro selectees and 33 per cent of the Southern Negro selectees had attended high school as compared with 14 per cent of the Northern Negro draftees and three per cent of the Southern draftees in the last war."

IN World War I the whites had only 16 per cent of selectees who had any high school training and 79 per cent of grade school and no schooling. That is, the whites then were four times lower in high school training than Northern Negroes are now and twice lower than the Southern Negro now. Yet although the Negroes have advanced greatly against odds that no one with a white epidermis is called on to face, the utterly unjustified talk about their alleged inferiority remains the same. In fact, it is worse because Secretary Newton Baker did at times speak warmly in favor of Negro citizens.

NO CHANCE FOR COMBAT RECORD

4-1-44

Had Secretary Stimson said that the percentage of whites capable of filling technical positions in the Army is higher than that of Negroes, I, for one, should have agreed with him. But had he said that, he would still have to explain why capable Negroes are kept in labor battalions.

THE only place in the world I know of where the ability of the Negro soldier is questioned is the United States, and that only when some new war is on. From the days of ancient Egypt until now the Negro soldier has won renown. I can name scores of great military leaders who were Negroes in Europe, Asia, Africa and South and Central America. In the United States not a single one. As soon as a Negro graduates from West Point, he is promptly shunted off to some Negro college to train students. What military experience can one get from that? In the Navy, he is, or has been only a messman. What chances of being a trained Naval commander from that?

RACE NONSENSE GOES ON FOREVER

The fight against the Negro soldier in the United States has a history all its own. George Washington, to placate the slave masters, issued an order that no Negroes be inducted into the Army. Later, he was glad to use them. Abraham Lincoln, hoping to anger the South less, opposed the use of Negro troops for two years. Later, he too, used them and had to admit that without them the North would have lost. The last war I heard these same old arguments, only to hear again at its end the same high praise of the Negro soldiers. Now comes Secretary Stimson to turn the same old racial wheel in an evident attempt to placate Southern politicians like Eastland and the members of the South Carolina Legislature who declare that this war is being fought to maintain white supremacy and are working to make it that.

MEN may come and men may go, but this race nonsense, like Tennyson's brook, "goes on forever." It matters not a whit that after each war since 1776, the Negro soldier has won high praise. Each new war brings back the old talk of inferiority.

White Journal + Guide Reports To Norfolk, Va. War Dept.

5-27-44

Fourteen Points Suggest Way to Bolster Morale

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Fourteen recommendations, ranging from lectures to American white soldiers to a special board of review for courts-martial cases, were made by Walter White in a report to the War Department, it was revealed last week.

The report was based upon White's 15-week, 20,000-mile tour of military installations in the European Theatre of Operations, in North Africa, Italy, and the Middle East as an accredited foreign correspondent for the New York Post newspaper.

OFFICIAL RELEASE

An official release of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, of which White is secretary, listed the 14 points as follows:

1. OFF LIMITS—That General Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" of towns and pubs (taverns) be enforced in all areas. Negro soldiers were found to resent bitterly the off limits orders or orders setting "odd" and "even" nights for white and colored troops to visit towns and places of amusement. White observed that some commanding officers who took a positive stand for fairness had very little trouble in their localities. 5-27-44

2. COURTS MARTIAL—A special board of review of courts-martial cases was recommended by White who said "great unhappiness" has resulted among Negro soldiers "because of their belief that they are punished more quickly and more severely than white soldiers." After citing a number of cases detailed to him by Negro prisoners with whom he was permitted to talk freely, white urged that the special board of review include an eminent Negro lawyer, who would be brought in to serve with appropriate rank.

3. COMBAT TROOPS—The department is urged to send Negro combat troops to England. White said stories were being circulated that there are no Negro combat troops in England because "Negroes are afraid to fight." White termed as "unfortunate" the fact that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only Negro service troops had been sent to the European theatre. "The Negro troops in the ETO," said his report, "have little or none of the excitement of war necessary to raise the spirits and to give a sense of participation to men engaged in waging war." 5-27-44

4. MIXED BOMBER UNITS—Also recommended was that Negro medium bomber crews be sent to England "to fly in non-segregated units," and that Negro service troops now stationed there be given refresher courses in the use of combat weapons as "many of these troops will closely follow the assault waves of invasion, will be under fire, and need to be made competent in the use of weapons."

Supporting his recommendation for more combat troops, White cited the improved atmosphere in the Mediterranean as a result of the exploits of the 99th Pursuit Squadron. He recommended that Negro and white fighter squadrons function in the same group; and he also urged reconsideration of the conversion of the 2nd Calvary division into service troops.

5. RANKING OFFICERS—In connection with the moral value of the presence of Negro combat troops, White also urged that more Negro officers above the rank of captain be sent to England.

6. ANTI-NEGRO RUMORS—Some Negro soldiers abroad have taken the spreading of vicious and fantastic rumors about Negroes as a joke, but some have resented these stories deeply, said White, in recommending that G-2 (Army Intelligence) try to track down and scotch morale-sapping stories. 5-27-44

White reported less anti-Negro propaganda in the Mediterranean than in England, but suggested that Army Intelligence run down the people who were issuing leaflets, placards and other material seeking to poison Italians against Negroes. Upon inquiry one such placard was found to have been issued by a non-existent organization and signed by a fictitious person.

7. MILITARY POLICE — White found the same complaint abroad on Military Police that has been made in some parts of America, namely that white MPs are armed, but Negro MPs are not. He recommended that no MPs be armed except when guarding payrolls.

8. PATERNALISM — Paternalistic attitudes on the part of white officers is resented, White reported, saying that both well-educated and less-educated Negroes resent being treated as "boys." Abandonment of the idea that southern white officers are best for Negro troops because they "understand" Negroes was urged by White, who, however, said many white officers from the South are fair and decent in their treatment of Negroes, while there is no guarantee that a man will be free from prejudice just because he happens to be from the North.

9. LECTURES—Lectures to American white troops aboard ships as they near England on the difference between the British and American attitudes toward color, together with lectures to British troops by competent Americans on America and the true place of the Negro as a citizen of his country would be helpful, White declared. 5-27-44

10. MEDICAL OFFICERS—A connection between the venereal disease rate among colored troops and the attitude which has barred them from normal association with respectable families was seen by White, who quoted a soldier as saying they were more and more restricted to women picked up in pubs. White suggested that a Negro physician be attached to the office of the Chief Surgeon.

11. ENTERTAINMENT—More Negro actors and singers were recommended for the entertainment of both white and Negro troops.

12. RED CROSS—After praising the American Red Cross for doing "in many respects a superlative job," White deplored the "white" and "Negro" Red Cross clubs located in many areas as not only introducing segregation to the British, but denying white and Negro American soldiers the opportunity to know each other better. He cited the non-segregated pattern of one club as a model for the Red Cross everywhere. 6-27-44

13. CENSORSHIP—More news and more sympathetic handling of news dealing with Negro troops by the censors would be very helpful, said White, as it would give Negro civilians a better picture of the contribution of their men to the war.

14. LAGGING BEHIND — White's concluding recommendation was a suggestion that the War department policy on race "lags behind that of much of the personnel of the Army."

47m-1944

Army Wipes Out Nearly Full Infantry Division as Negro Soldiers Increase

The Call, Kansas City, Mo. 5-19-44

BY ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — The war department has wiped out about a full division of Negro soldiers in infantry during the past six months in the program of conversion, although the total strength of Negro soldiers has climbed.

This is revealed in the figures made public last Friday dealing with the numbers of Negroes in the army and giving some breakdown on their distribution according to branches of service.

The report shows that there were 664,066 men in the army as of Feb. 29, contrasted with 582,861 last August. They were distributed as follows:

Infantry	44,022
Coast field artillery	58,328
Cavalry	9,043
Engineers	106,514
Air Force	77,335
All others	376,197

The August report showed there to be 57,323 men in infantry, a drop of 13,301 in the present report. The decrease in coast and field artillery was from 58,328, or 7,373 less men.

The number of commissioned officers increased to 4,979 representing 968 more persons than six months ago. One of these increases was in the field of army nurses where in August they were 202 in number, they are now 219.

The present report says there are 284,664 men serving overseas in all categories. Six months ago there were 153,000.

Too-Young GI Wasn't Himself for 18 Months

P.M. New York, N.Y.

Soldiered as Someone Else; Army Caught Up, But Forgave

By Roi Ottley
Staff Correspondent

PM Exclusive

WITH THE 332D FIGHTER GROUP, 15TH AIR FORCE IN ITALY, Nov. 27.—The Mediterranean edition of *Stars and Stripes* broke a story the other day of a Negro youngster, Amos Holton, barely 17 years of age who decided he wanted to join the Army and became a guest of Uncle Sam for more than 18 months, including an eight-month visit in Africa and Italy.

It was a dizzy merry-go-round for Holton but also for a guy named Shotwell. It all started when Amos, posing as 18 years old, registered with the draft board in his home city, Detroit. His mom discovered that he wanted to join up and tipped off the draft board, which rejected him because he was under age. He joined the Michigan State Guards which apparently didn't care about his age and got a uniform like a G.I.

Drew No Pay

One day, Holton spotted some dog tags belonging to a soldier named Shotwell. He trotted off to Selfridge Field to inquire, but no one knew anything about Shotwell.

So, Amos Holton disappeared from his Detroit neighborhood haunts and turned up at Selfridge Field as "Shotwell."

Months went by without incident. No one at Selfridge seemed to notice that Shotwell was not drawing any Army pay. He had put the bite on a few guys but that was natural and Amos was much too honest to take Government money under false colors.

One day as he emerged from a movie an MP asked to see his pass. Amos was unable to produce one and was hauled off to jail. He was court-martialed for being AWOL and, to his amazement, was busted form staff sergeant to private.

Then Shotwell nee Holton was given a stiff dose of infantry training and in short order was shipped overseas as an engineer replacement. He landed in Africa last April and hooked up with an engineer unit which was on its way to Italy.

Real Shotwell

While stationed near Naples, he went to one of the airfields to visit some friends from Selfridge Field. He was introduced there to a Yank named Shotwell. Amos was about to acknowledge the introduction when an MP happened by and asked to see his pass. He did have a pass this time and could have shown it, but hardly with this Shotwell standing within earshot. So it was back to the jug for Holton.

Actually, the real Shotwell had been shipped overseas months before and was tower operator for an air base of the 332d Fighter Group, all-Negro unit.

Eighteen months after Holton became "Shotwell" someone in Washington began to shuffle through the files and things began to happen. The commanding officer of the 332d Fighter Group began to receive reports from Washington informing him that "Shotwell" was AWOL. The real Shotwell never got any rest from almost daily trips to the orderly room to report his presence.

Ten months of replies informing Washington that Shotwell was with his unit very much in the flesh made no impression. But, then, Mom Holton back in Detroit concluded that if Amos was to be in the Army some pay should be forthcoming.

She wrote the CO to this effect. The Army discovered Holton was not Shotwell.

Once the paper clips and triplicate copies were cleared away, the Army decided to forgive and forget. Amos has become a full-fledged soldier.

Amos, incidentally, will get a whole pile of back pay since his induction is retroactive to last January.

Storms Mountain Barrier In Famed Gothic Line

Journal + Guide—Norfolk, Va. 10-7-44

Casualties Increase As Infantrymen Push Forward

By John "Rover" Jordan
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright. Reproduction forbidden)

WITH 92nd INFANTRY IN GOTHIC LINE, ITALY—(Via Wireless) — After ten days of the bitterest kind of fighting, the combat infantry units of the Famous 92nd division captured bloody Mt. Castellaccio, the first prepared fortification in the Gothic Line north of Lucca, on Tuesday of this week.

The 92nd is now pushing forward on a wide front over the most difficult mountain terrain.

The Germans on Mt. Castellaccio fought desperately from elaborate fortifications. They engaged the bronzed 92nd warriors in a fierce battle which become a historic chapter in the history of the great Buffalo division.

10-7-44

The Nazis staged a sudden withdrawal from their previous positions on the Mediterranean flank of the Gothic Line on September 25 and the combat team pursued them relentlessly through barbed wire, over mine fields, and across rivers where the bridges had been thoroughly wrecked.

ESTABLISHED SUPPLY ROUTES

With their forward units far into the mountain strongholds of the Gothic Line, the unit's engineers worked long hours to establish supply routes to service these advanced troops.

When it was discovered that jeeps and trucks could not reach units, mules were tried but they too, failed, because of the difficult mountain terrain. Then it became necessary for men to carry supplies on foot, marching from one to three hours up the difficult grades. It took two days of this marching supply the men with enough material to keep them fighting.

The engineers did a miraculous job in improving these supply routes so that our troops could continue to probe for enemy contact.

SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES 10-7-44

In this bitter fighting when the Germans threw everything they had at the Buffaloes, this unit suffered its heaviest casualties so far in the Italian war. But these casualties are still regarded as comparatively light for offensive operations.

Units under command of Lt. Col. Clarence Doggett, of Jacksonville, Fla., led the initial offensive into the Gothic Line pushing into the valley under intense fire from all sides.

EMPLOY SKILL 10-7-44

The infantry units have probed deeply into the Gothic defenses using all their skill to advance steadily forward in a ring of flaming steel thrown around them by the Nazis.

Performing valiantly in this thundering inferno were troops led by Lt. Jesse E. Jarman, Indianapolis, a company commander, Lt. Alfred O. Dempsey, Aliquippa, Pa., and Lt. Noble Greenidge, of New York City. The latter two are platoon leaders.

CASUALTIES

Our troops suffered some casualties from cleverly concealed mines planted by the retreating Germans.

This reporter toured some of

332ND FIGHTER GROUP GROUNDED BY WEATHER

ITALY—The 332nd Fighter Group was grounded last week by bad flying weather.

10-7-44

the mined mountain fortifications with winding trences and tunnels cleverly entwined in the orchards and vineyards which fringe the mountainside.

HAD PERFECT O. P.

From the top of the mountain the Germans had a perfect observation post and Nazi cannons easily swept the valley the Buffaloes occupied.

After viewing the combat area from the mountain-top, I wondered how troops could even occupy the valley below to say nothing of mounting an offensive from that exposed position.

The smell of the German dead fouled the mountain air in a sickening way. The gallant Negro troops continued to take Nazi prisoners. Two prisoners taken by patrols told this correspondent that Nazi soldiers greatly fear colored troops because German propaganda insisted that Negro soldiers were brutal half-animals who do not take prisoners. The Krauts especially fear the 92nd patrols.

USA TAKES STEPS 10-7-44

The fact that the United States Army quickly counteracts any such false German propaganda concerning Negro troops was evidenced when leaflets assuring the Nazi soldiers of just treatment as war prisoners no matter what American units capture them were dropped across the German lines from airplanes. These two captured prisoners had these leaflets in their pockets when they were brought in. 10-7-44

PLENTY OF DANGER

Hollywood

Heroes; A La

Just being in a battle area is plenty dangerous to all. We don't only have to worry about the over-thundering German artillery but we are constantly exposed to the clever anti-personnel mines planted so profusely all over the battle area. This correspondent travelled

tion.

10-7-44

These two heroes were: Pvts. Henry S. Roberts, 433 Avondale avenue, Toledo, Ohio, and Charles J. Patterson, 2620 Taylor street, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

These men were members of a platoon which was advancing up a mountain through barbed wire, when they were fired upon by a machine gun from a church yard.

They continued their advance until pinned down by another gun on their right flank.

STOP GUNS

Seeing danger to the whole platoon and without any orders, Patterson and Roberts crawled forward in the face of machine gun and artillery fire and dropped hand grenades into the emplacements, killing two Nazis and forcing the others to retire.

Meanwhile the platoon leader had been wounded. Patterson immediately moved down the mountain, took command, and brought the platoon up to maintain the objective.

10-7-44

While Patterson was bringing up the platoon, the Germans again attempted to man the gun, but Roberts, who remained concealed near the gun threw more grenades forcing the Nazis to retire. He then reached down into the emplacement and lifted the machine gun from the tripod and pulled it back through the opening thus capturing the weapon to make sure it wouldn't again threaten his comrades. In this manner the objective was taken.

CHAPLAIN UP FRONT

Chaplain Allen Johnson, who believes his place is always with the troops in the front lines, continues to distinguish himself by bravery feats under fire. Recently the chaplain evacuated a wounded soldier who could not be reached by his comrades.

10-7-44

Because of the intense enemy fire the chaplain daringly made his way to the spot where two men lay, one wounded and one dead. He lifted the wounded man to his back and brought him to safety. Later he assisted in the removal of the dead soldier. This is an example of just one of the brave deeds performed by chaplains.

The valor displayed by our soldiers such as related are merely several in the amazing cavalcade of courage by our troops in this scenic wonderland of Italy which offers the world's bloodiest battlefields.

Army will Use Negroes On Staff At Vet Centers

WASHINGTON D. C.--Plans are well under way in the War Department for using Negro personnel in proportion to numbers in Army separation centers and hospitals, the NNPA learned this week.

The plan has received the blessing of the brass-hats, and has been put into the mill in the operations sections with instructions to perfect it within a stated time limit. Little delay is expected, in view of previously known attitudes of persons in the operations sections, who were prevented from carrying out many worthwhile plans because of lack of authority issued from the top.

The names of several Negro officers and enlisted men are already compiled for use in these centers, to which overseas veterans will be brought before being discharged and returned to civilian life.

Defender--Chicago, Ill. 10-7-44

Briton Lauds Race Troops In Letter To Defender

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

8-12-44

Praising the "spontaneous humor" and high "moral and spiritual code" of Negro troops based in Norfolk, England, H. F. Howard, an Englishman, wrote last week to the Chicago Defender to tell "how much we Britishers in this locality appreciate contact with the colored lads from America."

Mentioning engineer William Henry Mitcham in particular, the writer urges the Chicago Defender as "champion of the colored people of America (and elsewhere)" to do all it can "for the benefit of these grand fellows now living in this locality."

"You will be well repaid for any effort made in their behalf," he continues. The letter, addressed to the editor of the Chicago Defender, said:

8-12-44

"It may interest you to hear how much we Britishers in this locality appreciate contact with the colored lads from America. Personally I have been in close touch with men from many American states and invariably found them fine fellows. Intellectually they are of a high standard. Their high sense of duty shame many of us. Their friendliness is a joy to behold.

"Their spontaneous humor is decidedly pleasant to note. Their moral and spiritual code is of a very high order. Their response to kindly and understandable approach is to me something beautiful.

8-12-44

"From them I have learned many valuable lessons. I am told you are the champion of the colored people of America (and elsewhere). Well, sir, I wish you joy and great success in your campaign. Do all you can for the benefit of these grand fellows now living in this locality. You will be well repaid for any effort made in their behalf.

"Among those with whom I have become friendly are several I shall always be pleased to call 'my friends.' Men who can enter any social scale and add lustre thereto. Men whom it is an honor and privilege to be associated with."

Stuck at Gun During 3 Attacks

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

11-17-44

'Killer Moe' Commended

For Courage

By FLETCHER MARTIN

War Correspondent in South Pacific

WITH 24TH DIVISION, ORMOC BAY SECTOR, PHILIPPINES. — (By Cable, Nov. 13.)—Manning a machine gun with an all-white unit, Pvt. Ralph Hueca of Chicago became the first colored unofficial member of the Texas division, volunteering to fight because he considered truck driving monotonous.

Fighting side by side with white troops, Hueca manned his weapon in the midst of three enemy banzai attacks, taking it over after four gunners had been bayonetted to death. His company suffered heavy casualties when it was isolated and the Negro stuck at the gun for an hour. Hueca has received two written commendations.

11-17-44

Hueca was leaning against his truck as the Infantry passed, and some one yelled: "Hey, fellow, you want to fight?" The Chicagoan answered "That's what I'm here for" and immediately joined the unit. He has been with the unit more than a week in which the division has seen the toughest fighting in the Pacific.

During the first night Hueca served in the rifle pit, and during the second night as enemy resistance grew with their suicidal threats, he took over the machine gun with three others and held out until reinforcements arrived. During the enemy banzai charges, four gunners were killed. The unit finally withdrew and Hueca stayed on with troops and at present is back in the middle of the fight.

The Commanding Officer of the unit stated he has nicknamed Hueca "Killer Moe" and wished that the Negro could remain with the unit. At Hollandia, a Negro sailor wanted to do the same thing. Three times he left his ship and joined in the battle with the unit, and three times was forcibly taken back to his ship. When asked why he wanted to join the Infantry, he replied: "They're the guys who do the fighting."

At the sector front of the tenth corps, I found Negro units servicing the 24th and first cavalry. Division units were commanded by colored officers including Lieutenants Leon Weston of Columbia, S. C., Becro Flater of Los Angeles, James Kimbrough of Chicago, Clarence Laws, former Urban League secretary of New Orleans.

Enemy snipers attacked our party repeatedly as we got within 100 yards of the front. We passed stiff, bloated dead bodies along the trail. The intensity of the artillery fire signified that Japs were in the sector in large numbers. This promised to develop into one bloody scrap.

Despite the fact that most Negroes in the area are moving up ammunition, there is one somewhere in there slinging it out—"Killer Moe."

47m-1944

Chinese Girls, Negro GIs Cut Rug At 'International Barn Dance'

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

10-28-44

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.—For three days I felt like a delegate to an international convention. In all of my life I have never been in the company of people from so many different parts of the world at one time.

All about me were people speaking with thick accents and weird dialects which made English sound as strange as a corrupt form of Arabic. I imagine, however, that I was unintelligible to many of them as they were bewildering to me.

It all began Saturday night when I went to a dance at the Chinese Youth Center. That afternoon I was to have gone to a Dutch hospital as the guest of a group of Javanese seamen patients. But I met some American soldiers who had an oversupply of beer which they invited me to help them consume. Feeling that my first duty was to my countrymen, I, of course, went to their rescue. 10-28-44

Then Sunday I attended a reception given by the International Youth Council and met representatives from 16 nations. Monday I visited the monthly meeting of the United Nations Assembly where I was impressed by a German who argued that the United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration should operate in Germany to aid victims of the present war.

Chinese Friendly

But to begin at the beginning. I've never seen, at one time, so many pretty Chinese girls. They were eager to be friendly with the six Negro soldiers in our party and may have been responsible for the orchestra's decision to play music for barn dances in which there was a free exchange of partners.

There were four Australian Chinese air corps men and two Chinese Australian soldiers who joined in the dances with the Chinese civilian men. But the four Chinese-American soldiers and the six Negro American soldiers remained fixed to their seats like barnacles on an old sailing ship. 10-28-44

They were confirmed jitterbugs and the barn dances, the jazz waltz and the change partner business was as strange to them as a Bohemian polka or a Cambodian native dance.

Tommy Sing, who used to be a bartender in San Francisco, said he'd like to know the girls better, but with that funny sort of dancing he'd never get a chance to meet them. The Negro soldiers complained that the music was lousy.

Jive Begins

Well, the Americans—both Chinese and Negro—might have remained rooted to their seats for the duration of the affair and the whole purpose of the dance might have been missed, had the orchestra not been tipped off to play some jump numbers. The musicians immediately went Basie, the Americans launched a frontal attack on the pretty Chinese maids, drove the Australians to the sidelines and soon had the situation under control. 10-28-44

As for the Chinese girls, they were equal to the sudden animation of the Americans. They seemed to enjoy being tossed halfway across the floor, spun around like tops and lifted from their feet. They seemed to know what it was all about. Evidently, they had met Americans before.

In our party were two Chinese speaking non-Chinese girls whom I urged to speak in the mother tongue with the Chinese present. After circulating about the floor for more than an hour, they reported that no one in the room could speak Chinese.

I struck up a conversation with an old Chinese gentleman too old for jitterbugging, who told me that all the Chinese in the room except him were born in Australia.

Very few Chinese have come into this country in the last 25 years, he said. "So few speak the mother tongue today. The parents don't think it's important to teach the young ones." He looked so sad. I introduced him to my two Chinese speaking non-Chinese friends and the three jabbered away the rest of the evening happily.

International Day

The next night I went to the YMCA where I presented my invitation and a contribution for admittance to the International Youth Day celebration of the International Youth Council.

Prof. K. L. Chau, director of information for China in Australia, delivered the principal address. Miss Norma Yin, a Chinese pianist, performed; Ken Hacker, a young Austrian, deeply interested in the Boy Scout movement, gave a sleight-of-hand exhibition, and Rita Nennas, a Greek soprano, sang some of the folk songs of her native land. 10-28-44

The chief concern of all the young people seemed that of making future wars impossible. A Russian summed it up. Said he: "Young people fight the wars and young people can prevent them." An Indian agricultural expert named Vaidyanathan, was the presiding officer.

They were all interested in the United States and were eager for information about the American Negro and promised to look me up if they ever get to Chicago. (I'm going to need a hotel to entertain all the people who have planned to be my guests.)

Send Regrets

Monday night I whisked the cigarette ashes off my uniform and went to the United Nations Assembly at the Hotel Australia where I walked into a gathering of bald pates and gray hair from all four corners of the world.

They were discussing the UNRRA and practically all of the scheduled speakers sent excuses. The consuls for France, Belgium and Holland sent apologies and I was pressed into service, as an American, to read a typewritten message from a representative of the U.S. Office of War Information, who also sent his regrets.

But the program still had an international flavor. A Polish war correspondent, a Czechoslovakian, a Chinese, and a European Jew urged full support of th UNRRA and told of the work the agency had done in their countries.

Really Bad Off

When one speaker said that the purpose of UNRRA was to help people to help themselves, an American sitting near me scribbled on a piece of paper, "Sounds like an international WPA project." 10-28-44

Though I didn't understand half of what was said to me because of the heavy European flavor of the English used, I was conscious of a very sincere effort on the part of everyone to be friendly.

Mrs. Fabian Chau, of China, told the group that facing the UNRRA was caring for 87,000,000 discommoded Chinese. Forty million tons of supplies, she said, will be needed for the job of rehabilitation in her country. 10-28-44

I'm beginning to realize that there are peoples in this world who are much worse off than those mostly neglected in the states.

698,911 NEGROES SERVING ON THE U. S. ARMY ROLLS

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—There were 698,911 Negroes serving in the Army on June 30, 1944, the War Department announced. This indicated an increase of 34,845 above the February 29, 1944, total of 664,066.

The announcement revealed a sharp rise in the number of Negroes assigned to overseas theaters, with other principal increases occurring in components of the Army Service Forces.

Since August 31, 1943, the Army had accepted 116,050 additions to its Negro personnel. 8-26-44

Following is a partial breakdown:

Infantry	44,869	Commissioned Officers	5,957
Coast and Field Artillery	38,517	Including:	
Cavalry	1,473	Dental Corps Officers	102
Engineers	108,789	Nurses	213
Air Corps	72,027	Other Medical Corps Officers	508
All others	196,236	Chaplains	239
TOTAL	698,911	Serving Overseas	361,456

British Train Mixed Combat Unit In U. S.

Informer — Houston, Texas

6-17-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)— While some of our American troops and officers have endeavored to transplant to England the racial prejudices typical of deepest Mississippi and of the nation's capital, the British have brought to America an example of democracy-in-action from which our War Department could well learn a lesson.

The first British unit to train on United States soil, since before the Revolutionary War, an infantry line unit composed of volunteers, has been recruited in the Caribbean and Bermuda, consolidated here and is training for eventual overseas duty.

The existence of the new combat unit, called the First Caribbean Regiment, was made public here for the first time last Thursday in connection with a ceremonial parade by the troops in celebration of the birthday of King George VI.

The regiment is a mixed unit of white, colored and black men. (The West Indies observe the triple designation). The percentage of Negroes is about the same as the populations of the territories, islands and garrisons represented. No distinctions are made in the unit, because of race or color, in the training, opportunities for advancement, quarters, mess, etc. The mixing exists in the officer ranks as well as in the enlisted personnel. One Negro is a major, next to the highest ranking officer among the natives who is a lieutenant-colonel, and is white. 6-17-44

Trinidad, with about 22 per cent of the volunteers, has the largest representation. Next in order come Jamaica (including the Turks and Caicos Islands,) Barbados, British Guinea, Bermuda, the Windward Islands, the Leeward Islands, British Honduras and the Bahamas.

The unit, which has its own supporting weapons, including Bren guns, mortars and anti-tank guns is expected to take its place as a full fledged line unit along side of other regular British infantry. .. ..

Lt. Gen. G. N. Macready, commander of the British Army staff in Washington, reviewed the unit and presented to its commanding officer, Lt. Col. Hugh Wilkin, special messages from the British secretaries of State for War and the Colonies Sir James Grigg and Col. Oliver Stanley. Senior U. S. Army officers also took part in the ceremonies. 6-17-44

Members of the regiment were said to be enthusiastic in their praise of the cooperation of U. S. Army officers and enlisted men. Particularly appreciated, several of the troops recalled, was the reception given the contingents at the dockside upon their arrival by a U. S. Army band and Red Cross workers.

The regiment was established on April 1, and early that month small parties from outlying islands gathered at local centers until their numbers were complete. The first contingent to arrive in the U. S. was from Bermuda. Their place of training in the U. S. was not disclosed.

Allied Lines Of Communication

Negro Signal Unit Knits

Examiner — Houston, Tex.

Soldiers of these outfits throw up forces in one area of En
WITH U. S. SUPPLY FORCES, telephone poles and string wires
In France.—Knitting Allied lines between many of the war's most im-
of communication into a tight web portant command posts, frequently
of humming telephone wire often using captured enemy equipment,
under the sledge-hammer blows of all kinds of weather.
enemy artillery and the crackle of
small arms fire, is the business of
Negro Signal Construction Com-
panies here. 10-28-44

of England. Their "One of the historic organizations
al commendation of the United States Army, this unit
eneral command was the first Negro Signal Construc-
Base section. "The tion Company activated, in May,
k," said the gen- 1941, at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.
rit of the person- It was the first one sent overseas.
ed to the success- "Frankly, I think this is the
Army in mount- best darned Signal Construction
annel operation." company in the Army" declared
work drew special co
from a brigadier genera
Southern Base se
ing the
quality of the work,"
eral, "and the spirit of
nel, has contributed to
ful mission of our Arm
ing the cross-channel

Installs Communication Net

One such unit installed the
communication net for the invasion

the company commander, Captain Henry G. Shopfer, Jr., of New Orleans, La. 10-28-44

"The first three graders show the ability of commissioned officers in handling the men and the work. I'd put this company up against any battalion."

It is from the ranks of this group that cadres for many other Negro Signal Construction outfits have been drawn. The men who organized the first Negro Signal Aircraft Warning company also were products of this pioneer unit. No man in the company had any experience in the field prior to his Army training.

The honor of having set up one of the highly secret phone circuits used by General Eisenhower in England is held by Staff Sergeant Alfred Perry, 29, 994 Reer Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee.

"As I walked out of one end of the headquarters tent, the general walked in the other," said Sergeant Perry. The phone had been installed in record time. 10-28-44

The company's first commander, now Lieutenant Colonel William A. Joyce, was a West Point classmate of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., son of Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis. Lieutenant Colonel Joyce, then a captain, headed the unit at the outbreak of the war, when it was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone.

In record shattering months the Company laid 350 miles of open wire through dense tropical jungle, binding together United States Army airports throughout the Isthmus. 10-28-44

Youngest member of the unit, 19-year old Corporal Clarence Bruce, 566 Panke avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., put his finger firmly on the reason for the company's excellent performance. "It's team work around here," he said. "The officers, non-coms and men work together. It's a swell outfit."

Members of the company are:

TEXAS: Beaumont—Pvt. Dallas D. Deville, 23, 947 Market; Cooper—Pvt. Obie D. Walker, 28; Hillsooro—Pvt. Jessie J. Rigsby, 23, 220 S. Church street; Liberty—Master Sgt. Orphieus L. Cabbel, 26, Route 1, Box 48. 10-28-44

LOUISIANA: Convent—Pvt. Andrew Jacques, 23; Coushatta—Sgt. James S. Clark, 24, Route 1, Box 120; Franklin—Pfc. Paulfrey Johnson, 25, Star Route B, Box 151; Garyville—Pvt. Clarence Batiste, 24; Hilly—Pvt. Charlie Davis, 33, Route 1; Ida—Pvt. Roy Henderson, 29, Route 1, Box 111; Lafayette—Pvt. John S. Pai ge,21, 219 Lassel St.; Lake Charles—Sgt. Elzy Evans, 27, 519 Mill street; Roseland—Pvvt. Alfred James, 22; Williams—Pvt. Eddie Sawyer, 23.

Army Needed Trained Men 'Now', So They Went to Service Units

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

4-15-44

Well, Sir, the War Department has at last admitted that the two renowned Negro regiments created by an Act of Congress, the 9th and 10th Cavalries, have been converted into service troops.

In a letter to Roy Wilkins, acting secretary f the NAACP, John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, included copy of a letter to Senator Robert A. Taft in which it was explained that the 9th and 10th—although not designated by name—have been used "to provide certain additional service units to meet an early requirement of the highest importance."

Here's How It Happened

In explaining the conversion of the famous old fighting regiments into service troops Mr. McCloy wrote Senator Taft: 4-15-44

"Unfortunately currently constituted service units were all committed to definite tasks. They could not be withdrawn from these tasks without seriously interfering with planned operations, and the short time available for the organization and training of the needed units made it imperative to utilize previously trained personnel.

It was found that the only available source for such personnel was certain uncommitted combat units, including the Second Cavalry Division.

Wanted "Trained" Personnel

"As mentioned previously, the military situation demanded that trained personnel in considerable numbers be made immediately available. 4-15-44

Since the Second Cavalry Division was the only source from which such personnel could be withdrawn without delaying the war effort, the War Department was compelled to effect this change in its utilization. Needless to say, the decision would necessarily have been the same had this division been composed of white personnel."

The 9th and 10th formed part of the Second Cavalry Division which had been training in Ft. Clark, Texas.

Fears Confirmed

Mr. McCloy's letter was in reply to a direct inquiry of the NAACP under date of March 23, as to what had become of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments.

Following Secretary Stimson's letter of February 19, to Congressman Hamilton Fish, many rumors floated about the country on the conversion of Negro combat units into service troops. The War Department was mysteriously quiet about the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments. 4-15-44

Rumors as to the conversion of these troops became so persistent that the NAACP wrote the War Department with the result that Assistant Secretary McCloy has confirmed the rumors that the 9th and 10th are no more as fighting regiments.

Race Troops Praised For Aid In Pacific Campaign

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

11-8-44

Men Work Twenty-Hours Daily To Keep Supplies Moving Up

BY CONRAD CLARK

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA November — (ANP) — Thousands of Negro and white troops stationed at this Base, were assured of a speedy entrance into the Philippines, by Maj. Gen. James L. Frink, chief of the service of supmiles here in the Southwest Pacific area, in an address last week.

The general was accompanied by members of his staff and base officials on a tour of the island, and complimented all units for the work they are doing in keeping the chain of supplies a-moving.

Reminding the men that while the work being done here seemed dull and not exciting, so far as combat on the front was concerned, every man was just as important for the work he was contributing to the successful carrying out of Gen. MacArthur's plan of invasion on the Phillippines. 11-8-44

HELP UNLOAD SHIPS

Less than 300 miles behind the actual lines, the men here at this base, both Negroes and whites, are daily helping to load and unload tons of supplies that are playing such a vital part in keeping the men on the front lines going.

The slogan of the transportation corps, "we keep the bullets, beans and bread moving," seems to be the slogan of the troops here that are made up of all types of units.

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, Negroes, whites, Mexicans, Chinese, and what have you, are sweating side by side in steamer holes, on the docks, lumber piles, ordnance and ammunition dumps, warehouses, all American soldiers doing their share to assure the continued freedom of these United States for all her citizens, regardless of race or creed.

MORALE LIFTS 11-8-44

With the coming of Gen. Frink and his staff to the base, there has been a great lifting in the morale of the men, and the knowledge of the part they are playing in the war helps the speed-up of the supply lines.

With the taking of the Philippines, the Japanese life line of supply from the Dutch East Indies and Malaya to Japan will be cut and Japanese troops in the con-

92nd Soldiers Get Another Citya

ROME, Italy—In continuous bat... Italy, with the Germans fighting like fanatics for every inch of ground they yield, and in bad weather typical of the winter season, the 92nd division fighting with the new Army i... North gains like... tured Monte Castig... portant Monte Castigl... road to the West coast of Italy and to the important naval base of La Spezia, about 25 miles away. The elevation is five miles southeast of the Tuscany town of Massa.

Negro M.P.'s patrol Paris

WITH THE U.S. FORCES IN FRANCE—(ANP)—Twenty Negro soldiers from the Military Police battalion on duty in London, have arrived in Paris and are now on patrol duty there.

Negro Soldiers In World War II

Asheville, N.C. Citizen

Daily Worker:

Editor, Daily newspaper here. The Citizen, in an editorial of Dec. 13, pays tribute to the Negro soldiers in this war. It refers particularly to the 761st Tank Battalion and the 452d Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, mentioned recently in the report of the War Department. Of these battalions it says: "They have sustained their share of casualties and have received their share of decorations."

It says that Negroes should be proud of the record of their sons and brothers in this war. It's to be hoped that the recognition of this truth will lead southern papers like the Asheville Citizen to come out for decent American rights for the Negro people, for these very soldiers fighting and dying for democracy.

A. T. McM.

Officer Opposes Order Against Segregation

FORT BENNING, Ga., —(ANP)—Joining hands with white civilian forces in the Southland against the recent War Department order banning racial segregation in army camps last week was Col. J. T. Edgerly, commanding officer of the reception center here. He went on record of defying the War Department's edict when he addressed a body of his men here, then used his Negro troops as targets of his race slander.

47m-1944

New Times

The Worker magazine

Mercy Has No Color

by Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

I HAVE just read a moving article by Walter Lippmann, in his column of Dec. 19, in the Herald Tribune, pointing out the desperate need of more nurses for our wounded soldiers. It is a problem of such magnitude and urgency, and has such direct bearing upon the military aspects of the war, that Mr. Lippmann calls upon the whole American people to pitch in and solve it without delay. It is also such a vivid reminder that the war is not yet over that every citizen, Negro and white, will feel a keen sense of responsibility to assist in the solution.

On the same day, in the New York Times, I saw an equally impressive item which is intimately connected with the same question, and may, indeed, provide an important partial answer to the appeal which Mr. Lippmann has transmitted to the American people. It was a letter from Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, headed very aptly Negro Nurses Would Serve.

* * *

MRS. STAUPERS stated: "The National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses is deeply concerned lest the public misunderstand the reason for the small number of Negro nurses in the services. We do not want the impression given that in a crisis and at a time when nursing service is vital to the needs of the military, the Negro nurse had failed her country. Although Assistant Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson has stated that there never has been any limitations in the admission of Negro nurses to the Army, we have not found this to be the case.

"Negro nurses are still being accepted in very small numbers and are still restricted primarily to the care of Negro troops and war prisoners. None has been accepted by the Navy. A large number of civilian hospitals, both public and voluntary, are using Negro nurses satisfactorily. These nurses are caring for patients regardless of race, color, creed or national origin. If the need is as great as we are told, then the Army and Navy might well follow the example which has been set by these civilian hospitals."

I AM sure neither Mrs. Staupers nor Mr. Lippmann had any meeting of minds before their messages appeared on the same day. But one has nevertheless stated the problem, and the other has brought forward a partial solution. The only hitch is Jimcrow. And the victim is our soldiers—white even more than Negro. They must run the terrible risk of being inadequately attended, often in pain, because someone high up among our war leaders places Jimcrow above the needs of these suffering men.

It is true that certain important democratic principles have been won through President Roosevelt in respect to discrimination in the armed forces, including the recruitment of nurses. But not enough have been won—nor have those won been put into actual practice.

When Communists raised most clearheadedly the elimination of Jimcrow as an essential part of the fight for a speedy victory, some were quick to say that it was to "disturb" the war effort, or to spread "propaganda." When the Negro people, and sections of labor raised the same demand, it was brushed off as a narrow "racial" or "class" demand. Often it was said that it would take "years of education" to grapple with discrimination, or that to tackle it in the armed forces would "disrupt morale and routine." It seems to me that the shortage of nurses explodes all these arguments. What would a wounded American soldier—yes, a white boy—say if he is told that it will require "years of education against discrimination" before he can get an available nurse—who happens to be a Negro woman—to dress his wounds and relieve his immediate pain? I will leave that painful question to some of our war authorities to answer.

Prejudice may unfortunately linger in some people's hearts. But the actual discrimination, which comes from that prejudice, has to be outlawed and ended now. That's what the wounded soldier says; for he, not the prejudiced person, is the principal victim of the discrimination. And when he is the victim, America pays in casualties, deaths, blood and tears, and perhaps in a longer war. It is only a small part of the Negro's problem—it is the much larger problem of the war authorities, and the whole American people.

Here are Negro women, as Mrs. Staupers says, who are ready to serve, but who are denied the full opportunity to give services when they are desperately needed by their country. Negro women alone, of course, could not end the enormous nursing shortage, but they could helpfully reduce it. How bad is this need? Obviously, Mr. Lippmann, or the "responsible commanders" of whom he spoke in his column, ought to talk to Mrs. Staupers.

Fate Of Small Nations Weighed In Balance At Dumbarton Oaks

N.Y. Amsterdam News

By A. M. WENDELL MALLIET

N.Y.N.Y.

Secretary of State Cordell Hull struck a high note regarding the importance to future generations of the three-power conference now in session at Dumbarton Oaks, Washington. Speaking to 55 reporters at his press conference last week Mr. Hull said:

"I wish I could burn this into your minds and memories for the next 50 years at least. That is that the human race at this hour, this day, this week, this year is confronted by the gravest crisis in its experience. And we who are here on the scene of action have the responsibility of saying which way it is going for the next 50 years."

It is a strange thing that the three leading nations and their statesmen who are sitting in conference to shape the so-called new world order should become living contradictions, not only in their roles but also in relation to the historical policies of their respective nations, particularly in connection with the rights and privileges of small nations.

Stalin For Small Nations

Between the period beginning with the October Revolution and ending with Nazi attack upon the Soviet Union, Marshal Stalin seemed to have believed in the right of small nations to unmolested existence; Great Britain has always stood against efforts and attempts to liquidate small nations, and the United States has never failed, regardless of her occasional adventures into imperialism, to uphold the rights of small nation-states. The Monroe Doctrine is the most emphatic American declaration in defense of small nations, and Mr. Hull likes nothing better than to be considered a defender of small sister nations.

Yet, at the Dumbarton Oaks conference every step taken so far has been in the direction of the traditional Germany policy of world rule and domination by the big and powerful nations. The United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union have met, with China waiting in an ante-room, while they formulate their plans of agreement. And at that, the sessions are strictly private, regardless of public opinion.

United Nations Should Know

The members of the United Nations have a right to know what is taking place behind the barred doors at Dumbarton Oaks; more than that no decisions made by the Big Three should be allowed to stand, unless they are fully consistent with the rights and aspirations of every member of the United Nations. Furthermore, the preliminary discussions among Russia, England and the United States may lay the foundations for race and economic wars than for world peace. If the plan of the Boer leader, Marshal Smuts, for regional overlordship is to become part and parcel of the new world order, why should such an important decision be made without the knowledge of the nations and peoples concerned?

Why should it be necessary for the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union to meet in conference to discuss and take definite action on world problems of the future without the active participation of France, China, India, Ethiopia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Mexico and Brazil?

Asks of "Inside Deals"

What are the "inside deals" to be pulled and agreed upon before the victims get an opportunity to speak for themselves and organize opposition or support?

Are these nations—the Big Three—interested in world peace and prosperity on the basis of the Atlantic Charter, or are they determined to split the world into spheres of influence for the strengthening and expansion of imperialism and economic exploitation?

What about the rights and aspirations of nations and peoples now held and exploited as colonies, under the new world order? Is there to be no hope for the brutalized millions of Asia, Africa and the West Indies, particularly as a result of their sacrifices in blood and money for a United Nations victory?

Is the Dumbarton Oaks conference the fulfillment of the pledges, promises and pronouncements of Great Britain and the United States to the world of small nations and oppressed and exploited peoples, or is it to prove a star chamber where the miseries of the unfortunate are made more intensive and of longer duration?

Are we about to substitute Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States of America as the "bully" nations of the world in place of Hitler's Germany, Il Duce's Italy and Tojo's Nippon?

Imperil Blacks, Browns, Yellows

It is said that coming events have a way of casting their shadows before them. The Dumbarton Oaks three-power conference, in the opinion of some observers, presages the ordering of a world in which liberty for the small nations and oppressed peoples of the world, most of them are of the black, brown and yellow races, will be forced to do the will and obey the orders of the big and powerful nations.

It is clear that with the three greatest white nations organized to control the affairs and destinies of the world, with America and Britain more closely in agreement on the question of race and color, the black, brown and yellow races can hope for little, if any, degree of understanding in relation to their aspirations for self-rule and internal industrial development with the aid of foreign loans.

How important the question of race and color is to Great Britain and the United States is recounted by Yusuke Tsurumi in an informative article in "The Yale Review" for the Summer of 1932, entitled "Japanese Policy and Opinion." Mr. Tsurumi said:

Wanted Race Equality

"In 1919 at Paris, the Japanese peace delegation proposed to insert a clause of racial equality into the Magna Charta of the peace—the Covenant of the League. They were pressing not for immediate enforcement of the idea but for its acceptance in principle. It obtained the majority of the vote, but was opposed by Lord Cecil, representing Great Britain, on the ground that it was not practical. It was ruled out later by President Wilson on the ground that for the adoption of such a principle there must be a unanimous vote."

That was in 1919, when the problems of race and color had not taken on the challenging and menacing aspects that the diabolical Hitler and the Japanese have

"Spirit of justice at Dumbarton Oaks, if World War II shall not have been fought in vain.

Gen. Eisenhower Lauds Negro Troops

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

8-5-44

ADVANCED COMMAND POST, SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, AEF—How with daring and precision, Negro troops, in the face of intense enemy opposition, landed in France on D-Day and have since performed remarkable soldier work in Normandy is succinctly told by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, who has issued an official commendation to the men of an anti-aircraft balloon battery and a quartermaster truck company.

8-5-44

Speaking to the anti-aircraft troops, the supreme commander said: "Your battalion landed in France June 6, under artillery, machine gun and rifle fire.

"Despite the losses sustained, the battalion carried on its mission with courage and determination and proved an important element of the air defense team which was maintained for five weeks. I want you to know that I appreciate your splendid work. Your accomplishments are a source of gratification to me and to your Army commander."

The cheerfulness and devotion of its officers and men have been commented on by personnel of other units. This report is most gratifying to me. I commend you and the officers and men of your battalion for your fine efforts which have merited the praise of all who have observed it."

8-5-44

TO QUARTERMASTER COMPANY

Commenting upon the heroic landings of the quartermaster company, under enemy fire, the General said:

"Nevertheless, you salvaged most of your equipment at once and, within three days, 90 per cent of your vehicles were operating on a 24-hour basis, a scale

47m-1944

They Are Serving Proudly And Well

N.Y. Amsterdam News 4-9-

N.Y., N.Y.

Women In Uniform Combat Race Prejudice

Their Records In The Services Outstanding Example Of Ability

By CONSTANCE CURTIS

Uniforms from all over the world are a common sight in any large city, and certainly here in New York there is no lack of them. On a recent tour of Harlem itself, which is no small city in its own right, the number of women in uniform was astonishing.

Among the outstanding services for women who are working in the war, there are the Women's Army Corps (WAC), the Red Cross, American Women's Voluntary Services (AWVS), Cadet Nurse Corps, Civilian Defense Volunteer organizations and the Army Nurse Corps. Absent from the ranks of the uniformed are Negro WAVES, SPARS and Marines. These latter three services still consistently refuse to admit Negro women to their ranks. In those services in which Negro women do take an active part, prejudice is still apparent. With them, just as with men in uniform, there is the problem of serving one's country under a jim crow system.

Much Discrimination

In the WAC, the same discrimination current with our soldiers prevails, since Negro women serve in separate units, find difficulty in promotions because of the same system, and are denied the right to serve overseas. They serve in the majority of cases in camps which are predominantly Negro, since the Army policy seems to be never to replace a white soldier with a colored woman.

The Army Nurse Corps, which is made up of young nursing students being trained in hospitals all over the country as registered nurses, seems at the present to suffer least of all of the services from the virus of race prejudice. Qualified Negro girls are accepted for training without question, and their only problem at the present time is one in which they have difficulty in admission to nursing schools which have in the past drawn the color line. At the present, however, the need for trained nurses is so great, opportunities are opening for their schooling in institutions which before the war never thought of admitting a Negro woman.

Nurses' Problems

The scarcity of nurses has recently also had some effect upon the treatment of Negro women members of the Army Nurses Corps. Up until this past week, they were mainly assigned to areas where there was a heavy concentration of Negro troops, such as Tuskegee and Fort Huachuca. Although one unit served for a time last year in Liberia, no Negro nurses had been sent to the European area, where nurses were desperately needed until this past week. The assignment of the women to the European theatre of war at this time would seem to indicate that necessity has once more been the opening wedge in the thick armor of racial discrimination.

The American Women's Voluntary Services, and the Civilian Defense Volunteer organization, the two women's volunteer organizations, have racial prejudices that are more subtly handled. Although women in these services work together, there is a duo-organization, with

This then is the story of prejudice as it affects the American Negro woman in uniform. It is in many ways discouraging, especially when even quick glances are taken at the women's services in other countries. In England, for example, members of the women's services, whether they are from London or from some of the British Dominions, work together without the election of necessity show women serving in the Canadian armies. In other ways.

Red Cross Prejudice

Of all the war services which admit Negro women, perhaps the one carrying the greatest amount of controversy as to its treatment of the globe it would appear that Ne- their prejudices in oth

What the Record Shows

While these conditions exist, and seem to be firmly entrenched in the American way of life, the women who are serving in the many uniforms of our nation are doing a splendid job in undermining the foundations of racial prejudice. In their hard and well-done work, in the ways in which they bear themselves in their uniforms, and the all-out manner in which they have joined these services in spite of the restrictions placed upon them, they are building up a lasting and new respect among other races for the Negro woman. Beyond any amount of talk that can be done, they have shown the readiness and need for the American Negro being given full citizenship.

closes September 9. Addresses of the nearest salvage depots may be learned by calling the Salvage Department, AWVS Greater New York, PLaza 3-6487. A pair of tickets will be given each person bringing in 30 pounds of waste paper.

Through this offer the AWVS, which has collected thousands of pounds of waste paper to be used in the war effort, hopes to reach a new group of salvage collectors, to meet the increased demand for paper salvage brought about by the intensive war drive during the fourth quarter of the year. Need for more paper has been stressed by the War Production Board in a recent statement in which attention was called to the almost one-half million tons of ammunition being produced at this time.

Famous Cavalry Regiments Changed Into Service Units

Courier Pittsburgh Pa

NEW YORK—What has become of the famous Negro cavalry regiments, the Ninth and Tenth? This is an important question in the minds of those who have watched recent movements in the War Department. The report persists that the famous Regular Army regiments, with many years of distinguished service, have been broken up into service units.

It is known that the Ninth and Tenth were part of the Second Cavalry Division, which, until recently, was in training at Fort Clark, Texas. The Second Cavalry Division has disappeared and while no formal statement has been made by the War Department, the report is being circulated that the Ninth and Tenth have been made into service troops.

REPORT FOLLOWS STIMSON'S CHARGE

On the other hand, the First Cavalry Division, composed of white troops, has just won honors for itself by completing the invasion of the Admiralty Islands.

The report on the Ninth and Tenth comes hard on the heels of the admission by Secretary Stimson of the War Department that Negro combat units are being broken up and converted into service units.

A nation-wide outburst of indignation followed Secretary Stimson's letter to Congressman Fish and this anger is expected to mount to new heights when Negro Americans understand that two of the four Regular Army Negro Regiments, the Ninth and Tenth, have been added to the list of those made over into service troops.

NO REPORT ON NAACP INQUIRY

The NAACP, which led the nation-wide protest in 1932 on the breaking up of the Tenth Cavalry into three units stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, West Point, New York, and Fort Myer, Virginia, where they became grooms and hostlers attending to the horses of white officers, has taken the lead in the protest to Secretary Stimson on the present demotion of the famous old regiments.

No reply has been received as yet from a letter to Stimson inquiring for verification of the persistent report that these regiments have been converted into service units.

THE HORIZON

The People Must Be Careful To See That Army and Navy Do Not Forget Source of Authority

By P. L. PRATTIS

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa

WE want to support our Army and Navy in every way possible. We must do that. We must suffer to help the Army and Navy to succeed. We must work harder, give more and complain less about our petty, personal privations. The biggest job before us is the job the Army and Navy are undertaking to perform. But this does not mean that we can afford to overlook the basic fact that the Army and Navy are instruments belonging to the American people.

Mr. Pratdis

When there is no war, we keep (or should keep) the Army and Navy in good condition, ready to be called upon when we are confronted by the task for which we create and maintain them. But, in time of peace, when there is no great use for the Army and Navy, we carry on as a Nation. In time of peace, other instruments (such as the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Commerce, or the Postoffice or Labor departments) may be more important. Each of these instruments, these departments, is designed to serve the Nation. It is but a part of a system of Government created by the people to serve them in case of need. Each is, or should be, subservient to the Chief Executive, the Congress and the courts. Each is supposed to take its orders from popularly elected representatives of the people. These departments, or their agents, are not expected to tell the people what to do. The people tell them.

BOSS CREATOR

IT is important that we should remember this. The chances are that no one person, or set of persons, in the Department of the Interior or the Department of Commerce, would take their jobs so seriously that they would think they should be running the Nation. Usually, the leadership in these agencies fit easily into the positions designed for it and stays put. But that is not so true of the Army and Navy, particularly when they have been called into action. Theirs is a tremendous job involving, at times, the life or death of the Nation. It is perhaps understandable that sometimes they should come to feel that their creator belongs to them just because their creator has to use them. The bureaucracy in civilian departments doesn't begin to possess the potential dangers of bureaucratic Army and Navy leadership. This bureaucracy, conscious of its importance because of the job it has to do and favored by the dramatic qualities of its work, is all too often prone to regard with obvious disdain the people for whom it works. Armies and navies make or break nations. The laboratory test before our eyes is in South America where, from time to time, the armies effect changes in government and seize control. Batista, army sergeant, led the uprising in Cuba. Ramirez, army general, seized control in Argentina. Bolivia was recently upset by an army coup.

IN OUR WORLD

THE chances are that our Army and Navy leadership does not think in the above terms, not too seriously. But one cannot be too sure that our Army and Navy are amenable to the direction of the people whom they serve. It is easy to gain the impression that the Army and Navy bureaucracy believes its business to be its business—not the people's. These departments operate within a world of their own and under a government of their own. Practically their only gesture to the people is made when they ask the Congress to turn over to them the money of the taxpayers. Every other contact the people seek is barred on grounds of military security.

Thus when the Army and Navy make a mistake, it is not considered the people's business. The people are not told unless special pressures are exerted. The people of the Nation have been told that the conquest of Sicily was a glorious adventure. That was not true. There are fundamental blunders in the Sicilian campaign which should have been marked by the removal from service of those responsible for them. If anybody has been punished, the people have not been informed. The people have not even been told what happened.

DON'T FIRE GENERALS

THE danger from this disposition of the Army and the Navy (as in the Coral sea engagement) to withhold knowledge from the people resides in the fact that the Army and Navy might be losing the war for us and we would know nothing about it until the conqueror was on our shores. When an aide to Secretary of the Interior Ickes was caught in a little alleged forgery, he quickly lost his job. But what has happened to the high officers responsible for the shooting of American paratroops at the beginning of the invasion of Sicily? Why did the Army have to be forced to release the Patton story? Why was Kwajalein taken so easily and Tarawa at such heavy cost? How are we to know when the high command does wrong? The Russians have, figuratively, chopped off the heads of generals who failed in campaigns. So have the Germans. So have the Japanese. So have the British. Are we to presume that all our generals have been so successful that no axe has been merited?

That may be true. God knows we all hope it is true. But the Nation cannot survive on hope alone. The Army and Navy must not be allowed to drift away from their proper controls which are civilian in nature. The citizen is still the component part of this democracy and such authority as the Army and Navy enjoy are limited by the will of the people.

There doubtless is no such thing as a military democracy. But we must be careful in such times as these that no such tendency gains headway. The Army and Navy must be given as much freedom as possible to do their jobs, but it must never be forgotten that this freedom is a grant, rooted in the people. The disposition of Army and Navy men to grow big in their own sights is one reason we should curb our enthusiasm to make an admiral or a general President.

47m-1944

The SEPIA SOCIALITE New ORLEANS, LA

FIRST OFFICIAL DEATHS REPORTED FROM NEGRO TANK UNIT IN FRANCE

12-16-44

With the U. S. Third Army.—The War Department has officially released information on the first deaths in the all-Negro 761st Tank Battalion, now pushing its way into the Reichland, with Lieutenant General George S. Patton's Third U. S. Army. The first deaths reported were a private, a first sergeant and a second lieutenant.

The first man in the first Negro combat unit to hit front lines in France was Private Clifford C. Adams, of 1615 N.W. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida, a member of the medical detachment, who died from wounds received on November 8, the D-day for the battalion. He was wounded as he gave aid to an injured member of a tank crew, while under heavy German shellfire, and died later the same day.

The next deaths reported were the result of strictly combat action, both men being killed in action, at Morville-les-Vic, on November 9. They were Second Lieutenant Kenneth W. Coleman, of Washington, D. C., and First Sergeant Samuel J. Turley, of 815 Trinity Avenue, the Bronx, New York City.

Lieutenant Coleman and First Sergeant Turley died the death of heroes, for they were together in the act of removing the .50 caliber machine gun from their disabled tank, in order to pour fire on German AT gun emplacements, and rocket-launcher spots, as their company, commanded by Captain Irvin McHenry of Leavenworth, Kansas, was immobilized facing an anti-tank ditch in the bitter fight for Morville-les-Vic, the toughest spot in the battalion's first battle action.

They were mowed down as they pulled the deadly weapon from its moorings on the tank, and started to get under the tank to begin firing. A hail of fire from German guns in the center of the fighting area, and from a point to their right, tore into the pair and both were killed.

Both were veteran members of Company C, under Captain McHenry, and First Sergeant Turley had won the reputation of being "the best first sergeant in the battalian." He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Sophie Montgomery, 5145 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Ack Ack Units Free American Carry Fight

11-25-44

Destroy Pill Boxes, Tanks During Wait

2ND FOR ACCURACY

Baltimore, Md.

Rain, Snow, Mines Make Life Difficult

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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WITH THE THIRD ARMY IN FRANCE—Most people think that the ack ack boys sit on their guns waiting for enemy planes to swoop down before they go into action.

In isolated cases this may be true, but it certainly does not apply to an outfit I met for the second time a few days ago in Northeast Nancy.

Back in Normandy while guarding beaches, bridges and roads, this unit had little activity, but now in the drive that is slowly encircling Metz with a band of steel, the story is vastly different. These deadeye gunners now carry the war to the Germans.

Nearly a Dozen Planes

Their record shows almost a dozen planes shot out of the sky in France and of all the ack ack outfits in this area this battalion stands No. 2 on the list where accuracy is concerned.

The troops still talk about the time one of their guns took only a very few shots to send a Nazi plane down in flames.

I found out why the lads have gained so much respect in the present drive when I reached battalion headquarters. Various batteries were attached to artillery units and, instead of waiting in the rear for planes, were up front blazing away, destroying tanks and pill boxes.

Almost a Tank Outfit

The outfit is practically transformed into a tank destroyer battalion, but it makes no difference to the men, according to T-Sgt. Leonard Bryant, Litchfield, Ill., master gunner.

Said Bryant, "Our guys are so bloodthirsty they don't care whether they shoot at planes or tanks. All they want to do is shoot."

Recommended for Bravery

An officer handed me a sheaf of recommendations for medals of one sort and another. "Bravery under fire" was the phrase that appeared on almost every page.

The battalion now has as its chaplain, Capt. William T. Green, Jr., Galesburg, Ill., who rides continuously in an effort to get around to the scattered batteries. Green had the distinction of being drafted, promoted to corporal then commissioned a first lieutenant on the day after his promotion.

Life within the batteries is rugged and really in the raw. Almost daily, guns move to new positions and are arranged according to a pattern for the most effective fire coverage in a specified area.

Must Dig Emplacements

I stood around shivering while one crew dug an emplacement for a 40-mm. gun. The toil was back-breaking despite the rain-soaked ground.

The hole was roughly ten feet by fourteen and three feet deep, but unhappily after the gun was pushed in, the soil was so soft and muddy that the gun promptly sank and a new site had to be chosen. The digging started all over again.

The next morning while they were cleaning and oiling the gun, orders came to move out. Everybody felt like crying, but they swore and hopped to the task of getting the gun out of the hole.

Our gun was untouched by artillery fire but another in the battery received a terrific pounding with some casualties.

Since coming to France, the battalion has probably dug up several acres of soil for gun positions. Often the new sites have not yet been demined, and I saw dead men lying around, smelling to high heaven on two occasions. Add to this, cold rain and snow to make life completely miserable.

Make Life Pleasant

Still, the soldiers find ways to amuse themselves. One group called "Four Boys and a Guitar" gave a swing recital for me that had a professional touch.

It included Pfc. Alton Hawkins, 1305 Susquehanna Avenue, Philadelphia; Pvt. Charles Pace, 1620 Madison Avenue, Baltimore; Sgt. Adolph Graham, Cleveland, and Sgt. Leonard Galloway, Columbus, Ohio. Helping out when needed were Pvt. Harold Garner, St. Louis, and S-Sgt. Robert Rogers, Alexandria, La.

Medics Protect Stewart

When I caught cold from exposure with the battery, Pvt. Alvin Johnson of Norfolk, Va., combat medic, gave me medicine and fed me. T-Sgt. William Remberton, Brentwood, Md., supply sergeant, dug up some extra handkerchiefs.

Three soldiers from New Orleans, Sgt. Wilson Joseph, Pvt. Herbert Burns, and Sgt. August Taylor, did much to make my stay comfortable, while Pvt. Thomas Smith, Bronx, N.Y., Sgt. George Easlick, Carlsbad, N.M., and S-Sgt. Edward Eagles of St. Louis assured me that the unit is worthy of all the recognition possible to obtain.

In another outfit is Warran Officer Bernard Nash, 3100 Barclay Street, Baltimore, Md., a former teacher and Morgan State College graduate, who hopes that Morgan wins the CIAA championship this fall.

Oh Negro Nurses!

12-29-44

Dear Editor:

Reading Albert Deutsch's article, "Bias Bars Needed Nurses From Bedsides of Wounded," made me stop and wonder what we are fighting for. My fellow patients are of the unanimous opinion that trained Negro nurses should be alongside white nurses in Army hospitals wherever they are needed. If wounded and sick servicemen require special care, why should they be denied it just because of the racial prejudice of a few "higher ups" who are blinded by their Jim Crow method of thinking? Let's have this barrier smashed now and give those colored angels of mercy a chance to apply their skill in treating and curing our wounded servicemen.

PVT. E. B.

Ft. Monmouth Hospital

Negro nurses staff British hospital

Los Angeles TIMES CAL.

12-29-44

ENGLAND—In the oldest hospital in the United Kingdom, the first Negro nurses to arrive in the European Theater of Operations are now on duty, the War Department reported today.

On Sept. 16, the 63 nurses reported to the 170-bed hospital. Captain Mary L. Petty, chief nurse, hailing from Chicago, Ill., appointed 16 nurses to take charge of wards and assigned others to the operating room. With 7 years' nursing experience, Captain Petty is being trained as surgical supervisor.

22 Hampton Cadet Nurses Capped

HAMPTON, Va. — Twenty-two student members of the U.S. Cadet Nurses' Corps were capped during ceremonies last Friday night at Dixie Hospital auditorium with Miss Beulah M. McClammey, acting superintendent of nurses, presiding.

Miss Pauline Epps, nursing arts instructor, was mistress of ceremonies for the musical program preceding the capping. C. W. Mangum, administrator, extended greetings on behalf of the hospital; Miss Mary Reilly on behalf of the alumni; and Ruth Heywood, senior student nurse, on behalf of her associates.

According to Chaplain Harvey E. Johnson, of Eudora Wallace, pre-cadet student, Georgia, the morale is at dent nurse, responded for the class, which was addressed by Dr. Chester D. Bradley of the medical staff. Miss Clara Krueger, director of nursing education, administered the Florence Nightingale pledge.

Negro Tank Destroyer Battalion Sees Action With 95th Division

SEPIA SOCIALITE New Orleans, La.

12-16-44

Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Frank S. Pritchard, 2535 Forest Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, and composed of four companies completely staffed by Negro officers, the unit completed its training for battle training for tanks and tank destroyers in March, 1943. In the area. August, 1944, the unit landed in France. With the U. S. Third Army in the Normandy Peninsula, the first line troops in the Metz area, during the sector in which Negro Tank Battalion is not far from the fall of Metz.

The battalion has already seen action since October 8, when it awaited the call to action. It took its place with the all-Negro troops in the Metz area, during the sector in which Negro Tank Battalion is not far from the fall of Metz.

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Well-equipped for battle and keen for action, members of the unit exhibited great eagerness to move into action after their arrival in France.—The first U. S. tank destroyer battalion made up of Negro soldiers has already seen action since October 8, when it awaited the call to action. It took its place with the all-Negro troops in the Metz area, during the sector in which Negro Tank Battalion is not far from the fall of Metz.

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Tubbs Witnesses Serious Operation

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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BOUGAINVILLE (Via Air Mail) — We operated today (May 5) for about the most feared wound a fighting man can receive — a bullet wound in the face.

The soldier, a member of advanced elements of the 93rd Division, came to us an hour before we were to sit down for the evening meal.

Capt. George Porter, NYC, was short and cryptic with the order he gave after seeing the man on a litter in the receiving tent. "Take him over to surgery," he said.

Doctor's Assistants

With deft hands Captain Porter tied off broken veins, cleansed the wound thoroughly, talked sharply to his aides and to this correspondent as he explained each phase of the operation.

Standing about assisting the doctor were: Pfc. Arsuell Watson, Newark, Del.; T/3 Eddie LeSuer, 4543 Merriam Avenue, Philly, who administerd the blood plasma; S/Sgt. Isaiah A. Burton, 1903 Fifteenth Streeet, Washington, a surgical technician; and Sgt. Bernard Johnson, Bronx, N.Y., another surgical technician.

Operation Lasts Hour

The wound was a neat one, a clean little half-inch hole through the fleshy part of the jaw. Had it been an inch higher, lower or deeper, the doctor said, the man would have been killed.

We completed our operation in an hour's time. Our patient was bandaged up and put to bed. The doctor coolly suggested that we'd better hurry or we'd miss the evening meal. This was the nineteenth operation he had performed or assisted in since coming to the island.

93rd Division Has Score of 20 to 5

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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BOUGAINVILLE (By Cable) — We are in a fight here, and although we seem to have won the first rounds by a score of better than 20 to 5, we still can't tell the ultimate outcome.

Reconnaissance troops made the initial contact with the enemy May 16 in a ravine surrounded by ridges between Saua and Reini Rivers. The patrol killed six Japs, explored a large bivouac area, and engaged in sharp fighting from which they have just been relieved.

N.C. Soldier Kills 3

Pfc. James Cofer of Washington, Ga., killed two; Pfc. Merton Giliam of Cincinnati, Ohio, got six; Pvt. Ernest Bailey of Bayonne, N.J., wiped out a machine-gun nest; and Pvt. Ernest Rhodes of Richland, N.C., got three.

Sgt. James Owens of Cleveland got two while separated from the patrol and returned after being listed as missing. This was one of the hottest engagements in which 93rd Division infantrymen have participated. The going is still dough but we are jumping the enemy with both feet.

Help Take Key City of Gaeta

Four Pilots Assist in Sea Rescues

BOMBERS DOWN

Quartet Find Crews, Summons Aid

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ADVANCED ALLIED BASE IN ITALY (By Cable) — Twelve pilots of the fighter group commanded by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis furnished air cover for naval vessels shelling coastal towns along the Italian Peninsula this week during a concentrated attack, and helped make possible an Allied advance to take the key city of Gaeta among other strategic points.

The group encountered little enemy opposition during this aerial protection of convoys and battleships, but a half-dozen flyers participated in exciting air-sea rescues.

Second Lt. John J. Suggs of Terre Haute, Ind., and First Lt. Dudley M. Watson of Lexington, Ky., twice aided in such rescues, once under enemy ack-ack fire.

Victims 35 Miles Out

The two were patrolling off Gaeta Point when ground controllers radioed them that a bomber had crashed thirty-five miles out at sea. Watson located the dinghy with one white American in it and four others hanging on its sides. He circled to prevent enemy attack while Suggs notified an amphibian rescue boat and directed it to the scene.

Poor visibility had hampered the would-be rescuers' observation until the timely co-operation of the two pilots. Earlier the same pair aided in the rescue of a white PVO pilot Capt. Robert B. Tresville. Second Lt. John F. Briggs aided in a similar rescue. They stood by until the crash victims were picked up by rescue boats.

Get Bronze Battle Stars

By BILLY ROWE

(Courier War Correspondent)

BOUGAINVILLE, South Pacific—For heroic actions in the treacherous jungle warfare against the wily Japanese, the forces of the 93rd division, fighting here, became the only Negro infantry division entitled to wear bronze battle stars. Several officers received promotions, and 2nd Lt. Charles R. Collins, Chicago, has been awarded the Purple Heart with an oak leaf cluster for having been wounded four times in five Japanese encounters.

Brigadier General Leonard R. Boyd presented Lieutenant Collins with his medal at an evacuation hospital here. Wounded four times in five encounters with the Japanese in actions between the Sana and Reini rivers, the cavalry officer is credited with one of the finest operations completed by the 93rd elements.

HOOSIER MATE

Teamed with Sgt. Rothchild Webb, Indianapolis, Ind., Lieutenant Collins led a force composed of parts of every element of the division in a purge of No Man's Land. When the lientenant was struck down by an enemy bullet, Sergeant Webb took over the leadership of the group and led them successfully through the engagement.

The attack was powered with the desire to avenge the deaths of Sgt. Nehemiah Hodges, Chicago, T/5 Moss Davis, Warrenton, N. C., and Pvt. Deormy Ray, who were killed in the final Japanese ambush. The only men killed in the five actions, they were caught in the first murderous machine gun blast from the Nipponese hidden in the dense jungle. Second and third in the line of march, Hodges and Davis never knew what hit them. Ray staggered forward in a final surge of power to kill at least two of the enemy before slumping to the ground.

ROUT JAPANESE

Picked scouts led by Lt. William L. Gurrant, St. Petersburg, Fla., formed several patrols. General Boyd inspired a hunt for the early mission which put the Japanese to flight on the wing.

In Lieutenant Gurrant's picked patrol were Sgt. Harry A. Robinson, Pittsfield, Mass.; Cpl. Robert C. Owens, Chicago; Pfc. Fred S. Anderson, Okolona, Ark.; Pfc. Andrew J. Beachum, Spring City, Tenn.; Pfc. Artie Breedlove, Aurora, Ill.; Pfc. Harold Green, Asheville, N. C.; Pfc. Loy D. Smith, Centre, Texas; Pfc. Algie Stribling, Chicago, and Pvt. Oscar Spooner, Oscar, La.

TRIO OF DEAD VICTIMS

After a short search this group found their dead buddies. They had died facing their enemy, many of whom lay bullet-riddled in front of them. The bodies of the men were half stripped, their weapons and shoes having been taken.

In their search, however, the group did not find Collins and Webb. With Webb providing care for his lieutenant and leading the remnants of his group, the men wandered for three days and nights through the jungle before finally reaching the American lines. Accompanying the searchers for the men was Capt. Robert McDaniel, a former Baltimore physician, who administered first aid to the wounded officer.

SPECIAL DECORATION

Collins will survive his wounds. They consist of a deeply lacerated left cheek, and several bullet punctures in the arms and left leg.

Thirty-six other men, however, who were wounded in action against the enemy have received the significant medal and many have been recommended for the bronze star medal for gallantry in action. At least one of the brave soldiers has been mentioned for the coveted DSC (Distinguished Service Cross). The elements in the mopping up campaign on Bougainville have won campaign ribbon stars for the entire division, which thus becomes the first all-Negro division entitled to wear the bronze battle stars.

LIEUTENANT PROMOTED

Eleven officers have been promoted from second to first lieutenants: Francis E. Elis, Chandler, Okla.; Charles W. Lawrence, Baker sfield, Calif.; Edward L. Richie Jr., Oakland, Calif.; William Sanders, Renfrow, Okla.; Walter B. Sanderson, Jr., Washington, D. C.; Walter R. Simpson, Indianapolis, Ind.; James E. Shelton, Nashville, Tenn.; John O. Trice, Topeka, Kans.; Durward P. Griffey, Berke-ley, Calif., and John W. Strong Pittsburgh, Pa.

First Lieutenant Wilson G. Kis Memorial Day, the entire elepert, Detroit, one of the four com ment massed and paid respect to pany commanders, received the their honored dead. twin bars of a captain. His company was a potent factor in the entire campaign waged by the el-

47m-1944

Crack Quintet Broken Up by Departure of First Officer

(Afro-American) Balt., Md. 5-27-44

Lieut. Palmer Leaves Italy on Rotation Plan; 4 Others Carry On Ordnance Work

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—(By Air Mail, Delayed)—One of the first officers to leave the Mediterranean theatre on the Army's rotation plan is 2nd Lieut. Charles W. Palmer, 27, of Atlantic City, N.J., whose aviation ordnance depot company—the first of its kind overseas—is entering its eighteenth month of foreign service.

His departure splits the company's crack official quintet: 1st Lieut. William O. Dickerson, 24, commanding officer, Glendolen, Pa.; 2nd Lieuts. Clarence E. Wilson, 25, and Charles R. Webb, 25, of Detroit, and Edward D. Hudson, 26, of Milford, Conn. depot storekeeper.

This quintet, like a smooth-working basketball team, has kept the complex work of an ordnance depot unit moving efficiently since its first commanding officer, 1st Lt. Nolan R. Best, Washington, D.C., was injured in North Africa last August and returned to the States.

A loyal, hard-working enlisted personnel has kept supplies moving to the numerous 12th and 15th Air Forces aviation groups within a 500-mile strip in Southern Italy.

The unit, which landed at Oran December 26, 1942, handles everything technical an aviation squadron uses (except the heavy bombs); taking the cargo off the ship or plane, uncrating supplies, filling requisitions by delivering the goods.

It handles everything from a sponge to automotive vehicles. Whenever a spare part is missing, this unit supplies it.

The value of the property in the motor pool alone runs into many millions of dollars, as do the thousands of articles at the depot.

Lieut. Wilson is chief at the motor pool, while Lieut. Webb is in charge at the depot. Both former students at Wayne University, Lieuts. Wilson and Webb were born within a block of each other, and entered the Army together.

Lt. Hudson is transportation officer while Lt. Palmer handled all convoys, with Lt. Dickerson supervising the whole show.

Top Enlisted Men

Among top enlisted men are M-Sgt. John Watson, Jr., chief clerk, Cincinnati, Ohio; M-Sgt. Donald M. Peronneau, Bronx, N.Y., chief shipping clerk, and M-Sgt. John A. Jackson, former Lincoln University football star, Charlottesville, Va., who is chief

The "top-kick" is 1st Sgt. Millard C. Russell, ex-Alabama State College track captain, of New York City, and a Baltimorean, T-Sgt. Walter W. Farabee, 710 N. Carrollton Avenue, is mess sergeant. To celebrate the first anniversary overseas, T-Sgt. Farabee barbecued a pig purchased from the natives.

Easterners in Company

Easterners in the company are:

WASHINGTON — S-Sgts. George T. Bennett, chief clerk at the tires and tubes department and drummer in the battalion band; Charles S. Rogers, Jr., Cpl. Tyson E. Ross, Pfc. Ulysses Price, Pvts. Lorenzo J. Burnett, Arthur Sullivan;

BALTIMORE — Sgts. Edward M. Carter, 601 N. Calhoun Street; John F. Faulkner, 1020 Sterling Street; James E. Queen, 1500 McCulloh Street; Cpls. James E. Barnes, 205 Myrtle Avenue; Hurp I. Hill, 325 E. Twenty-third Street; Charles H. Thompkins, 405 N. Bond Street;

COLLINS IN UNIT

Pfcs. Robert L. Collins, 607 S. Fremont Avenue; Horace Tanner, 766 Vine Street; Pvts. James W. Carter, 1503 Saratoga Street; Walter Combs, 1402 Carroll Street; Merrill J. Sampson, 1406 Division Street;

PHILADELPHIA — T-Sgts. Leonidas A. Allen and Samuel Roots; Sgts. John Batiste and Claybrook R. Woods; Pfc. Benjamin C. McCauley; Pvts. John M. Mosley, Charles L. Pitts, William L. Terrell.

Other Pennsylvanians include Sgt. Thomas J. Still, Holicong; Sgt. George H. Young, West Chester; Cpl. William I. Lee, Belle Vernon; Cpl. Andrew Riser, Pittsburgh;

NEW YORK — S-Sgt. Thomas L. Anderson, Jr., Brooklyn; Sgt. William H. Gilreath, NYC; Sgt. Otis Gilliam, Brooklyn; Pvt. Joseph N. Wright, Brooklyn; and Sgt. Ford Storall, Buffalo, and Pfc. James Ingram, Mt. Vernon.

Sgt. Robert E. Palmer, Frederick, Md.; Pvt. William D. Lomax, Forest Glen, Md., and Pvt. James R. Harris, Galena Kent, Md., wanted the folks at home to know that everything is okay with them, while additional Easterners making similar requests included:

FROM MASS. AND CONN.

S-Sgts. Joaquim M. Roderick, New Bedford, Mass.; Edward D. Turner, Hartford, Conn.; Sgt. Robert T. Bacon, Concord, N.H.; Cpls. McKinley Franklin and James E. Harris, Roselle and Port Harris, N.J., respectively;

Cpl. Thomas H. Smith, Boston, Mass.; Pfc. Alfred P. Clark, Hartford; Pfc. Gerald Fletcher, Providence, R.I.; Pvts. John Davis, Waterbury, Conn.; Pvts. James R. Pollard, New Haven, and Milton S. Ross, Hartford.

S-Sgt. Cedell Pearson, Middletown; Pvts. Robert Miller, Akron, and Wiley L. Brown, Columbus, Ohio, and Pvt. Willie Moore, Cairo, Ill.

5,461 INCREASE IN THE INFANTRY

(Philadelphia Tribune, Pa.)

And 32,053 In Non-Combat Outfits

12-21-44

ONLY 876 REMAIN IN THE CAVALRY

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) Almost three quarters of a million Negroes are serving in the army of the United States, according to an announcement this week by the war department. As of September 30, there were 701,678 Negroes enrolled.

The infantry had 49,483; coast guard and field artillery, 36,302; cavalry, 867; engineers, 133,180; air corps, 73,686, and all others (mostly service troops) 408,160.

While the total number of Negroes has increased since the war departments announcement of May 15, 1944, of figures as of February 29, 1944, from 664,066 to 701,678, there is an interesting comparison of the numbers in the various categories of service. 12.21-44

Enrollments in the cavalry dropped from 9,043 to 867, the result of the disbanding of the 9th and 10th cavalries which were converted to service troops.

The air corps dropped from 77,335 to 73,686. Coast guard and field artillery dropped from 50,955 to 36,302.

Increases were noted in the infantry—from 44,022 to 49,483, and "all others," meaning service troops) from 376,197 to 408,160.

The number of commissioned officers increased since February from 4,979 to 5,804.

Show Combat Skill In Scrap Near Belgium

(Journal + Guide—Norfolk, Va.) 10-14-44

German SS Units Had Superior Weapons In Battle

WITH THE U. S. FIRST ARMY—At the end of a furious scrap in a litle French town near the Belgian border, a Negro ordnance ammunition unit's 62 man "clean-up" squad had slain 35 Nazi SS troopers, and wounded three more, while cleaning out an isolated pocket of German resistance.

The scrap occurred as the unit was preparing to move its ammunition depot into position to supply units of the First Army, hammering against the Siegfried Line. The Germans had "dug in" at the village, and their presence was made known to the unit commander, Captain Jack Carstarphen, 239 Bailey avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, by members of the French Forces of the Interior. 10-14-44

ARMED WITH CARBINES

Captain Carstarphen divided his unit into three sections of 20 men each, under command of First Lieutenant Loyal Price of Decatur, Ill., Second Lieutenant Seymour Goodstein, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and himself. A personal reconnaissance of the area was made, and Lieutenant Price deployed all three sections, moving them in from different directions.

The men were armed only with carbines and rifles, and a few incendiary hand grenades. The Germans were using automatic machine pistols, in addition to their other weapons.

Lieutenant Goodstein, who spoke German, worked his way towards a barn where the largest group of Germans was hiding, and asked them to surrender. He was met with volleys from the machine pistols, and fighting began. 10-14-44

VOLUNTEERS FOR JOB

The first victim was shot by Corporal Paul Wood of Chicago, Ill., who dropped the Nazi who had fired at Lieutenant Goodstein. The Germans withdrew to the interior of the barn, and blind firing began.

Technical Sergeant Harold F. Jackson, of 612-A West Walnut street, Milwaukee, Wis., volunteered to move in close to the barn door, and threw an incendiary grenade into the building. The building burst into flames, and the Germans came out fighting. The Negro soldiers opened fire on them.

VIRGINIAN KILLS 3

Private First Class Lindsay Carswell, 1226 Buffalo avenue, Jacksonville, Fla., and Private First Class Mason Hendricks, of South Boston, Va., each killed three Germans, with Carswell wounding one other. One shot by Hendricks was a Nazi officer. 10-14-44

Private Jim Scott, of 115 Robertson street, Shreveport, La., company orderly and bodyguard to the company officers, also killed two Nazis. Scott told First Sergeant Louis Reynolds, of 1319 South Kedzie avenue, Chicago, Ill.: "It sure did something to me to see one of our boys lying there wounded, with all those bullets flying around. I never did call on the Lord's name any more than I did right then."

Private William A. Wheatley, Hardingsburg, Ky., evacuated two wounded comrades, driving a three-quarter ton truck through the field of fire twice. Technician Fifth Grade Clark C. Calloway, 440 West King street, Bedford, Va., had carried water to the wounded as they lay on the ground, awaiting help.

LOST PRIZED SOUVENIR 10-14-44

On the lighter side, Staff Sergeant Matthew Geal, 1246 South Sangman street, Chicago, Ill., reported having lost a prized box of Copenhagen snuff, as he ducked violently to avoid the fire of a German aiming at him.

Among the other members of the unit who performed valiantly, before the Germans were subdued, were: Corporal Lewis Hinton, 117 North Wood street, Chicago, Ill.; Privates First Class Allen Ashbury, 218 West 141st street, New York City; Private First Class Alex Scott, 130 West Mill street, Chester, S. C.; Private James Bradley, 1940 Brown avenue, Evanston, Ill.; Private Marion Griggs, Macon, Ga.; Private Robert Murray, 2082 Eighth avenue, New York.

Colored Boys In Bradley's Texas Outfit Praised For New Charge

By OLLIE STEWART

With The Advanced American Forces in France.—Elements of Private Robert C. Martin, 1724 Hall street, Dallas, Texas, and Private Johnson Smith, of 2228 Fitzwater street, Philadelphia.

The men have been highly praised by Captain Carstarphen, who says that his is "the best damn ordnance outfit in the European Theater of Operations."

Our artillery and anti-aircraft lads are still making their presence felt in a great offensive, as it gathers momentum this week.

This push began Tuesday a week ago with gigantic air pounding by three thousands bombers. I watched fortresses and marauders pass overhead for more than an hour. The sight made us all feel better.

Saturday, after the fall of the Countances, I visited 155 Howitzer batteries and saw men from a nearby anti-aircraft unit.

They asked me to tell the world that they are "the ball."

Over a rough terrain, littered with carcasses, blasted tanks, guns, cattle and horses, I trotted with a guide who led me to hidden gun positions, where our boys were sounding off. As they fired, lines of dazed, dirty German prisoners trudged back to the stockades. The bombing and the shelling were so terrific that the Nazis mumbled incoherently and their guns were filled with dirt.

Sunday at Cherbourg there was the greatest gathering of colored war correspondents ever to be recorded in history. They included: Randy Dixon, Courier; Edward Toles, Defender; Roi Ottley, P. M.; Rudolph Dunbar and Allen Morrison, Stars and Stripes; and Ollie Stewart, Afro and Informer.

The Nazi subterranean forts visited still smelled of slaughter. Nearby there was supposed to have been a launching for pilotless planes which the Germans had sent over Southern England. The planes were almost unbelievable in size and ingenuity.

The Red Cross workers were on hand. Among those seen were; Caluse Walton, Denver, Colo., director. Mr. Walton was assisted by Misses Gladys Martin, Topeka Kansas, and Lavern Birch, Boston, Mass.

It is significant that at the U. S. O. show of the U. S. Navy audience there are equally as many colored as there are whites, whereas in the Cherbourg area, there are actually more colored troops than there are white. No one hesitates to give full credit to our lads for the prominent part that they played in France.

Sgt. Robert Huntley, Anguilla, Miss., who dug up two thousand mines in two weeks says, "the Germans always plant mines in patterns, and when you find the first mine, the rest are easy to locate."

AFRO-American

93rd Has Just Begun to Fight

Now at Bougainville, Plan March to Tokyo

BEAT JAPS' BEST

Baltimorean Directs Forward Aid Station

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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BOUGAINVILLE — Elements of the 93rd Division "have just begun to fight" and these boys are primed for the fight of their lives against their enemies — all of whom they are determined to beat into ignoble submission.

Their recent victories over the Japs have given them the experience and confidence necessary to assure them a parade position in the marches on Manila and Tokyo, and they are beating the jungle enemy with endurance, self-sacrifice, initiative and pure, unadulterated guts.

Lick Best Jap Troops

In their fire action, elements of the 93rd met and beat members of the crack Jap 13th Infantry, a part of the infamous 6th Division that perpetrated the rape of Nanking and showered themselves with Nipponese glory as fighting men.

They are the only Jap soldiers permitted to wear a red shoulder patch, signifying they are the emperor's best. Men of the 93rd proved better.

Patrols that have carried the blue helmet men far into enemy territory have failed to flush the enemy during the past three weeks. The only enemy trooper encountered was a wounded one who had been left behind as his comrades fled the wrath and fire power of our boys and their guns.

Jap Fanaticism Gone

The patrol disposed of the Jap immediately to bring the division's score to 107, took over and destroyed a large store of ammunition, then went on with its mission of discovery without contacting the Japs who are proving more fleet-footed than fanatical.

Patrols are combing the island, daily, begging for a fight, but the only signs of the thousands of enemy troops known to be hereabouts have been evidences of hasty retreat.

The strong outposts on seven hills which our boys are holding are in the densest part of the jungle. To live in such God-forgotten country is a feat worthy of undying respect, admiration and acclaim.

The men are dug in on the hills in pillboxes they constructed themselves from the materials at hand. Three trunks form the walls above the earth and bark, sometimes covered with a lean-to, serves as a roof to keep out part of the incessant rainfall.

Their floors are the soggy earth, and, after nightfall, there is nerve-wracking vigilance for the sneaky, unpredictable enemy.

Food at the outposts is canned. The practical fare is C ration — cold beans and bits of meat with hard biscuits.

The 93rd is in this thing up to the hilt and the men are improvising and inventing like every army unit put into the field on its own must do. Their dugouts and foxholes are encouragingly homey. They are orderly and some even have pin-up girls on the earthen walls.

Men Make Beds

In one sector they are making beds by crossing two long and two short saplings and weaving a mattress in between with telephone wire.

The food is improved with cooking and the luxury of hot coffee into which the hard biscuits are dunked.

During the days the boys pass the time improving their homes, digging drainage ditches or other dugouts in more desirable spots.

In some dugouts the men can be heard indulging in rich barber shop harmony. Our boys are at war all right, the worst possible part of it — jungle war, but they are equal to it and they are better men than any enemy they face in the Pacific.

Among Men Seen in Area

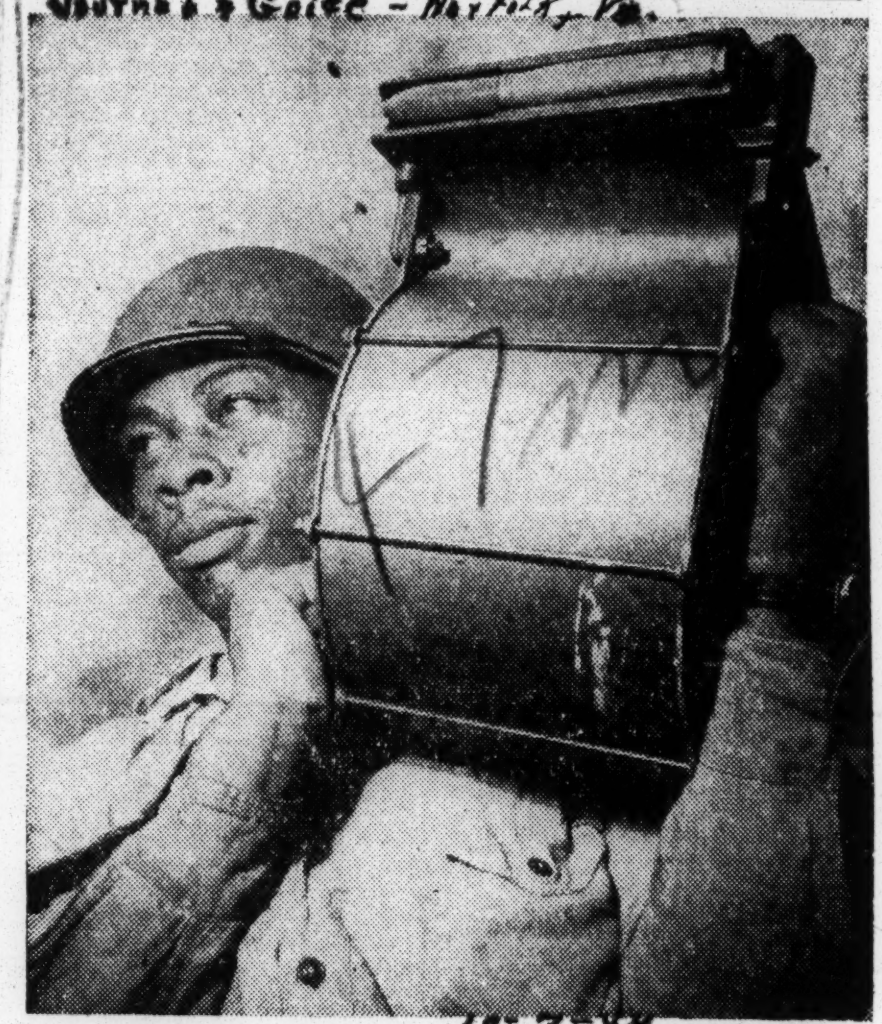
Seen on repeated tours of front-line positions have been Lieuts. H. O. Estes, Charlottesville, Va., who commands a machine-gun and mortar outfit; Charles Lynn, Lincoln, Ill., former CIAA discus champ at A. and T. College; Chester Boles, Lynchburg, Va., whose company held Hill 150 during the toughest days and who earned the monicker, "Mushroom of the Jungle," because of his fighting tenacity.

Baltimoreans Interviewed

Capts. Robert McDaniel, 1737 E. Preston Street, Baltimore, who is in charge of a forward aid station; Andrew Johnson, Cleveland chaplain, who lives with the men on Hill 501; Lieuts. John Sarazen, Chicago, and Emanuel Stewart, Ocala, Fla., whose men hold the hill.

Among enlisted men seen on the front are: Sgt. Earl Spruill, 952 Harlem Avenue, Baltimore, whose schoolteacher wife gave birth to a son while he was at sea; Pvt. Harold Poe, Pelham, N.C., who was cutting the hair of Pvt. William Moore, Raleigh, N.C., outside their heavy machine-gun dugout; Pvt. John Woods, Westfield, N.J., who was writing to his cousin, Miss Mozelle Vaughn, 1112 Eaton Road, Southeast, Washington.

Steward Has To Shoot, Too



A FARM BOY DOES JOB OF WAR—Miles Davis King, steward's mate second class, 19-year-old farm boy from Gilmer, Texas, carries a loaded magazine to his 20 mm. gun aboard the USS Tulagi on its way to Southern France on the August 15 invasion day. He intends to return to the farm as soon as the shooting's over. ((Official U. S. Navy Photograph)

60,000 from Miss. in Armed Forces

Afro American - Baltimore

WASHINGTON

Claim of the Jackson, Miss., director of Selective Service that there are more colored 18-25-age youth in the Army than white is not borne out by the facts.

In Mississippi the races are evenly divided, there being a million colored and a million white people. Since the President stopped voluntary recruiting in December, 1942, some 60,000 colored and 60,000 white have been inducted.

Enlistment Bias Hurt

This would be one State where the number of colored and white men in the armed services would be entirely equal save for the fact that from 1941 to 1943 whites enlisted voluntarily and colored were restricted.

The total number of white people in the armed services from Mississippi to date is nearly 60 per cent and the number of colored, 40 per cent.

47m-1944

Coast Guard First to Confirm News Of Negro Troops' Invasion Role

People's Voice — New York, N. Y.

6-17-44

As Allied forces were meeting and overcoming fierce German resistance to pound deeper into France this week, PV received the confirmation from reliable Washington sources, Monday, that approximately 100,000 Negro troops were in France or "poised in England" either taking part or waiting to take part in the greatest military mass movement in history.

In spite of almost complete lack of information in the daily press of the part Negroes were playing, from other sources news came. The Associated Negro Press stated that "a continuing series of background conferences and discussions of tactical operations with officials of the various branches, has enabled ANP to give some picture of what has happened so far."

ANP's findings, without garnishment or "glamorizing" by war correspondents, and checked by PV, reveal the following:

6-17-44

● Negro soldiers established a new system of telephone exchanges and lines in a 300-mile area contiguous to the French coast which was to be the "initial point of contact." In one section alone, they laid down three new landing fields and extended seven more for the air force;

● these troops have been identified as quartermaster, air force, ground crews, service troops and some anti-aircraft units;

● after the H-Hour arrival in France of airborne American troops which had been flown over the Channel, heavier weapons than those carried by the first fighters who landed, were brought in by Negro quartermaster and service outfits. Negro engineers moved in at the same time. All of these operations were carried out under strong enemy fire; 6-17-44

● Negro port battalions, were, at last report, alerted to be ready a moment's notice to establish docks when the positions taken thus far by the Allies are "sufficiently assured" to allow the building of the dock-landings for the heavy seagoing craft. These men will be working against time and in constant danger of attack both from the air and land;

● although there were rumors that Negro paratroopers were among the first to land in France, there was no War Department confirmation of this as late as Monday, June 12; 6-17-44

● no Negro fliers took part in the invasion; the 99th Fighter Group and 332nd Fighter Squadron were in action over Italy.

COAST GUARD ACTION

The United States Coast Guard, long the most liberal branch of the American armed forces, was the first to officially confirm the participation of Negroes in the invasion, with the brief announcement:

"Negroes are serving on every type of craft in the Coast Guard, and we have every type of craft in the invasion area."

This meant Negroes were serving on attack transports, LSI (landing ship, infantry); LST (landing ship, tanks), and cutters. It was revealed that "Negro gunners were at their positions firing away." 6-17-44

Negro Coast Guardsmen figured in the vital rescue work that took place in the choppy, wave-tossed Channel when many soldiers, weakened by sea-sickness, floundered helplessly in the water before they could reach the beaches.

NAVY'S REPORT

From the Navy Department came word that on the three battleships and two cruisers that saw action, Negro seamen did their part. ANP named the battleships as the *Nevada, Arkansas* and *Texas*, and the cruisers as the *Augusta* and *Tuscaloosa*.

There were brief daily press reports at the end of the week of Negro soldiers guarding captured Nazi prisoners, and burying the dead.

Prior to the invasion last Tuesday, General Dwight D. Eisenhower saw to it that highly-trained Negro units were ready. Able to handle many kinds of complicated weapons of modern warfare, thousands of these men, according to ANP, went through rigorous training in the towns and hills of Britain. How many of the troops saw action as actual COMBAT outfits in the landing in France, is still open to question. 6-17-44

One anti-aircraft battalion made up of four batteries admittedly was given intensive instruction at a British school to learn the latest methods used by British gunners in shooting down German raiders over Britain. In view of the fact that there has been official admission of participation of some Negro anti-aircraft, these outfits probably saw combat action.

93rd HQ Unit Well Trained

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

15 College Men, 3 Ex-Teachers Among Staff

6 GOV. WORKERS

Also "Housekeepers" for Division HQ

8-19-44

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the South Pacific

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By VINCENT TUBBS

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (Via Air Mail) — Fifteen college men, at least half a dozen former government employees in Washington, a former NYC Urban League employee and three former school teachers are among the enlisted personnel of the 93rd Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

Howard University is represented by four stalwarts, Lincoln University (Pa.) has two and Morgan State College has one.

S/Sgt. James H. Smith, Trenton, N.J.; T/5 Joseph Burrell and Cpl. Lawrence Bailey, Washington; and T/5 Willrowe Martin, Philadelphia, are the Howard men.

M/Sgt. from Morgan

T/4 John B. Thompson, NYC, and T/5 Edwin Wilson, Columbus, Ga., are the Lincoln men. M/Sgt. Cornell Vandaye, 544 N. Fifty-sixth Street, Philly, carries the banner for Morgan State.

Other men and the colleges they represent are: 8-19-44

T/4 Sylvester Barber, Wilkesboro, N.C., Winston-Salem Teachers' College; T/4 Russell Bradley, Richmond, Hampton Institute; Cpl. Harry Johnson, Elkins, W.Va., Fordham U. and W.Va. State College; T/5 John A. Jones, NYC, Virginia Union University;

T/Sgt. Robert Raiser, Huntington, W.Va., State College; T/4 James Olphin, Richmond, Virginia Union University; T/Sgt. Brown Pinkney, Baltimore, Alabama State Teachers' College; Sgt. David Sams, Columbia, S.C., Allen University; S/Sgt. Leon Saunders, Fayetteville, W.Va., Bluefield Teachers' College.

Former Washington workers are: T/5 John Piner, Philly; M/Sgt. Earl Armstead, Cpl. Lawrence Bailey, T/5 Joseph Burrell, T/5 Theodore Lewis and S/Sgt. William Pitt who finished Peters' Business College.

Sgts. Sanders and Smith, and Cpl. Johnson were schoolmasters before Uncle Sam beckoned. T/3 Goulbourne Blackett, NYC, was an employee of the National Urban League before induction.

Do Needed "Paper Work"

On one of the Pacific Isles where the 93rd is up to the hilt in the business of knocking the foundations from under Japan's greater East Asia co-prosperity sphere, these men are the bulwarks of taht necessary evil referred to as "paper work."

Clersk, typists, file clerks, etc., they handle the maze of papers that expedite the movement of supplies, requisition ammunition and food, issue clothing, announce awards, and keep the records straight in a million other ways—including the payment of allotments. 8-19-44

Not all members of Headquarters Company are white-collar workers, however. Some are what they call "housekeepers for Division Headquarters."

HQ Maintenance Men

They raise the tents for HQ personnel, keep the offices clean, keep the water bags filled, maintain HQ vehicles, empty the waste baskets and garbage pails.

But, most important of all, said one soldier, "We salute the one-bar officers that are so much overshadowed by the heavy brass that they would feel bad if they didn't have us around to render the proper military courtesy."

Included in the clerking and house keeping groups are, besides those mentioned:

M/Sgt. Clarence Cummings, Newton Square, Pa.; M/Sgt. James Vinson, Braddock, Pa.; T/Sgt. Anthony Hatfield, Corona, N.Y.; S/Sgt. Cornelius Brooks, Brackenridge, Pa.; T/4 Thomas Freeman, NYC; John Scott, NYC; Charles Wade, Wilder, W.Va.; 8-19-44

T/4s Victor Bowser, Elizabeth, N.J.; George Fowler, NYC; James Hopewell, Worcester, Mass.; Joseph Howe, Summit, N.J.; Emmett Johnson, Lexington, Va.; Edward Moultrie, 1219 Kimball Street, Philly; Thomas McDonald, Imperial, Pa.;

T/4s William Robertson, 1827 Fourth Street, Northwest, Washington; Deotha Rankin, NYC; Franklin Reeves, Providence, R.I.; T/5s Arthur Mitchell, NYC; Robert Rainey, Harrisburg, Pa.; Marvin Sutton, 2018 Nineteenth Street, Philly; Clarence McMillan, St. Paul, N.C.;

SPARTANBURG REPRESENTED

T/5s John Askerneese, Farrell, Pa.; Fletcher Crawford, Jamaica, N.Y.; James Delaney, Dover, Del.; William Ferguson, NYC; Roscoe Mayers, Spartanburg, S.C.; Earl Horton, Sanford, N.C.; Walter Reed, Carlisle, Pa.; Othel Werts, McCormick, S.C.; Randy Walters, NYC;

T/3s William Murray, NYC; Edward Corley, NYC; Cpls. John Givens, NYC; Lester Levine, Brooklyn; Wesley Smith, Philly; Pfcs. William Wofford, Asheville, N.C.; Herbert Wright, Wilmington, Del.; Willie Nelson, NYC; Brooks Jackson, Portsmouth, Va.; 8-19-44

T/3s Beatty Glenn, Union, S.C.; Levander Ford, Sumter, S.C.; Velma Exum, Farmville, N.C.; David Avery, Nyack, N.Y.; Pvts. Thomas Burton, Trenton, N.J.; James McMillan, St. Pauls, N.C.; and Ray Scott, Asheville, N.C.

NEGRO NURSES AND THE ARMY

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Necessity plus the militant campaign by the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses have achieved an outstanding victory for democracy. The army has decided to recruit Negro nurses without following the quota system under which they were previously accepted. 8-12-44

This step was decided upon when a well organized drive in the recruiting of nurses failed to meet the minimum requirements of the armed forces. In New York City, the drive failed to produce the added quota of 500 white nurses, while at that time there were 800 registered Negro nurses in that city ready and eager to serve. These 800 qualified nurses were ignored because the army's quota of colored nurses was already filled. The 219 Negro nurses in the

daily, this need of qualified nurses has become acute. The problem is not one of "protecting the segregation system," but rather is whether white soldiers shall die because of the lack of enough Florence Nightengales. Into this breach will step trained Negro nurses who, despite their original snubbing, will wholeheartedly train and perform the

armed forces were regarded as ample to fill the army's need, as they were used only at segregated hospitals and only for Negro troops. It took the Brass Hats a long time to realize that a

wounded serviceman wants only medical cares not as a white or black face. 8-12-44

With the war increasing in tempo

arduous t sks that accompany their vocation: From this unselfish performance of duty will surely come an improvement in race relations that will carry over into civilian life.

When a soldier is convalescing, he will have a great deal of time to clearly think of the issues of democracy that face his country. He will remember his former training in matters pertaining to race. Then he will weigh it against the kind and skillful service that is given him by the Negro nurses. After this comparison the demagogues are going to have a lot of difficulty in taking G.I. Joe back to his former state of prejudice. 8-12-44

The victory in the acceptance of nurses by the army can be chalked up as one step on the long road for real democracy. The stupid segregation of blood by the Red Cross blood bank, despite all scientific proof of its fallacy, is the next obstacle that must be removed at once. The final achievement is the breaking down of barriers, and the integration of all soldiers into one army without restrictions because of race or color.

War Department Admits 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments Are Service Troops

Call-Kansas City, Mo.
4-14-44

NEW YORK. — The 9th and 10th Cavalry regiments, famous Negro regular army units, have been converted into service troops, it has been admitted by the War department.

In a letter to Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., John J. McCloy, assistant secretary of war, included copy of a letter to Senator Robert A. Taft in which it was explained that the 9th and 10th—although not designated by name—have been used "to provide certain additional service units to meet an early requirement of the highest importance." In explaining the conversion of the famous old fighting regiments into service troops Mr. McCoy wrote Senator Taft:

"Unfortunately currently constituted service units were all committed to definite tasks. They could not be withdrawn from these tasks without seriously interfering with planned operations, and the short time available for the organization and training of the needed units made it imperative to utilize previously trained personnel. 4-14-44

It was found that the only available source for such personnel was certain uncommitted combat units, including the Second Cavalry division.

As mentioned previously, the military situation demanded that trained personnel in considerable numbers be made immediately available. Since the Second Cavalry division was the only source from which such personnel could be withdrawn without delaying the war effort, the War department was compelled to effect this change in [illegible]. Needless to say, the decision would necessarily have been the same had this division been composed of white personnel."

The 9th and 10th formed part of the Second Cavalry division which had been training in Ft. Clark, Texas. 4-14-44

Mr. McCloy's letter was in reply to a direct inquiry of the N.A.A.C.P. under date of March 23 as to what had become of the 9th and 10th Cavalry regiments. Following Secretary Stimson's letter of February 19, to Congressman Hamilton Fish, many rumors floated about the country on the conversion of Negro combat units into service troops.

The war department was mysteriously quiet about the 9th and 10th cavalry regiments. Rumors as to the conversion of these troops became so persistent that the N.A.A.C.P. wrote the war department with the result that Assistant Secretary McCloy has confirmed the rumors that the 9th and 10th are no more used as fighting regiments.

"We Lived in Hell...!"

Afro-American-Baltimore
8-26-44

Musician, Held by Nazis in Prison Camp, Subsisted on Soup and Tea

NEW YORK—"We learned to live in hell and got used to it."

These words summed up the experiences of Maceo Jefferson, music arranger, who arrived here recently from France where he, an American, was interned in a Nazi civilian prison camp for two and a half years.

Mr. Jefferson, who is now employed arranging scores for a number of outstanding orchestras, had made his home in Europe since he went there with the famous Lew Leslie's "Blackbirds," starring the immortal Florence Mills. 8-26-44

In a recent interview, Mr. Jefferson explained that he was among the American prisoners exchanged for German prisoners, and came over on the last trip of the Gripsholm. He was in France when America declared war on Germany and was incarcerated in Frontstlag 122, about 70 miles from Paris.

No Racial Discrimination

Between 1100 and 1200 civilian prisoners were imprisoned in the camp, among which were a good number of colored people, but there was no racial discrimination, the musician said. They were guarded by German soldiers, kept behind barbed wire and six machine gun nests were perched above the camp grounds. They were permitted to have visitors for ten minutes only, every fifteen days, and had to talk to them through mesh wire.

Having been taken prisoner early in the war, these first groups suffered from lack of recreational facilities, and, of course, the food was merely something to eat. They had soup once a day and herb tea once or twice. A common food like oatmeal was a treat. It was served every Friday afternoon, he said.

After days of inertia and boredom, recreational material began to arrive from American through the War Prisoners' Aid of the YMCA, he explained. Musical instruments, baseball sets, punching bags, other athletic equipment and books. The men had to fill in the trenches that had been dug by the French in order to make a baseball diamond.

France's Negro Soldiers Are The First To Enter Liberated City of Paris

Weekly — New Orleans, La.
9-9-44

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Paris, Aug. 30.—The late Gov. Felix Eboue's French Equatorial African army, composed of Senegalese, Moroccans and native tribes recruited in the Lake Chad territory and the Cameroons, made a triumphant entry into this liberated city last week. They were the first allied soldiers to arrive here on the heels of the fleeing Nazis.

Armed with modern American weapons, they were members of the 2nd French Armored Division. Their battle-marked tri-colors bore the Cross of Lorraine as they marched down picturesque Champs Elysees to the tune of "Le Marseillaise," enroute to the Arch de Triomphe to honor the grave of the Unknown Soldier.

Fighting under the command of General Jacques LeClerc, these veterans are fearless fighters. They have been seasoned by the rigors of the African campaign, where they distinguished themselves for effecting a juncture with the allied forces in North Africa in Tunisia. They marched 1,700 miles across the hot sands of the Sahara Desert from Chad to Tunis to reach Paris. 9-9-44

Parisians gave these black sons of the French republic a wild welcome. Women, men and children lined the boulevards to display their appreciation for their heroes who rallied to the appeal of Eboue and the Cross of Lorraine in France's most crucial moment.

30,000 Africans on Duty in Italy

Baltimore, Md.
12-31-44

ITALY—Over 30,000 Africans from British protectorates and colonies of lower Africa, plus several thousand work troops from the Union of South Africa, are serving with the British Fifth and Eighth Armies here. 12-31-44

Africans from the French territories are also fighting here. French colonial troops of the Second Armored Division, under General LeClerc, were the first to enter Paris when that city was liberated on August 25.

Other French African troops made up the main forces which successfully stormed Toulon, Marseilles and other cities in Southern France. British West and East African troops have also seen several months of hard jungle fighting on the Burma front.

2 Battalions in Afro American African Stockade

Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE — The imprisonment of two battalions of colored soldiers in a prison stockade upon their arrival in North Africa was reported this week by a soldier who saw service in that area.

The incident, according to the soldier, took place before the surrender of the Italian armies and the men were kept in the stockade for two weeks. 8-12-44

Iatlian prisoners who promenade outside the stockade fence thought the colored Americans were French prisoners, and when told otherwise, were amused to know that they—actual prisoners of war—had more freedom than the colored soldiers.

SHIPS LOADED BY SOLDIERS

Times — 12-31-44

Skilled Negro Troops Speed War Cargoes at Philadelphia

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30—Sol-

immediately. 12-31-44
The WMC announced that it would upgrade freight car loaders now on the job to stevedores and raise their pay from 85 cents to $1.20 an hour in an effort to meet next month's crisis.

dier stevedores loaded war supplies on ships at Philadelphia docks today and Army and War Manpower Commission officials said they expected the bottleneck in the movement of material destined for American fighting men to be broken next week.

The troops, members of an especially trained Negro unit, were brought here at the request of Col. Alexander B. MacNabb, commandant of the Philadelphia Port of Embarkation, who said that otherwise the shortage of longshoremen was so critical as to delay sailings.

Wirning of the greatest delivery test in the port's history next month, Colonel MacNabb appealed to all-longshoremen and stevedores who are still celebrating the holiday season to get back to work

47m-1944

14 Points on Negro Troops Abroad Given War Department By White

Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa

6-8-44

Report to Washington Lists Recommendations As Result of Fifteen Weeks Observation Overseas

Washington — Fourteen recommendations, ranging from lectures to American white soldiers to a special Board of Review for courts-martial cases, were made by Walter White in a report to the War Department, it was revealed here last week.

The report was based upon White's 15-week, 20,000-mile tour of military installations in the European theatre of operations, in North Africa, Italy and the Middle East as an accredited foreign correspondent for the New York Post newspaper. The fourteen points included:

6-8-44

Off Limits—That General Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" of towns and pubs (taverns) be enforced in all areas. Negro soldiers were found to resent bitterly the off limits orders, or orders setting "odd" and "even" nights for white and colored troops to visit towns and places of amusement. White observed that some commanding officers who took a positive stand for fairness had very little trouble in their localities.

Courts Martial—A special board of review of courts-martial cases was recommended by White who said "great unhappiness" has resulted among Negro soldiers "because of their belief that they are punished more quickly and more severely than white soldiers." After citing a number of cases detailed to him by Negro prisoners with whom he was permitted to talk freely, White urged that the special board of review include an eminent Negro lawyer, who would be brought in to serve with appropriate rank.

6-8-44

Combat Troops—The department is urged to send Negro combat troops to England. White said stories were being circulated that there are no Negro combat troops in England because "Negroes are afraid to fight." White termed as "unfortunate" the fact that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only Negro service troops had been sent to the European theatre. "The Negro troops in the ETO," said his report, "have little or none of the excitement of war necessary to raise the spirits and to give a sense of participation to men engaged in waging war."

Also recommended was that Negro medium bomber crews be sent to England "to fly in non-segregated units," and that Negro service troops now stationed there be given refresher courses in the use of combat weapons, as "many of these troops will closely follow the assault wave of invasion, will be under fire, and need to be made competent in the use of weapons."

6-8-44

Supporting his recommendation for more combat troops, White cited the improved atmosphere in the Mediterranean as a result of the exploits of the 99th Pursuit Squadron. He recommended that Negro and white fighter squadrons function in the same group; and he also urged reconsideration of the conversion of the 2nd Cavalry Division into service troops.

In connection with the moral value of the presence of Negro combat troops, White also urged that more Negro officers above the rank of captain be sent to England.

Anti-Negro Rumors—Some Negro soldiers abroad have taken the spreading of vicious and fantastic rumors about Negroes as a joke, but some have resented these stories deeply, said White, in recommending that G-2 (Army Intelligence) try to track down and scotch morale-sapping stories.

White reported less anti-Negro propaganda in the Mediterranean than in England, but suggested that Army Intelligence run down the people who were issuing leaflets, placards and other material seeking to poison Italians against Negroes. Upon inquiry one such placard was found to have been issued by a non-existent organization and signed by a fiictitious person.

6-8-44

Military Police—White found the same complaint abroad on military police that has been made in some parts of America, namely that white MPs are armed, but Negro MPs are not. He recommended that no MPs be armed except when guarding payrolls.

6-8-44

WALTER WHITE

Paternalism—Paternalistic attitude on the part of white officers is resented, White reported, saying that both well-educated and less-educated Negroes resent being treated as "boys." Abandonment of the idea that southern white officers are best for Negro troops because they "understand" Negroes was urged by White, who, however, said many white officers from the South are fair and decent in their treatment of Negroes, while there is no guarantee that a man will be free from prejudice because he happens to be from the North.

Lectures — Lectures to American white troops aboard ships as they near England on the difference between the British and American attitudes toward color, together with lectures to British troops by competent Americans on America and the true place of the Negro as a citizen of his country would be helpful, White declared.

6-8-44

A connection between the venereal disease rate among colored troops and the attitude which has barred them from normal association with respectable families was seen by White, who quoted a soldier as saying they were more and more restricted to women picked up in pubs. White suggested that a Negro physician be attached to the office of Chief Surgeon.

More Negro actors and singers were recommended by the entertainment of both white and Negro troops.

Red Cross — After praising the American Red Cross for doing "in many respects a superlative job," White deplored the "white" and "Negro" Red Cross clubs located in many areas as not only introducing segregation to the British, but denying white and Negro American soldiers the opportunity to know each other better. He cited the non-segregated pattern of one club as a model for the Red Cross everywhere.

6-8-44

Censorship—More news and more sympathetic handling of news dealing with Negro troops by the censors would be very helpful, said White, as it would give Negro civilians a better picture of the contribution of their men to the war.

Lagging Behind—White's concluding recommendation was a suggestion that the War Department policy on race "lags behind that of much of the personnel of the Army." He said an advanced position would meet opposition, but would be approved by "a much larger percentage . . . than the War Department appears to believe possible."

6-8-44

"The time and field are ripe for progress. Continuance of segregation and discrimination is in part responsible for a less determined spirit in the army than is necessary to meet the very crucial days which lie ahead before this war is won. Vision to see the situation as it is and courage to surmount difficulties and opposition in the implementation of that vision are greatly to be urged upon the War and Navy Departments, and upon all others charged with the prosecution of the war."

Tests Law for Nurse Training

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

White Hospitals Can Refuse Negro

3-17-44

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — In the first case of discrimination growing out of the Bolton nurse training bill enacted last spring, the general counsel of the Federal Security agency, at the request of the U.S. Public Health service, ruled that discrimination is indicated only when funds are denied an institution on account of race, creed or color, and not because of the refusal of a white institution to accept a Negro applicant for training.

The instance was disclosed by Leslie Perry, legislative representative of the NAACP last week, and deals with the experience of Mrs. Virginia Parsons of Keokuk, Ia. Mrs. Parsons, it appears, applied to the St. Joseph's hospital of that city for training last fall. The hospital is a private institution.

3-17-44

"Apparently Mrs. Parsons met all requirements except that of color," according to the NAACP. "The hospital authorities submitted the question of her admission to the hospital to the student body which voted not to accept her."

It was the late Sen. Warren Barbour of New Jersey who presented the amendment to the Bolton bill barring discrimination "in the administration of the benefits and appropriations made under the respective provisions of the act on account of race, creed or color." However, when the Keokuk branch of the association took the matter up with public health, the ruling was requested.

The decision of Jack B. Tate, general counsel for FSA, was that "the requirement of the act will be complied with if in the administration of the act no plan is disapproved or payment denied to

3-17-44

[Whereas the Nurses' Education, Iowa, the nearest being Missouri, association lists 32 state accredit the Keokuk branch was inform ering what action it shall take in Perry said. is now consid line with the problem presented. any institution on acount of the stu race, creed or color of the dents, teachers, or other person ed schools which admit only Ne ed. groes. none of these schools is in The association is n

VIEWS and Reviews

By GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

(This column represents the personal opinion of Mr. Schuyler and in no way reflects the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors)

George Orwell, who pens a salty column in "The Tribune" of London, England, recently wrote a scathing piece on the arrogance and bad manners of the American armed forces in England, who, too often act as if England were a colony of America or, worse, an occupied country, thus making bad friends wholesale. In the course of his diatribe, Orwell went out of his way to say that the best-mannered Americans in England, by general agreement, are the American Negroes. In the main their conduct is gentlemanly, and that reason is appreciated by the English who, at home, are a friendly, urbane and courteous people. From many sources in England I have learned that because of their general exemplary conduct, the American colored soldiers have made as many friends as the white American soldiers have made enemies. In consequence, a great sympathy for the Aframerican has been engendered, and there is widespread resentment against the white American over there because of their snide treatment of their colored colleagues.

* * *

There has, for example, been scathing denunciation by English editors and others concerning the insistence by American military authorities that Negro soldiers be barred from certain public places frequented by white Americans—especially those places where white women are to be met. There is resentment also because American authorities have used their influence to have British military authorities advise their men not to fraternize with Americans of color. But the worst storm of indignation has arisen over te "railroading" to death of Negro soldiers by prejudiced American courts-martial for the alleged crime of rape. This offense does not draw more than a 10-year sentence in England, even when the accused is undoubtedly guilty. In the case of several accused Negroes, the evidence was shockingly skimpy—as it usually is where the accused is black and the judge and jury are white Americans, and the woman is white. "The Tribune" recently published the complete text of testimony in one case, and this has aroused nation-wide indignation over American legal terrorism. No matter what American propagandists may say about the high ideals motivating American world adventuring, the English people will not forget that these same Americans sent fellow Americans to their death or to life imprisonment with diabolical calculation.

* * *

I think it is extremely significant that the English are finding colored Americans to have better manners than white Americans. They have discovered what is quite obvious also in this country. For all the hoodlumism and bad language used by a minority of Negroes here to the detriment of race relations, the fact remains that taken section by section, city by city, Negroes native to those parts are better mannered than their white brethren. Not only that, but it is my considered opinion that by and large, class for class, our colored folks are more urbane, tolerant and sophisticated. Certainly, I have met more civilized colored people here, in proportion to their number in the population, than I have white folks. Europeans visiting these shores have told me that they found the Negro sections more like European cities spiritually than they did the areas outside the ghettos.

* * *

If true, what is the answer? Does it lie in the fact that the colored Americans are more realistic and less naive by virtue of their position and experience in American society? Certainly the average Senegambian in the U.S.A. knows more about the facts of this civilization—the real facts—than the average white person. And in the degree that he has penetrated the illusions and fictions which becloud the vision of the average white American, he is a far more civilized man. In the main, he has no desire to injure white people, to prevent them from making a decent living, from going where they choose or from living wherever they can afford the rent. He is, in the main, a modest fellow willing to live and let live, and only asks to be let alone. He has no desire to bend others to his way of thinking and doing, and his ire is only aroused when others seek to prevent him from doing so. When white folks enter his localities, he treats them generally with courtesy bordering on deference.

Obviously, such a fellow going to England or elsewhere on the Continent would naturally make friends everywhere because the Europeans understand and appreciate his good manners. It is significant that while anti-Semitism rages in Germany and elsewhere, the colored brother is received with tolerance and sometimes with enthusiasm.

The white American, on the other hand, is welcomed chiefly for his money. He is quick to criticize foreign ways and to offer suggestions for improvement of the places where he alights. Worse, he invariably insists on telling Europeans how they should treat his colored fellow countrymen. It is understandable that the English are fed up with our white folks and pleased with our colored brethren.

Negro Field Artillery Unit Aided In Fall Of St. Malo

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va

9-2-44

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

WITH THE ALLIED ARMY IN FRANCE, (ANP)—Going up to the front line, I encountered some interesting and pathetic experiences.

All along the route up the front there were white and colored soldiers repairing railway tracks, communications and roads. They were also driving the wounded from the front to the collecting point, and were directing traffic. I counted 24 trucks overcrowded with Nazi prisoners coming down from the front. There were no signs of regret or frustration registered on their faces. Among the prisoners were boys of 16 and 17 years of age.

I saw trucks carrying French women, men and children with remnants of their belongings that had been salvaged from the bombardment. There was a weeping and gnashing of the teeth. The French people of these remote towns are bewildered. They stand and gaze at the endless stream of army vehicles moving in all directions. They were once told that France had the greatest army in Europe.

9-2-44

That great army was crushed in four weeks. The Germans came along with their form of invincibility and now they see the Americans tearing the guts out of them. But this time the Americans are writing the finale. They all say the same thing, "We have been waiting for you for four years."

DOING HIGHLY TECHNICAL JOB

Some of the towns are in complete ruins. For example, St. Lo, which had been pounded unmercifully by the 9th American Air force. The town of Avranches is also in ruins. This colored field artillery took part in the bombardment of these towns which were stubbornly held by the Germans. In actual fact, the survey section of this battalion was shelled by German 88's at point blank range while they were surveying for "fire missions." The survey section is doing a highly technical job worthy of the highest comment.

The men are S/Sgt. Gilbert L. Eldridge, East Orange, N. J.; T/4 Charlie Scott of Louisiana; Cpl. Eric Dixon, New York City; Pvt. Leon Mincy, Florida; Ephram Edwards, Alabama, and Pvt. Irving Brown, Mississippi.

9-2-44

Ali along the route there was an incredible spectacle of knocked-out tanks, shot-up jeeps, overturned farm wagons, burned-out half tracks, burnt-out automobiles and hundreds of dead horses.

At this time the colored batteries were pumping their projectors into regions of space on a mission of destruction. And when I say destruction, I mean that in all its implications. This battalion is writing glorious pages in history and I am happy to chronicle the event. Their accuracy on all targets is astounding. A roving German 88 gun cunningly concealed in a building, and which had caused considerable trouble, was destroyed by "A" battery.

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This gun was ingeniously operated on a track which forced it out of doors to fire on its objective. Immediately after the fire mission the gun rolled back into the building with amazing swiftness. For a while the gun mystified all the batteries. But as soon as our observer solved the mystery, the gun was silenced.

OUTFIT COMMENDED

A brigadier general, the executive officer of the division that this Negro field artillery unit is supporting, visited the forward observation post and commended the outfit for its accurate firing and for having successfully accomplished its mission which was to destroy German concrete fortifications and pillboxes.

9-2-44

Thus, it can be authoritatively stated that this Negro field artillery played a major role in the fall of St. Malo which was so fiercely contested by the Germans.

NEED FOR NURSES GREAT BUT ARMY BYPASSES NEGROES

Globe + Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

6-23-44

NEW YORK, June 22—(ANP)—While the ban on Negro nurse recruitment was lifted here in November, and even though nurses are greatly needed in the North Atlantic and Pacific areas as well as here on the home front, the supply at hand of Negro nurses has hardly been touched, comes a recent report. The more than 800 Negro registered nurses here are completely ignored by the war department.

In a protest against such army bias, Mrs. Mabel Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate nurses, said she thought the army would have far less trouble recruiting nurses if it opened its ranks more liberally to Negroes.

"In the entire Army Nurse Corps, there are only 219 Negro women," she explained. "All of them are located in the south with the exceptions of one group in Des Moines and one unit in New Guinea."

Supervises Work of German Prisoners

6-23-44

CAMP BLANDING, Fla.—Del. Taylor, a graduate of Clark University, Atlanta, Ga., has charge of a group of German prisoners detailed to work in a salvage warehouse. They separate items of equipment which have been classified, laundered, and repaired for reissue.

47m-1944

Gets First Casualty

9-2-44

Gen. Clark Confers Combat Badges On Two Men; Predicts Brilliant Future For Outfit From 92nd Division; Soldiers Eager

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
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SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—Via Wireless—The crack Negro combat team, composed of elements of the famous 92nd Buffalo division which was such a vital factor in the winning of World War I, are now in combat with Lt. General Mark Clark's Fifth Army on the Italian West Coast front.

This marks the first time in this war that the Nazis have met American Negro infantrymen in battle, and a parallel to 1918 when the Germans found themselves face to face with the original Buffaloes, has been established.

The combat team suffered its initial casualty last week and two of its soldiers were cited by General Clark in a special ceremony.

The unit's first casualty came last week when a colored officer of this combat team—the first self-sufficient infantry team in Army history—went to the front ahead of his unit which was assigned to reconnaissance work. He was reported killed in action. (His name will not be released until next of kin are notified.—Ed.)

TOUGH AND SMART

When interviewed, the commanding officer of the unit declared: "In our assignment, we will see plenty of fighting action and this is right down our alley. The men in this outfit are tough and they're smart. They would be a credit to any Army in the world." 9-2-44

In special ceremonies on Monday of this week, Lt. General Clark conferred the combat infantry badge upon two soldiers of the combat team. They were: S Sgt. Paul Wilson, Youngstown, Ohio; and Sgt. Nolan Reed, St. Louis.

This badge is only awarded to infantrymen who are actually serving in front line combat at the time of the incident which merits the award.

PRAISED BY CLARK

In his remarks to the unit at the front, just before it was committed to combat, General Clark related the glorious history of the Fifth Army from Salerno to Florence and then said: "I know how carefully you have trained. I know your fine leadership, your discipline and the proficiency with which you used the weapons of your branch.

"You are better equipped than any Army in the world. You have joined the big leagues now. You are with professional fighters and with your background you have every opportunity to make a great name for the 92nd division.

"You have nothing to fear from the Germans. In fact, they will be afraid of you. You will defeat him and annihilate him in every place you find him . You will prove that he is inferior to you and that you are superior to him in every way."

TO BE IN ON KILL 9-2-44

Concluding, General Clark said: "Take this opportunity, as I know you will, to cover yourselves with glory. You men of the 92nd will be in on the final battle when we completely crush the enemy thereby bringing victory to our great nation. Good luck and God bless you."

The rugged men of the new combat infantry team are proud masters of the improved weapons of war. These bronzed warriors have the highest morale and have excellent equipment They have an eagerness to wade in and slug it out to a finish with the Germans They have trained for this job for over two years. 9-2-44

WELL EQUIPPED

The majority of the officers of the unit are colored. 1st Lt. Phillip Grayson, 292 Bartham avenue, Columbus, Ohio, assistant personnel officer, told this reporter: "We are equipped with everything we could ask for. If we had another piece of equipment, I think it would be excess."

1st Lt. Allen L. Johnson, of Jackson, Miss., team chaplain, affectionately called "the fighting, shouting chaplain," previously served several months in the Pacific. He said: "I am proud of these boys. They're the best I have ever seen."

Other chaplains are: 1st Lt. Ernest D. Thompson, Des Moines, Iowa, and Ist Lt. Herbert C. Jones, Chattanooga, Tenn.

1st Lt. Charles Bailey, of Easton, Md., member of the headquarters staff declared: "Our boys are ready. I believe they can take care of themselves in any situation."

PORTSMOUTH SOLDIERS

2nd Lt. Robert Brooks, platoon leader who was previously an enlisted man in the engineers in North Africa, returned to the states, went to officer candidate school, and was reassigned to the Buffalo division. Another officer of the unit is 1st Lt. Charles "Cutes" Carter, former Hampton Institute athlete.

1st Lt. John W. Brown, of Portsmouth, Va., told this writer that "We are here now. Bring on those Jerries." T/Sgt. Robert E. Bazemore, also of Portsmouth, said: "Keep an eye on these boys. We are going to make news."

Action At Last!

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

With the crack 24th U.S. Infantry in action on Bougainville Island, Negro combat troops have finally entered the war for which they have been training for years.

Every American Negro is gratified at the news and especially pleased to know that his boys have distinguished themselves. 3-25-44

One sour note in the news is the information that these Negro troops are not being officered by Negroes, although the War Department propagandists boast that there are many times more colored officers today than there were during the last war.

If we are to have separate racial regiments, then there is no excuse for them to be officered by white men, unless colored officers are going to be assigned to command white men.

As a matter of fact, the Army has connived to place a preponderance of colored officers in service units, and promotions of Negroes above the grade of first lieutenant in the Negro combat divisions have been exceptional.

At the same time, transfer of white officers to Negro combat units has been an easy ladder to promotions for those who might not otherwise have gained them so readily. 3-25-44

It is to be hoped that these wrongs will be righted before long, because nothing whatever must interfere with the intelligent conduct of the war . . . a war which in many ways has just begun.

Toles Sees Chicagoans Blast Nazis In Brittany

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

By EDWARD TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH THIRD ARMY IN BRITTANY.—Pounding with murderous accuracy German pockets situated in islands near Saint Malo, this Negro artillery battalion has made a remarkable record. It is one of the first of six Negro combat artillery teams to fight in France. In Brittany they have been blasting daily as a part of a unit of artillery which has 155 long-toms and eight-inch Howitzers.

9-2-44

Edward Toles'

Firing eight-inch Howitzers, this Negro unit is repeating the triumphs gained in Normandy when, two days after landing, their big shells began battering the strategic heart of Hitler's defenses in the Lessay-Periers region.

The big artillery didn't come shore until it was needed to blast and rout the enemy from long distances. The men got here in the middle of July and have been moving ever since their arrival. I have been with this unit for four days, moving with them once, and am now preparing to move again.

Even as I write, just behind the radio communications car, I can hear our plane observer by radio giving directions to fire direction control at the command post.

"We just knocked the back door out of the telephone exchange. Mission completed. Cease firing!"

The mission was a telephone exchange and the voice on the radio was our plane observer flying over the target directing our gunfire and observing our hits.

Never See Target

I can now hear the terrific explosions of guns firing; the whistling, whizzing sound of shells flying through the air to hit miles away. This is long range artillery firing, where the men at the battery never see the target and fire only by directions from plane observers flying over the target and observations headquarters, which is central communications. Brain trust in fact, where all orders and commands for firing are given.

Each of our four batteries, having four guns each, are directly turned by radio telephone communication. The set-up is mostly Greek to me, but I am being tutored in the fine points of long-range firing by Sgt. James Mitchell who is in charge of one of the units. 9-2-44

Sgt. Mitchell, a Chicagoan, lived at 435 East Forty-fourth street, at the time of his induction. He is a graduate of the Ashburne trade school, subsequently attending the army radio school. It isn't long before you're convinced that Sgt. Mitchell is all wrapped up in his present duties and very proud of the guns with which he works. He's a real artillery man.

Says Sgt. Mitchell: "Laymen will have one helluva time understanding the science and mechanics of modern artillery warfare. To them this noisy business is all just a lot of big guns booming away hazardly at objectives too far removed for smaller weapons to reach. The layman figures that we throw a lot of shells at the enemy and hope that some of the projectiles find their mark.

"That ain't the idea at all, course. These gun crews are trained

ing instructions to ourmost devastating gun of the war. you can bet your life. My eyes roved over the near-by shell is going to landfire-control room of the battery to what it was aimed at near which we were standing. The the second or third round, ground trembled violently every e're landing all into the time one of those guns let go, and it doesn't take many of already I began feeling sorry for -inch babies to blow hell the guys on the receiving end of ning man ever built." this gruesome game.

ened to Sgt. Mitchell, I appreciation for his be- toms, described as the these points and by the time they

Chicagoan In Control

In the control room is another Chicago man, Pvt. Harry Lawton,

3637 Giles avenue. He sits with feet dangling into a slit trench, earphones clapped securely onto his head, and rapidly communicates directions to the batteries. Working with Private Lawton were Privates Othalia Tomkins, Fort Worth, Texas; Fletcher Morgan, Bay City, Texas; Fred Mosely, Mexia, Texas, former student at Prairie View State college; Harold Wallace, New York City, and Corp. John Dixon, New York City.

At the firing table, with indicator giving measurements for gun target, was Sgt. Henry L. Smith, Brooklyn, N. Y. He was being assisted by Privates Moses Ward, New York, seated on the ground and sending and receiving fire instructions by radio.

In the meantime our observation plane is circling high overhead keeping the guns informed on the effectiveness of their salvos, now falling into the midst of targets in St. Malo and an island objective.

Word comes that the batteries have just "blasted the back door" off an enemy observation post and that the guns at this point seem to have been silenced.

I glow with pride at the prowess of these gunners when the observation plane shortly informs us that German pill-boxes on the island miles away are being churned to pulp by the Americans' fire.

Those Allied soldiers up front, who have been catching some rough treatment from these enemy entrenchments, must be shouting with joy at this moment.

Lt. Col. Gilber Barnes, Milwaukee, commanding these gun units, beams with satisfaction as the plane pilot informs him that that last salvo just hit an ammunition dump on the island and it looks like the entire enemy emplacements are erupting in violent explosions. Col. Barnes turns to proudly inform me that these gunners' record for firing accuracy and shell output has been acclaimed by every infantry headquarters with which they have fought.

Colonel Barnes said: "My brother, Lt. Col. Hubert Barnes also was in command of a Negro artillery unit, and his outfit was the one that smashed the strong German forticications near Vannes during those early Allied landings in France."

Leaving Col. Barnes I hop into a jeep and am driven hurriedly over to another of the batteries. Here I meet Sgt. Fred Gibson, Salem, N. J., who tells me about the hell his unit raised the night before in softening up the enemy for today's advance. "Why, we threw 27 rounds under Heinie's britches in less time than it takes to say scat and right onto the target I mean, too! Are we good? Well, the government wouldn't let us bust that many 8-inch shells at $200 per crack unless we knew what we were doing and DID it," exclaimed the sergeant.

Back into the jeep and I am driven to company headquarters where I bump into Robert Walker, 4235 Langley avenue, Chicago. The outfit seems to be loaded with Windy City boys who fire questions at me concerning the old hometown. Walker's brothers, Lt. Charles Walker and Air Cadet James Walker, are preparing to get into the thick of this business. James is now at Tuskegee where he is studying bombing tactics.

I also met Cpl. Andrew Hopewell, Worcester, Mass., whose sister, Madeline, is a nurse with the Canadian army. His brother, Robert, also with the Canadian army, was killed in the assault on Dieppe.

While Cpl. Hopewell and I stand gazing up at squadrons of twin-engined bombers streaking towards enemy territory, we are joined by commando Sgt. Henry and Sgt. Joseph Jamerson, the latter of New York. Both are serving with Canadian forces now in France.

As I get off this dispatch from headquarters I can still hear our boys up front blasting away with their long-toms, laying it on the line with every shot.

Let me repeat: These boys are GOOD. Everybody say's so, and everybody can't be joking.

Young Mississippi Negroes In Service Outnumber Whites

JACKSON, Miss., — June — (ANP) — Mississippi Negroes beeween the ages of 18 and thru 25 years in the armed services outnumber whites by more than 2,000, it was announced Tuesday by Col. Lawrence W. Long, state director of selective service.

Figures released by Col. Long showed that a total of 11,209 Negroes between thees age groups had been inducted, while only 9,088 white boys of the same ages had donned uniforms.

The statistics served to refute the oft repeated statement of the Mississippi politicians that a proportionate number of Negro males were being taken nto the armed srevics. Col. Long in explaining the differential asserted the armed forces in the past refused to acept Negro colunteers for the service.

Negro Infantryman From Age — New York, N.Y. 92nd Division Decorated

ROME, Italy — Lieut. General Clark personally visited a wounded Negro infantryman and awarded him a Purple Heart Saturday as the 92nd Infantry Division killed its first Germans and suffered its first battle casualties in the Fifth Army's drive between Pisa and Florence.

Break All Records Unloading Shells

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

BY SGT. CHARLES R. VANERGRIFT

SAIPAN, Marianas Islands—(Delayed)—"Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition" became an actuality here when a Negro Marine unit including two men whose ambition it is to enter the ministry and who conduct religious services for the unit, moved in with the assault troops to set a record in unloading artillery shells for the front lines.

The Negro Marines suffered their first battle casualties of the war when one was killed and four were wounded. They were thrown into front line fighting when Japanese threatened American lines and knocked at least one Jap machine gun out of action an killed several of the enemy—the first Japs sent to their ancestors by Negro Marines in this war.

DIVE IN FOXHOLES

Members of the unit stacked the "big stuff" in neat rows and dived into over-regulation foxholes when the Japs pattern-fired the beach with mortar and artillery shells.

"I haven't got time to think about anything but the Lord," said 19-year-old Private Edward H. Seals, son of Mrs. Emma Calhoun, 1728 Germantown Street, Dayton, Ohio. He explained that this was prompted by the crash of a Jap plane,—bested in a dogfight with Naval aircraft—150 feet from him the night of D-day.

"I prayed night and day after that," he said.

The Negro Marines set what Second Lieutenant Howard E. Tucker, son of Mrs. J. E. Deardorff, 1236 Fifth, East, Salt Lake City, Utah, a platoon leader, believes to be a record of unloading several thousands of tons of ammunition in 38 hours.

OFFICER PLEASED

Besides the two prospective pastors, Private First Class Fred Washington and Private First Class Augustus Witcher, the unit contained a former professional boxer, a dance band leader ,several defense plant workers a former electric washing machine salesman, and others with a wide variety of pre-Saipan occupations.

"I'm very pleased with the way they worked," said Captain Louis P. Shine, son of Mrs. Frances Shine (no street address), Osage, W. Va., unit commanding officer,

Said the 26-year-old Guadalcanal veteran:

"I was plenty scared myself. We'd dig in our foxholes when the firing got heavy. Sometimes the men were almost completely buried in showers of sand.

"I'd kid them and tell them, 'What are we doing here! Come on let's get back to work where we belong.' Then I'd start back to the boats. They came right after me.

"They worked around the clock and did a swell job. Several officers congratulated us on the way we had the ammunition they wanted already when they wanted it."

All of the dozens of types of ammunition had to be stacked separately. They ranged from huge aerial bombs to rifle ammo. Now divided between scattered inland dumps, the boxes and road system approximate the business districts of several small communities.

The unit unloads all ordnance from incoming ships. They handled it for the Second and Fourth Marine and 27th Army Divisions during the Saipan campaign. Although still working on a 24-hour schedule, they're about caught up and are looking forward to a little well-earned rest.

Neither Private First Class Washington nor Private First Class Witcher is actully an ordained pastor, but both hope to be after the war.

Washington, son of Mr. and Mrs James Washington, Magnolia, Ark. conducts regular Sunday night services, reporting an average attendance of 60 to 70. Witcher leads the singing for the Sunday service and holds a prayer meeting and song service each Wednesday evening.

"I held first services here on D-plus-10," said Washington, "using the story of Daniel, because I thought it fit in best, both from a morale standpoint and because it showed that protection is simultaneous with danger."

WORKED AS WELDER

Washington lived at 3317 Stanford Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif., California Ship Yard before entering the service October 10, 1943. and worked as a welder for the For several months, he was an assistant pastor at the Zion Hill Baptist Church, 1319 East 22d St., Los Angeles, conducting services at least once each month. He was studying prior to entering the Baptist Seminary Theological school at the time of his induction.

"Everybody was happy—it seemed kind of like a big football game," said Witcher of his D-day landing. "When we were near shore a Jap mortar shell landed in a nearby 'alligator.' The singing and joking stopped.

"We dug foxholes and then started unloading ammunition. When the explosions got too close we'd dive into the holes until it slackened up. My fox hole was only about two feet deep to start with, but it was double that depth before the first night was over."

Witcher, 20, son of Mrs. Olive Witcher, 910 Anderson Street, Charlottesville, Va., hopes to enter Virginia Union University, Richmond, after the war to study for the pastorate.

DESCRIBE EXPERIENCES

Here's a sample of the experiences others had.

Private First Class John M. Jenkins, 20, son of Mrs. Berlina Jenkins, 1218 "C" Street, S. E., Washington, D. C., knocked out a Jap machine gun with hand grenade.

"They moved us up to the front to help halt a counter-attack," he said. "This gun opened on me from close range. It must have thrown 20 shells as I jumped into a ditch .

"I could see three Jap moving about the gun. After pulling the pin on a grenade. I got to thinking they'd have time to throw it back, so I held it a few seconds and let it go. It landed right on the gun. Guess it got 'em all."

FORMER BOXER

Back in 1942, at New Orleans, another of the Marines, Leo Mann knocked out Lew Jenkins, former welterweight champion. Mann, 21, son of Mrs. Daisy Mann, 1308 Heiner Street, Houston, Texas, is now a sergeant. He directed one of the unloading groups.

"I jumped into my foxhole when the mortar shellls began moving in, for about the 10th time," he said. "One thudded down right beside me. I covered my head. When I look up, I was lying outside the foxhole. Guess I was blown out." Sergeant Mann, who fought variously as a light, welter, and middleweight won 24 of his 27 professional bouts.

Patrons of the Barn, unique Cincinnati night spot, recall a Negro who nightly tried to tear a sturdy piano apart. Here he manned a .30 caliber machine gun during a brief Jap Charan-Kanoa counter-attack.

"Don't know or sure whether I hit any Japs or not, but I shot up a lot of ammunition," said Pri-

vate First Class Robert Payne, 20, son of Mrs. James Brown, 418 Cutter Street, Cincinnati.

47m-1944

Nazi Propaganda Takes Beating

Pittsburgh Courier 8-5-44

Black, White, Red Brazilian Troops March, Socialize Freely In Naples

By OLLIE HARRINGTON, Courier War Correspondent

NAPLES, Italy—The agile-tongued Nazi radio propagandists suffered a major defeat on the streets and byways of this Italian city July 22, when the First Brazilian Expeditionary Force marched its completely unsegregated units ashore on a short liberty leave before going into further combat training. Small, intimate groups, strolling arm in arm along the Via Roma and crowding the many sun-bathed sidewalk cafes, startled the ogling Neapolitans with the unprecedented spectacle of white, black and red troops obviously unconscious of any racial differences and enjoying the delights of this beautiful city.

To the U. S. Negro troops walking in the streets in self-conscious clusters, the arrival of the Brazilians came as a welcome breath of fresh air in the near stifling atmosphere filled with grave doubts.

BRAZILIANS VISIT NEGRO RED CROSS CLUB

At the American Red Cross Liberty club, a refuge for Negro engineer and port battalions in the vicinity of the monument to Garibaldi, the great Italian liberator, I met several of the new arrivals. Their smiling Latin American amiability soon captivated every Negro GI as groups gathered about the snack bar and billiard tables.

In spite of the language difficulties, the atmosphere of the club was pervaded with friendliness and a new element of comradeship. An all-Negro band played contagious Latin American rhythms with just a touch of irrepressible Harlem jive. Our venerable Senators Bilbo and Rankin would have been extremely unhappy over the situation, but to the American troops, many of them recently back from the hellish war fronts, it was like a refreshing draught.

BRAZILIANS WOULD FACE JIM CROW IN AMERICA

Three Brazilian sergeants, Carlo Gradulich, whose father found refuge in Brazil from Polish pogroms, Vincio de Aguiar of Indian-Spanish descent and Jose Maria da Silva, who would be forced to ride the solitary coach behind the engine in Mississippi, were very anxious to discuss their army with this correspondent, but their profuse Latin explanations would require too much space during these days of newsprint shortage.

They summed up the situation perfectly, however, when one of them said: "There is only one Brazilian army. It is composed of Brazilians." With that statement Nazi propaganda, that rather neglected front, suffered a major defeat in the streets and bars of Naples.

GI Killing At Claiborne Adds To Growing Unrest

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
9-16-44

The fatal shooting of a colored soldier by a white officer at Camp Claiborne, La., and unconfirmed reports of other incidents in which Negro soldiers are said to have been dealt with unjustly, added emphasis this week to the growing unrest among race troops stationed at Army camps in various sections of the country.

According to an official report from the provost marshal's office at Camp Claiborne, 26-year-old Pvt. Leonard R. Washington of New Orleans was fatally wounded by a white officer (1st Lt. Kermit Bates), the night of September 4, near the Turtle Creek bivouac area, southeast of Claiborne. Funeral services were held Thursday for the slain man.

The report from the provost marshal's office alleged that Private Washington broke arrest, attacked two officers and attempted to escape in a Government vehicle. The report claims Washington was shot when he attacked the lieutenant after being rearrested.

TENSION AROUND AREA

Considerable tension has existed around Camp Claiborne for several months, the bivouac area being the scene of a recent disturbance in which four other colored soldiers were reported shot, but not fatally.

A report not yet confirmed by Army authorities claims nine soldiers at Camp Van Dorn, Miss. were court-martialed and given sentences ranging from 15 years to life imprisonment, following an exchange of gunfire between the 518th Quartermaster Regiment and the 1697th Engineer Combat battalion.

TWO REPORTED WOUNDED

The unconfirmed report says the clash occurred during July (two men were wounded), and the nine colored soldiers tried on charges of "inciting and creating a riot," with an officer and a non-commissioned officer of the 1697th taking part in the prosecution over the protest of the Negro soldiers. Those reported sentenced were:

S/Sgt. Fred R. Hunter, S/Sgt. George Ford, T/4 Louis Lavent, Cpl. Johnnie Gilbert and Pfc. Johnnie Felton, life imprisonment; Pfc. Johnnie O'Neal, Pfc. Dempsey D. Perry and Pvt. Jimmie Evans, 20 years and Pfc. John Mendes, 15 years.

9-16-44

ANOTHER CLASH REPORTED

Report of another racial clash at Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyoming, early this month, was denied by the post commander. The report claims colored and white soldiers exchanged gunfire after a white officer cursed, slapped and kicked a Negro soldier. The post commander told The Courier:

"There was no disorder at Fort Warren September 2. There was a minor disturbance in the camp, occasioned by the arrest of a drunken colored soldier. It was a minor incident, of the type that may be expected to occur in any of the larger camps following pay day."

Also unconfirmed is the report coming out of Camp Sutton, N.C., concerning the arrest by civilian police of a colored soldier alleged to have been found with a white woman. The report says colored soldiers threatened to use force when military authorities refused to intervene, but such action was prevented when Negro soldiers were ordered out of the post on a 10-day forced march.

DENIES SOLDIER KILLED

Maj. E. C. Branniff, public relations officer at Fort Jackson, S.C., told The Courier this week that "No soldier of the 1700th Combat Engineer Battalion or any other soldier on this post has been killed recently."

9-16-44

The major's statement was in reply to a question asking information on a report claiming a soldier had been killed by a military policeman September 1.

Each of fifty accused to testify

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
10-9-44

YERBA BUENA—Attorneys for the 50 Negro sailors accused of refusing to load ammunition, this week continued the long, drawn out process of calling the accused seamen to the stand to testify in their own defense.

The trial, now in its 21st day, was highlighted last week by a near legal brawl between Lt. Commander Frank Coakley, judge advocate in the mutiny trial, and the defense counsel, Lieutenant Gerald Veltman.

Coakley leaped to his feet and charged Veltman with inspiring in his witnesses a personal insult of the judge advocate following testimony of Seaman Second Class Alphonso MacPherson that Coakley had told him to "come clean or I'll see that you get shot."

Veltman denied that his witnesses, most of whom said the Port Chicago disaster nearby had made them leary of the ammunition, were rehearsed. Coakley countered with charges that MacPherson had made his story up "out of whole cloth".

10-9-44

MacPherson, who was injured at Port Chicago and claimed that he is still suffering from internal injuries received at the time, testified that on the 9th day of the work stoppage, he had told his commanding officer he was willing to obey orders, but had admitted that he was afraid.

The division officers Lt. J. E. Tobin, wouldn't let him finish, MacPherson said, and told him to "get over with the other cowards", the men who had consistently refused to obey the order to load the ammunition.

The testimony Tuesday of Ernest T. Brown, skilled electrical worker whom the Navy has been using as an unskilled laborer, was considered one of the week's most sensational bit of evidence.

Brown, 37, testified that before and after the Port Chicago explosion, he had suffered from dizzy spells and severe headaches and had always been afraid of ammunition because he could not feel that he was physically capable of handling it safely.

10-9-44

He said that he had asked for a change of duty which was refused.

When asked if any officer had insisted that he make a statement after the work refusal. Brown stated, "Well, sir, I'd say that they were a little persuasive." Brown had refused to make a statement without having counsel present.

Julius Dixon, 19 year old messcook, also testified as to physical inability to load ammunition for 9 days before being made a messcook and that his refusal to load was made on the basis of physical incapacity.

Coakley based most of his cross-questioning on a "statement" which he inferred was Dixon's own statement.

10-9-44

On redirect questioning, Defense Attorney Gerald E. Veltman secured the statement from Coakley and revealed that it was written completely in the third person and elected from Dixon the claim that most of the statements attributed to him had been put to him in the form of questions and that in almost every case, his "no" answer had been twisted into a yes-

Colored Seabees Help In Peleliu Landing

Pittsburgh Courier 10-14-44

(Delayed)—Two colored Seabees from Atlanta, Ga., played a big part in keeping the famed First Marine Division supplied with ammunition, food, water and other supplies during the invasion of Peleliu.

By Sgt. Harold E. Foreman
A Marine Corps Combat Correspondent

PELELIU, Palau Islands—

The men, Coxswain Walter Jones and Fireman First Class Andrew G. Toles were two of the Seabees who kept supplies coming in a steady stream.

Coxswain Jones was in charge of 15 men, all colored members of the Seabees unit. Toles worked as a driver for the Campbell Coal Company of Atlanta before joining the Seabees. 10-14-44

Supplies were taken from transports, transferred to LCT's and then to Amtracks that brought the supplies across the coral reefs to the beaches.

Casualties among Seabees during the first three days of fighting on Peleliu were estimated at approximately 20 killed and 20 wounded.

Stimson Reveals Combat Toll In Praising Troops

Courier – Pittsburgh, Pa.
7-8-44

WASHINGTON—"Negro troops on the beaches, and in the landing operations did their duties excellently under fire and in zones of heavy combat," declared Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson at his Pentagon Building press conference here last Thursday. "They suffered heavy casualties," he continued.

The War Secretary was referring to the work of Negro combat engineers, quartermaster and supply units that were among the first waves of invasion troops to hit the beachheads of Normandy. His comment was the first confirmation of Nazi broadcasts several weeks ago that Negro troops had been encountered by advance German elements in the sector of the Normandy front southeast of Isigny.
7-8-44

At the same time the War Department released pictures of units of Negro combat engineers on the Normandy beaches.

Military observers here pointed out that the Negro engineer and quartermaster detachments were bound to have suffered even heavier casualties than infantry troops, the reason being that their work had to be carried on under fire and without foxhole cover available to infantrymen engaged in combat operations.

Finds Mixed Units at Work

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

AFRO Writer Tells of Activity in Normandy

HEADS FOR FRONT

Our Boys Playing Big Role in Invasion

7-10-44

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent With Invasion Forces in France

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IN NORMANDY—(By Cable, Censored).—So this is France, this thrifty, beautiful land with red poppies and red-and-white roses on hundreds of hedges enclosing battered but clean cottages. On Sunday I went inland from the beach, in the direction of the front. The beach was the scene of beehive-like activity as I left, with a colored barrage balloon outfit commanding a series of silver balloons protecting ships, which are constantly coming and going, from dive-bombing enemy planes.
7-15-44

Ollie Stewart

Our Boys Drive "Ducks"

Like frantic ants, the amphibian barges or "ducks," driven by our lads move back and forth between ships and shore in a never-ending stream.
7-15-44

Since D-Day, immense quantities of vital supplies and many of the troops headed for the front have been ferried to land by colored duck drivers, clad in life jackets and raincoats which are very useful when the boat is loaded and spray covers them.

On the beach, a pen of German prisoners is guarded by a mixed MP force. Twenty-four hours daily, fleets of trucks leave the beach, packed with troops or piled high with gas, ammunition, food, and medicine.

Here Since D-Day

A large proportion of these men have been here since D-Day, working twelve-hour shifts. Our transportation of supplies and equipment when and where needed was a factor largely responsible for the swift crushing of scattered enemy forces.

Correspondents and officers who have seen our GI's rolling stock in many lands marvel at the tremendous amount of equipment now here at our disposal. It seems miraculous.

Heading toward the front you ask directions to some village, and troops always tell you, "Straight ahead." Another oft-repeated expression here is that German bombs are so big that even their echoes make holes.

Pass Nazi Target

Close to Carentan, members of our party notice a brownish haze over nearby hills which have recently been taken by the Allies. A sign on the road to St. Lo says that a bridge is being shelled ahead. We approach cautiously and an MP waves us impatiently to move faster, so we cross the bridge with a zip.
7-15-44

The driver says, "When I was here yesterday, the Germans had just lobbed a few shells near the bridge and I had to wait." Later we pass Isigny, around which there was terrific fighting in the early days of the invasion.

Military Crews Mixed

All along the road, bearded, sweating soldiers—white and colored—operate pneumatic drills and spread asphalt to make the roads passable, despite the constant flow of military traffic.

Signal corps crews, stringing wires for vital communications, operate along the highway and across fields to camouflage commando posts.

On one post the wire stringer is white; on the next he is colored. This procedure differs from what I noticed in other theatres, so I visit other outfits to find equally amazing evidences of true democracy in this type of war.

A quartermaster unit has two medical officers, one white and one colored; two warrant officers, ditto. Mixed truck companies are in action and mixed MP forces are on duty in some places.

French civilians hold up fingers in V-sign at the approach of our troops, and children already hold up hands for life-savers and chocolate.
7-15-44

On the trip with me is Rudolph Dunbar, British writer for the Associated Negro Press and a well known musician, now accredited to the American Army.

Sees 2 Baltimoreans

In the thick of things are two Baltimoreans, S/Sgt. Edward Thornton of 2314 Druid Hill Avenue, and Pvt. John M. Walters, 513 Burgundy Street, who sends love to his wife, Clara, and two children.

Others include:
7-15-44

Pfc. John Scroggins, 7322 School Lane, and Pfc. Frederick Triplett, 7326 Sycamore Avenue, both of Philadelphia; S/Sgt. Walter Douglas, New Haven, Conn.; Sgt. Wesley Thomas, Ridgewood, N.J.; Cpl. Richard Locke and Pvt. William Taylor, Louisville; Cpl. Alonzo Evans and Cpl. Willis Knowles, Cincinnati; Cpl. Charles King, Kimball, W.Va.; Pfc. Allied Grandy, Indianapolis, Ind; M/Sgt. Bill Lewis, Clarksburg, W.Va.; S/Sgt. Homer H. Davis, Charleston, W.Va.; Cpl. Gus Lenear, Gary, Ind.; Cpl. Willis Noels, Cincinnati; Cpl. Randolph Merriweather, Louisville; T/Sgt. Preston Tolliver, Charleston, W.Va.; Cpl. Carl Triplett, Cincinnati; Pvt. Kenneth Givens, Los Angeles; Cpl. Joseph Lee, Roxbury, Mass.; S/Sgt. Franklin Marshall, 4310 Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia; T/Sgt. Herman Pennington, Scranton, Pa.; Pvt. Alphonso Akerhart, Louisville; Cpl. Melvin Busby, Fort Worth, Tex.; First Sgt. John H. Cheek, Willow Grove, Pa.; Pvt. Robert Thomas and S/Sgt. Edwin White, Cleveland; Cpl. Charles Brown, Chillicothe, Ohio; S/Sgt. Robert Donnell, Greensboro, N.C.; Sgt. Rock Washington, Memphis; T/Sgt. William Rutherford, Jacksonville, Fla.; Pvt. Jimmy Little, St. Louis; S/Sgt. Freddie Bacon, Savannah, Ga., and Sgt. William Ames, Bridgetown, Va.

Lt. Ben Johnson hasn't had a chance to use the knowledge he acquired in the Anti-Aircraft Artillery School in Camp Davis. Here he is shown inspecting a P-38 model in the school's Target Recognition class.

NAZIS CAPTURE FIRST U. S. NEGRO TROOPS

Argus – St. Louis, Mo.
6-23-44

Berlin Broadcast Tells Of Taking Men In Invasion

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 19—(OWI Wire Release) — The Nazi controlled Netherlands Home Service which broadcasts news in English for a Dutch radio station reported on June 16 that the first American Negro troops had been taken prisoners south of Isigny in Normandy. The reports, accredited to German war correspondency, stated that the soldiers belonged to an Infantry Regiment. The broadcast report was recorded by government monitors and reported to the Office of War Information. The report has not been confirmed by any United Nations.
6-28-44

CERTAINLY, JOIN THE WACs

A reader asks: "Should I join the WACs? The answer is: "Certainly."

Afro American – Baltimore, Md.
3-18-44

First, your country needs you, and you can take the place of a man who will be relieved for overseas service.

Secondly, your pay is $50 a month and all expenses, with a chance of promotion and an opportunity to get married if it's wanted.

Women need also to think of post-war problems. A New York shopkeeper, asked last week how his colored operators are getting along, said: "They are splendid. Often do better work, wish I could use more of them. But what am I going to do with them after the war is over?"

After the war is over, this country will be run for forty years by those who fought its battles. WACs, like soldiers and sailors, will have pensions, bonuses, free hospitalization and first choice at Federal, State and municipal jobs.

So far WACs are being recruited for home service only. Even though they are asked whether they are willing to serve overseas, the War Department has no present intention of sending them abroad. Foreign service is for whites only.

This is a kind of jim crow that will be ended as the war increases in fury.

47m-1944

'Red Ball Express' Wins Eisenhower Citation

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

9-30-44

By EDWARD TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

PARIS—Negro troops operating the famed "Red Ball" highway, 400-mile supply lifeline from channel and ocean ports to combat areas, were told in a congratulatory message from General Dwight Eisenhower this week, that they are shaping the war's destiny as greatly as any combat troops.

Last Friday, highballing to the front, stopping for nothing, the Red Ball express came to a sudden, unauthorized halt. No scheduled stop, no regulation ten-minute break and no breakdown, mused Cpl. Robert F. Bradley, driving the lead truck, with the familiar red disc priority signal flashing. Pulling to the side of the road, he poked his head out of his cab, to be greeted by Gen. E. S. Hughes, representing General Eisenhower, who decorated him with the bronze star medal for meritorious service.

None of the men were aware of what was to occur and all were surprised at the halt, as the Red Ball highway has uninterrupted one-way traffic. 9-30-44

General Hughes told the surprised Red Ballers he "would like to give them all a medal," but Bradley was chosen as a representative of the whole Red Ball highway, including the men who repair the roads, build bridges, build railroads, i rt battalions who unload, signal units who string wire, and all the men who do service work in the rear.

Road To Victory

"General Eisenhower realized that you men seldom get the same recognition as soldiers at the front line and wants you to know the part you are playing is vital. His message is for every man engaged in this vast project. The troops at the front could not do without you."

Four times as long as the famed Burma Road, this two-way all-truck highway network known as the Red Ball Express highway is America's "Road to Victory." Sixty-seven per cent of the personnel working the Red Ball are Negro troops who load and unload, keep the vehicles in repair, string communication wire, and drive 36 hours following the fast-moving fronts. 9-30-44

Approximately 20,000 soldiers ride the Red Ball day and night, speeding ammunition, gas and food, to the steadily advancing men at the front. 9-30-44

Inaugurated August 24, 200,000 tons of supplies were delivered to the Western Front in the first 26 days of operations. Thousands of vehicles and men comprising 147 quartermaster truck companies, consuming more than a million and a half gallons of gasoline daily, are used daily in transporting meat, butter and eggs to combat troops.

Doing Great Job

Of the Red Ball Express, Eisenhower said, "Some military strategists have been amazed at the speed with which the Allies thrust forward, and had expected a slow push to consolidate their gains, thus letting their supplies catch up with them.

"Truck companies are working without relief to keep supplies pouring behind the swift advance of the American tank columns. The supply units are doing a great job."

Dashing through Paris with a convoy, commanded by Lt. James Stamps, 6748 St. Lawrence avenue, Chicago, I heard him tell how the unit operates. Stamps, still wearing the artillery insignia on his collar, was attached to an anti-aircraft artillery battalion commanded by Lt. Col. Theophilus Mann of Chicago. Mann was attached to a port unit, while the artillery battalion was attached to trucking companies.

Stamps said, "I am glad the efforts of the Red Ball are recognized as the men are under a heavy strain driving day and night following the moving front. At first, before the break through at St. Lo, it was a difficult job to make the trip from the beaches to the troops, but now our trips are three days as the front expands. 9-30-44

36 Hours Of Driving

"We leave the ports and beaches loaded to go to our bivouac area where drivers are changed. That's the first leg, which takes nearly half the trip. We are spaced at intervals, maintaining a speed of 25 m.p.h. All trucks halt ten minutes to the even hour for a break. We never rest during 36 or more hours driving other than a break.

"Night driving gets you some time, but the convoys roll on. Sure, I would rather be firing anti-aircraft, but we are winning the war with supplies."

"Paris is wonderful," said Pvt. Willie Doss, Memphis, Tenn., as he jumped out of the cab here in Paris for a stretch. Pvt. Ed L. C. Jefferson, Dallas, Texas; Cpl. Stanley L. Muldren, Little Rock, Ark., and Pvt. Percy Williams, Asbury Park, N.J., said, "Wish we could be leaving our loads here at the Eiffel Tower. This is the place we'd like to see, and not from the cabs of our trucks, but we are shortening the war with fast-moving supplies."

Seldom do the trucks return from the front empty, as thousands of tons of captured enemy material, consisting of food and clothing are brought to the rear for prisoners of war.

10,000 Move Up In Night

Recently more than 10,000 troops were moved up in one night via the Red Ball, while another convoy of 465 trucks carried barracks bags. A week ago I met other former members of the artillery unit now attached to trucking companies, who have been driving and hauling troops since their arrival here on July 16. 9-30-44

I saw Lt. Thomas S. Holmes, Newark, N.J.; Charles S. Smith, 768 Dawson street, New York City; Darrell M. Bennett, 4446 Hancock, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Arthur E. Harris, 1306 McCullough, Baltimore, Md.; August Gibson, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Chicagoans were Cpls. Richard Johnson, 6501 Eberhart; William T. Lewis, 5125 Indiana; Andrew Sims, Garfield boulevard; Edgar Mohern, 5949 Michigan, and Cliff Williams, 6025 Prairie.

"Driving at fast clips is not tough, but after hours and hours, it gets you," said Cpl. Costie Harris, 2663 Washington boulevard, Chicago. "But officers and men do this job no matter under what conditions. Sometimes we were strafed. Then again, Cpl. Cleveland Wilkins, of Nashville, driving a load of troops had a narrow escape when an axle rolled off, but he just turned his truck off the road and the convoy moved on." 9-30-44

Driving back from the front, Lt. Zebedee Chaney, New York City, stopped here in Paris, stating, "It is good to know we are being recognized. Some of our units have experienced the shock of driving through towns not even captured, but the Red Ball Express keeps moving, following the front line."

Negro Troops Run Supplies To Front Line

PM — New York N.Y.

They Get Tribute From General Eisenhower

9-25-44

By ROI OTTLEY
Staff Correspondent
(Copyright, 1944, by Field Publications)

PM Exclusive

PARIS, Sept. 25.—The 25,000 American soldier truckers, who are daily traveling the "Red Ball Express" 400-mile supply line from port to combat zone which is 14 times as long as the famed Burma Road, were paid high tribute Friday by Gen. Eisenhower for a contribution to the war as significant as that of the combat troops.

Sixty per cent of the soldier truckers are Negroes. Details of the vast transportation of ammunition, petroleum products and food were revealed at a press conference here by chiefs of the communication zone who planned and control the super highway. They disclosed that how soon a mass thrust into Germany could be launched depended upon the continued success of the Red Ball Express. 9-25-44

Corporal Decorated

Eisenhower's tribute to the supply men, Negro and White, was paid by proxy through Maj. Gen. E. S. Hughes, who drove to the outskirts of Paris to meet a line of trucks driven by Negro troops. Along the roadside in a symbolic ceremony he met and decorated Cpl. Robert Bradley of Lynchburg, Va., with the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. This award came as a surprise to Bradley and his fellow soldiers, who had been suddenly called to a halt and asked to gather nearby.

Said Gen. Hughes to the assembled soldier truckers: "Bradley was chosen as a representative of the whole Red Ball highway, including men who repair the roads and bridges, put up the telephone wires and do all the service work in the rear.

"Gen. Eisenhower realizes that you men seldom get the same recognition as soldiers in the front line and wants you to know that the part you're playing is vital.

'Road to Victory'

"His message is for every man engaged on this vast project. The troops at the front couldn't do without you." 9-25-44

I have traveled this super highway. It is a two-way all-truck highway, known through the communication zone which it traverses and the combat zone which it supplies as the U. S. Army's Red Ball Express and is America's road to victory in France.

It was inaugurated Aug. 24 because of the sheer necessity for supplies, following a breakdown at St. Lo. Now 24 hours a day, columns of trucks roll by on the two major highways, one eastbound, the other westbound. 9-25-44

Enemy Strafing

The first 26 days of operation saw the Red Ball Express deliver more than 200,000 tons of supplies to the Western Front. The Red Ball Express is one of the toughest jobs in the war. Men travel as many as 36 hours before resting. They are subject often to enemy strafing. Most of all, they fear the German snipers who have knocked off many of their comrades.

Road accidents have taken their toll of men and supplies. I talked with a haggard Negro lieutenant, Zebedee C. Chaney, Jr., of New York City, who commands a trucking company. 9-26-44

He told me that the success of the Red Ball Express largely depended upon men who are able to stand great exertion for long periods and were good map readers who kept convoys from getting lost. But the young lieutenant was more anxious to talk about the future. He said: "Negro troops under me seek no glamor. They are mainly concerned with doing things in this Army that will be useful to them in securing work in civilian life."

Men of 93rd Meet, Kill Japs, Smash Pillboxes

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.

7-1-44

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the South Pacific
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BOUGAINVILLE—(Via Air Mail)—Actions in which elements of the 93rd Division have engaged on the beachhead have been in close co-operation with the crack American division which has already become something more than a tradition in the South Pacific.

The division's first large-scale engagement was the delousing of Guadalcanal after the Marines had been pulled out. Sent to the Fijis for a "rest" they underwent strenuous training for another crack at the Japs here.

Soon after their arrival on December 25, 1943, they got what they asked Santa to bring them, when the division was placed along the Torokina River extremity of our beachhead perimeter where they

Sons of the Rising Sun, but not without cost to themselves.

The battle centered around a tree which proved to be the highest priced tree in the world. The tree which proved to be 125 feet high at only 260 yards from the hill's opposite side from our lines, mortars and overlook-ing a ½-mile-wide stretch of the Torokina Valley.

The Japs were ingeniously entrenched in tunnels under the tree and, on the hill's side, and also had the tree wired for demolition. The wily Japs deserted the tree while the fire burned itself was no more, then scurried back into their pillboxes before the American could take over.

Finally, with fixed bayonets, they dug the tree clean. Later it was learned that the battalion had to the tree of the 13th Japanese Infantry, a

Our men even tried burning the tree by extending a banyan base, running gasoline into it and firing the petrol with phosphorous grenades.

During a 19-day engagement the Japs were trenched in tunnels and down the hill's side, and attempted to dislodge them with hand grenades.

Though the tree itself was no more than a tradition in the Japanese Army, the Japs deserted it only when the fire burned their lines, mortars before the American could take over.

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Disappointed because the Japs failed to delouse it.

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Killed 541 Japs (by count) 541 in 200 feet of pipe to

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part of the infamous Jap 6th Division that staged the rape of Nanking had been vanquished.

Secure Outposts

As Allied elements moved on beyond the Torokina to assault Hill 65, which took 6,000 yards beyond the East-West trail; thence to cut south and take over Hills, 165,155, 500 and 501, the 93rd Division troops moved in to secure and establish outposts on the series of knolls.

In patrolling around their positions to protect themselves against surprise attack, 93rd infantrymen got into several engagements with the enemy and, according to official statements, "deported themselves brilliantly."

Colored soldiers have not worked solely with elements of the 93rd, however, for Fijian scouts have operated side by side with them and the 24th Infantry joined the division recently in a push beyond Mavavia to a point near the Moy River.

Maj. Gen. Robert B. McClure, said the Tan Yank infantrymen did as good a job of mopping up with tank spuport as he has ever seen. 7-1-44

Smashed Pillboxes

The push netted a kill of 20 Japs, and 17 Jap pillboxes were smashed.

Major portions of colored soldiers composing the 37th and 93rd Divisions are now set up in a series of strongly fortified outposts where they are primed to stem to a total eclipse any repeat performance of a suicidal attack by Sons of the Rising Sun.

$106,000 Bond Salesgirl

Weekly Review—Birmingham, Ala.

7-8-44

Gloria Brown, a Washington, D. C. student, who was credited by the Treasury Department with $106,250 in War Bond sales during the Fourth War Loan, receives a receipt from Elmer F. Harloff, of the District of Columbia War Finance Committee, for $525 worth of Bond sales on the opening day of the Fifth War Loan. Gloria is 15 years old and a student at the Garnett Patterson Junior High School. She lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony A. Brown, at 1515 Caroline street, N.W., Washington.

Chief Surgeon States Policy Remains As Is

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

Gen. Kirk Declares Only a Few Negro Nurses Are Wanted

4-8-44

By HARRY McALPIN

(The Atlanta Daily World & NNPA)

WASHINGTON—The pronouncement last week of Maj. Gen. N. T. Kirk, Surgeon-General of the Army, that he knows no reason why any change should be made in the policy of labeling and separating the blood of Negroes for blood plasma banks and that the Army policy is not to mix white and Negro nurses nullified any encouragement contained in the confirming announcement of Secretary of War Stimson that the famed 24th Infantry is being used in actual combat in Southwest Pacific at Bougainville and that the 93rd Division has arrived in the South Pacific and is in jungle training.

General Kirk made his statement at a press conference in answer to an inquiry from this correspondent. He was asked "Does the Army still insist on its policy of separating the blood of Negroes in the plasma banks? And if so, is there any consideration being given to changing this policy?" 4-8-44

He replied: "I don't know that it will be changed. I don't know why it should be, do you-"

General Agrees There'e No Difference

He was reminded of the findings of scientists that there is no difference in the blood of Negroes and any other persons, to which he said: "There is no difference. I perfectly agree with you. But we might get in worse water than we are in now if we swap around too much.

Only 202 Nurses

The general was asked whether the Army plans to use more Negro nurses, and told that only 202 are reported in the service.

"If we need them", said the General. And while he was saying it, the radios and newspapers were pleading for 30,000 nurses to enlist with the Army Nurse Corps, and rumors of a nurse draft was drawing a War Department denial.

"Up to now," he continued, "we have tried to use Negro nurses only where we have Negro troops. It has not been our policy to mix colored and white nurses throughout the Army." 4-8-44

These are the sentiments of General Kirk—the man who sets Army policy in this regard, and who was hailed as such an improvement over his predecessor, Surgeon-General McGhee. It was McGhee who established the Army policy reflected by the Red Cross of accepting no blood from Negroes when plasma banks were first started. 4-8-44

And Drew Gets Medal

All this happened in a week during which public announcement was made that Dr. Charles Drew, a Negro, has been awarded the Spingarn medal by the NAACP for creating the blood plasma technique now saving thousands of lives on the battlefields of the world.

Negro GIs Can Rest Now

PM—New York, N. Y.

The War Dept. today confirmed—rather grudgingly, it appeared—the fact that it had abandoned its plans to establish Jim Crow rest centers for battle-weary Negro soldiers returning from overseas.

As forecast in PM a week ago, the Hotel Theresa in Harlem and the Hotel Pershing in Chicago's Negro district, originally scheduled to be taken over as rest centers for Negro soldiers, will not now be used by the Army. Instead, Negroes will be admitted on the same basis as white soldiers to the centers already in operation at Lake Placid, N. Y., and Atlantic City and to a center to be established in Santa Barbara, Cal.

It was President Roosevelt's personal intervention in response to protests from prominent New York Negroes—headed by Walter White, Mrs. Mary McCleod Bethune and Dr. Channing H. Tobias—which wrought the change. 10-10-44

The War Dept. release announcing the new policy buried the news in the fourth paragraph, and put it in these words:

". . . In order to avoid taking over additional hotel facilities in housing shortage areas, Negro returnees will be processed with white returnees through existing Northern centers."

The last part of the sentence means that Negroes will not share hotel facilities with whites in the centers in Miami, Asheville, N. C., and Hot Springs, Ark. That's all right with the Negro soldier—since the idea of the rest center is to give the soldier some rest.

Negro-Staffed Hospital In Southwest Pacific

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

6-16-44

AT AN ADVANCED BASE, NEW GUINEA. — (ANP)—Less than six weeks ago, America's only overseas all-Negro staffed hospital opened here at this base, which is less than three hours plane ride back of the "fighting lines."

Headed by Maj. Arthur H. Simmons of Washington, formerly of the staff of Freedmen's hospital and of the faculty of Howard university Medical school, the hospital's staff includes 13 other medical officers and 15 registered nurses. In addition to the officers, there is a staff of enlisted men attached to the personnel, headed by Watt G. Saunders of Los Angeles, first sergeant, and Willie J. Yeldell of Stroud, Okla., sergeant major in charge of administration.

Mass of Bushes 6-16-44

A few months ago, the present hospital site was a mass of bushes, tall growing cocoanut and palm trees, and at height of more than 900 feet above sea level.

Today an area of about five or more acres, more than 17 buildings dot the hill-sides where before was nothing but a huge jungle. The buildings include about 10 wards, two mess halls, a dispensary, headquarters' office and quarters for the personnel.

There are movies five times per week, a recreation hall for all, and a beautiful green lawn. Overlooking the wide blue sea, which can be seen for miles with the various land and sea craft coming and going, this site is one of the most beautiful on the island.

That the war "without bullets" can be successfully waged and won by these "angels of mercy" is being daily proven here in this area and parents and relatives of the patients need have no fear for the safety and health of their sons who are helping to preserve the ideals of a free and a safer world.

To date there have been more than 172 patients including many from the fighting area, who are finding a haven of rest and security here. All cases are mostly general medical, with an occasional surgery case listed. One of the latter was a skin grafting operation which was successfully performed on Pvt. Fred Poole of one of the units stationed over here. The operating physician in the case was Capt. Arthur H. Thomas of Philadelphia, the chief of surgery and executive officer.

Before coming overseas, the entire staff-personnel was attached to a hospital at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. After spending about six months at a hospital somewhere in Australia, the staff arrived here about Easter to begin operations.

A visitor passing through the wards and the other buildings is amazed at neatness and general healthful atmosphere in a place at such an early start.

Comfortable 6-16-44

This was made possible by the health, doctors and nurses donning their "fatigue" clothes and becoming painters overnight, interior decorators, electricians, carpenters and general laborers, and assisting in the carrying on of the equiping and making the place, comfortable for the incoming "patients."

That the staff is well equipped through theoretical and practical work is shown from the file records of these Negro fighters of

Members of the staff are Maj. Simmons, commanding officer, from Howard U., and Meharry, and Johnceiving hospital, Detroit, and 1st Lt. Jackson, Tenn., chief of dental service, How-William C. Rogers, Philadelphia, Virlogy, Lincoln U., and Junior college, Chicago, ginia State college, Ettrick, Va., and W. Skinner chief of Barnett M. Rhetta, medidoctor of medicine from Howard. Brooklyn, Meharry and Nurses are 1st Lts. Birdie E. Brown, General medical ward, principal chief nurse, women's pavilion, Harard U. Wilson Junhospital; Jacob A. Frye of Harlem hospitad, a graduate of N.Y.U. and Meharry; Charles practicing physician at Harlem School of Nursing; Alberta Howard, and a prac- Freedmens' hospital; Arthur H. Thomas, a graduate of Lincoln U., Howard U. and Columbia Los Angeles, Montclair, Fisk U. and school of medicine, Howard U., and Louis Miller, Harradiologist and registrar, Talladega col- Brooklyn, Meharry and Lewis college, Chicago. lege and Howard; Lt. William S. Hen- Joseph of Brooklem hospital and state Health depart- dricks of Los Angeles, adjutant, Univ- Howard; Edward C. ment of Atlanta, Ga. Also 1st Lts. Barnersity of Colorado; Capts. Robert P. Ran- Second Lts. are Marjorie S. Mayers, commander and supdolph of Durham, N. C., chief of medi- W. Peters Business cal service, Virginia Union university, and Howard; Kenneth E. Fletcher of Lowell H. Burrell, a graduate of N.Y.U. 6-16-44

47m-1944

No Jim Crow as President Dines with

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.
8-19-44

47m

8-19-44

President Roosevelt (arrow) shown as he dined last week with soldiers, sailors and marines in their Quonset hut mess hall at an Aleutian Island base. Note that the men are seated without regard to race. Commanding officers of the base are on either side of the President.

Negro Troops In Midst Of Invasion

Call-Kansas City, Mo.
6-16-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Spokesmen for the army, navy, and the coast guard are now able to confirm that when the great might of the allied forces was slammed against the German West Wall in the early hours of last Tuesday morning, Negro fighters on land and sea were contributing to the effort to establish, hold and widen beachheads along the Normandy coast of France.

In the plethera of front-line dispatches that have been constantly sent out since last week on a huge battery of teletype machines and carefully observed by the Associated Negro Press, little detail has come through on the landings and the drive inland, or of the makeup of forces engaged in the major operation. Even less has been said regarding participation of Negro soldiers.

But a continuing series of background conferences and discussions of tactical operations with officials of the various branches has enabled the ANP, at this early date, to give some picture of what has happened thus far. These findings have been, supplemental by dispatches that gave cues.

Elements of the allied expeditionary force had been deployed throughout a typical 300 mile area contiguous to the French coast which was to be the point of initial contact.

6-16-44

H-Hour Arrives

Negro soldiers, of which there were an estimated of 100,000 or more in the European Theater of Operations, had established a new system of telephone exchanges and lines were set up in this area. In one section alone they laid down three new landing fields and extended seven more for the air force.

The character of these soldiers is known to have been quartermaster, air force, ground crews, service troops, and some anti-aircraft.

When H-Hour arrived, airborne troops were flown over the channel, a heavy bombardment by naval guns was laid down to knock out enemy installations, and under this withering fire waves of Rangers and Commandos began to go ashore from landing barges. These first fighters carried with them as light a weapon as possible.

6-16-44

Gradually, heavier weapons were brought in by Negro quartermaster outfits and service troops. Engineers were going in simultaneously to begin cleaning up the mess. It was the responsibility of the assault troops to dislodge the enemy from gun positions.

Repair Damaged Installations

At the same time, the paratroopers were cutting communication

bing.

Often mothers are so careful about the clothes that their children wear, but do they know that out of their influence of their lives is being woven for their children the garments of character?

Execute Colored Soldier Overseas

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
6-3-44

LONDON—Last minute appeals to save an American soldier from the gallows failed when Pvt. Wiley Harris, Jr., was hanged May 26 for murdering a British civilian in Belfast, March 6.

On the eve of the hanging the Belfast Trades council appealed to the governor general of Northern Ireland and the prime minister to use their influence to have the soldier's sentence commuted.

Harris, 26, of Greenville, Ga., was convicted and sentenced by a U. S. court-martial for the fatal stab-

Nazi Prisoners Take Over Negro Guards

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
9-30-44

By EDWARD TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

PARIS — Five thousand cringing, cowering, subdued German prisoners, members of the "master race," last week got new "masters" and a complete shock to their superior race complex when Negro members of a port battalion were relieved of their dock duties unload-ing ships in Cherbourg and elevated to the position of guarding "supermen."

Jammed into a five-acre, barbed-wire enclosed pen, shabby, unshaven "herrenvolk" still in green, mud-stained uniforms, they were a motley group. Few still defiant, staring curiously at interviewing officers, but all of them snapped to attention when the pen with guns lowered, waiting officers.

A tall German prisoner who spoke English received the Negro officers, saluted smartly, then ordered the waiting men into the terms of the Geneva Convention, prisoners of war are required to salute but not required to curry favor and eager to curry favor and Nazis, partly from fear.

Fear Senegalese

Describing the unit herded their capture, Warrant Officer Waldo B. Clark, San Antonio, Texas, said, "They were stiff when scared nearly shortly after their capture these black troops. The unit was commanded by Major William E. Rabb, Atlanta, Texas, who ordered them to load into the trucks. They thought as, a former lawyer, who first members of the port plained, "These men are the first were Senegalese mem-unit selected to guard prisoners experimentally. Because of their unit was stricken, some wept and high intelligence, the Negro men from its port duties to guard or they had heard that taken from its port duties while they unload non-prisoners the Nazis while they unload combatant materials from the Maquis.

"With 5,000 port workers re-

Their high intelligence was apparent when M-Sgt. Harold Boykaw, 11360 Aberdeen street, Chicago, social worker, detailed the excellent treatment given the prisoners. "Under the rules of the Geneva Convention, they are not forced to work. All elect to work. They receive regular GI rations

Include Russians, Poles

lieved from dock duties to unload ships into ducks driven by Negro units, the supplies move faster to the front."

the same as our troops and money equal to four dollars a month without working, and twenty dollars a month is deposited for them if they work. They are given tents and fatigues, but they all choose their own green Nazi uniform, regardless how tattered or dirty."

Four hundred White Russians and 200 Poles are among the prisoners. They were members of German labor battalions whom the Germans forced into building pill boxes and fortifications. They said they were told to join the army or else. When they demurred, 50 were marched in front of thousands of Russians and Poles and shot down by machine guns.

They all volunteered, said a former lieutenant of the Russian Army, who pulled out a picture showing himself in a Russian uniform. He had been with a labor battalion building the German's West Wall. 9-30-44

"All chaplains join with the German chaplain in giving the prisoners religious services," said Chaplain Lewis Eichleberger of South Carolina, a Benedict College graduate.

Chicagoans on Guard

Warrant Officer John E. Batts, 356 W. 145th street, New York, said the German medical officers captured were being sent to administer the needs of the prisoners. The prisoners have disciplinary rules, but since the prisoners have begun unloading there have been considerable thefts of foodstuffs, candies and smokes, which had never happened when the unit was unloading. The prisoners are searched and those found pilfering rations are given harder duties in cages within the pens where the other prisoners mill about. 9-30-44

Chicagoans seen guarding the prisoners on the docks were Pvts. Bob White, Reuben Tutt, Rufus Lewis, Robert Taylor and Richard Thomas, 6401 St. Lawrence avenue, Robbins, Ill., seemed well represented as Sgt. Freeman Greene, son of Rev. Freeman Greene, pastor of the Robbins Methodist church, marching a group of prisoners to work pointed out the Robbins boys driving trucks packed with prisoners off to the dock. They were Jesse Ward, James Means, William Washington and Russel Bell.

"There's pretty tough going sometimes when the wehrmacht march through the streets, as occasionally the population, aroused against the criminal terrorists, have to be restrained from spitting in the faces of the Nazis. There is always a gauntlet through which we march the 'Krauts' silently, with women screaming 'Killers—murderers!'" 9-30-44

Last week a delegation of French citizenry protested "The Germans are treated too well. Why, they have Camel cigarettes."

I moved out in a jeep past the lookout tower built by the Germans, where, perched with a machine gun, was Pvt. Dan Starling, of Jasper, Fla. Ahead was a truck loaded with prisoners driven by Sgt. George Cunningham, 440 W. 56th street, Chicago.

"Supermen, bah, they're Dupermen!"

93rd Officer And His Men Cited For Bravery Under Fire In Pacific

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
6-10-44

By BILLY ROWE, Courier War Correspondent

BOUGAINVILLE, South Pacific—(By Air Mail)—Company Commander Conway B Jones, first lieutenant from Washington, D. C., was the nucleus here recently of the most impressive jungle ceremony since fighting elements of the 93rd Infantry Division entered this war zone. Standing before his gallant troops, who had beaten off several enemy attacks their first time under fire the colored officer was verbally cited by Maj. Gen. Raymond G. Lehman, division commander, who presented him with written commendations from Brig. Gen. Leonard R. Boyd, elements commander, and Col. Everette M. Yon.

SOLEMNITY REIGNS

The hosannas for a well performed task were given in the heart of the jungle—in the midst of territory wrested from the enemy a short time before. As the sun crept over the mass of foliage below like a sheet of still water, even the insects were quiet. Only the excited coughing of men could be heard between pauses in the deepened voice of the general.

The sum and substance of all the laudatory remarks were woven around General Boyd's commendation for duty well done:

"It is with great pleasure that I commend you and your company for excellent performance of duty April 17, 1944, while conducting a combat outpost. It is gratifying to learn, from veterans of two arduous campaigns, that previously untried personnel of this unit are applying their training to combat in a highly creditable manner. Such praise reflects the excellent work you and your subordinates have performed and I rest assured that you will continue to make progress." 6-10-44

Praises from several white officers on observation duty with the cited company added spice to the heaped-up honors. They remarked that the operation and leadership displayed by its officers were on a par with the best veteran units.

JAPANESE STRUCK FIRST

Led by a roster of all-colored officers, Company "X" moved out early April 12 as part of a co-ordinated attack against the Japanese across the Torokina river. Working with a white infantry group and a Fijian company, its mission was to block the East-West Trail where, in the past, enemy operations were carried out on a large scale. Taking a defensive position in the cool of the evening, when the soft subtropical breezes relieve the parched earth, men and officers busied themselves in the establishment of a protective perimeter by digging into the good earth. As if waiting for the job to be completed and the security which comes with the halo of night, the Japanese struck their initial blow, giving the green troops their first taste of gun fire aimed to kill. 6-10-44

The next morning with the sound of gun fire ringing in their minds and still loud in their ears, green troops—now veterans—followed the sun as it cut a path over last night's battle field to count 35 Japanese killed and five Tan Yanks wounded.

CLIMAX REACHED

In a surge of combat might, Company "X" stemmed a daylight counter attack of Tojo's forces. For four days and nights this went on with the Japanese snapping and snipping like sparrows harrying a large hawk until they are killed. On the fifth day of the struggle, the enemy hit the group in force, catching the entire body off balance with 60-odd men out hauling rations and ammunition. With six machine guns blazing and 25-calibre rifle bullets cutting the morning breeze with a rhythmic zing, the Japanese attempted to cut through the company's first platoon, adding the brunt of the attack on the flank held by Second Lt. Walter B. Sanderson, also of Washington, D. C. It was then that a heroic legend was shaped by Sgt. Robert J. Scott of Hickory, Va. He tossed so many hand grenades that the Japanese cooled off after several of them had been killed. Company "X" had thus completed its mission. The East-West trail is no longer so dangerous. 6-10-44

Computing the score for the five days of fighting, there were 44 Japanese killed, 18 Tan Yanks wounded — none seriously. Since that time, five of them have returned to duty with only four evacuated to a higher echelon for more extensive medical care.

Lieutenant Jones is married to Mrs. Esther T. Jones of Washington, D. C., and is the father of a five-year-old son, Conway, Jr.

Negroes Suffer Many Invasion Casualties

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
7-7-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The War Department announced this week that Negro troops were used in the invasion. A statement on their participation follows:

"Pictures sent back from the invasion front, which have been widely published, clearly show the presence of Negro troops. Of course, we don't announce units in an operation. That is made by the unit commander when he thinks it proper. Except for making public the larger elements participating in the invasion, General Eisenhower has made no announcement giving the composition of his forces. But on the beaches, Negro Combat Engineers and other Negro troops, among those unloading the ships and handling the supplies on shore, did their duty excellently under fire in this zone of heavy combat. And they suffered many casualties."

Victory Life Buys $100,000 In Bonds In War Loan Drive

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
7-15-44

Dr. P. M. H. Savory, chairman of the board of Victory Mutual Life Insurance Company, announced this week that the company has just bought $100,000 worth of bonds in the Fifth War Loan Drive. Declared Dr. Savory:

"Victory Mutual Life's purchase of $100,000 in war bonds shows the strength of our growing company and also our faith in the future of America."

Dr. C. B. Powell, chairman of the finance committee of Victory Mutual Life, said:

"This last purchase of $100,000 in bonds in the Fifth War Loan Drive is concrete evidence of our desire to aid in building a better America. We shall continue to do our share."

Engineer Units Go In Front

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
6-10-44

SUPREME HEADQTRS., ALLIED EXPENDITIONARY FORCE — As American, British and Canadian airborne and seaborne forces swarmed upon the beaches of France in the early dawn of June 6, Negro troops were among the initial striking units, carrying the crushing war machine of the United Nations into battle on Hitler's own stamping ground. It is much too early to reveal the identity of all the units participating in the first assaults, but it is known that Negro contingents of anti-aircraft artillery, Coast Guard artillery, combat engineers, Air Corps ground forces, service and quartermaster outfits in great strength have been up front poised for invasion for many weeks.

In the logistics of battle, units of the above-mentioned forces are necessary in initial operations, and thousands of the Negro soldiers and sailors, therefore, are among the first to land in France, there to establish beachheads of the final drive to Berlin. 6-10-44

Supreme Commander, General Dwight Eisenhower's brilliant order of the day sending the men into the greatest amphibious assault in the history of the world was packed with drama, and appears to have had the effect of Lord Nelson's historic speech to his men just before the battle against the Spanish Armada when he said, "England expects every man to do his duty."

"Soldiers, sailors and airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force: You are about to embark upon a great crusade toward which you have striven for these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere go with you." Concluding he said, "Our home fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and have placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men.

"The tide has turned. The free men of the world are marching together to victory. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full victory." 6-10-44

Men of the Allied command received this order after they had embarked. It was read by appropriate commanders to all troops. It proved electrifying!! The response was terrific as white men and black men, all determined to destroy the enemy digested the general's words and then turned their eyes to the ominous coast.

Publication of Soldier's Article on VD Ordered

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-5-44

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower recently ordered that a critique on veneral diseases written by a Massachusetts soldier be published by European Theatre Headquarters and distributed to commanding generals for their information.

The article was written by Sgt. Walter W. Bonner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bonner of New Bedford, Mass., who has been stationed with an engineer aviation battalion here a year this month.

The brother of Pvt. Charles D. Bonner, a senior at the Boston University School of Medicine, also a member of the all-colored chorus of 200 soldiers which recently toured England and Scotland. 8-5-44

Granted special permission by Sgt. Bonner has taught public schools and lectured on American history and government before working clubs and teachers' groups.

In Churchill Club

Sgt. Bonner was a junior high school teacher before his induction November 3, 1942.

He is one of the few enlisted men in the Churchill Club, which sponsors concerts, lectures and educational activities here.

A graduate of Lincoln University, Pa., Sgt. Bonner was presi-

47m-1944

Engineers in France Build City, 1,000-Bed Hospital

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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8-12-44

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE—It was like old home week. Randy Dixon of the Courier rushed up to shake hands with a husky first lieutenant whom he knew. The chaplain was smiling and talking in machine-gun spurts. Dinner was ready for our party—and I was ready for the dinner.

When the chaplain, Capt. Ralph R. King, Los Angeles, paused for breath, Lt. Alonzo Dodson, 26 N. Ruby Street, Philadelphia, got in a word edgewise, saying, "Ours is a general service engineer regiment. We can build anything and tear down anything.

Right now we're constructing a headquarters, a miniature city: laying out streets, building houses, putting in plumbing and wiring, laying pipe lines, whatever else may be needed.

Blueprint Experts

"Our men work hard, and I'm glad to see somebody come around to see that they get some credit. They even make the drawings and blue prints for what we construct. In civilian life they would be paid a lot.

Then the chaplain took us to see the commanding officer, Col. Warren N. Underwood, Sparrows Point, Md., who had been with the regiment only two weeks—and this was the first time he had ever commanded colored troops.

No Friction Among Officers

He said his men were tops. I asked if his white and colored officers got along all right. "Yes," he said, "they have let me neither see nor hear of any evidence of friction. I have thirteen colored officers, all lieutenants except the chaplain."

Then we ate — out of white plates and on a white tablecloth. And if you think that isn't worth mentioning over here in this wilderness, you should sit with us on the ground while we eat out of a mess kit balanced on our knees, day in and day out.

We had hot biscuits and butter. The mess sergeant, S-Sgt. John L. Woods, New Bedford, an old railroad, hotel and steamship cook, laid it on us until we cried quits. 8-12-44

Good Impression on Press

If they wanted to make a good first impression on the PRESS they went about it in the right way. Except for one thing: I've been war corresponding a long time now, and aside from the fact that I'm naturally suspicious, I always take a second look when I meet Greeks bearing gifts. I look a gift horse in the mouth more than I do any other kind.

However, this bunch of engineers turned out to be something worth seeing. As we went from company to company, we met the officers and all of them were anxious for their men to be complimented for the big jobs they had done in France and in England.

One of the officers I had met in London, a smiling, affable chap, was First Sgt. Joseph Turner, Moyock, N.C. The trio of first looeys was completed by Paul Singleton, 1032 Park Road, Washington, a Lincoln man.

Colored Officers Rare

It is worth noting that engineering officers have been somewhat of a rarity. This branch of service is one that was long kept quite esoteric; many people subscribing to the notion that precision, accuracy and big figures were too complex for a man to grasp if his skin was not white.

Second lieutenants included:

Oliver Arnold, Roanoke, Va., West Virginia State and Boston University; Clarence Finley, Niles, Mich.; Roscoe Turner, New Orleans, Xavier; Charles R. Johnson, West Jefferson, Ohio, Wilberforce; Richard H. Sewell, Bowling Green, Ky., Lincoln U. and Indiana;

Thomas H. Wiggins, Hazlehurst, Miss., Stowe Teachers' College; Washington C. O'Guin, Homer, La., Tuskegee; Joseph Daniels, Englewood, N.J.; Theodore R. Jones, Chicago, Howard University; and James W. Carlos, Pelham, N.Y.

Build 1000-Bed Hospital

The authorities wanted a 1000-bed hospital built. A few rectangles were jotted on a piece of paper and the demand sent to the plan and blueprint room.

In this room I found M-Sgt. William P. Graves, Pittsburgh, bending over a drafstman's board, with his co-workers, T-Sgt. Henry Nash, Starksville, Miss.; T-Sgt. Cleo Callahan, Texarkana, Tex.; and T-Sgt. Roger Talley, Gary, Ind. 8-12-44

Must be Ingenious

Said Graves, "All we get is a rough sketch. Everything else is done in here. Sometimes we have to bend buildings around trees, since we aren't supposed to cut down trees in France. But we get our job done in time."

I would have lingered longer, but this, please remember, was a conducted tour. Chaplain King should work for the Cook's Tour people after the war. Every time I wanted to talk to somebody, he prodded me along to see something else.

I do not wish to seem critical of my friend the chaplain. I think he's a swell person. But in the old days a war correspondent got his own stories the best way he could—usually by sitting down over a bottle of wine and letting a soldier warm up to his subject gradually.

There was never any of this new fangled procedure, such as, "Hey, soldier, what do you speak? Speak up—we don't have all day to wait. What's your story?"

Not Glorified, But Vital

But we got fleeting glimpses of hundreds of men making a big contribution to the war effort. When towns are taken, they won't be anywhere near. When parades march in victory, they won't even be allowed to show off. I for one will thank my stars for the engineers who are building some shacks for bodily comfort.

Here are the names of a few more men I said hello to before being yanked away:

First Sgt. James O. Hill, Norfolk, Va.; First Sgt. John A. Poynter, Franklin, Tenn.; S/Sgt. George Andrews, Troy, Ala.; Sgt. Clarenza Cook, Dennison, Texas; Pvt. Cloyd E. Suddoth, Chicago; Pfc. Beeler G. Adams, Nowater, Okla.; Sgt. John Hummons, Chicago, mail clerk; Pvt. Alvin Gonder, Macon, Ga., very fine pianist;

Sgt. John C. Shaw, St. Louis, Mo., clever entertainer; First Sgt. John B. Frazier, St. Louis, former newspaper distributor; M/Sgt. Boyle Stewart, Chicago, only Theosophist in the outfit; Pfc. George Tisdale, Carbondale, Ill.; Cpl. Wilbert Cunningham, Newport News; Sgt. James McQueen, Arcadia, Fla.; Cpl. Elmer Bowen, Egypt, Miss.;

Sgt. Huston Olden, Pittsburgh; Cpl. George D. Flowers, Detroit; Pfc. Joseph H. Nelson, 718 S. Randolph Street, Richmond, Va., organist, formerly of Union University; Pvt. Raoul J. Bogville, Los Angeles; Pfc. Eddie Bradley, Jacksonville; Cpl. Charles A. Scott, Gilmer, Texas; and Sgt. Othello Jordan, Brooklyn, N.Y.

93rd Infantry May Help to Hold Part of Solomons

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Replacements Sent to 24th Division as Men Get Rest Period After 26 Months Overseas

7-1-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
NNPA Pool Correspondent

GUADALCANAL (By Courier) — After two months of combat, elements of the 93rd Division have been drawn back within the original Bougainville perimeter. American elements have twice struck at retreating enemy troops, however, action has been confined mostly to patrol clashes.

It is definitely known that the Solomons campaign tactically has drawn to a close, and future action is very unlikely. Admiral William Halsey, theatre commander, announced that an estimated 15,000 enemy troops had been killed in the northern Solomons campaign.

May Help Hold Area

However this vast command must be held "at all cost," and indications point toward colored combat troops with elements of white divisions being given this mission. One military authority stated that the entire area would be garrisoned.

The question of importance to colored personnel in this area is whether or not colored troops of a combat service nature are being used in Admiral Nimitz's thrust from Pearl Harbor. 7-1-44

It has been disclosed that a number of colored marines are stationed in the Central Pacific, and released pictures of the Tarawa area show colored sailors there.

No Long Rest Expected

Latest developments in no way lead to the belief, held in some quarters, that colored combat forces stationed here will be given a prolonged rest.

During one interview Major General Griswold, commander 14th Corps, stated that action by colored troops during their first encounter with the enemy had been of a superb nature. He added that serious times lie ahead and more likely all available troops would be used. 7-1-44

24th Gets Rest

The 24th Infantry Regiment, after twenty-six months of oversea service, is now being given a rest period. The regiment is kept at full strength despite those troops leaving on rotation. Replacements are added monthly.

Despite victories now being daily gained, military authorities still warn that the enemy is strong and casualties, and more casualties will result before we enter Japan's inner defenses.

Eisenhower Praises Ex-cellence Of Negro Soldiers In Invasion

New York Weekly

7-15-44

(By The NNPA)

Washington, D. C. — "Negro troops did their duty excellently under fire on Normandy's beaches in a zone of heavy combat," General Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of the allied invasion forces, has declared. The statement was contained in a greeting sent by the general to the NAAPC Wartime Conference meeting in Chicago.

According to General Eisenhower, the Negro troops suffered substantial casualties. This fact was disclosed week before last by Secretary of War Stimson in a pressconference.

Continuing his statement, the general said: "You may well be proud of the accomplishments of our forces in the European liberation campaign, they have made a new chapter in high sense of justice, observers find it difficult to understand why the general does not approve the admission of Negro WACs into his theatre of operations. The War Department insists that the approval of the theatre commanders is necessary before Negro WACs may be sent abroad.

7-15-44

Negroes when he reversed the sentence of Corp. Leroy Henry, convicted of rape and sentenced to death. He re-

Sec. Of War Stimson Confirms Fact Negro Soldiers In Invasion

Weekly — New Orleans, La.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Washington, July 5. — Official confirmation of the role played by Negro troops in the recent invasion of France came Thursday from the lips of Secretary Stimson. While praising their performance, he revealed some were stevedore and engineer units, and admitted that they suffered high casualties.

In recounting the part played by Negro troops in the spectacular invasion, Stimson disclosed that Negro engineer outfits were on the beachheads where previous reports have indicated some of the heaviest losses were encountered.

The Secretary identified the assignment of the Negro units as "unloading ships and as engineers." The object of national criticism by his effort to smear the Negro soldier, Stimson praised the courage of the Negro units that were among the first allied soldiers to set foot upon French soil.

French See Negro Prove Battle Valor

Amsterdam News

Tan Yanks Are Waging All-Out War For Liberty Of All Peoples Everywhere

9-30-44

By GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE (ANP) Through the spotlight of bravery and daring, the heroics of this war seldom finds focus on those Negro troops collectively and individually who are quietly hurling knockout blows at Fascism under concentrated enemy fire. On every front they are waging savage war for the freedom of peoples everywhere.

Out here in France with major operations reaching their climax, America's colored soldiers continue their spectacular performances under a strange and disturbing cloak of anonymity.

However, scattered disclosures of their valor have seeped back from the fighting fronts. When the allied invaders took Cherbourg, Negro soldiers rushed in, rifes chest high, to shoot it out with heavily entrenched Germans. They braved the dreaded menace of snipers and smoked out scores of them from farm houses and pillboxes while Yank magazine photographers recorded their courage.

9-30-44

A Negro artillery group manning a 155 MM howitzer unit is now blasting strong German fortifications in the vicinity of Paris, shattering the mouthing of "Master Race" theorists, Stars and Stripes has reported on their smashing accuracy.

Lt. Col. Harmon S. Kelly, commander of the outfit, declares, "I'll put them up against any artillery outfit over here."

"General 'The' Eisenhower has cited two Negro organizations, one a QM truck company, the other an anti-bellum battalion, for their undaunted devotion to duty in the D-Day landings. He said the balloon troops hitting the beaches under machine gun, rifle and artillery fire completed their missions and proved an important element of the air defense team.'

The truck company, he revealed, salvaged most of the damaged equipment in the landings and in three days "90 per cent" of their vehicles were operating on a 24 hour basis, a scale which was maintained for five weeks." 9-30-44

Contributions of Negro troops to sweeping Allied successes are more vast than those isolated incidents indicate and few people outside soldiers in the field are aware of their deeds. Basically the sleazy status and contemptuous estimate of Negro troops remains a popular fallacy.

NEGRO TROOPS FIGHT GERMANS FOR HILL POSITIONS IN ITALY

Tribune — Chicago, Ill.

ROME, Nov. 5 (AP).—Activity on the Italian battle front was confined mainly to patrol operations, allied headquarters said today, altho both American 5th army and British 8th army troops made minor improvements in their positions. The weather over the entire front cleared somewhat after several weeks of heavy rains but mud and flooded streams still hampered operations. 11-6-44

Negro troops of the American 5th army in the central sector moved up on a 1,000 foot hill where the Germans are using a church as a strongpoint. Tribune

British troops on the Adriatic sector strengthened their positions, altho forward elements were under constant German artillery fire. The British gained control of the southern end of the Forli air fields in a 500 yard advance.

700,000 Colored Serving In Army

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

8-12-44

SOMEWHERE In France —Brigadier General B. O. Davis told war correspondents there now are 700,000 colored troops in the United States forces, with approximately 5000 commissioned officers, and that he was looking to the day when there would be at least 10,000 colored officers.

Commenting on racial differences, General Davis said "When I was in London two years ago our own soldiers didn't get along so well with each other but now on this side, I have been told there is no racial unpleasantness." 8-12-44

The general said he had found morale among colored troops in Normandy "very high—I haven't heard a growl yet."

First Captain

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

11-8-44

CAPTAIN MARY L. PETTY

Army Nurse Corps leader of 5221 Indiana avenue, Chicago, Ill., who will supervise training at the first basic training center for Negro nurses recently established at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. The initial class will have an enrollment of 135 nurses, all of whom were recently commissioned second lieutenants. Captain Petty is the first Negro member of the ANC to hold the rank of captain.

Dumbarton Oaks Talks Avoid Two Issues of Special Interest to Colored Nations

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

10-20-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — The two matters of singular importance to colored peoples of the world, apart from the general principle of maintenance of peace, were left untouched by the Dumbarton Oaks conference, and the tentative proposals which are not being reviewed in the capitals of the United nations threw no additional light on the subject.

These matters are, first, the mandates system; and second, the question of an equality plank.

In making public the text of the proposals last week official quarters referred to it as being "90 percent complete." It was later freely admitted that the dispositoin of mandates was one of the matters falling within the category of the unfinished 10 percent.

Through conversations which the Associated Negro Press has had with various spokesmen in diplomatic quarters, several ideas have been developed regarding these two important questions.

The system of mandated territories was developed through the present league of nations. The conference recently closed here were primarily concerned with the maintenance of peace.

Consider Equality Plank 10-20-44

This does not mean that the delegates were not receptive to suggestion bearing upon other phases of world organization for peace. It does mean, however, that questions outside of this immediate scope were considered more suitable for discussion at a "full dress" conference on the entire document.

Since one of the unsettled questions is how to wind up the affairs of the league of nations, it will naturally follow that some disposition will have to be made on the mandates system authorized by the league.

As regards an equality plank, this too was considered outside the realm of the immediate discussions. It has been generally acknowledged now that the Chinese did make a proposal on the equality of races and nations. It is also true that proposals dealing with various cultural and economic problems came to the attention of the conferences. 10-20-44

In the drafting of the tentative proposals the delegates agreed upon a security council and a general assembly, and said that "the organization should have such subsidiary agencies as may be found necessary." In tailoring the security council in the fasihon it has been, the desire was to give it the responsibility and power to achieve the primary objective, namely, the maintenance of peace and the prevention of aggression.

Mindful that other questions of importance play a part, the general assembly was given the responsibility to act upon them. Chapter IX, section A, paragraph 1 has this to say:

"With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations, the organization should facilitate solutions of international economic, social and other humanitarian problems and promote respect for human rights and fundamental free doms."

10-20-44

Desire American Suggestion

This responsibility is vested in an economic and social council acting under the authority of the general assembly. It is here then that any equality plank which may be developed would most likely find enforcement or supervision.

In the very statement of purposes of the united nations, as the organization would be called, is the desire "to achieve international cooperation in the solution of international economic, social and other humanitarian problems." It is conceivable that even the question of mandates would fall within the scope of the work of the economic and social council.

Spokesman for the official American viewpoint have hastened to say that other suggestions are welcome. It is pointed out that had there been any tendency to give public attention to any one or more set of ideas, it would have appeared to the public that the delegates were working on these alone. To avoid premature controversy was an objective. An ensuing problem, however, has been how to stimulate suggestion from the American people. 10-20-44

The impression is conveyed that the time is now ripe to present all viewpoints on mandates or an equality plank so that they may be thrown into the general hopper in preparation for the full-dress conference which will more than likely be held early in 1945.

47m-1 4

General Praises Negro-Operated Amphibian Units

World - Memphis-Tenn. Sept. 1, 1944

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—'Camp Gordon Johnston is for from the best known or most publicized camp in the United States and yet, the part you, and your comrades who trained here before you are playing in this war is second to none in importance," said Brig. Gen. William H. Holcombe, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces Training Center here in a recent dedicatory speech to colored troops.

Before companies massed on the newly surfaced Amphibian Truck Training Gruop parade ground, the General commended men of the camp's Third Area, predominately populated by colored troops, for their work in completing the services club, guest house, library, recreation hall, and chapel, all of which were dedicated to the Amphibian Truck Training Group men. Much of the work was done by contributed labor after duty hours. The dedicatory exercises began with an inspection of the new recreational facilities.

MADE HISTORY Sept. 1-44

In speaking to the men just before a colorful, retreat ceremony, Gen. Holcombe declared: "In Africa, in Sicily, in Italy, in Normandy, and in the far reaches of the Pacific, the Amphibian Truck has made history. As a weapon of war it has achieved highest rank. Without Amphibian Trucks and you men to operate them our success on the far-flung battlefields of the world might have been delayed or perhaps neutralized."

Acknowledging the hardships under which the ATTG have trained. Gen. Holcombe, further said: "I don't have to tell you that there is nothing soft or comfortable or pleasant about war. War is hell—whether you are actively engaged in combat duty or training here in camp. Your morale is important to me. Col. Savage (Lt. Col. Dale G. Savage, ATTG Commander) and I have wished we could have made things more comfortable for you."

PAYS TRIBUTE

"That is why it is gratifying to me to be here on this occasion. It is because of your spirit, your understanding of the great crisis that confronts our country, and your commendable response to the assignment we have given you, that we are gathered here today to pay tribute to you, not by mere words but by officially dedicating to you men of the ATTG your service club, your guest house, your library and your chapel.'

"I congratulate all of you whose labor made these buildings possible It was truly a labor of love. You who remain here will enjoy these buildings. You who are departing will have the satisfaction of knowing that your comrades are enjoying them."

A native of Washington, D. C., Gen. Holcombe was a member of Lt. Gen. Joseph Stilwell's party during the famous 1942 Burma Retreat. A victim of recurrent malaria, he remained in India until Christmas of 1943 as Deputy Commanding General of the Army Service Forces China-Burma-India Theater. He returned to the United States in January 1944, and took command of Camp Gordon Johnston in March.

Colored Troops Overseas Now Number 361,456

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va.

79,000 In Air Corps; 44,000 Infantrymen

8-26-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—There were 698,911 Negroes serving in the Army on June 30, 1944, the War Department announced this week. This indicated an increase of 34,845 above the February 29, 1944, total of 664,066.

The announcement revealed a sharp rise in the number of Negroes assigned to overseas theatres, with other principal increases occurring in components of the Army Service Forces. 361,456 men are serving overseas.

Since August 31, 1943, the Army had accepted 116,050 additions to its Negro personnel.

Following is a partial breakdown. 8-26-44

Infantry	44,869
Coast and Field Artillery	38,517
Cavalry	1,473
Engineers	128,789
Air Corps	79,027
All others	406,236
Commissioned Officers	5,937
Including:	
Dental Corps Officers	102
Nurses	213
Other Medical Corps Officers	508
Chaplains	239
Serving Overseas	361,456

Mixed British Unit Training in U.S.

Mid-American Baltimore-Md.

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — A mixed British combat unit, composed of colored and white volunteers from the Caribbean and Bermuda, is training in the United States for overseas duty. 8-19-44

The existence of this unit, the First Caribbean Regiment, which has both colored and white officers, was made public last week in connection with a parade by the troops in celebration of the birthday of King George VI.

Trinidad Leads

Trinidad, with about 22 per cent of the volunteers, has the largest representation. Next in order come Jamaica, Barbados, British Guiana, Bermuda, the Windward Islands, the Leeward Islands, British Honduras and the Bahamas.

Lt. Gen. G. N. Macready, commander of the British Army staff in Washington, reviewed the unit and senior U.S. Army officers also took part in the ceremonies.

Praise U.S. Officers

Members of the regiment were said to be enthusiastic in their praise of the co-operation of U.S. Army officers and enlisted men. Particularly appreciated, some recalled, was the reception given the contingents upon their arrival by a U.S. Army band.

The regiment was established on April 1, and the first contingent to arrive in the United States was from Bermuda. Their place of training was not disclosed.

Non-Combat And Combat Army Units

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va. 8-26-44

WORD from Washington, based on official figures, indicates that Negro units in the Army are continuing to undergo sharp reconversion from combat to engineer and other type of outfits not of primary combat nature. This is going on in face of the fact that the number of Negroes in the Army has increased since June 6 by 34,845 to a total strength of 698,911.

During this same period what amounts to more than a division of combat men was lost to non-combat work. Nearly one thousand men (847) were added to existing infantry outfits and 1,692 to the Air Corps.

In the infantry, coast- and field artillery, cavalry, and air corps there is a total of 164,806. In the engineers and "all other" types of Army units there is a total of 534,965. This is a ratio of almost five to one in non-combat and combat units.

There are 3,506 colored Wacs and 213 nurses in the Army. In the latter category the quota is woefully indefensible. No Wacs of the colored group are known to have been assigned outside the continental United States. This week the Army announced that sixty-odd colored nurses had arrived in the European theatre of operations. Previously some had been sent to Liberia (they are now returned) and more recently others have been sent to Australia and other Pacific bases. 8-26-44

In the Nurses Corps there are only three Negroes (captains) above the rank of lieutenant. The Wacs have two majors and several captains.

No one contends that non-combat outfits are not necessary to the war effort. It could not be won without them. But the Negro, with reason, objects to the high percentage of his men who are given the drudgery assignments, in contrast to those of other races.

That the Negro is a good soldier is beyond dispute. The latest testimonial to his fighting qualities was given earlier this week by Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain. And he is in a position to know.

Patrol Of 93rd Cuts Jap Lines

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va.

Outfit Once Again Breaks Into Headlines

9-30-44

Special to Journal and Guide

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—The 93rd division, the first American infantry division of Negro soldiers to be committed to combat, which has not been in the news in the past weeks, made the headlines again recently when a patrol of these soldiers displayed heroic action in making their way behind the Japanese lines to set up an ambush and rip the Jap supply lines to shreds from a dangerous ambush position.

A 93rd patrol under the command of First Lieutenants John S. Walker of Chicago, Ill., and Linden A. Carding of Miami, Okla., stalked through the quiet and perilous jungle on a mission assigned to them by the commanding general of the division. After two days of wearily trudging through muck and mud, the patrol reached its goal far behind the enemy lines, where they set up a road block and made plans to ambush the Japs' main supply route.

SURPRISED JAPS 9-30-44

Each man realized the importance and danger of his mission. The strategic hill position they occupied was to be held while they struck hard into the Jap effort to supply their stranded forces in a native village. They were rewarded when they surprised a Jap patrol and engaged it in a fire fight. A concentration was laid on the Japs who fled in disorder.

The next morning, at the crack of dawn, another Jap patrol, evidently in flight from a heavy mortar barrage laid down by friendly forces the previous night, was caught in the American patrol's ambush. Cpl. James L. Vernon of Wilcoe, W. Va., and Technician Fifth Grade Harry S. Evans of Long Branch, N. J., crouched in their gun positions and allowed the Japs to creep within 50 yards. They spattered the area with deadly cross-fire from their automatic weapons. 9-30-44

REPEL COUNTER-ATTACK

They accounted for three Nips knocked out immediately. Then Sergeant James A. Hopkins of Baton Rouge, La., and Technician Fifth Grade Arlester J. Jefferson of San Antonio, Texas, spotted two more seeking con-

knew that the patrol was striking mercilessly in their territory and consequently, after a few hours, they attempted to make a hard-pressing counter-attack. The other as he was taking a quarry, cold as he crawled toward a tree. Jefferson stopped his bead on Corporal Vernon. By this time the Japs

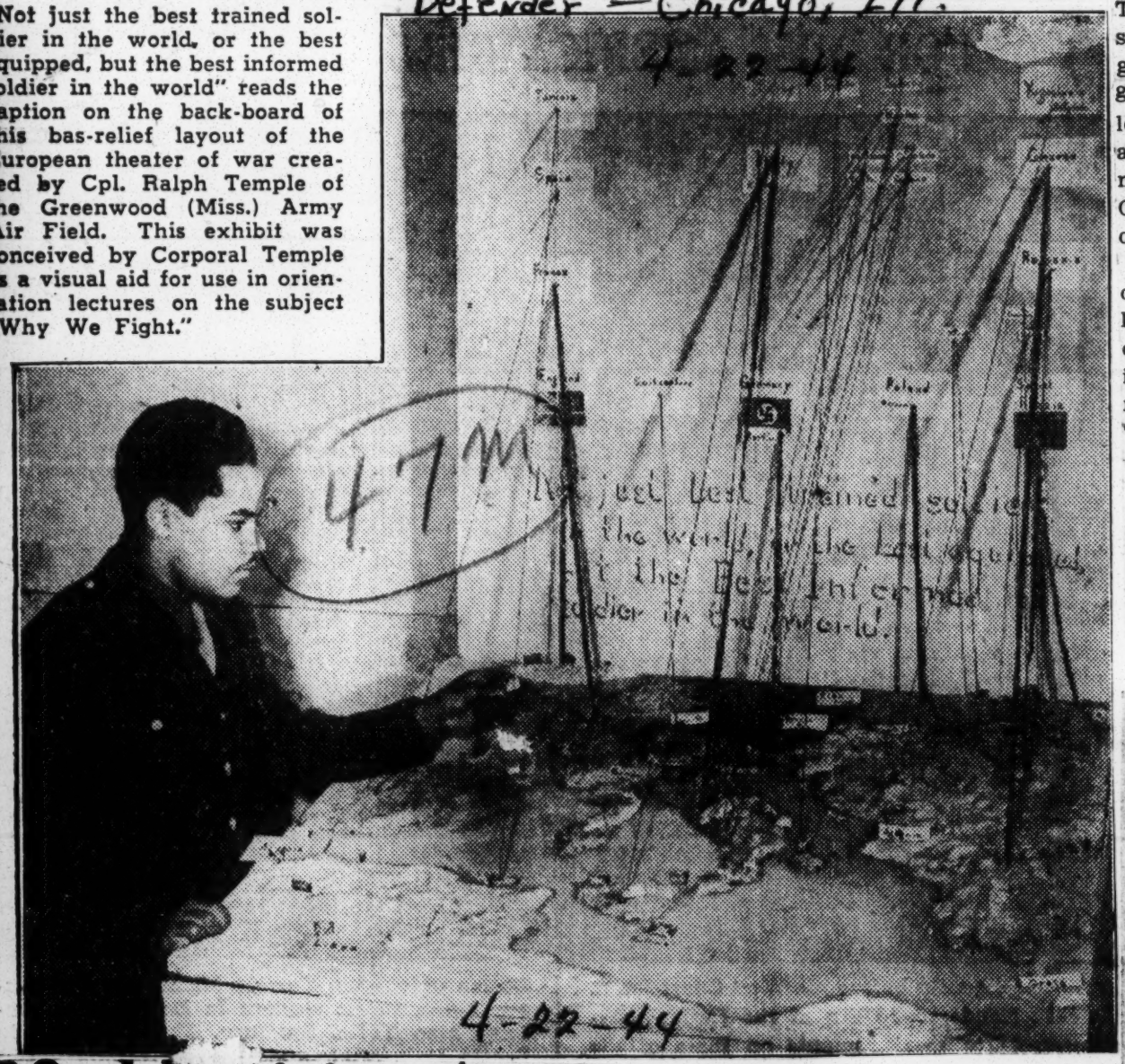
patrol withstood the assault with stiff resistance and suffered no losses.

Later the leaders in command informed their men that their mission had been accomplished and ordered a strategic return to their command post. The entire patrol was commended for its excellent and effective work by Major General Robert B. McClure, commanding general of the division.

BEST INFORMED SOLDIER IN THE WORLD

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
4-22-44

"Not just the best trained soldier in the world, or the best equipped, but the best informed soldier in the world" reads the caption on the back-board of this bas-relief layout of the European theater of war created by Cpl. Ralph Temple of the Greenwood (Miss.) Army Air Field. This exhibit was conceived by Corporal Temple as a visual aid for use in orientation lectures on the subject "Why We Fight."



93rd Division Accounts for Many Japs at Bougainville

By Stander — Des Moines, Iowa.
5-11-44

Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville, South Pacific—A Negro infantry unit of the 93rd Infantry Division fighting alongside the veteran American Division at Bougainville, has established a score of 99 Japanese killed and one taken prisoner the War Department announced today.

The presence of these combat troops in the South Pacific marks the first time that Negro ground soldiers have hunted down an enemy of the United States in this war. 5-11-44

"You don't have to worry about their ability to take care of themselves and beat the Japs at their own game," reported an Army combat correspondent who has been with the infantrymen since their initiation into the Bougainville campaign. This statement was reemphasized by Lieutenant Colonel James C. Roberts, San Antonio, Texas, who is intelligence officer of the 93rd division.

Stories of gallantry in action have trickled back from forward elements. Technical Sergeant Stephen H. Simpson, 23, of 1086 Grand Avenue, Nogales, Arizona, a medical corps surgical technician, who was detailed to lead a group into the jungle to evacuate a wounded man, has been commended by Major General Raymond G. Lehman, U. S. Army, Commander of the 93rd division.

Sergeant Simpson thwarted efforts of the Japanese to ambush his party, located and completed the evacuation of the wounded soldier, after destroying an enemy machine gun emplacement in which five Japs were killed. The rescue party suffered three losses in this encounter. 5-11-44

Asked what he thought of the future of Negro ground troops on Bougainville, Lieutenant Colonel Sammie I. Rossom, Sherman, Texas, a battalion commander said, "I think the men are going to get along alright."

54th Unit Praised For Routing Enemy

Monsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

Coast Artillery Elements Helped Bougainville Gain Title 'Gulch-Lined Graveyard of Pacific'

6-6-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(NNPA War Correspondent)—(Reproduction Prohibited.)

BOUGAINVILLE—(By Courier)—Working in harmony with the two Negro infantries here is the third member of the All-Negro team, elements of the 54th coast artillery. It has been this unit's handling of the heavy guns which have helped Bougainville attain the title, the gulch-lined graveyard of the blue Pacific. No site of battle shows more the effectiveness of artillery than yan's giant hand snatched them huge chunks of his base. Pill from the earth. Time and time boxes smashed beyond recognition. again the guns roared, baleful Installations pulverized. Trees orange flames leaping out. Dusty broken leaving splintered trunks. ground at our feet shuddered. Whole sections have been uprooted; Shell casings were snatched out— blistered craters remaining. cannoneers shoved new projectiles

Manning the 155 m. howitzers, home, gun commanders barked—these colored artillerymen are con- 'Battery ready, sir"

stantly bludgeoning opposition. Fir- Intermittently the enemy coun- ing over open sights they have un- tered with a shell. One missile ex- mercifully barraged enemy posi- ploded 200 yards from us. Three tions with screaming, air-bursting men received flesh wounds, none shell fire. The 54th was the first considered serious. It was not many Negro unit to engage the enemy, days after until the enemy had (Feb. 17) and did not let up until ceased flying altogether.

the Japs fled beyond the ridge— The enemy is now in mad retreat leaving much ammunition. Recon- over the mountains. The infantry naissance showed the bivouac area and artillery are spurring him on— leveled, parts of bodies lined many at remarkable speed. At H-hour craters. during the night the guns strike,

During one twilight barrage, your devastation is great. The cannons correspondent watched sweating, old axiom is proven repeatedly— shirtless men at the helm of the there is no substitute for artillery. batteries fire 128 rounds at the Commanding the cannon-struck Ridge, 3,000 yards away. We could youngsters, is shrewd and well-read see dust clouding the air, trees Major R. W. Ely, Kansan. The only toppling over as though John Bun- Negro officer is Capt. Simeon

"Black Commandos" Get Burma Citation
Pittsburgh Courier
4-22-44

By GEORGE PADMORE
(London Correspondent)

They operated at night . . . making swift landings on enemy-held beaches . . . and returning with valuable information concerning Japanese strength and their positions.

LONDON—(Via Wireless)—"Black Commandos" from Nigeria, the Gold Coast, and Sierra Leone, all from the continent of Africa, were cited last week in London for the valuable support which they have given the British and Indian troops engaged in operations on the Burma front west

Gibson, Flint, Mich.; 1-Sgt. Ishmal
Cain, Arkansas City, Kansas; Master
Gunner, T-Sgt. Claude Kitchen, Jack-
sonville, Mo.; Gun Commander Sgt.
Edrean Holley, Norfolk, Va.; Search-
light operators, Sgt. David Smith, Mc-
Keesport, Pa.; Pvt. Elwood Jones,
Philadelphia.

Cannoneers: Pvt. James Kinsey, Wake
Forest, N. C.; Pvt. Wilbert LeBlair,
Baltimore, Md.; Pvt. Rosbo Coleman,
Charleston, Miss.; Pvt. Dock Ervin,
Tarpoon Springs, Fla.; Ammunition
section, Pvt. Cyril Butts, Trinidad,
B. W. I.

guns in the face of

Johnson, chaplain

Jersey—studious,

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Johnson watched

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Texas; DeWitt Robin

Jessie J. Jennings, E.

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Major C-Sgt. John

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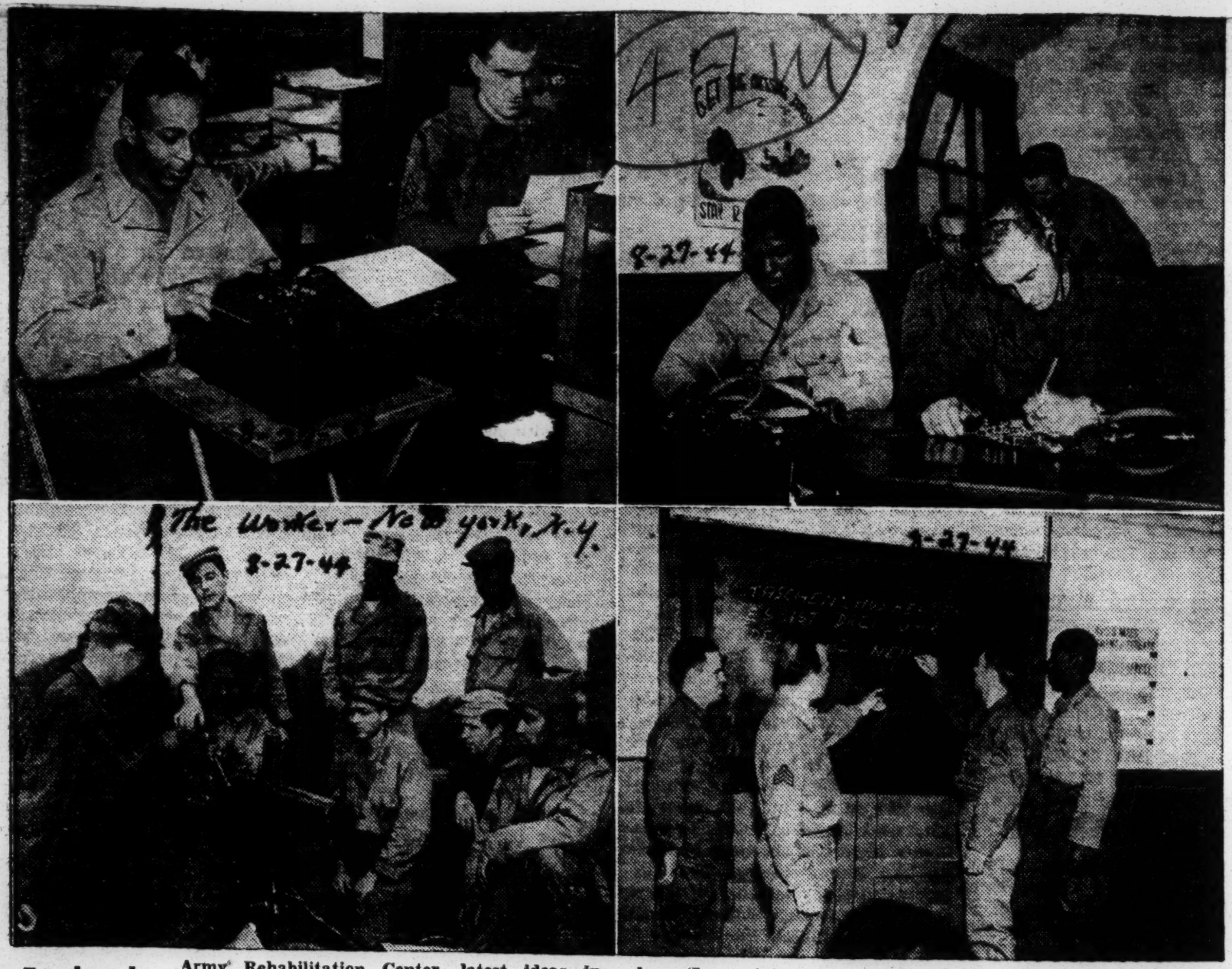
47m-1944



In England— Army Rehabilitation Center, latest ideas in medical science return 70 percent of the men to field duty within 60 days. Photos show (upper left) Pvt. Walter D. Seawright and T/Sgt. Chas. Uuksta working in hospital headquarters. (Upper right) Pvts. Claude Huey and Russell Cocklin in the Morse code class. (Lower left) A class in .30 calibre machinegun. (Lower right) Trainees get instructions in German. Left to right: Pfc. Lonnie Hughes, Sgt. Morris Hellman, S/Sgt. Litton Thomas and Pfc. Leroy Chatman.

698,911 Negroes in Army; One-Half Overseas

The Worker - New York, N.Y. 8-27-44

By JAMES W. FORD

The War Department's report on the number of Negroes in the armed forces of the United States and the part they are taking in the all-over fighting shows the big role they play in the defense of the nation. They are listed in all departments of the Army.

The report shows 698,911 Negroes serving in the Army on June 30, 1944. More than one-half—331,456—are serving overseas. This is 150,000 more than served overseas in the last war. There is a rise in the number of commissioned officers as compared to the last war. Negro soldiers are in every branch of Army service. This widely diversified use of Negro personnel never happened before in the history of the Army. Heretofore the policy was to regulate Negro personnel to non-combatant service, mainly laborers corps. 8-27-44

Negroes are performing heroically and brilliantly in the highest and most technical branches of the Army, notably the Air Corps.

NEGRO NURSES

The first contingent of Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps has just arrived in the European Theater of Operations. The contingent was greeted by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, America's ranking Negro officer. Capt Mary L. Petty of Chicago heads the contingent.

Serving under Capt. Petty are 63 officers from all parts of the country. They have a glorious record. Fifteen members of the unit have had previous foreign duty in the African campaign.

There are Negro Chaplains, serving both Negro and white soldiers.

There is Staff Sgt. John R. Gibson of New York City, whose company delivered the first cargo of supplies to Soviet Russia. He has just returned to the country after serving 18 months with a Quartermaster regiment in the Persian Gulf Command. 8-27-

MEANING OF DATA

A Negro processing unit is functioning perfectly at the Air Corps Command at Boca Raton, Fla.

The breakdown of the report on the Negroes in the Army shows 44,869 in the infantry; 38,517 in the coast and field artillery; 1,473 in the cavalry; 123,789 in engineers corps; 79,027 in Air Corps.

The balance, 406,226, are listed as "all others." It would have been well if these had been further broken down as to the number in the signal corps, marines and other branches of the Army.

These figures reveal a revolution in the use of Negro personnel by the Army. They show how extensive the process of the integration of Negroes is going on. It is a reflection of what is going on at the home front too: The Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes in Los Angeles voted to accept Negroes into the union. 8-27-44

It shows the democratization of the Army in reference to Negroes is making headway.

Credit is due our commander-in-chief, President Roosevelt, whose policies and leadership are forcing serious attention to this problem.

As one who served in the last war, I can say that the difference between the integration of Negro soldiers in the Army in the last war and today is the difference between night and day.

RIGHT TO VOTE

This report also reflects the patriotic response of Negro citizens in loyalty, in efficiency, in military elan.

If the integraton of the Negro soldier in the Army is to be further strengthened and morale of colored citizens on the home front raised, the right of Negro as well as white soldiers in the use of the voting ballot must be sustained and facilitated in time for them to vote in November. 8-27-44

Every obstructionist who Jimcrows Negro soldiers in the Army should be brought to task.

Jimcrow should be wiped out of the Army and full civil and military rights guaranteed to Negro soldiers.

It is inconceivable that a contingent of 689,011 Negro soldiers has only a complement of 5,987 colored commissioned officers. The Negro Army personnel should be increased in the number of generals, colonels, majors, captains, lieutenants and on down the line. Tens of thousands of lower rank soldiers carry officers' qualification in their knapsacks. 8-27-44

The breaking down of Jimcrow, stepping up promotions and the further distribution of Negro soldiers as full combatants will hasten the breaking of the back of the Hitler machine and the wiping out of Nazism. Full support of the commander-in-chief will help to bring about complete and full integration of Negroes into every phase of American life and make our Army truly democratic.

Units Chase Japs; One's Cut in Half

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

Hirohito's Boys Defeated At Their Own Game As Our Boys Win Furious Battle

By FLETCHER MARTIN
Amsterdam News Correspondent
(Representing the NNPA)
SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC

Under the command of Lieut. Col. Arthur Amos, units of the 93d Division pulled a surprise on superior enemy forces at Bougainville last week and, after two days of fighting, the Japanese soldiers were driven back across the Laruma River.

In retreating, Hirohito's ground forces left 25 lifeless soldiers behind and probably 200 wounded.

The enemy was defeated at his own game. Our boys fought furiously and with great skill. Among the 93d dead and wounded, five pill boxes were blown to bits and much It was fought along the Numa Numa trail with our boys hurling grenades as accurately as the great Satchel Paige when the latter is tossing up strikes at Yankee Stadium.

Jap Cut In Half

One Japanese sniper was cut in half by machine gun fire when a 93d man began blazing away at the lower section of his body fell into a lake, but his grip on the troops across the Laruma River. The battle started early Monday tree limb remained firm until that portion of his body was liquidated

by a grenade.

Most of the soldiers in the 93d units come from the South, especially South Carolina and Louisiana.

Lt. Col. Amos, a West Pointer, praised the men for their first showing in combat. Prior to their arrival, the men in the 93d had been trained for weeks and weeks in the technique of jungle warfare.

"If any man harbors any sentiment about killing," the commanding officer told his men, "I am warning you to abolish such thoughts. The only way to defeat the enemy is to kill him."

Admits Use Of 9th., 10th. As Service Units

4-15-44

NEW YORK — The 9th and 10th cavalry regiments, famous Negro Regular army units, have been converted into service troops, it has been admitted by the War department.

In a letter to Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the NAACP, John J. McCloy, assistant secretary of War, included copy of a letter to Senator Robert A. Taft in which it was explained that the 9th and 10th—although not designated by name—have been used to provide certain additional service units to meet an early requirement of the highest importance."

In explaining the conversion of the famous old fighting regiments into service troops Mr. McCloy wrote Senator Taft:

"Unfortunately currently constituted service units were all committed to definite tasks. They cuold not be withdrawn from these tasks without seriously interfering with planned operations, and the short time available for the organization and training of the needed units made it imperative to utilize previously trained personnel. It was found that the only available source for such personnel was certain uncommitted combat units, including the Second Cavalry Division. 4-15-44

"As mentioned previously, the military situation demanded that trained personnel in considerable numbers be made immediately available. Since the Second Cavalry Division was the only source from which such personnel could be withdrawn without delaying the war effort, the War Department was compelled to effect this change in its utilization. Needless to say, the decision would necessarily have been the same had this division been composed of white personnel."

The 9th and 10th former part of the Second Cavalry Division which had been training in Fort Clark, Texas.

Trail Of Glory That Started In France Is Picked Up In Pacific

Informer — Houston, Texas

4-15-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
(Informer-NNPA War Correspondent)
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BOUGAINVILLE — The 93rd division has seen its first action in World War Two. Picking up the glorious trail that ended in France, elements of the famous outfit went into action April 3rd when superior Jap forces opened mass infantry fire and were completely routed by the colored boys.

In its initial action the 93rd killed 25 Japs, blew up five pill boxes, and captured considerable enemy equipment.

For two days both forces fought with rage and skill on rain-drenched earth along the Numa Numa trail, in the vicinity of the Laruma river, just five thousand yards of the beachhead held by American forces.

The 93rd forces along the trail under heavy fire, and using automatic rifles, machine guns, mortars, grenades, and bazookas, drove the enemy from entrenchments in what was described as—unshirted hell.

4-15-44

The main mission assigned to the unit was to find and destroy huge enemy forces believed hiding along the Numa Numa trail in mountainous ridges, which gave them command of a strategic valley.

The trail ran down into Jap positions and it would have meant suicide for any troops to storm through the cleverly erected fortress, for the trail, led to a ridge that was covered by automatic fire.

Texan Is Hero

The 93rd forces, led by Lt. Col. Arthur Amos, a West Pointer crossed the Laruma river, and marching up the west bank, flanked enemy positions. Lt. DeWitt Cook, a colored officer of La Grange, Texas, carved a place in the glory niche for himself when he, along with Lt. Robert Banks, of Alburquerque, New Mexico, protected the troops with automatic fire.

4-15-44

Col. Amos reported that two snipers were torn from trees overlooking a small body of water, and one was cut in two by machine gun fire. After the coast was clear, the colored troops recrossed the Laruma to the enemy side and marched up a ridge to wage battle at close hand.

To silence menacing enemy pill boxes, Captain Frederick Douglas Rankins, of Alexandria, La., called up bazooka men, including Sgt. Will Morey, of Greenville, Miss., and they crawled along the bank to a point from where five emplacements were blown up with eight shots.

In one of the destroyed pill boxes two enemy officers were blown to bits. Col. Amos said such shooting deserves a special award and assured that he would recommend such.

Elements of a veteran American division fighting side by side with the colored troops expressed surprise at the ability displayed by the latter in their initial jungle fighting. 4-15-44

The Japs withdrew on the second day, leaving their dead. The 93rd suffered three slight casualties, but none were considered serious.

Troops Praised

As the troops returned, muddy and sweating, and resembling a bunch of youngsters who had just won the homecoming game, Col. Amos declared that they were up to any fighting men in the Pacific. Other officers expressed the same opinion. 4-15-44

Discussing recent developments on Bougainville in which Negroes have played a major part, Major General Oscar Griswold concluded that Negro troops have made an excellent start in jungle combat and will be well fitted to travel the tough road ahead.

The general emphasized that although the Japs were on the run after making futile attempt to wrest the beachhead from the Americans, there still remains thousands of them in the dark jungles.

He admitted that the Nips have proved good soldiers, especially the division that the 93rd is embattled with. It saw action in China, and helped in the "rape" of Nanking. He warned that if any American troops harbor sentiment over killing, such must be abolished, adding that killing is the only method by which the enemy can be defeated. 4-15-44

"Five thousand Japs have been killed here, but hundreds of thousands must be killed in days to come. I am glad Negroes are in the thick of it and that they started under my command," the grap, gaunt general asserted.

24th Digs In

The 24th Infantry, a menace to the Japs in recent weeks, are outside of the perimeter, holding a fort after digging in to secure the towering ridge that they waged a gallant fight ot win.

92d Division Fighting in Italy

Post — Washington, D.C.

8-29-44

Rome, Aug. 28 (AP).—Elements of the all-Negro Ninety-Second Division have been in action with the United States Fifth Army, and the division's first man to give his life in the Italian theater was a captain, commander of a company, who was killed by mortar fire while going forward in a reconnaissance mission.

The Ninety-Second activated in September, 1942, at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., arrived in Italy July 13 with its own artillery, antiaircraft and communications and supply.

The division was fed into the line within a fortnight after its arrival. The name of its commanding officer was withheld.

Negro Nurses Tend German Prisoners

LONDON — The all-Negro nursing unit which arrived in the United Kingdom last August, is devoting its attention to nursing German war prisoners in England, a recent report disclosed.

92nd Patrol First to Cross Arno

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy
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9-30-44

WITH FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY (By Air Mail)—Looking back at the first successful effort of the combat team of the 92nd Division on September 1, when one of its reconnaissance patrols sloshed across the Arno River to spark the current Allied drive against the Gothic Line, the name of Lt. Jake Chandler, Toledo, Ohio, stands out.

Lieutenant Chandler, an ex-policeman of Toledo, led the patrol which made the crossing between Florence and Pisa—the initial crossing by any Allied men in strength. Among those in that first partol were:

Those in Patrol

First Sgt. Jack Ellis, Dayton, Ohio; Sgts. Ida Claiborne, Charleston, S.C.; William Harrison, Cleveland, Ohio; Eldridge Beverly, Washington, D.C.; Elvyn Davidson, NYC; Willis Kinney, Fulton, Ky.; Alonzo Cannon, Cleveland;

9-30-44

Cpl. Clarence Purnell, Norfolk, Va.; T/5 Robert Locey, a company mail clerk, who volunteered to go on the dangerous mission; Sgt. Bonnie Evans, Cape Girado, Mo.; Pvt. Leonard Reid, NYC; Pvt. John Toney, Milwaukee. Wis.;

Happy to Be in Attack

Pfcs. Frankie Pratt, Lompos, Texas; Clifford Banks, St. Louis, Mo.; Maxie Smith, Birmingham, Ala.; Jeff Jones, Greenville, S.C.; Shelton Seay, Memphis, Tenn.; Freck Reese, Akron, Ohio; Edward Washington, New Orleans, La.; Rufus Thomas, St. Louis, and Leroy Frank, Church Point, La.

After this patrol's success, other patrols sloshed through the mud and shallow waters all during the day, getting the offensive under way in a major manner.

Pfc. John H. Temple, Raleigh, N.C., remarked that all the men were "sure happy" to be in on the attack, and as a matter of record, they wanted everyone to know who made the initial crossing of the Arno.

Five Negro Soldiers Receive Transfers

Age — New York, N.Y.

8-19-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Negro soldiers are taking advantage of the new policy physically qualified of- applications for transfer approved: ville, Tennessee.

Private First Class James A. Perry, of Route 2, Austin, Texas.

Private First Class Ernest H. Roboblt, jr., of 2125 Druid Hill avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

Private Nathaniel Jardin, of Atmore, Alabama.

Private Walter E. Chandler, of 1104 North Adams street, Knox-

To Parachute Unit

a opted only from personnel at In- men in critical a fantry and Artillery Replacement Following are the names of five Training Centers, but under the Negro soldiers who have had their ing accepted from all branches of Forces or Army S are eligible for the Army.

In the past, applications had been exception of certain highly skilled troops since the War Department announced that volunteers are be- opportunity to serve with parachute ficers and enlisted men under 32 years of age in other Army Ground Forces units for transfer, with the

47m-1944

First Negro Soldier To Kill A Jap

PRIVATE JAMES H. O'BANNER, young Sidon, Mississippi infantryman, the first Negro to kill a Jap on Bougainville Island, was recently congratulated by Maj. Gen. Robert B. McClure, commanding the veteran Americal (that correct—Americal) Division. O'Banner's outfit, a unit of the 93d Division, is attached to Americal at Bougainville. He bagged his Nip with a carbine shot at a range of ten yards during a jungle patrol shortly after Negro troops arrived on this northernmost Solomons Island. Talking it over with him above is Lt. Col. James C. Roberts of San Antonio, Texas, intelligence officer with the 93d. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

C.-J. Photo.

PLANNING a glee club program are Wendell P. Talbert, left, director of the 272th Infantry Glee Club, Camp Breckinridge, and J. V. Norman, chairman of the Louisville U.S.O. Council, while the featured singer, Pvt. Charles M. Holland, standing, makes a suggestion.

292d Infantry's Glee Club Makes Debut Here Today

Courier—Journal—Louisville, Ky.
9-24-44

By JOE DUNCAN.

Forty-five rich-voiced Negro soldiers who "train all day day and sing all night" will appear here when Camp Breckinridge's 272d Infantry Glee Club makes its Louisville debut at 8 p.m. today at Memorial Auditorium.

The group, under the direction of Wendell Talbert, of the National U.S.O. Music Council, started last November with eighteen soldier-singers who, with a ten-day concert deadline to meet, presented a War Fund singing program that immediately had both the Army and the public asking for more.

Concert to Be Free.

Talbert explained that when he promised a glee club concert in ten days he really didn't have a single man. Today, he said, the organization is widely known through its coast-to-coast and short-wave broadcasts and its many phonograph recordings.

The group is being brought to Louisville through the co-operation of J. Van Dyke Norman, Jr., chairman of the U.S.O. Council here, and the Chestnut Street Street Negro U.S.O. Club. The concert will be free and open to the public. 9-24-44

Spirituals Scheduled.

The star soloist with the singers is Pvt. Charles Holland, young tenor well known to the prewar musical world through his screen appearances in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer pictures, and his radio performances. Two of his favorites, Sullivan's popular "The Lost Chord," and Talbert's original composition, "Honey," will be presented.

A portion of the program will be devoted to such spirituals as "Go Down Moses," "Roll Jordon Roll," and "Moan Chillun Moan." Other choral numbers include Sibelius's "Finlandia," Petry's "Asleep in the Deep," Talbert's arrangement of "Silvery Moon" and several other public favorites.

2 to 'Tickle Ivories'.

Hot piano solos—both classical and light—will be presented by Cpl. Charles Beal and Pvt. Gordon Anderson. First Lt. Fitzgerald Paul, officer in charge of the group, says he becomes just another singer when the men rehearse or tour Kentucky or Indiana at night or on week ends.

The glee club will appear on Sunday School and church service programs this morning at the Fourth Street Methodist Church.

$250,000 Mark Reached In Negro College Fund Drive

Journal & Guide—Norfolk, Va.
6-3-44

NEW YORK, N. Y.—In a nationwide campaign for $1,500,000 for maintenance of 27 accredited private Negro colleges and universities, the United Negro College Fund has reached a total of $252,000, it was announced this week by Walter Hoving, national campaign chairman.

"It has been encouraging to note the support given by corporations," Mr. Hoving said. The campaign in several cities is just getting started.

CITES NEED AS GREAT

Mr. Hoving pointed out that, were it not for these 27 Negro colleges, the greatest source for grammar school teachers throughout the South would cease to exist.

"Eighty-one per cent of college-trained Negroes work as teachers or in other professions directly for the enlightenment of their own people," he said.

The fund's national headquarters are at 38 East 57th street, New York City.

6-3-44

TRENT BROADCAST

William J. Trent Jr., executive secretary of the fund, spoke over Station WQXR recently. The Howard University Glee Club, directed by Warner Lawson, furnished music.

Mr. Trent urged support by all citizens, white and Negro, in the drive to raise $1,500,000.

white persons on the post inviting them to the white services which were to be held at Whiteside School. 7-29-44 The colored soldiers hold their services at Post Theater No. 1, where the 92nd Division will remain on that he will work under a white chaplain who is a Cnaplain Haynes was introduced that he had withdrawn at the initial services as the "new post chaplain."

to this:

Martin to Be Assistant

Chaplain Martin will remain on the post where he is stationed at present, as assistant chaplain, in charge of the colored services; that he will work under the new white chaplain who is a

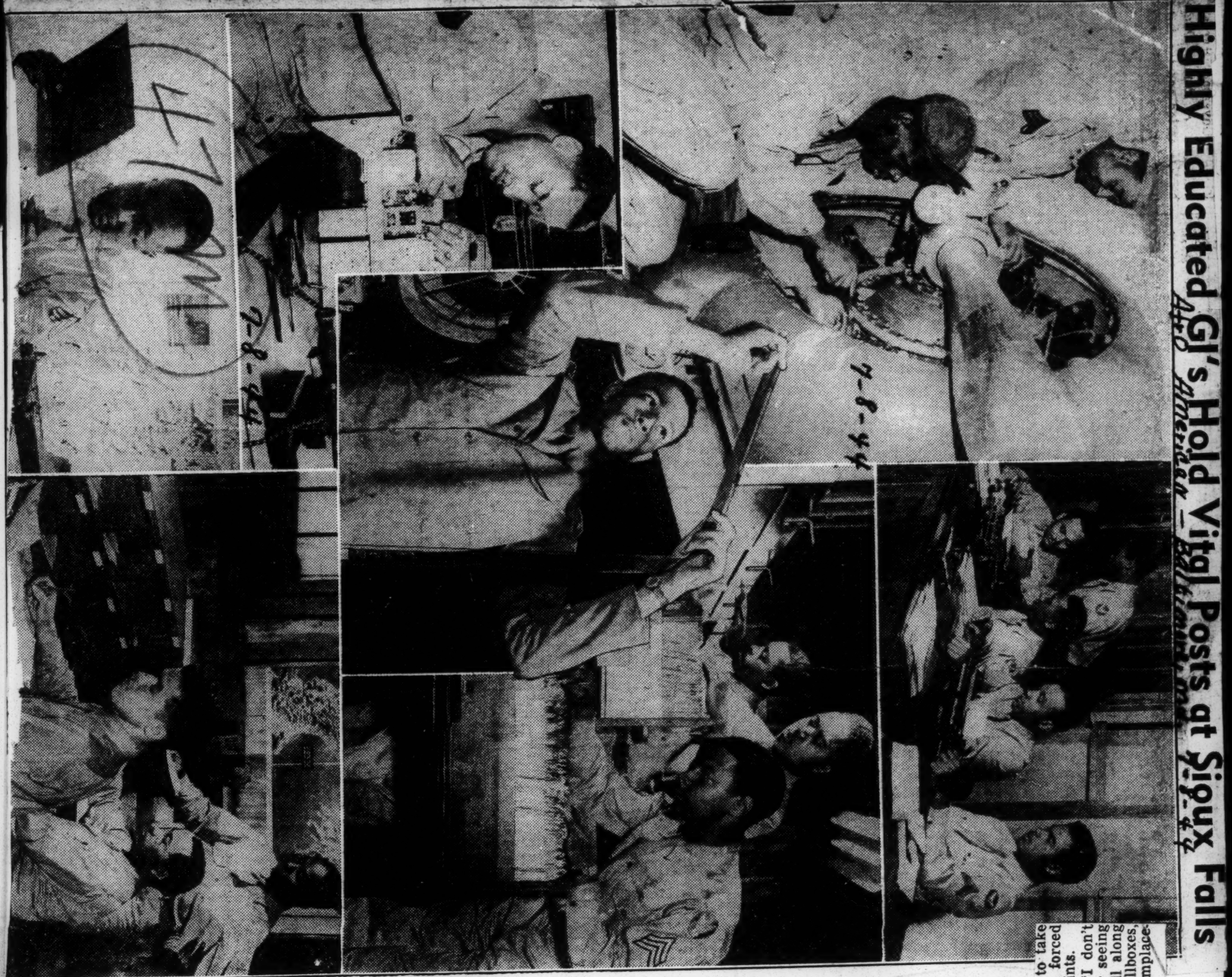
92nd Colored Division Given White Chaplain

Afro-American—Baltimore, Md.
7-29-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — Chaplain Andrew H. Martin, whoa white chaplain assigned. The AFRO was unable to get Aubrey C. Haynes, white, has been relieved of his duties as post chaplain, and his request for transfer. Upon the arrival of Chaplain

Highly Educated GI's Hold Vital Posts at Sioux Falls

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.



7-8-44

Highly-educated and well-trained colored soldiers stationed at the AAF Training Command Radio School at Sioux Falls (South Dakota) Army Air Field hold many key jobs. Upper left: Sgt. LeRoy McCauley (seated), of Newark, N.J., and Sgt. Melvin Williams, of Philadelphia, check the "nose" of an AT-18. Upper right: (left to right) Pvt. Howard A. Cooley, Chicago; Cpl. Robert L. Allensworth, Terre Haute, Ind.; Cpl. Chicuella C. Hillman, Montclair, N.J.; Pvt. Arthur B. Sykes, Baltimore, Md., and Sgt. Frank D. Prime, Pittsburgh, process records of incoming soldiers. Center row: (left) S/Sgt. Leon M. Houston, Austin, Texas, repairs damaged radio set; (center) Sgt. Henry C. Kimbrough, New York City, examines film strip in Post theatre projection room; (right) Pfc. Jeffrey D. Chatman, New Albany, Ind.; Pvt. Sterling L. Charleston, Bluefield, W. Va., and Sgt. Wilbur B. Strayhorn, Chicago (left to right), check the files in the unit personnel office. Bottom row: (left) Sgt. Elmer T. Kemp, Washington, D.C., edits the Post history; (right) Pvt. Sheley F. Lymen, Frankfort, Ky.; Pvt. Lawrence C. Collins, Pensacola, Fla., and Pfc. Edward W. Harris, Inkster, Mich., sort mail in the message center. (Photos by Army Air Forces.)

Tan Yanks Earned Large Share of Invasion Glory

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

7-15-44

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent With Invasion Forces in France

[Copyright. Reproduction in whole or in part expressly forbidden.]

WITH ADVANCED AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE — (By Cable, Censored)—Stories of heroic deeds by colored troops have come to me from every angle since my arrival on a Normandy beachhead exactly one month after departure from the U.S.A.

Leaving from England, colored soldiers loaded us on a boat, others accompanied us over, and still others unloaded us and much equipment on the beach they helped win from the enemy during the first few days of the invasion.

7-15-44

I am writing this beneath an apple tree by the roadside, with fat cattle grazing nearby, unmindful of the trucks rushing to the front with men and supplies, or of the incessant pounding of artillery not far up the road. 7-15-44

All last night, guns shook the ground on which I slept. Our long toms slugged it out with German 88's in a duel that has no end.

With QM Outfit

I am staying with a quartermaster outfit whose medical officer is Capt. Charles I. West of Washington, brother of Maj. John B. West. In the next tent is Warrant Officer Vincent Piedra of New York.

The outfit already has five purple hearts for wounds resulting from enemy action, awarded to Staff Sergeant Leo Chenault, Indianapolis; Pfc. Clordie Caldwell, Kings Creek, N.C.; Pfc. Wilfert Fox, Jonesboro, N.C.; Pfc. Arlander Barker, Chicago, and Pfc. Austin Anderson, Wilmington, Del.

Cpl. Downs Plane

Another unit has among its personnel Cpl. John Hawkins of Pine Bluff, Ark., who shot down a German plane on D-Day while landing under fire with a trucking company. Hawkins used a 50-calibre machine gun mounted on the truck to down the raider, which was attempting to strafe a troop concentration. 7-15-44

The Nazi pilot bailed out and was later captured.

Pvt. George McClain, 2263 E. 95th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, helped capture a German on D-Day soon after landing. The same day he went to the front before he knew it—driving a load of infantrymen up the road into a town still held by the Germans, but he made a quick turn and fled under fire by both sides.

Their trucks waterproofed, to take part in the assault that forced Jerry from his strong points.

Many are still saying, "I don't know how we did it, after seeing how Jerry was dug in." All along the beach were concrete pillboxes, barbed wire and gun emplacements.

Valor Tales Echo

7-15-44

Everywhere I go are tales of our lads who waded ashore in water up to their necks, with

Highly Educated GI's Hold Vital Posts at Sioux Falls

AFRO American — Baltimore, Md.

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(Photos by Army Air Forces.)

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Red Cross Blames War Dept. for Britain's J.C.

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.
1-8-44

Statement of Organization Head in England Says All Clubs Are Open to Colored

By MARGARET LEWIS

The American Red Cross has laid at the door of military authorities blame for discrimination in its clubs in Great Britain.

Harvey D. Gibson, commissioner for the Red Cross in Britain, in plain language has issued a statement of policy that colored troops serving in that area are "entitled to utilize all American Red Cross services provided for American forces."

He adds: "All members of the staff of the commission to Great Britain are, irrespective of race, class or creed, in relation to position to which assigned, of equal standing and entitled to the same American Red Cross consideration, privileges, benefits and advantages."

Orders from Army Officer

This would lend credence to the report that Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, is attempting to straighten out with War Department authorities orders issued by a commanding officer in England to his subordinates to the effect that colored troops were to be treated in a certain manner, in addition to being jim-crowed in certain taverns, Red Cross clubs, bars and public places.

The lid on the situation was blown off several weeks ago by the mass resignation of colored Red Cross workers in London after these employees understood that John Dierkies, whose administration they liked, had been replaced in authority by five area directors. 1-8-44

Commissioner Gibson hastily acted to straighten the matter out, creating a policy board of five workers, on which there is colored representation, and giving employees the power to approach him at all times on any important unsettled issues.

47m-1944

Bond Rally

Adam Powell Addresses Times Square Bond Rally

People's Voice — New York, N.Y.
7-1-44

Harlem took over the huge "Cash Register" in Times Square Friday noon, providing entertainers and speakers

7-1-44

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE Adam C. Powell, jr, (1) and Ralph Cooper, well-known emcee and entertainer, urge thousands swarming in the Times Square area last Friday, to support the Fifth War Loan—(PV foto).

as its share in helping the cash register to total up New York City's quota in the 5th War Loan Drive. A forceful plea for public purchase of war bonds was made by Adam Clayton Powell, candidate for Congress, as he was introduced by master of ceremonies Ralph Cooper.

The Abyssinian Baptist Church pastor told the Times Square throngs that in this national bond drive, there was no such thing as color, no such thing as race. "Harlem is as much a part of this bond effort as any other part of this great city of ours," he said, bringing out his point that Negro soldiers abroad are in there slugging with both fists, just like all other racial groups.

7-1-44

"There are 500,000 Negroes in Harlem," said Rev. Powell, "and they are behind this bond drive along with all New Yorkers. There are 1,000,000 Negroes in this war effort, wearing the uniform of their country."

Others on program included, aside from Powell and Ralph Cooper, several girls from the cast of *Helen Goes To Troy*, Cab Smith and his band from the Elks Rendezvous, Muriel Rahn, former star of *Carmen Jones*, and officials of the bond drive.

Race's financial institutions put $20,000,000 in war bonds

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
7-17-44

WASHINGTON — Negro banks and insurance companies have invested upwards of $20,000,000 in War Bonds since the fall of 1941, the Treasury Department announced this week on the basis of a survey by the National Negro Business League.

As of May 1, the survey revealed 28 member companies of the National Negro Insurance Association with total war bond holdings of $12,953,196, and 10 Negro banks with holdings of $4,605,928. This survey did not include war bond purchases of $2,763,000 reported by the insurance association during the first two weeks of the Fifth War Loan drive.

7-17-44

Setting the pace among insurance firms was the North Carolina Mutual of Durham, N. C., with holdings of $3,075,400; the Atlanta (Ga.) Life Insurance Co., with $3,462,500, and the Supreme Camp American Woodmen, of Denver, Colorado, with $1,200,172.

Leading the list of War Bond purchases among banking firms was the Citizens and Southern Bank and Trust Co., of Philadelphia, with $1,307,678; the Citizens Trust Co., of Atlanta, with $963,269, and the Crown Savings Bank, of Newport News, Va., with $780,000.

NAACP Buys $40,000 In Bonds To Honor 99th

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
7-15-44

NEW YORK — The purchase of $40,000 worth of Fifth War Loan Bonds by the NAACP in honor of two crack 99th Pursuit Squadron pilots, Capts. Charles B. Hall and Lemuel Rodney Custis, was announced this week by Walter White, secretary of the NAACP.

Both flyers praised the current program of the NAACP to gain full democratic rights for Negroes. White stated that while serving as a war correspondent in the European area, the question asked by most colored soldiers was "To what will we return in America? Will it be only to shoeshining jobs and the Ku Klux Klan?"

47m-1944

54th Coast Artillery Also Blasting Japs

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

5-2-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN

(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA

BOUGAINVILLE — (By Courier) — Working in harmony with the two Negro infantries here is the third member of the All-Negro team elements of the 54th coast artillery. It has been this unit's handling of the heavy guns which have helped Bougainville attain the title the gulch-lined graveyard of the blue Pacific. No site of battle shows more the effectiveness of artillery than huge chunks of this base. Pill boxes smashed beyond recognition. Installations pulverized. Trees broken leaving splintered trunks. Whole sections have been uprooted; blistered craters remaining.

Manning the 155 mm. howitzers, these colored artillerymen are constantly bludgeoning opposition. Firing over open sights they have unmercifully barraged enemy positions with screaming, air-burst ing shell fire. The 54th was the first Negro unit to engage the enemy (February 17) and did not let up until the Japs fled beyond the ridge — leaving much ammunition. Reconnaissance showed their bivouac area leveled, parts of bodies lined many craters. 5-2-44

THOROUGHLY TRAINED

There was some question whether this unit could be used as field artillery since its stipulated mission was coast defense. One fact was definitely known, the men had been thoroughly trained, they knew their weapons. Another factor, enemy troops were nearing the perimeter. The ridge, rugged and blue against the sky, was pregnant with Jap 75 mm. and 105 mm. weapons. They were hurling missiles into the bowels of the perimeter. The 54th pulled their guns inland, and with other batteries, pointed the ugly muzzles toward the knobs.

During one twilight barrage, your correspondent watched sweating, shirtless men at the helm of the batteries fire 128 rounds at the ridge 3000 yards away. We could see dust clouding the air, trees toppling as though John Bunyan's giant hand snatched them from the earth. Time and again the guns roared, baleful orange flames leaping out. Dusty ground at our feet shuddered. Shell casings were snatched out, — cannoneers shoved new projectiles home, gun commanders barked — "Battery ready, fire!" 5-2-44

Intermittently the enemy countered with shell. One missle exploded 200 yards from us. Three men received flesh wounds, none considered serious. It was not many days after until the enemy had ceased firing altogether. Most of his mountain artillery had been smashed, what remained he must have carted away. The firefright became a one-side affair. Our guns were turned on his infantry—firing point blank into thousands of befuddled enemy troops. Screams could be heard along the line as the enemy was blown apart.

ENEMY IN RETREAT

The enemy is now in mad retreat over the mountains. The infantry and artillery are spurring him on—at remarkable speed. At H-hour during the night the guns strike, devastation is great. The cannons fight with skill and valor. The age-old axiom is proven repeatedly — there is no sibstitute for artillery.

Commanding the cannon-stuck youngsters is shrewd and well-read Major R. W. Ely, Kansan. The only Negro officer is Capt. Simeon Johnson, chaplain of Roselle, N. J., studious, likeable, competent. During one barrage Capt. Johnson watched his men with pride. A piece of shrapnel whizzed overhead falling near the chaplain. Since, Capt. Johnson keeps this piece of jaggered iron in his pocket to remind himself how close death once came and how men must feel who man the guns in the face of flying shrapnel. 5-2-44

Major Ely was all praise for his troops, and especially did he point out: Gun commanders: Sgts. Major L. Barron, Malakoff, Texas: DeWitt Robinson, Gary, Texas, and Jesse J. Jennings, E. Columbus, Texas; First Sergeant Randall Henson, Columbia, Mo., Range Section, S-Sgt. Jesse Bay, Houston, Texas; Observer Captain James Thacker, Richmond, Va.; Plotter, T-5 William Hall. New Orleans; Radio operators, Pfc. Thomas Ezekiel, Columbus, Ga.; T-5 Mora

54th Coast Artillery

Powell, Detroit: T-5 Melvin Butler, Cincinnati, Ohio; Machine gunner, Sgt. Bishop Beam, Louisville, Ky.; Gun mechanic, Sgt. James H. Johnson, Louisville. 5-2-44

Battalion Sgt. Major S-Sgt. John Gibson, Flint, Mich.; 1-Sgt. Ishmal Cain, Arkansas City, Kan.; Master gunner, T-Sgt. Claude Kitchen, Jacksonville, Mo.; Gun Commander Sgt. Edrean Holley, Norfolk, Va.; Searchlight operators, Sgt. David Smith, McKeesport, Pa., Pvt. Elwood Jones, Philadelphia.

Cannoneers: Pvt. James Kinsey, Wake Forest, N. C.; Pvt. Wilbert Leflair, Baltimoer, Md.: Pvt. Rosco Coleman, Charleston, Miss.; Pvt. Dock Ervin, Tarpoon Springs, Fla.; Ammunition section, Pvt. Cyril Butts, Trinidad, B. W. I.

Evidence Disproves 'Struggle'

Soldier's Death Sentence Shock To British Public

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

6-17-44

By GEORGE PADMORE, London Correspondent

LONDON—(Via Wireless)—One of the most sensational cases ever to result in the death penalty for a Negro soldier by a U.S. court-martial, has been ended here. The findings have aroused nationwide press and public reaction. The decision was based on the statement of a woman who alleged that she left her husband in bed and walked 100 yards, in her nightdress, to show a Negro soldier the way to the railway station, during which time, she further alleged, the Negro drew a knife and forced her to submit to his attentions.

The 30-year-old Negro, whose name is not disclosed, faced a court consisting of seven white officers and one Negro officer, with a colonel presiding. In charge of the prosecution was Captain Culinson, with Major Drew conducting the defense. The Negro's plea was not guilty.

6-17-44

WOMAN'S TESTIMONY

The woman, wife of a truck driver residing in Bath and the mother of two children, told the court that, on the night in question, she was asleep with her husband when she was suddenly awakened by someone knocking at the parlor door. Looking out in the moonlight she said she saw a Negro who asked the way to the Bristol railway station. She said she gave him the directions from her bedroom window.

Continuing her evidence the woman said: 6-17-44

"He asked me to write the directions on paper. I came downstairs, opened the front door and admitted him. I agreed to accompany him towards the station. I went back to my bedroom, put on knickers and an overcoat and told my husband that I was going to show a soldier the way to the station. My husband agreed to this. The time was then 11:30."

HELPED SOLDIER

After walking with the soldier in the direction of the station, the woman testified she told him: "I must reutrn home." He then thanked her and offered to walk back towards the house. On the way there, she said, he drew a knife on her.

"He picked me up and half lifted me over a four-foot wall," she testified. "I resisted and begged him to put the knife away. He threatened to kill me if I screamed." After the alleged attack, the woman said the soldier made her promise not to talk to anyone. When the affair was over the man went towards the station and she walked toward her house, she testified.

Before reaching the door, the woman reportedly met her husband, who asked the reason for her excited condition, whereupon she told him the soldier had assaulted her, but begged her husband not to pursue the man because he had a knife. The husband took her instead to an air raid precautions post, wheer his wife was examined by a British police surgeon.

EVIDENCE FOUND? 6-17-44

Giving evidence, the woman said: "One leg of my knickers was torn. I had never seen the tear before." She added: "When I was being taken to see the doctor we passed a colored soldier. I was sure he was the one who assaulted me by the shape of his back and also by his coughing and spitting. The soldier had his face 'all screwed up.' He asked me, 'What's this all about, lady?'"

Under cross-examination by the soldier's advocate, the woman admitted: "My husband said okay when I said I had better go down to see the soldier knocking at the door. My husband found me in the road because he had heard me directing the man to the railway station. I was away about 20 minutes. It was bright moonlight. The soldier held the knife in his right hand and I could feel it being pressed into my back."

NOT SURE OF IDENTITY

In reply to a query from a member of the court, the woman stated: "It was about 11:20 p. m. when the soldier called. I spoke with him for about five minutes at the window before opening the front door. I cannot now identify the soldier in court and neither would I be able to identify him if brought into court." 6-17-44

The husband next gave evidence. He said:

"My wife woke me saying that somebody was knocking at the door. I heard a conversation. The person said: 'I am sorry to trouble you at this time of night but I am absolutely lost. Could you tell me ways and means of getting to Bristol?'"

The husband continued: "My wife went downstairs after dressing and I heard her unlock the door and ask the soldier inside. After a few minutes there was silence. I waited a little longer and then, as I could not make out why she had not returned, I put on my trousers and went downstairs. I found the gas lighted and thought my wife was in the garden. When I found out she was not there I thought as she was explaining the way to the station my wife might have gone to show the soldier the way." 6-17-44

HUSBAND CONTINUES STORY

The man continued: "I went in the same direction and when halfway down the avenue I saw someone coming at top speed. It was my wife. I said: 'Whatever is the matter?' She replied: 'Oh, he's got a knife.' I said: 'Where is he?' She replied: 'Don't go. He will stab you with his knife.' She told me she had been assaulted. She was near collapse. I took her to the air raid post."

U.S. police investigators giving evidence said that the Negro had signed a confession. The police, however, admitted extracting the confession after the man had been made to stand at attention for 45 minutes during questioning.

SAYS HE HAD "DATE"

When called upon to testify in his own behalf the soldier denied the charge, saying:

"I had made a date with the woman between 8:30 and 9. She said she couldn't see me then, but would see me later. She told me to knock at a certain house and described the house. I went there after 11:30 and knocked. She stuck her head out of the window. I heard her talking to someone. She rushed downstairs and invited me in. I heard someone moving upstairs and asked her to direct me on the way to Bristol. I walked out of the door and she walked behind me." 6-17-44

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

The soldier continued: "I went into the field. We had been there a couple of times before. I helped her over the wall. She lay down and unbuttoned her coat. She asked for two pounds ($9.60). I told her I had well over one pound. She walked off saying: 'I will get you into trouble.' I just laughed and walked off."

Testifying of his previous relationship with the woman, the soldier said:

"I saw her for the first time at the Cross Keys public house. I asked her if she knew any nice girls. Finally, I popped the question to her and she said: 'Why not?' She asked for one pound ($4.80) and I gave it to her. When they picked me up, it was the third time I had been with her. I walked slowly out of the field and did not see her husband."

Under cross-examination the soldier told the court: "I had had only one cup of tea and nothing to eat before the investigators questioned me. I didn't eat anything from Friday until 5 p. m. Saturday in the prison camp. It was after they had prepared a statement that the investigators called the captain." 6-17-44

DENIES MP'S CLAIM

The soldier alleged that the military police did not write down what he said and did not read their statement to him in the presence of the captain. The man also stated that the investigators had used profanity to him. At the time of the investigation no U.S. Army officers were present.

When a police investigator was cross-examined, the witness said: "The accused seemed normal and all right. It is correct that while being examined the accused had to stand at attention. While standing at attention the soldier fainted and fell down. Nobody touched him."

Another police witness said:

"I questioned the soldier continuously for 45 minutes. We finally secured a statement. It was written down."

When called to the stand the captain said: "I was present when the investigator read the statement in the presence of the accused."

The prosecuting advocate then read the signed statement to the court. 6-17-44

NO APPARENT STRUGGLE

Called to give expert medical testimony, Dr. Charles Robert Gibson, British police surgeon, said, in reply to questions put by the defending advocate, that he had found no evidence of a struggle, that the only injuries were superficial scratches on the woman's leg. "One cannot possibly say there was any evidence of a pronounced struggle. The scratches could have been caused by the woman's climbing over the wall."

Replying to a question put by the colored member of the court martial, the doctor said:

"I don't think there was any serious resistance, providing she was in a state of mind in which she could resist. The average woman struggles."

ADMITS "CONTACT"

Under cross-examination the doctor revealed that the woman had been suffering from shock. Her pulse was 112 instead of 70 or 72. In addition her pulse was of very low voltage. The only injuries were bruises and superficial scratches on the left leg, all below the knee. He had examined her thighs and abdomen and found no signs of bruising or scratching. She had had recent sexual connection.

Demanding acquittal, the defense counsel told the court martial: "This story by the woman is rather incredible. She gets out of bed in the middle of the night, leaves her husband in bed, then leaves home and walks off with a strange colored soldier to show him the way into town. It was not necessary for her to have gone at all. The doctor's testimony shows that no force was used by the man and the woman, according to her story, offered no resistance."

WITNESSES REFUTE KNIFE ANGLE

"It is not logical that a man who intended rape would have helped her over a fence and then spread his coat on the ground. That was not the act of a man committing rape. I have brought witnesses to prove that the soldier has never had a knife in his possession." 6-17-44

During the earlier proceedings, a Negro sergeant was called to give evidence concerning the knife alleged to have been used by the accused to threaten the woman. The sergeant said: "I have known the accused for 17 months and have never known him to possess a knife. He was very well liked by all the men with whom he works."

A corporal also gave evidence, saying: "I have known the accused for six months and have never known him to own a knife. He is not a fanatical individual."

MAJOR SIFTS FACTS

Continuing to address the court, Major Drew, defense counsel, said: "In order to prove rape, it is necessary to prove that the woman involved used all her powers of physical resistance against the act. In this case there was none offered. There were many chances when the woman could have called out in this very densely populated district. The wall was only four feet high and she could have screamed or done anything else."

Major Drew continued: "Another possibility is that the state of surprise she was in might have been caused by the fact that she was caught by her husband who was supposed to be safely in bed when actually he was only ten or 15 feet away from the spot where she had climbed over the wall. The mere fact that the soldier signed the statement is no indication of guilt. It was forced upon the accused, who didn't know what was going on and only after he had been threatened by the persons trying to get the statement from him." 6-17-44

After the prosecuting counsel, Captain Culinson, had addressed the court, the president, following a short retirement in camera, said: "We find you guilty and sentence you by the unanimous vote of every member present to be hanged by the neck until dead."

The case has roused the greatest public indignation. Protest letters have been pouring in to the U.S. Army authorities and to newspapers. A leading editorial in the London Daily Mirror reveals that it has received a large number of letters commenting on the case. The letters reveal widespread feeling of uneasiness at this man having to pay the extreme penalty.

The newspaper goes on to quote: "Having read the awful report of evidence we have no hesitation in saying that there are certain points in the case which would have inspired an element of reasonable doubt in the mind of a British jury. Popular sentiment would be much appeased if justice could be tempered with mercy in such cases and not in the least in cases where colored men are offenders. 6-17-44

"In America, which has a color problem peculiar to herself, clemency might not be possible. Here, we venture to hope, it may not be impossible as an act of grace to take a different view."

Printing verbatim the court proceedings, the leftish Tribune remarks: "We print it in full even at this critical stage of the war because one of the purposes for which our men are fighting is the defense or restoration of dignity and equality for all individuals whatever their color, race or creed." Other newspapers published similar comments.

Philadelphia Tribune

GI Gets Jailed For Operation Of Black Mart

Philadelphia Pa.

12-30-44

Private Merchel Maze, Jr., of 2nd street near Market, Chester, a soldier in France, was given a prison sentence of 15 years for participating in one of Paris numerous black markets.

The Army disclosed last week that the soldier, along with two companions, diverted over 11,000 packages of Army cigarets into illegal channels.

He was captured after moving into a Paris hotel with cigarets and smoking tobacco that he admits buying from an Army truck driver.

Hegyiest 93rd Unit Had Chance to Meet Enemy

American — Baltimore, Md. 9-9-44

Big Gun Outfit Ready, Itching for Battle; Philly Looie Among Easterners in the Group

WITH 93RD DIVISON IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — (Via Courier)—The heaviest 93rd Division artillery group has not yet had a chance to try itself against the enemy, but when its day

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Central Pacific

By VINCENT TUBBS

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comes, it will positively be ready.

Trained to fire the 155-mm. howitzer or 4.5-inch gun, some sections of this gun group have gotten ready to "fire for effect" within six minutes after a fire mission has been signaled to them. Normally a gun crew of this type requires eleven minutes or better.

To "fire for effect' 'means that the section of four or more guns is ready to start dropping the 98-pound, 2-foot long and 6 inches around high explosive shells directly on the target.

How Targets Are Spotted

This is done after a series of orders passed along to gun positions from a liaison spotter plane or from a forward observation officer. 9-9-44

The liaison plane may spot the target from the air while the observation officer may spot it from an observation post high in a tree or he may have come upon the target while patrolling with infantrymen.

In the latter case, the patrol withdraws a few hundred yards and the officer calls for artillery by speaking the words "fire mission" into a field telephone or walkie-talkie.

Back on the guns an executive officer shouts, "battery adjust," which is the artilleryman's way of saying get ready. With further information from the spotter plane or the observation officer, he goes on with his orders.

After a short interval, the cannoneer answers and then comes the order to fire. 9-9-44

The Men Behind the Scenes

Behind the cannoneers, gun pointers, ammunition passers and fire directors are still other men who, although they may never have a part in actually firing a gun, play an important role just the same. They make up what is called the service battery.

Their job is to play nursemaid to the remainder of the unit by providing its water, fuel, food, clothing and ammunition at the right time in the right place.

Since coming overseas early this year, this artillery group has handled more than 15,000 rounds of ammunition, fired 2,500 in practice; handled or consumed over 100,000 gallons of fuel and 300,000 rations—each ration representing 3 pounds of meat, bread and vegetables consumed by each man each day. 9-9-44

Currently, this part of division artillery is living like the infantrymen. On an island almost entirely its own where there is a daily miniature cloudburst and a series of nightly showers, the artillerymen are building themselves a home on the surface of waist-deep mud.

Officers in The Unit

Colored officers in the unit are:

First Lts. Warren J. Allen, Chicago; Ellis J. Diggs, Indianapolis; William George, Chicago; Allen M. Johnson, Houston, Tex.; Thaddeus B. McCray, Cleveland; Owen Walker, Columbus, O.; Scipio White, Philly.; Second Lieuts. Albert S. Cannon, Chicago; Julian Dawson, Chicago; George W. Jackson, Washington; Frank Readus, Chicago; Charlie Sanders, Atlanta; Russell Taylor, Chicago; Chief Warrant Officer Edward Yeatman, Chicago, and Warrant Officer (j.g.) Robert Deadman, Marshall, Texas. 9-9-44

Liaison pilots attached to the unit are First Lieuts. Leander A. Hall, Mobile, Ala., a Morgan State College graduate, and Welton I. Taylor, Chicago; Capt. Charles Lomax, Washington, is medical officer and highest ranking colored officer in the unit. He is a Howard graduate.

Easterners in The Unit

Among Easterners whose duty it is to fire the medium artillery pieces are:

T/Sgt. Robert L. Brooks, 414 Warner Street, N.W.; Washington; Sgt. Charles W. Williams, 1319 S. 47th Street; Cpl. Joseph A. Smith, 1623 Annin Street; Pfc. Jack Harris, 430 N. Holly Street, and Sgt. John Montgomery, 1541 S. Bouvier Street, all of Philly; Sgt. William H. Harris, 130 Winters Avenue, Baltimore; Sgt. Harry J. Morrison, 104 Sherman Avenue, and Pvt. Samuel Wooley, 18 Montgomery Street, both of Newark, N. J. 9-9-44

NEW YORKERS

T/5 Louis Cohen, T/4 Freddie Tanksley, Pvt. Ralph Aheano, Pfc. Crosby Campbell, Sgt. John Coleman, Cpl. John Dade, Pvt. Richard Lambert, Pfc. Angel Rosario, Pvt. Walon Plum, Pfc. Arthur Pegram, Pfc. Joseph Rhodes, T/5 Henry H. Riddle, Pfc. Edward Robinson, Pfc. Carl B. Nowlin, all of NYC.

Pvt. Bobbie Tarrant, Pfc. Willie Mills, Cpl. Horace Lucas, Cpl. Leroy Jenkins, Pvt. Frank Vaughan, all of Brooklyn; M/Sgt. Alfred Harrison, New Rochelle; S/Sgt. James Berwick, White Plains; Sgt. William Ragland, C. Corona.

MD.-PENNSY-JERSEY

Maryland — T/4 Wallace Rogers, Weston Grove; T/5 Joseph Willis, Crisfield. Pennsylvania—Cpl. James Johnson and Sgt. David Johnson, Pittsburgh; S/Sgt. John Deshields, Sellerville, and Cpl. Sanford Pleasant, Pittsburgh;

Jerseyites—Sgt. Ernest Eggerston, Plainfield; S/Sgt. Harry Morrison, Elizabeth; Pvt. Leonard Hayward, Millstone; Pfc. William H. Jones, Camden, and Pfc. William O. Shapeless, Haddonfield. 9-9-44

VIRGINIA-CAROLINA

Virginia — Pfc. Arthur Pegram, Amelia; Pfc. Jesse Collins, Craddockville. North Carolina—Cpl. Willie L. Elliott, Edenton; M/Sgt. William McKoy, Maxton; Sgt. James O. Brown, Marion; T/4 Otis D. Paul, Hertford; T/5 Herman Merritt, Fayetteville; Pvt. William Pearcy, Salisbury; S/Sgt. Carl Edwards, Lynchburg; T/4 Ernest Payton, Greenville; Pvt. Marion McNeil, Laurinburg; Pfc. Charles Yelverton, Goldsboro; Cpl William Bismarck, Asheville; Pvt William Dukes, Ahoskie; and S/Sgt Leotha Wise, Elm City.

Alabama Soldiers Help Gen. Patton

Birmingham Weekly Review

AN AIR SERVICE COMMAND DEPOT IN ENGLAND — Six Alabama soldiers helped hook up an emergency aerial ppie line for gas to power Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's tank drive into Germany.

When the armored division outran their fuel supplies, he and other crack drivers of the Air Service Command's streamlined trucking organization, the Combat Support Wing, loaded up their trucks from rear echelon gasoline supply depots. 12-16-44

Negro Chemical Unit Plays Important Role

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

6-3-44

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender's War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA.—Working at an unspectacular job for which it has been trained, is one of the only two Negro chemical processing companies in the United States army.

It is quite possible that the work of this organization may never assume an important place in the pattern of this war. But it's importance to our men in the field can't be overestimated.

The company which is commanded by a white captain and four Negro lieutenants has been carefully trained to operate an impregnating plant which chemically treats clothing in such a way that they neutralize the dangerous affects of poison gases.

Many of the details of its work are a closely guarded secret.

Only 12 Are Privates

It was pointed out by the commanding officer, Capt. Louis P. Harris, white, who was research chemist in the Oakland, Calif., laboratories of the Sherman Williams Paint company before the war, that on paper only 12 of his more than 140 enlisted men are privates.

Master Sergeant Robert Barber, Buffalo, N. Y., serves as superintendent.

The technical sergeants, Carl A. Gilmer, Guthrie, Okla., and Charles Russell, Ardmore, Okla., a graduate of Philander Smith college, are assistant superintendents. 6-3-44

Serving as foremen are staff sergeants: Nathaniel H. Brown, of Muskogee, Okla.; Embry B. Johnson, Binger, Okla.; David Mills, Baton Rouge, La.; Fred Russell, Anadarka, Okla.; Ollie S. Warren, Cleveland, Ohio, and Walter L. Watson of Philadelphia.

Staff Sergeants Walter L. Watson of Philadelphia.

Staff Sergeants Walter C. Douglas, Sherman, Texas, a graduate of Texas college, and Aura J. Miller, Mobile, Ala., a graduate of Livingstone college are in charge of supplies. David Pegues, New York City, is chief clerk.

In connection with the plant is a laboratory operated by the officers with the assistance of enlisted men. A high degree of specialized knowledge is required also of the officers. 6-3-44

All are college graduates and one, Lt. Julius W. Hill, Atlanta, has completed most of his study for a doctor of philosophy degree.

Hill, a native of New Yorker, was graduated from Johnson C. Smith university in 1931 and earned his master of science degree from the University of Illinois where he has also completed most of his requirements for a doctorate.

As an undergraduate, he participated in football and basketball and has since served as an athletic official in the Southern Intercollegiate athletic Association.

Prior to his induction into the army, he was instructor of chemistry and physics at Booker T. Washington high school in Atlanta. His wife, the former Miss Maudie Bell, Pulaski, Ill., is also a graduate of the University of Illinois and the Atlanta School of Social Work.

The other second lieutenant in the organization is James G. Green, a native of Haines City, Fla., who was making Steubenville, Ohio, his home before the war. 6-3-44

Wilberforce Athlete

Green majored in chemistry at Wilberforce university from which he was graduated in 1943, just in time to answer his draft call and enter officer training school. A good athlete, he ran the mile and won the college middleweight boxing championship. He is single and in addition to his other responsibilities, serves as special service officer for the company promoting various types of rigorous sports for the men. 6-3-44

Jesse T. Richie is one of the two first lieutenants in the organization. He is a native of Dinwiddie, Va., and a 1937 chemistry graduate of Virginia State college. After graduating he taught sciences in high school at Dinwiddie until coming into the army.

Like Green, he is a great lover of sports and has also a flair for dramatics. His wife, the former Miss Edith Lang, of Deneseo, N. Y., is living in Brooklyn.

Executive officer is La Vada W. Cephas, of Cleveland, Ohio, who finished West Virginia State college where he majored in chemistry in 1941. For a short while he was a lab assistant at his alma mater, then was drafted. He is married to the former Miss Marian Thompson of Sandusky, Ohio.

First sergeant of the organization is Philadelphia born Douglas D. Addison who was a student at Bok vocational school when drafted. Company clerk is Cpl. George H. Allen, ex-New York City milkman.

Most of the personnel of the organization has been drawn from Texas. There is one Chicagoan, Pvt. Alonzo Allen, and a few others from Virginia, New York, Oklahoma, West Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, Alabama and New Jersey. 6-3-44

Among these are Pvt. Donald J. Barnett, Brown's Mill, N. J.; Cpl. Willie Belser, Richmond, Va.; Pfc. Leo R. Boler, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Sgt. Thurby Braggs, Muskogee, Okla.; Cpl. William E. Brown, Richmond, Va.; Cpl. Joseph Burrell, Baltimore; Pfc. Oliver Caldwell, Vernon, Okla.; Pvt. Benjamin J. Capers, Charleston, S. C.; Pfc. Louis D. Carmona, New York City; Pfc. Jimmie Casort, Muskogee, Okla.; Pvt. Eugene Christopher Jr., Bowling Green, Va.; Cpl. Napoleon L. Crawford, Muskogee, Okla.; Pvt. Maxie A. Cunningham, Union City, Tenn.; Cpl. Booker T. Daniels, Valdosta, Ga.; Cpl. Warren H. Davis, St. Louis; Pvt. Emmett Dehart, Pulaski, Va.; Pfc. Mozell K. Douglas, Norfolk, Va.; Pvt. John R. Dykes, Eldorado, Ark.; Pfc. Reed J. Fells, York, Pa.; Pfc. Mack T. Ferguson, Algoma, W. Va.;

Pvt. Hubert Godsey, Sparrows Point, Md.; Pvt. Burnis Hall, Mansfield, La.; Pvt. Zachariha F. Holmes, Baltimore; Sgt. Leotis H. Hood, Atlanta; Pfc. Charles W. Howard Jr., Ardmore, Okla.; Pvt. Richard H. Hudgins, Norfolk, Va.; Pfc. John Y. Huff, Pasadena, Calif.; Pvt. James O. Jackson, New Orleans; Sgt. Jonas Jacobs, Ponca City, Okla.; Pfc. Irving J. Johnson, Philadelphia; Cpl. Raymond L. Johnson, Camden, N. J.; Pvt. Roy L. Johnson, Birmingham, Ala.

Cpl. William T. Jones, Summitt, Va.; Pvt. Theodore J. Jordan, Berwyn, Pa.; Pvt. Fred D. Lake, Cambridge, Md.; Cpl. Arthur Lawrence, Syracuse, N.Y.; Sgt. David G. Lewis, Columbia, Ala.; Pvt. Joseph C. Lokey, Augusta, Ga.; Cpl. William Mack, Augusta, Ga.; Pvt. Claud Maxwell, Royston, Ga.; Cpl. Ira T. Miles, Oklahoma City; Cpl. Martin W. Miller, New Orleans; Pfc. James A. Minor, Baton Rouge; Cpl. Milton M. Moore, Poolesville, Md.; 6-3-44

Pvt. Ralph H. Morgan, Cottageville, S. C.; Cpl. Jesse Payne, Cambridge, Md.; Pvt. Marshall D. Pierce, Paducah, Ky.; Pfc. Leon F. Post, Norfolk, Va.; Pvt. T. L. Powell, Shreveport, La.; Pfc. Roosevelt Robinson, Skipper, Va.; Pfc. Hamon B. Ross, Cambridge, Md.; Pvt. James A. Sharpe, Norfolk; Pvt. Edward T. Skinner, Washington, D. C.; Pvt. Joseph C. Smith, Richmond, Va.; Sgt. William F. Smith, Roxbury, Mass.; Cpl. Cleveland C. Tillman, Cotton Plant, Ark.; Pvt. Alvin A. Thorogood; Pvt. Willis J. Towner, Mobile, Ala.; Pvt. James Walker, Baltimore, Md.; Sgt. Robert A. Walker, New York City; Cpl. Alfred Warner, Trenton, N.J.; Cpl. Ralph Warren, Cleo, Ala.; Pfc. Frank Williams, Augusta, Ga.; Cpl. Stanley Williams, Buffalo, N.Y.; Pfc. Morgan E. Witherspoon, Manning, S.C.; Pvt. Pinkney Young, Mobile, Ala.

The following are from Texas: Cpl. Curtis Amison, Milford; Pvt. Mirt Anderson, Sherman; Pvt. Elton Ausbie, Roxton; Pvt. Luther Austin, Palestine; Pvt. Elsie J. Bagley, Mt. Enterprise; Pvt. Robert Bates, Alvarado; Pvt. Archie Bell, Hillsboro; Pfc. Edgar Bennet, Palestine; Pfc. Floyd B. Benson, Dallas; Pvt. Jericho Birdow, Palestine; Cpl. Jessy Bowie, Dallas; Sgt. Jesse H. Bowser, Temple; Cpl. Thurston Brooks, Terrell; Cpl. Tilton Brooks, Dallas; Cpl. Willie D. Buster, Grandall; Pfc. Lorenzo B. Calhoun, Dallas; Pfc. Louis Carr, Palestine; Pfc. Woodrow W. Carter, Corsicana; Cpl. Harold Chilton, Tyler; Pvt. James W. Dawson, Tennesse Colony.

Pvt. Plural Diamond, Royse City; Cpl. William D. Edwards, Waxahachie; Pvt. Junior L. Flippen, Ovington; Sgt. Wayne Giles, Sherman; Pfc. Bernice Hackney, Dallas; Pvt. Robert L. Henderson, Henderson; Pvt. Monrae Henley, Waco.; Alvin A. Hightower, Milford. 6-3-44

Other Texans are Sterling Hodges, Arlington; Robert Holbert, Alvarado; Jasper Holley, Groverton; Pvt. R. C. Houston, Douglasville; Pfc. Henry Isaacs, Waco; Cpl. Charles Johnson, Sanavy; Pvt. Bernice Jordon, Bullard; Pvt. Troyce E. King, Leonia; Pvt. Vertea Lucky, Terrell; Pvt. William H. Matthews, Alto; Pvt. Willie D. Newman, Henderson; Pvt. Otis Norwood, Alvarado; Pfc. Eley Perkins, Trinity; Pvt. Chestell Price, Palestine; Pvt. Reuben D. Price, Poyner; Sgt. Willis Robinson, Moddy; Pvt. Jesse Rockwell, Roy City; Cpl. Jesse J. Royall, Athens.

Also from Texas are Pfc. Napoleon L. Scurlock, Crockett; Pfc. Horatio W. Session, Mineola: Cpl. Jessie J. Spen-

Diplomats Of U.S. Army

12-17-44

WITH THE U. S. ARMY IN ITALY—(ANP)—In the "Stars and Stripes," the armed forces' daily newspapers Lt. William H. Venn, a member of the Army air force, has praised the American Negro soldier.

"Department of the Army commends the American Negro soldiers in public as well as on duty. While in Africa, I was told by a British soldier that American Negro soldiers are America's best goodwill ambassadors. They are kind, generous. The sympathetic and generous. The Italian people have discovered that we are a decided credit to our country and a profound asset to their race or any country. These men is quite worthy of emulation and should be based upon small integral part of the world's future peace will importance of course, they play upon that good and appreciated. in these conquered countries.

However, I do believe that the more openly recognized nature.

Negro Troops Are Daily Called Goodwill

47m-1944 **Foreign Service**

Troops Keep Supplies Rolling To Russia From Persian Ports

By FRANK E. BOLDEN, NNPA War Corresp

CAMP PARK, HAMADAN, Iran--During the early days of the Persian Gulf Command truck convoys operated by the Motor Transport Service made the run from the Gulf ports all the way to Kazvin, a distance of some 700 miles, without the benefit of maintenance stations along the way. It was quite apparent that the situation had to be remedies if supplies were to be placed in Russian hands in sufficient quantities and on time. Accordingly, a series of maintenance stations were erected.

Camp Park, here at Hamadan, is one such station. It is under the supervision of Acting Commander Maj. H. U. Buchi of Tennessee and its general isolation is pronounced. It can only be reached by the highway as the railroad is farther east. There is no telegraph, and mail is carried by dispatch riders.

There are two detached units of colored troops stationed here, the rest of the Company C (part in Teheran) of the 352nd Engineer Regiment, and a complement of the 153rd QM Bakery.

Rugged Days

Since most of the heavy work on the highway up this way has been finished Company C now has the duties of post maintenance, trucking camp supplies, chauffeuring and pulling guard duty.

"Our early days here in the command were quite rugged ones," commented William L. Anderson, ex-auto assembly line worker from Inkster, Mich, to this correspondent one evening as a group of us sat around "shooting the breeze."

Road Melted Away

"Remember how we used to have to stand up and eat in the chow line because there were no seats?" asked S/Sgt. James M. Bell of Morehead City, N. C. "Yeah," drawled T/5 Acie Yancey of Houston, Texas, "and what about those pesky flies that spent more time in our food than they did flying around?"

Remarked Sgt. Carl J. Goodwin of Chicago, "We worked like beavers to check a flood, with only shovels and sandbags for tools around Khorramshahr. In the heat of summer, which caused the men to fall out like flies, we've watched the road which we were 'blacktopping' melt away as fast as we would finish it."

"The mustering out pay will be swell," declared motor dispatcher Sgt. Rufus James of Phoenix, Ariz., "but nothing beats a good, steady job."

Over at the motor pool on the following day I talked with drivers Sgt. Jonathan Craven, Los Angeles, Calif.; Cpl. Jim Hatley, Arkadelphia, Ark., and Pvt. Edward Mapp of Philadelphia, Pa. These men felt that they deserved the chance for a rest, since they had been in the desert heat for almost two summers before moving here.

Four other tan GIs, Pvt. Isaiah Chesson, Norfolk, Va. George Winters, Vandale, Ark.; James Appleby, Cincinnati Ohio, and Woodrow Beard of Hinesville, Ga., wanted to know "if the girls back home were still waiting for the likes of them."

A former Tuskegee student, T/5 Oscar E. L. Kirk, of Okolona, Miss., hopes to be able to return to school under the program of Governmental aid for veterans of this war.

Get On The Ball

Queried Pvt. James L. Lonsdey of Chicago, who pounds the road in a high octane gas truck some 1500 miles each week "Can't those folk back home get on the ball? We're still knocking it out over here each and every day for $50 a month room and board."

I also met and talked with two mail dispatch runners, Pfcs. Charlie Bell of Carthage, Texas, and Henry Black of Palestine, Texas.

From the commanding officer, Lt. George W. Wright, white, of Baltimore, Md., down to the buck privates, it could be plainly seen that the men were actually tired. Fatigue lines were indelibly etched deep in their faces. But they are still soldiering and anxiously waiting for "that break."

Pittsburgh Courier---11-11-44 P2.

Texan Bags Two Japs Then Gets Wounded Behind Lines

Finds Front Safer Than Rear Area

SAN FRANCISCO. — Private Luther J. McNair's regular Infantry job was in a 60-mm mortal squad of the 93rd Infantry Division. 11-12-44

But the two Japs he bagged on Bougainville were killed by other weapons, the Browning automatic and M-1 Gerand rifles.

"Most every man in my outfit could handle all the Infantry wea-

His body hung from the tree the rest of the day.

"The other Nip I got was several days later when were advancing. I was carrying my M-1 and saw him using a telephone in a hole about 35 yards ahead. It would have been hard to miss him, and I didn't."

Private McNair got through those weeks on the front line without scratch, he said, but he wasn't so fortunate when he went back to the rear for a rest.

'I was standing about 25 yards from a bulldozer just as it scraped across a land mine or an unexploded shell," he related. The blast knocked me about 10 feet. That was the last of May, and I've been hospitalized since then."

Private McNair's wife, Mrs. Lucille McNair, lives at 3025 Alhambra Ave., Los Angeles. He is the son of Mrs. Myrtle McNari of 906½ Fuller St., Houston, Texas.

Private McNair, who was in the Army 2 years before he got overseas, said he was in an interview at Camp Polk, Louisiana, before he was sent to Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, released this week by the War department.

"For months we had been through intensive maneuvers, and we were well trained before we went overseas," he said, "and we didn't morning and let go a BAR burst waste much time going into ac-into the tree he was firing from.

Negro Sailors In Pacific Play Big Role In Philippine Invasion, Scribe Finds

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

11-11-44

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES—The role of the Negro sailor in the Pacific is much greater than is appreciated by the folks back home.

And what is true in the Pacific is true wherever else ships of the American navy are operating.

On one of the vessels of the huge fleet required to transport the task force which made the landing at Leyte in the Philippines were 20 Negro crewmen.

Togther with three Filiponos and one Guamese, they comprised the mess section. Negroes as messmen are a tradition in the navy and there is hardly a naval craft afloat which does not have a complement of Negro messmen.

1000 Take Part

Considering the large number of naval vessels which participated in this landing it can be safely assumed that 1,000 Negro sailors took part.

11-11-44

While the men perform their assigned tasks with efficiency, enjoy cordial relations with other members of the crew, their greatest pride stems from their assignment to various battle stations when the vessel goes into action.

On this type of vessel more than in any other type of navy ship, a greater number of the messmen work topside during battle. After the large number of Higgins boats are launched to carry assault troops to establish a beachhead, many of the ship's guns are manned, at least in part, by Negro messmen.

Three of the guns are manned by all colored crews. This means Negro messmen, in addition to their other tasks, are filling every position required to operate one of these guns. In addition they are constantly volunteering for other tasks.

Rate High In Scoring

Several of the men told me they had volunteered for an underwater bomb demolition squad. This is typical of the high morale and enthusiasm of the men.

The vessel's commander, Capt. John C. Lester, of Baltimore, told me that in practice, the three guns manned by all-Negro crews have repeatedly rated high in scoring. He also declared that they ranked with the best in airplane identification.

11-11-44

But even as messmen they sometime get an opportunity to display their courage. StMc. William Platt, of Cincinnati, and Stm1c Carlton Russell, of Providence, R. I., went ashore under fire at Peleliu to carry food to members of the Higgins boat crews who had taken assault troops to the beach in the first wave.

Platt, with two years service in the navy, had previously served on a cruiser. He is a talker on a 20mm gun. Russell, with 18 months service, is on his first sailing and is a trunnion operator. His brother, Howard, is also in the navy.

Mostly Newcomers

The vessel, which celebrated its first anniversary while enroute to the Philippines, has been in operations at Kwajalein, Guam and Peleliu. It has anchored or moored at 18 foreign ports, travelled 45,083 nautical miles and transported 11,358 troops.

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Most of the Negroes aboard are on their first sailing, and have been in the service only 18 months. The nucleus of the crew, however, is a group of five veterans with experience ranging from two to six years. They have served on many types of vessels—battleships, cruisers, destroyers and mine sweepers.

In this group of old-timers are Stlc H. H. Ray, of San Francisco, whfo has been in the navy six years. After attending Virginia State college, he served as assistant to "pud" Waters coach at Norcom high school in Portsmouth, Va. His wife is the former Miss Dorothy Rose of San Francisco. He has two brothers, Warren, in the navy and Joseph, a soldier.

Father of Two

St3c Darling F. Guy, is a four-year veterans from Long Beach, Calif., with two brothers, Ellis and Douglas also in the navy, and a cousin, StM1c R. C. Heliton, of Houston, a shipmate.

Like Ray he is married, but is also the father of two children, Farrel Guy, Jr., and Dorothy.

Ck1c Arthur Evans, of Indianapolis, is a five-year veteran with battleship experience. His wife is the former Miss Pauline Hines, of Indianapolis. They have a son, Sydney.

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Heliton, Gay's cousin, has three years service and like Guy, has two brothers in the service—Alexander, in the navy and Charles in the army.

Former Farmer

Other Negro members of the crew are St3c James S. Jackson, of Kingston, N. Y., whose wife Blondzela, is taking care of James S., Jr. His two brothers, Clarence and Arthur, are in the army.

Away off base is StM1c Herbert O'Niel Smith of Remo, Va., who with his father operated a small farm before the war.

StM1c Walter Sheppard, of Norfolk, Va., never dreamed of being a sailor when he was working as a checker at the Naval Operating Base at his home two years ago. One of his two brothers in the service, Columbus, is a lieutenant in the army. Irvin is in the navy.

StM1c Andrew Smedley, of Cleveland, Ohio, was a defense worker and one-half of a prize winning one-jitterbug team before joining the navy. His dancing mate, Miss Cora Lee Noles, has given up her search for a new partner.

Ex-War Worker

Ck3c William Thurman, of Louisville, like most of the others is married. His wife is the former Miss Margaret Wilson of Louisville. His two brothers, Roy and Carl are in the army.

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StM2c E. D. Watkins, of Wilmington, Del., is a former defense plant worker and is first loader for a 40mm gun.

StM1c W. G. Scott, of Charlottesville, Va., is the only member of the group with less than two years service who has served on another vessel. Before joining this ship he was on a communications ship. His brother, Fred, is also in the navy.

StM2c E. R. Williams, of Providence, R. I., was a truck driver and neighbor of Russell before joining up. His brothers, Marshall and James, are in the army and navy respectively.

StM1c S. D. Shell, of Columbia, SC, a gunner, was a hospital orderly two years ago. His wife, before her marriage was Miss Rosa Wilson of Reedersville, S. C.

StM1c Ernest Sykes, of Columbus, Miss., a loader, has a brother, Thomas, in the army.

StM1c J. E. Henderson, of Memphis, a trunion operator, was employed in a defense plant prior to being drafted.

StM1c Donald E. Hall, Jersey City, N. J., another loader, has a brother, Raymond, in the army.

St3c William Howard Truitt, Salisbury, Md., who was an auto mechanic is a surface lookout. His wife is the former Miss Elizabeth White, also of Salisbury.

11-11-44

StM1c Claude Louis Shelton, was a student at Drakesburg Community high school before entering the service and is perhaps the youngest, though not the smallest, of the group. His only brother, Elgin, is also in the navy.

Nazis Fear Negro GIs, Returned Veteran Says

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

10-30-44

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—The "master race" theory of the German soldiers disappears like magic when faced with the daring and capability of colored Allied troops, T-Sgt. Walter Malichi, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Malichi of Bennetsville, S. C., and just back from France on furlough said while visiting here Wednesday.

"I have seen Germans, fully armed, run away like the devil upon being confronted with colored soldiers," Sgt. Malichi continued. Most feared by the Germans are the Senegalese, French colonial troops who, the Germans contend, delight in cutting off their heads and ears as retaliation for brutalities inflicted upon their less fortunate comrades who fell into German hands in the ill-fated battle for France back in 1940.

The Senegalese, the veteran said, "are beyond doubt the world's best soldiers. They are plenty tough and I am very glad we are on the same side."

T-Sgt. Malichi's outfit is the 320th AA Balloon battalion, the army's only such outfit. On D-Day, it was assigned to fly barrage balloons from the invasion convoy and captured areas on the beachhead to prevent strafing by enemy planes at an effective altitude. "We were the first all-colored outfit to reach Normandy on D-Day," Malichi boasts.

10-30-44

Cited For Work

For its part in the invasion, on the Normandy beachhead, in Brittany and in Belgium, the outfit has been cited by its commanding officers, Gen. Timberlake and Gen. Eisenhower. It is back home for a few days of re-equipping before being sent into another theatre of operation.

T-Sgt. Malichi believes the American soldier and his ally in Britain far superior to the German soldier. German soldiers are kept sogged in dope and alcoholic drinks, he said. When without the influences of these stimulants, they surrender in large numbers. "I have seen them slipping away from their own outfits with white flags or upraised hands over to our men to surrender," he continued.

10-30-44

T-Sgt. Malichi and his fellow soldiers have high praise for the reception tendered them by both the French and British, the British going the French perhaps a fraction better in their treatment of colored soldiers. Both, he said, seem quite puzzled over our race question and try hard to make the colored soldier feel himself appreciated and loved.

Negro Squad Cleans Up A German Nest

N.Y. Amsterdam News

11-18-44

N.Y.C.

Tasty Box of Snuff Lost In The Shuffle

At the end of a furious scrap in a little French town near the Belgian border , an Army Ordnance ammuntion unit's 62-man "clean-up squad had slain 35 Nazi SS troops and wounded three more while cleaning out an isolated pocket of German resistance.

According to a battle front report received this week by Brigadier General Stewart E. Reimel, New York Ordnance District chief, the scrap occurred as the unit was preparing to move its ammuntion depot into position to supply units of Lieutenant General Courtney Hodges' First Army, hammering against the Siegfried Line. The Germans had "dug in" at the village and their presence was made known to the unit commander, Captain Jack Carstarphen, Fort Worth, Texas, by members of the French Forces of the Interior.

Captain Carstarphen divided his unit into three sections of 20 men each. After a reconnaissance of the area was made, the three sections deployed and moved in from different directions. The Ordnancemen were armed only with carbines and rifles, and a few incendiary hand grenades. The Germans were using automatic machine pistols, in addition to their other weapons.

Meets Mechine Gun Volley

Lieutenant Seymour Goodstein of Brooklyn, New York, who spoke German, worked his way towards a barn, where the largest group of Germans were hiding. He was met with volleys from machine pistols, and fighting began.

The first Nazi was shot by Corporal Paul Wood of Chicago, who dropped one of the Nazis who had fired at Lieutenant Goodstein. The Germans withdrew to the interior of the barn, and blind firing began. Technical Sergeant Harold F. Jackson of Milwaukee volunteered to move in close to the barn door, and threw an incendiary grenade into the building. The building burst into flames, and the Germans came out fighting. The Negro Ordnance soldiers opened fire on them.

Private Jim Scott, Shreveport, Louisiana, told First Sergeant Louis Reynolds of Chicago: "It sure did something to me to see one of our boys lying there wounded, with all those bullets flying around. I never did call on the Lord's name any more than I did right then."

Evacuates Two Wounded

Private William A. Wheatley, Hardinsburg, Kentucky, evacuated two wounded comrades, driving a ¾ ton truck through the field of fire twice. Corporal Clark C. Callo-

til the Germans Lieutenant Loyal linois; Corporal icago; Pfc. Allen k City; Pfc. Alex South Carolina; ley of Evanston, obert Murray of Marion Griggs of rivate Robert C. xas, and I ate

Johnson Smith of Philadelphia, Pa.

ported having lost a prized box of snuff as he ducked violently to avoid the fire of a German aiming at him.

Private James Bradley of Scott of Chester, South

On the lighter side, Staff Sergeant Matthew Geal of Chicago reported having lost a prized box of snuff as he ducked violently to avoid the fire of a German aiming at him.

Private Robert Lewis Hinton of Chicago; Private Mario New York; Private Macon Georgia; Private

Among the other members of the Army Ordnance unit who per-

2 Brothers Killed; War Dept. Returns New Orleans Soldier

11-25-44

Informer

Houston, Texas

NEW ORLEANS.—First in this city to benefit by the new ruling of the War Department which returns the "last son" to families that have lost other sons in the present war was a Negro family, that of Privates Lloyd and Ferdinand Barre, 3231 Pauger street. Both young Barre boys were killed in action this year and this week their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Barre, were notified by the War Department that the remaining son, Corporal Clarence Barre, is being returned here to be stationed at the local Port of Embarkation, or on United States soil for the duration.

11-25-44

Almost overcome with happiness at the return of her remaining soldier son, Mrs. Marguerite Barre disclosed how she had been notified of two of her sons' deaths within a month's time.

and were planning a celebration when a later telegram informed of his death. He is survived by a wife, formerly Miss Gloria Labuzan and a son, Ferdnand Jr., age 10 months, residing at 1473 North Robertson street.

Private First Class Lloyd Barre, 21, was killed in New Guinea on July 13, 1944; his mother received a Purple Heart citation in October, she said.

Corporal Clarence Barre, who is being returned to New Orleans, is 23 years of age; a graduate of Dillard university, and entered the armed forces only six hours after receiving his B. A. degree a year ago.

Just three hours made the difference between sorrow and joy in the case of Corporal Barre. He was already aboard a transport at an Eastern Port of Embarkation last week, three hours before sailing overseas, when the War Department's telegram ordering him back to New Orleans was delivered.

"I thank God that my other boy has been saved for us," Mrs. Barre said, "although my family wishes to do all it can."

Sharing the Barre family's happiness was the Rev. Father Harry Maloney, SSJ., pastor of Corpus Christi church, who, seeing the mother prostrated with grief after learning of her two sons' death within a month this summer, wrote the War Department on his own initiative to appeal for her.

His letter received long before the War Department's announced policy, was one of those which caused the new protective ruling to come about.

The Barre family consists of two other sons, Stanley and Stanford, 17-year-old twins, who are civilian employees at Camp Plauche; and a daughter, Theda, a student of Xavier Prep.

Pvt. Ferdinand Barre, 19, was killed on September 7, 1944 in North Africa after his parents had been notified that he was recovering from wounds and was coming home. In anticipation of his arrival, the family renovated their home

Work of Engineer Outfit Termed "Secret Weapon"

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WITH U.S. SUPPLY FORCES IN BELGIUM — The work and skill of the 375th Engineer General Service Regiment was one of the American "secret weapons" behind the armored sweep across France which sent the Nazis reeling back to the borders of the "Fatherland." 12-2-44

When American forces broke through at St. Lo and started the big push to Germany, supply lines jumped from 50 to 400 miles. The haul was too long for trucks, so French railways had to be put into operation.

Moreover, as the Germans retreated, they dynamited remaining railway bridges and placed demolitions along rail lines and beside switches. Other bridges and yards already had been destroyed behind the Nazi lines by the Allied Air Force.

Repaired in Normandy

The regiment, which had repaired roadways and bridges along the Normandy beachhead six days after the invasion, with the breakthrough at St. Lo, was called upon to follow the advancing First Army and repair rail lines and trestles. 12-2-44

Its first major task was the repair and rebuilding of 700 feet of bombed-out rail lines, numerous dynamited switches, and a bridge for a mile-long train, loaded with more ammunition and gasoline which was already feeling its way down the Cherbourg peninsula.

For completing the task in two days and nights, the regiment received the commendation of Brig. Gen. Ewart G. Plank. During the entire period of repairing the men were never bivouaced in one location more than a week.

Moved on to Front

After the rail lines were opened, the regiment was assigned to the front line in Germany and transport captured engineer equipment and materials to a warehouse near a city in Belgium. 12-2-44

5 Negro Units on 1st Belgian Train

ITH ALLIED FORCES IN FRANCE--It
has just been revealed that five Ne-
gro quartermaster units were in the
first troop train which crossed the
France-Belgium border, after U. S.
forces had smashed their way into
Belgium in September.
The five, consisting of one base
depot, one QM group, one QM battalion,
a depot supply company, and a QM
service company, made the trip with-
out incident.
On a recent inspection trip made
by Major General Robert Littlejohn,
chief quartermaster, ETO, one member
of the group Corporal Marvin M. Pat-
rick, was commended for service ren-

France's Negro Soldiers First To Enter Free Paris

World - Memphis - Tenn. Sept 1, 1944

PARIS—(A N P)—The late Gov. Felix Ebou's French Equatorial African Army, composed of Senegalese, Morocoans and native tribes recruited in the Lake Chad territory and the Cameroons, made a triumphant entry into this liberated city last week. They were the first allied soldiers to arrive here on the heels of the fleeing Nazis.

Armed with modern American weapons, they were members of the 2nd French armored division. Their battle marked tri-colors bore the Cross of Lorraine as they marched down picturesque Champs Elysess to the tune of Le Marseillaise, en route to the Arch De Triumphe to honor the grave of the Unknown Soldier.

Fighting under the command of Gen. Jacques LeClere, these veterans are fearless fighters. They have been seasoned by the rigors of the African campaign where they distinguished themselves for effecting a juncture with the allied forces in North Africa in Tunisia. They marched 1,700 miles across the hot sands of the Sahara desert from Chad to Tunis to reach Paris.

Parisians gave these black sons of the French Republic a wild welcome. Women, men and children lined the boulevards to display their appreciation for their heroes who rallied to the appeal of Eboue and the Cross of Lorraine in France's most crucial moment.

Negroes Integrated Into All Parts Of Vast Allied Machine In France

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

8-26-44

By RANDY DIXON, Courier War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE—American assembly lines seem to be pouring directly into France with the last vehicle at the beachhead pushing the first quite a few miles ahead with all the intervening vehicles bumper to bumper. This flow of men and materiel, like moving a city the size of Chicago and transplanting it overseas with everything necessary to run it, is best seen when following the roads to and from the front lines. The integration of Negroes into the overall pattern is amazingly complete. In the advanced communication zones and in the rear echelons one sees more Negroes than ever before in one's life. Like everybody else, they are doing anything and everything.

NEGROES GUARD NAZI PRISONERS

A long convoy of German prisoners crammed in trucks passed by with Negro boys driving them and guarding them with rifles beaded for any emergency. Further along more Negro drivers are evacuating French civilians who have sneaked through the German lines. Nearer the fighting lines, Signal Corps Negroes are laying telephone lines and an engineering company of the regiment is laying railroad tracks.

8-26-44

S/Sgt. William Lyle, Old Fort, N. C., and Cpls. Nick Vaughn, Helena, Ark., and Beaucea Washington, Miami, Fla., are operating bulldozers. Cpl. Goliath Slovent, Plymouth, N. C., and Pvt. Azee Ivester, Pelzer, S. C., handle rails.

At the front, colored and white ambulance drivers are turning the wounded over to the stretcher bearers. Pvt. William Reynolds, Englewood, N. J., is dislodging 50 machine gun shells from the right hand corner of the cab of his vehicle after speeding through enemy ambush and strafing. S/Sgt. William Jones, Darnell, La., is checking out patients to a rear evacuation point and nearby are groups of colored ambulance men so busy at their tasks they have little time to answer questions.

GERMANS LOW ON BANDAGES

Additional drivers come in with captured German medics who are to be assigned to caring for wounded German prisoners. The wounded German prisoners arrive amidst an overwhelming stench. The Germans must be low on bandages as the prisoners' wounds are dressed with crepe paper; their wounds are eight days old and gangrene has set in.

8-26-44

These are the men I have encountered, but Negroes are everywhere—from Vire to Le Mans to Avranches to St. Malo to Brest to L'Orient. At all points Negro artillery pounds away. Negro anti-aircraft units have moved south. Ammunition and infantry personnel supplies are being transported right to the front by colored "noncombats" who push into battle alongside the infantry.

FILM GROUP ALMOST CAPTURED

St. Malo almost proved tragic for the party of technicians and consultants who are making the film sequel to "The Negro Soldier." Attracted by the deeds of the colored artillery helping to lay siege to St. Malo, the group arrived 24 hours after the Germans had hoisted the white flag of surrender. They didn't know that the enemy had only partially surrendered and had retired to a citadel in the old section of the town, and that it was all a trick of a fanatical German commander now known as "the Mad Man of St. Malo," to bait us into the open.

8-26-44

Carlton Moss, narrator and script writer, two correspondents and several others drove into town and proceeded into the old section when an American major ran from a building and told them that fighting was still in progress. Fifty feet further they would have been in German hands. The group scurried away pronto with the correspondent from Chicago breaking every speed record in his exit.

GIs REPAIR GERMAN RADIO

A safe distance to the rear, Pvt. Elbert Thompson, Pittsfield, Mass., Pvt. Felix Capeda, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Pvt. Carroll Anderson, Jr., Richmond, Va., were repairing a radio taken from a German officers' billet at the front and playing it from an improvised battery. A mile further an ambulance waits while a Negro lieutenant and four white medics work frantically trying to rescue six colored boys buried when a landslide piled tons of dirt on their trucks and on them.

As the last victim is extricated, weak and puffing, he jumps up and shouts, "I'm alive! They saved me!" The medics rush him into the ambulance and we can't follow to get his name. They moved in the opposite direction.

Soldier Yells "Who Dat?" Captures 20 Germans, Says White Reporter

The Whip — Miami, Fla.

In typical fashion of ridiculing even when reporting heroism of Negroes, the United Press reporter Henry T. Gorrell, with US Armored Forces Attacking Coutances, France, has filed a story in which is included what he calls the "prize capture of the day" in those parts.

8-26-44

According to Gorrell the "prize capture" was made by a Negro signalman who was stringing wire during the night when a German approached him. "Jumping", reports Gorrell, "he shouted, 'Who dat?' this began firing his rifle. Twenty more Germans, who had been thinking it over, tumbled out of the bushes and surrendered."

8-26-44

The signalman is not identified. A signalman entrusted with the stringing of wire is likely to be a chap with some educational background even among whites. Among Negroes, he is even more likely to have a background to compare with Gorrell's and possibly says "who's that" as clearly.

Negro Troops Bag Prisoners, Win Honors in French Drive

PM — N.Y., N.Y. Sept 7, 1944

WITH U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE—With a bag of 49 German prisoners and incalculable heroics under fire in combat to its credit, a Quartermaster Troop Battalion has been in the front lines adapting itself to the new chores imposed by our super-blitz in France.

PM, N.Y., N.Y.

By force of circumstances, the success of the breakthrough depended entirely on the success of the mission of these Negro truck drivers. These soldiers went into battle untested, untrained, and came out with the praise of every commander ringing in their ears.

The commander of the 22nd Infantry Regiment, whose 3d Battalion rode the "Glamor Wagons," as the drivers call them, said: "Not one flinched. They carried out their mission with as much courage and ability as the best frontline troops. I'm proud of them."

Besides being the first time that the Negro troops had seen any frontline action, it also was the first time that a tank-truck assault team, as a spearhead, had been used in France.

Maj. Harlan W. Hendricks of Hamburg, Pa., filed a report of tactical operations. The following is a brief excerpt from the battalion executive officer's report:

"This unit left its bivouac area on July 19 and reported to the 22d Infantry Regiment south of St. Jean Du Day. On the day of the attack the vehicles moved the battalions to the vicinity of Pont Herbert. The troops dismounted from trucks with the exception of seven trucks. These seven trucks went forward with the infantry at the start of the attack.

"The trucks that went forward

Negroes Win Praise From British Chief

Bracken Hails Americans as Men And Soldiers

By Roi Ottley
Staff Correspondent
(Copyright, 1944, by Field Publications)

LONDON, Sept. 20. — The American Negro is being praised, lavishly here as a man and a soldier.

The recent flow of compliments emanating from official sources is perhaps a reflection of the concern created by racial conflict here and its possible aftermath in the post-war period. The public debate in the U. S. A. over the fate of India is a contributing factor, for in the view of official Britain, Americans are presumptious to talk of the India problem in the face of their own unsolved Negro problem in the U. S. A.

Pointed Reminder

Much of the praise of Negro troops, therefore, may be interpreted as a reminder to Americans of their own Negro problem. There is much off the record talk about this, but obviously no one will have his name attached to this point of view for fear of disrupting Anglo-U. S. amity.

The most recent praise of Negro soldiers came from Brendan Bracken, Minister of Information, in an exclusive interview.

"From the moment of their arrival in Britain," he said, "the American Negro soldiers made themselves at home. Neither our strange ways and customs nor our strange climate seemed to dismay them. They talked freely and readily to Britons, and with British children especially.

"They have struck up the greatest friendship at street corners in the big cities and at crossroads in the country. A Negro soldier surrounded by a small crowd of delighted children is a pleasing and frequent sight.

Majestic MP's

"The friendliness and good spirits of the colored American soldiers has made a lasting impression on the British public. Negro soldiers became as much a part of our wartime landscape as air raid wardens and generals. The majestic bearing of the Negro military police is as familiar to us as the dignity of our own guardians of the law.

"Red Cross clubs staffed by Negroes were soon set up in many of our large centers. In these clubs British volunteers have helped to make the Negro soldier feel at home when he is off duty.

"It was soon recognized in Britain that the American Negroes are playing their full part in the United Nations' war effort. As members of the great and victorious array of free peoples, they have earned the respect of the people of Britain."

Half Negro Troops In Overseas Units

WASHINGTON—There were 698,911 Negroes serving in various branches of the army as of June 30, 1944, the War Department announced last week. This was an increase of 34,846 above the number announced in February. Over half of this number, or 361,456, are in units overseas.

In releasing these figures the War Department reported that numerous field commanders of Negro units have praised the efficiency, high morale, and courage of Negro combat and service troops under fire in Europe.

SAYS THE COMMANDING GENERAL

Men Seek No Special Attention

GEN. CLARK SAYS NO RACE PROBLEM

But Men In Ranks See Sinister Hand

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY (ANP(While the commanding general of this first Negro combat unit to meet the Germans in the European theatre reports that their development and progress has been normal and satisfactory, the boys of that division let it be known that they object to special attention because of their race.

Color Bar Let Down at Camp Amirabad, Persia

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
ANPA War Correspondent

TEHERAN, Iran (Delayed).—I had a new experience here in Persia, at Camp Amirabad, where I watched colored and white troops live and enjoy themselves together in the "good neighbor" fashion, without any "incidents."

The camp is made up of two units of colored troops, a complement of the 153rd QM Bakery Company and the 519th QM Car Company, and a white unit, the 186th QM Depot Company.

They live in the same area, use the same mess hall, share the same shower room, latrines and recreation room, and use the same PX. Only their sleeping quarters are separate.

To a man, they wish their battlefield exploits to receive the same consideration as other units, no more, no less. Aware of the great historical nature of their work as American Negro soldiers, the men who form the fighting vanguard of 2nd division have been in the ront line for more than two months and have successfully ept pace with more experienc-d divisions in some of the more iery sectors around Bologna.

All of this has been done, according to the testimony of the officers and men, with the same legree of fate and fortune that generally accompany any military unit. The 92nd has had ts losses. On the other hand, t has its heroes. One of the men is up for citation for having killed 13 Germans with his damaged carbine.

There's no official segregation in forward or rear areas at mess es or latrines or in sleeping accommodations although every man in the division has had his share of it when he trained in the same southern state. Although there is only one ta-le in the officers' mess, in the divisional headquarters the pic ture is different. Whether voluntary or involuntary, a group of officers often eat together.

While Gen. Mark W. Clark commander of the Fifth army will not admit that there is a problem of race relations with in his army, the sinister hand of race prejudice overshadows the unit. It is there, although every effort has been made to push it out of sight. Its handwriting is on the wall in at least two places.

First, white officers are an issue within the 92nd division. At present, all officer replacements are white. There are many Negro company officers, captains and lieutenants, but according to the colonel, who is a native of Connecticut but recently of Virginia, the time is far distant when Negro junior officers will outrank white junior officers.

Secondly, there is the question of MP's. The military police problem has been solved by having one white and one Negro MP patrol border areas together. The basic principle is that the white man handles white offenders and the Negro handles Negroes. Negro MP's not not carry pistols, but short ry pisto. They carry short clubs. They are more than six feet tall. Negro GIs do not carry concealed knives.

Acccording to Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, Luray, Va., the 92nd division is a military and not a sociological problem. Negro officers are stressing that race is secondary to patriotism. They say that they want above all to be regarded as American fighting men, but some of the enlisted men confusingly place more emphasis on race pride than Americanism.

the coastal left flank of the Italian front where American Negro forces of the 92d Division are fighting in a sector which combines the swankiest of pre-war beach resorts with some of the toughest mountain terrain in Italy.

American troops already hold long stretches of the Tyrehennian coast which Mussolini developed to compete with the French Riviera. Along the heavily mined beaches are sprinkled now useless blockhouses which invasion-fearful Fascists built to oppose a landing.

Forts Rotting Away.

These fortifications, some camouflaged as restaurants or beach cabanas, lie in empty decay as American military vehicles ply the nearby highways.

A short jeep ride takes you into the actual battle area. You climb into a jeep with Lt. Walter Vaughn of Roanoke, Va., and start out on a series of roads under the easy observation by enemy troops in the hills above. (Vaughn is a white officer, all of the others mentioned below are Negroes.)

We started up a snaky trail leading up a mountainside.

Men Replace Mules.

At the summit, you join Lt. Stanley Braitswait of New York City in an artillery observation post. You watch as he and Corporal James Gant of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Pfc. Robert Saunders of Memphis, Tenn., direct a concentration of shells against an enemy position on a ridge ahead.

Near the crest, Sgt. Coby Edmond of Wardell, Mo., a mortarman, tells of his pride in the work of his section. Pfc. Johnny Gibson of Monrose, La., and Cpl. Alvin Adams of Charlotte, N. C., trudge up carrying ammunition across terrain no pack mules could negotiate.

Negro Troops Give Germans No Respite

With the 92d Division in Italy, Nov. 20 (Delayed) (AP)—Axis troops are getting no respite on

Burma Drivers Either Good Or End Up In Grave

Chicago Defender 1-28-44

Chicago, Illinois

By DETON J. BDOOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

ALONG THE LEDO ROAD—With the sharp command "mount up and turn 'em over," lights flashed on and motors purred as our convoy of 40 trucks roared away into the night.

Each truck moved slowly into line about twenty feet apart forming a snake-like chain of shimmering light against the moonless blackness, as we started on what I found to be the roughest, toughest road ride, I've ever had in my life.

I had decided to take the trip to see why black quartermasters who nightly drive this long supply route, are hailed by high-ranking officers as the best truck drivers in the world. And by the time it was over, I knew the reason. They are either good—or they end up in their grave.

Up Into Mountains

Seated in the second truck of the first section of the convoy which was carrying an engineer detachment up forward, I took the opportunity while we were still on level ground to get acquainted with my driver, tall, sturdy and companionable Pvt. John Neely, Statesville, N. C.

According to Neely he was just another Carolina boy who had been drafted into the army who hoped to get north after the war to work in one of the large industrial centers. But this night he was an important guy to me, for my life and those of 18 other men depended upon his skill.

After about an hour and a half, we started moving up into mountains alongside of cliffs which dropped away into a fathomless bottom of yawning jungles.

Vision: Zero

Slowly we moved along in low-low gear, for the grade was steep and it was a long pull. As we moved higher, heavy clouds enveloped us and we could see no further than five feet. Neely sitting on the edge of his seat peered intently ahead as he eased the truck along lest we plunge over an embankment instead of rounding a curve. Finally we were over the first mountain range and down into the valley.

About three a.m., just as we started to climb again, it began raining. No matter how carefully the drivers drove, the large six by sixes slid on the slippery clay, their rear right wheels swinging dangerously close to the edge of the cliff. Skillful maneuvering just as disaster seemed certain managed to keep them from toppling over.

In keeping away from the cliffs some of the drivers including my own hugged the mountain side a little too closely, their trucks slipping into a deep drain ditch. Some had to be pushed out, others were able to make it out themselves after a short struggle.

Our truck developed engine trouble and before the convoy mechanic had repaired it, we had dropped back from second to twelfth place. So dawn caught us 40 minutes behind the head of the column at the highest peak of the road before we began the deep descent down into the Mogaung valley where some of the bitterest fighting against the Japs in this theatre has taken place.

There below us hung white billowy clouds, obscuring military installations in the valley as effectively as if they were a smoke screen.

Overhead, the rising sun gave a golden-hue to the rim of grayish-black clouds which dotted a pale blue sky. It was a magnificent sight and we gave a sigh of relief that the night and the worst of the mountains were behind.

But just as we rounded our last dangerous curve, we came to two of our trucks smashed by a landslide which partly blocked the road. The injured had already been taken to a nearby hospital by one of the convoy officers, so we proceeded on our way, reporting the incident to the commanding convoy officer, affable, hardworking, Captain Cauman, Boston, Mass., who had arrived at our first station at the head of the column.

While the drivers rested and had breakfast, he and I swung about in his jeep and visited the injured. Fortunately there were just five only one seriously hurt. By the time he had finished his investigation it was eight o'clock—time only for a quick breakfast—then the convoy swung on its way down the valley.

It must have been this section of the Ledo Road a Life reporter rode when he described it as "a four lane macadam highway." For only here could this description be true, though improvements are taking place all along the way and after it has had time to thoroughly dry, it will be a hundred per cent better than it is now. But in spite of the excellence of this section, we ran into a dust hazard, worse in many respects than the rain in the mountains.

Dust was so thick that it gave the impression of a dense fog. We could see neither ground, nor sky, nor even the side of the road. When we stopped to cross a bridge we lost another truck when a dump truck smashed into its rear.

The driver was bruised but not seriously hurt. We were caked with dust and some of the drivers wore masks — others like myself tied wet handkerchiefs about our faces so we could breathe.

By late afternoon we had beat this hazard and arrived at our destination, delivering our precious cargo of army personnel. A nearby crystal-clear Burma stream gave us a chance to bathe before eating. And then after twenty-two hours of battling the Ledo Road, we slung our jungle hammocks in the back of the trucks. I immediately fell off into a deep sleep.

The next morning, I left the convoy to go further forward while they returned to get another load and fight their way through once again, after a short twenty-four hours in their company area.

None but the best and most rugged physical specimens can stand this constant strain of road and weather and danger—a good enough reason why colored boys monopolize this convoy business.

Among the GI's who drove this night were Sgts. James Coleman, Jr., Topeka, Kans.; Max S. Vaughn, Ganden City, Kans.; Cpls. Frederick White, Russellville, Ark.; Boman S. Coogler, Oakland, Calif.; T-5's Raymond Jackson, Washington, D. C.; Edward B. Jefferson, Indianapolis, Ind.; William Drew, San Diego, Calif.; Joe Cheers, Jr., Hickory Valley, Tenn.; Lewis Conner, Chicago, Ill.; Robert Fort, Forestville, Conn.; William Parker, Carbon Hill, Ala.; Andrew Cherry, Sallnas, Calif.; Jack Hill, Norwalk, Conn.; and Pvts. Cecil C. Miller, Washington, D. C.; Ernest Clifton, Alexandria, La.

Courier--Pittsburgh, Pa.
12-9-44

Ignoring Own Wounds, Bleeding Yank Saves Life of Best Friend

By HASKELL COHEN

WITH THE 92nd IN ITALY--You can't tell a hero by his appearance! Pfc. James L. Robinson of Atlantic City, N. J., for instance. Nobody in the world would expect Robinson to be a hero, not by his appearance at any rate. Bobby tips the beam at 260 pounds, quite a load for a line soldier, but a good deal of that poundage is heart and guts.

On November 9, the first platoon of Company K in a 92nd divison battalion was making an attack. Operations called the objective "California." Robinson was among the first men in the platoon up the slope of "California" that early dawn when the enemy's small arms fire stopped him with two slugs in his left shoulder.

BEST FRIEND FALLS

The wounded man--he is only 18--started back toward the medics when he saw his best friend, Pfc. Richard L. Law, fall. A dud mortar shell felled Law, piercing his right thigh and pinning him to earth. First aid men were just ou of the question. They just couldn't get to the men in the hell that had broken loose on "California." The other soldiers of the platoon were too occupied with the business of fighting to help remove the dud.

Despite his own wounds, Robinson managed to remove the dud without exploding it.

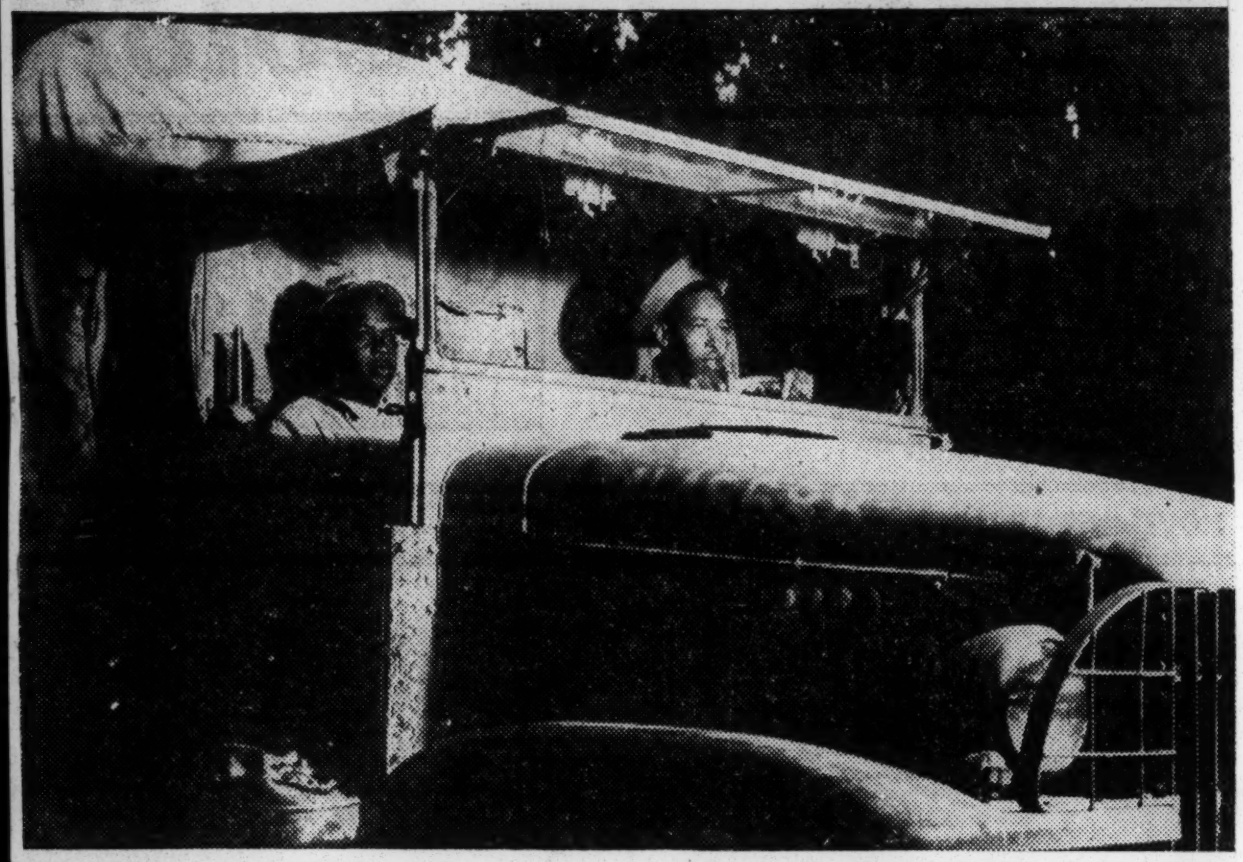
CARRIED FRIEND TO BASE

There was still the task of removing his friend from the hilltop, but before the commanding officer to receive a medal, spectators will take that was easy compared to the operation Private Robinson just performed. one look at his vast bulk and remark: It was a 500-yard walk down the mountainside and then up the reverse side "That soldier a hero? I would never of the hill to Company K's command believe it."

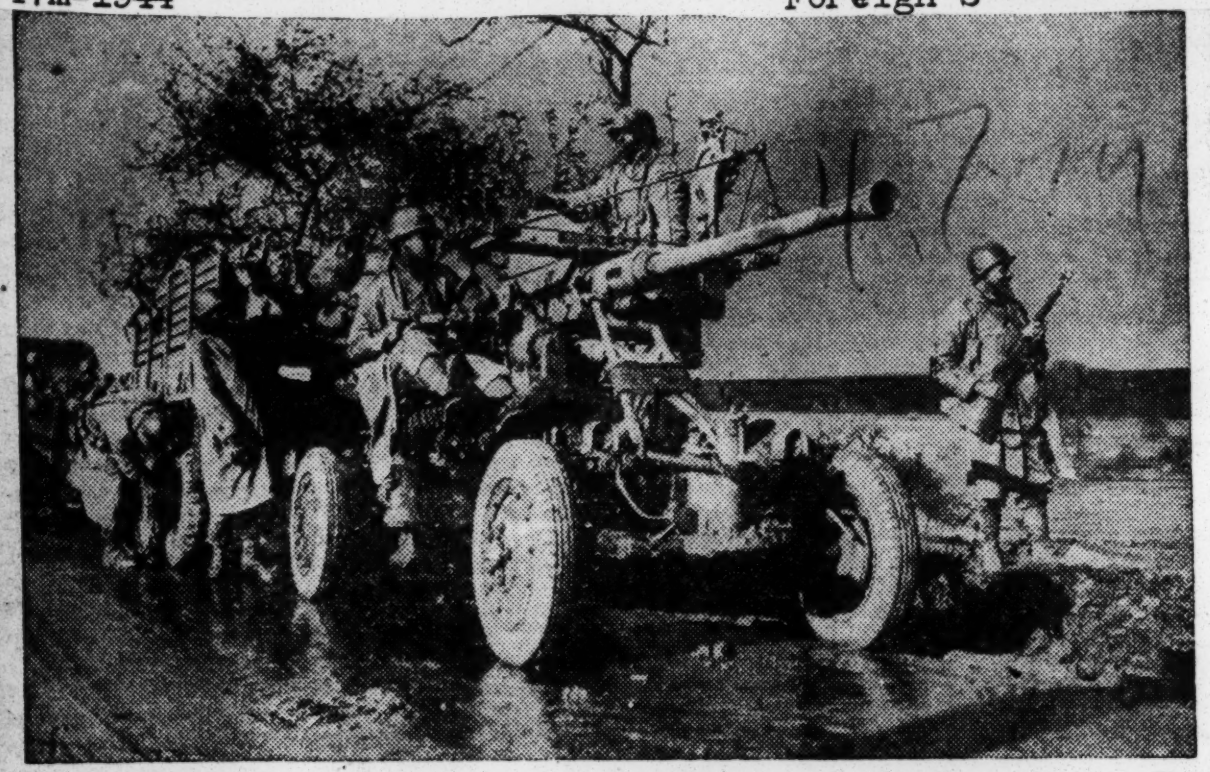
post, but the private brought his It just goes to show you one can best pal in safely. never judge a hero by his appearance.

They will probably cite Robinson for his brave deed and when he stands

NIGHT DRIVING ON TREACHEROUS LEDO ROAD



T-5 Coleman Garrett, Canton, Miss., reves up motor preparatory to starting long night-time convoy trip along Ledo Road carrying supplies to troops in advance positions. At his side is Sgt. Major T. Johnson, Miami, Fla., acting as assistant convoy officer.



NEGRO ARTILLERY UNIT stands by and checks equipment on a road leading to the front. That's a 40mm Bofors antiaircraft gun. —Signal Corps Photos

THEY LEAD ARMOR—Lieut. Col. Paul L. Bates (right), of Boonton, N. J., confers with his officers of a tank unit. (Left to right): Lieut. Warren F. Taylor of Philadelphia, Pa., Warrant Officer (jg) Clarence L. Godbold of Yonkers, N. Y., Lieut. Leonard P. Taylor of Atlanta, Ga., and Maj. Edward W. Reynolds of Lincoln, Neb.

Frenchman Calls Negro Soldiers the Only True Americans; His Wife Kisses Three

Call—Kansas City, Mo.
12-8-44

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR,
ANP WAR CORRESPONDENT

PARIS. — (ANP) — While talking to a Frenchman and his wife who were congratulating me on my success in the William Grant Still concert here, he told me that when France was liberated his wife told him that she must kiss an American.

The Frenchman told her that he would agree to her request under one condition. She must kiss an American Negro soldier, because he is the only true American. His wife obeyed, he said. Instead of kissing one, she kissed three American Negro soldiers, the husband confided.

Negro Tank Crew In Action at Metz

WITH THE THIRD U. S. ARMY IN THE METZ AREA

SPEARHEADING a task force of the 26th "Yankee" Division, the all-Negro 761st tank battalion now in action with the U. S. Army captured four important towns, secured two bridge crossings and successfully battered its way through the strongly defended Forest de Bride.

The Negro tankmen went into action after the 26th Division captured Metz, which never before fell to direct assault in modern times. They lunged into the battle with such ferocity and courage that Capt. Irwin McHenry of Leavenworth, Kansas, received the nickname of "The Bronze Devil." Staff Sergeant Reuben Rivers of Tecumseh, Okla., received the Silver Star for routing nearly 300 Germans. A dozen members of the medical detachment were cited for heroism under fire.

A captured German officer, after having had a taste of the Negro tankmen and their work said: **"So far as fighting is concerned, I have never before seen such bravery except once before, and that was on the Russian front."** It came when a German rocket gun knocked out a tank of the Negro unit. The crew dismounted, brought out the .50 calibre and .30 calibre machine-guns, crawled under their tanks for protection, and continued to blast away at the enemy.

Sgt. Warren G. H. Creecy, of Corpus Christi, Texas, a tank commander, climbed up on the rear of his tank which had been immobilized by anti-tank fire, and held an enemy force at bay with his own anti-aircraft gun, while protecting the advance of an infantry group.

Later in the action a tank commanded by Cpl. Dennis A. Osby was hit and caught fire. He and his crewmen dismounted through the escape hatch and ducked into a ditch. Cpl. Osby noticed one man, Pvt. Archie Fletcher, was missing. He crawled back, entered the flaming tank, and rescued Pvt. Fletcher whose feet were tangled in an ammunition belt.

For this action Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton personally commended the men.

The unit moved out from Athianville for its first action at 6 o'clock on the morning of Nov. 8, as part of a task force, which was operating in two columns. Athianville is approximately 14 miles east of Nancy. This task force consisted of tank destroyers, infantry, engineers and medics, with units of the Negro tank battalion. It was divided into two columns, with their ultimate objective being a town some 20 miles away, beyond the edge of the dense Forest de Bride.

The two columns moved out for the attack, and in short order captured Vic-sur-Seille and Monyenvic, two strongly defended towns which skirted a German rail supply route leading from the Saar Basin. They secured crossings over two canals. These towns were some fifteen to eighteen miles east of Nancy and constituted the German frontline defenses at that point.

After securing these two towns, the next tasks was to move on to Morville, a town some four miles beyond Vic-sur-Seille. Splitting up here, one column moved toward Morville for the attack.

They ran into the most stubborn opposition of the drive, for here the Germans had constructed a two-mile-long anti-tank ditch in anticipation of the offensive. They had re-enforced this tank barrier with staggered concrete pill-boxes, completely covered with earth, and with rocket launchers and bazooka teams dug in in strength.

After passing Morville, which they had practically destroyed, the columns moved on to Hamport, four miles farther east.

Company A, commanded by Capt. Dave Williams, of Pittsburgh, Pa., helped to obliterate and capture Chateau-Salins, the first major town east of Nancy. The task of the 761st in its first battle action was all the more difficult because it was faced by the members of a German Officer Candidate School of Artillery at Marshal, who fired heavy concentrations at the tanks during the entire engagement.

Following this, Company A also moved to Hamport. It was during these engagements that Staff Sergeant Rivers began to earn his spurs, for in almost every instance his tank was the first to enter a town and he was always in the thickest of the fight.

T/4 George McKenney, of Atlanta, Ga., member of a Fifth Army Medical Unit, in Italy, who on November 10, when this sector was less than a mile from the front, delivered the child lying in its mother's arms.

Soldier Delivers Baby for Italian Mom; He's 'Dr.' Now

By DANIEL A. PAYNE

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—T/4 George H. McKenney, Atlanta, Ga., ranks among the most popular soldiers in Italy. I paid him a visit this week and things proved even more exciting than I had heard.

It all happened because he delivered a baby for an Italian woman. Now there is not an ailment in the little community that is not brought to him.

Women in nearby communities, anticipating an immediate visit from the stork, have sought to date him for future assistance.

As we walked along a stone pathway, en route to pay a visit to young George McKenney (because the parents have named the baby after the soldier), a number of natives stopped George and told him of their troubles.

One woman brushed all others aside and thrust her baby into his arms. An old man hobbled to his side seeking aid and little children along the roadside yelled, "George O." That is what they call him.

We hurried to the house where George O had brought a baby into the world and as we edged our way forward, Jerry sent mail (artillery fire) into the sides of the mountain just above us. We paid little attention as we listened to our hero tell his story:

"There was nothing heroic about what I did," the modest soldier stated. "We were called upon for help and I happened to answer the call. Any man would have done just as well or better."

"Hi, Doctor," the Men Yell

The men along the road yelled out, "Hi, Doctor," for that is what they call him since his recent intrusion upon the medical profession. He waved a timid hand to them and continued his explanation:

"It was 2 o'clock in the morning when I reached the house. I did not know exactly what had happened so I rushed in. The mother was already in the midst of childbirth. I fell in and did the best I could and that happened to be enough."

The mother is already up and doing her household chores. The baby is doing fine. George O is thinking about his wife and baby back in Atlanta.

Medics Doing Fine Work In Belgium

WITH THE FIRST U. S. ARMY IN BELGIUM—There are four companies of colored ambulance drivers attached to a medical battalion, which are now doing the same tremendous job with the First Army in Belgium which they did while back in France, after their landing on a Normandy beachhead on June 29, and crossing the Belgian border on September 14.

A colored warrant officer, junior grade, Gregory A. Guilford, 24 south 17th street, East Orange, New Jersey, is the battalion adjutant.

These four companies are handling the evacuations for the First Army, and taking the patients back to hospitals of the Advanced Section Communications Zone, and the battalion is the farthest forward of the colored units with the First Army.

Guerrilla Band Leader Is Idol Of Leyte Isles

By FLETCHER MARTIN
(U. S. War Correspondent, representing the NNPA and the Philadelphia TRIBUNE)
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ON AN ISLAND NORTHEAST OF LEYTE, November 14, (by Cable)—Fighting with the fierceness of an enraged animal is an American colored leader of a Filippino guerilla band. He is one of the big stories of the Pacific War.

His deeds and those of the ragged men he leads have spread among American troops like wildfire. The exact whereabouts of the giant Negro is a military secret. However, this correspondent has been granted permission to find and join him.

My search should be well worth while, for what Livingstone meant to the natives of Africa, this Negro means to the people of these islands. As the news of Livingstone was spread around the world, so should the deeds of this man be made known.

He is worth walking across a continent to find and every attempt will be made to find him.

Nazis Urge Our GI's to Desert

Why Fight? German Leaflet Asks 92nd

CARTER REPLACED

Chaplain Douglas Hall Promoted to Captain

By MAX JOHNSON
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY (By Cable, Censored) — Chaplain Douglas F. Hall, former AFRO staff writer now serving with the 92nd Division on this Fifth Army front, has been promoted to the rank of captain, according to an announcement here this week.

Chaplain Hall entered the service last December, was assigned to a regiment in the 92nd in February, and came overseas last August. He has since been serving with his regiment in combat.

Prior to joining the army, he wrote a column, "Seen from My Window," for the AFRO and did other staff work. He married before being shipped overseas.

Replaces Art Carter

Replacing the AFRO's Art Carter, now en route home, I arrived at the 92nd Division headquarters on Wednesday, following a plane hop from the Seventh Army front in Eastern France and an additional ride by jeep through cold rainstorms which occur almost daily in this area of Italy.

Among the first to greet me in joining this outfit was Capt. Leroy Clay of Baltimore, a long-time friend, who holds the divisional job of assistant executive officer and is the only officer of his race other than the ranking chaplain, Lt. Col. Louis J. Beasley, working as attache to the staff of Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, 92nd commander.

"Old Home Week"

Subsequent introductions to the personnel of some of the divisional units, including recently attached replacements, made joining the 92nd seem like "Old Home Week," since I found here many officers and men whom I accompanied overseas.

Among those in that category were Majors James O. Fowler, 121 U Street, Northwest, West Point graduate; George P. Lawrence, 1336 Rigbs Street, Northwest, and Capt. Frederick Davison, 3107 Eleventh Street, nw., all of Washington.

The Nazis on this front are repeating their former procedure of dropping propaganda leaflets on the 92nd frontline troops.

The latest one this week asks the men what they are fighting for and why they should risk death when loved ones at home are waiting for them.

Picturing two colored babies, the leaflet states that these children want "daddy home safe" and adds that comfortable camps with full facilities for communicating with their families in America await colored soldiers who desert.

I have heard no reports of desertion. Activity is otherwise quiet on the front and is limited to patrols.

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Two Divisions Kept Shooting

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent

(Representing the ATLANTA DAILY WORLD and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)
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12-2-44

ORMOC BAY SECTOR, PHILIPPINES — By Courier —Within rifle range of the Ormoc sector is stationed an all-Negro railhead unit servicing the 24th and 1st Calvary divisions, infantry forces of the 10th Corps operating in southeast Leyte.

Commanding the unit is First Lt. Clarence A. Laws, former executive secretary of the Urban League in New Orleans. Other officers include Second Lts. Leon G. Weston, Columbia, South Carolina; Berry Slater of Los Angeles; and Joseph Kimbrough of Chicago. All are graduates of the Officers Candidate School, Brisbane, Australia.

Receiving, breaking down, and supplying rations to two divisions, plus the administration of another Negro service unit is the all-important mission performed by these troops. Immediately behind the lines, work has often been retarted by bombing and long range artillery. The supply dump holds high priority on the enemy list of installations "to be immediately demolished."

12-2-44

NO CASUALTIES

Lt. Weston admitted that the work "has its moments" of exciting experiences, but the unit has not suffered any casualties. Men live in huts evacuated by natives who fled to the mountains when the enemy occupied Leyte. Surrounding the bivouac are countless acres of rice. Filipinoes work these fields in the midst of shell fire.

Frontline observation proved conclusively that infantry men hunger for hot bread, fruits, canned vegetables, and beef not of the bully variety. And having the highest priority on supplies, this foodstuff is rushed forward.

12-2-44

The first night with the units revealed several important items. Tons of foodstuff arrive periodically and a type of inventory and daily record must be kept. However, such work is not strange to these men, sixty percent of them having served overseas for 32 months.

As Lt. Slater explained it is all a matter of organization. To hear various titles is amusing. for instance:

ALL HAVE TITLES

Vice president in charge of labor coordination, Platoon S. Sgt. Louis Sizemore, of Jersey City, New Jersey.

Vice president in charge of checkers, Sgt. A. W. Ingram of Detroit, Mich.

Atlanta Daily World

Chafe At Bits As News Of Metz Fall Is Revealed

Atlanta, Ga.

12-12-44

Atlanta Chaplain Says Morale Is At High Peak

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY IN FRANCE — The first U. S. tank destroyer battalion made up of Negro soldiers has already seen action with Major General Harry L. Twaddle's tough 95th Infantry Division, which figured in the capture of the German fortress city of Metz.

12-12-44

Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Frank S. Pritchard, 3525 Forrest Avenue, Lansing, Michigan and composed of four companies completely staffed by Negro officers, the unit completed its trek from the Normandy Penninsula, the day prior to the fall of Metz. It had been awaiting orders to move to the front since October 8, when it landed in France.

ACTIVATED IN COLORADO

The tank destroyer battalion was activated at Camp Carson, Colorado, on July 25, 1942, and received its training there and at Camp Bowie, Texas, before it moved to Camp Hood, Texas, the home of battle training for tanks and tank destroyers in March, 1943. In August, 1944, the unit landed in England, and continued training while it awaited the call to action.

The battalion took its place with front line troops in the Metz area, not far from the sector in which the all-Negro Tank Battalion is fighting.

12-12-44

Well-equipped for battle and keen for action, members of the unit exhibited great eagerness to close with the enemy. They chafed at the bits as the news of the fall of Metz reached battalion headquarters soon after their arrival in the area. According to Chaplain (Captain) Harvey E. Johnson, of Atlanta, Georgia, the morale is at a high peak, and Lieutenant Colonel Pritchard said: "I believe that the men are ready."

HIGH RANGE SCORE

12-12-44

Typical of the crews and their aptness for their weapons is the range score turned in by the crew of gun commander, Sergeant Robert C. Garrett, of Route 1, Box 19, Tarboro, N orth Carolina. In range tests his crew did not miss the direct fire target a single time with the 3-inch anti-tank gun, which their vehicle mounts, in addition to its .50 calibre machineguns. Crews are composed of ten men, including the gun commander.

It is a "towed" destroyer unit, meaning that the big AT guns are mounted on a separate chassis, with the M-8 half-track serving as the prime mover.

The staff of the unit includes Negro officers, Captain Thomas M. Campbell, Jr., of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, son of the noted agricultural expert of the Institute, who serves as battalion surgeon; Chaplain (Captain) Harvey E. Johnson, 568 Auburn Avenue, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia and First Lieutenant Robert S. Williams, of 1909 Fourth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., a Howard University product who is the battalion reconnaissance officer.

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Other officers of the staff are Major LeRoy H. Sample of Mt. Clemens, Michigan, executive officer; Captain Charles W. Ogelsby, of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, S-2; Captain Robert J. O'Leary, of Glenburn, North Dakota, S-3; Captain Charles J. Richard, Okla.; Captain Gordon P. Maloche, of Santa Barbara, California, S-4.

NEGRO STAFF OFFICERS

The all-Negro staffs of the various companies are composed of the following officers:

Headquarters Company — Commander: Captain James H. Carr, 624 Gresham Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Liaison; First Lieutenant Ormonde Forte, Jr., Cleveland, Ohio; Public Relations and Special Services Officer; First Lt. Leonard I. Burch, 5724 South Parkway Avenue, Chicago, Ill.; Other officers: First Lt. Serrea S. Nelson, 3014 R. Street, Omaha, Nebr., First Lt. Joseph L. Keeby, Chicago, Ill., First Lt. Claude W. Ramsey, Ypsilanti, Mich.; Second Lt. Andrew J. Favors, 1339 South May Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; Two warrant officers complete the staff of this company; WOJG Arntie E. Hollis, of San Marcos, Texas and WOJG Raymond Lamb, of Detroit, Mich. Second Lt. Preston Helm, Jr., 518 Browning Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Company A — Comander: Captain Beauregard King, born into the Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and a veteran of 15 years Regular Army service with the 24th and 25th Infantry regiments. Other officers: First Lt. Milton B. Deas, 4435 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill.; First Lt. Charles Robinson of Long Beach, Cal., First Lt. Edward J. Cary, Jr., 2118 Montgall Avenue, Kansas City, Mo., and Second Lt. Lloyd Gregory of 98 Morningside Avenue, New York City.

12-12-44

Company B.—Commander: Captain Robert L. Finley of 6540 Stanford Avenue, Detroit, Mich.; Other officers: First Lt. Raymond H. Powell, 437 Breadon St., Youngstown, Ohio, First Lt. Ulysees W. Watkins of Huntsville, Texas, First Lt. Charles J. Nelson, 26 Wilkes St., Battle Creek, Mich., and Second Lt. Forrest A. Walker of 2420 North Sherman St., Kansas City, Mo.

Company C — Commander: First Lt. Charles L. Thomas of 5877 Beechwood Avenue, Detroit, Mich.; Other officers; First Lt. George Mitchell of 3446 Magnolia Street, New Orleans, La.; First Lt. Thomas H. Shaw, 902 Fayetteville St., Durham, N. C.; First Lt. Walter S. Smith, 410 Parallel Avenue, Los Angeles, Cal., and First Lt. Floyd J. Stallings, also of Los Angeles.

There are several veterans among the enlisted personnel who have had long periods of Regular Army service. Among them, the oldest in service is First Sergeant Gordon Brown, 1132 High Street, Montgomery, West Va., who has seen 27 years in the Army.

12-12-44

30 Men Under Lieutenant King Prove Experts

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Claim No Soldiers In Army Better Than This Unit

12-31-44

By LT. JOHN MACAULEY

WASHINGTON-It was the fitfh night after the initial American attack on the Philippines,. Thirty Negro soldiers--soggy with w e t and fatigue--crouched on their rain-filled foxholes n e a r Palo with the water up above their chests.

Within the last two hours, while the rain pelted down incessantly they had helped beat off three Japanese attacks. And now, as the storm dribbled to a stop, the Japanese were trying a different maneuver. They were infiltrating into Palo on the opposite side of t h e American fortifications. There w a s almost no defense against this sort of thing.

The Japanese were really close now. Most of the soldiers were holding their fire, for firing from a foxhole gives away ones' position. O n e of the Negro troops whispered softly to the young white lieutenants in charge of the beleaguered unit:

"Lieutenant King," he muttered "should I fire when I see one of those——?

12-31-44

Wisley, King didn't answer.

Then came another voice, a bit louder, more insistent: 'Lieutenant King--" "I'm hit, Lieutenant King--" "Help Lieutenant King."

Second Lieutenant Dewey King, TC-24 year-old, 200 pound former freshman tackle from Auburn and Mobile, Ala., could take it no longer. He raised his head slightly and peered into the darkness around him, seeking the wounded man.

NEAR PERFECT MIMICRY

"What--" he whispered, and a billet tore through the sandbag on the brim of his foxhole, a fraction of an inch his head. He ducked and held his tongue the rest of the night. The anguished cries had come not from his own men, but f r o m the Japanese! Their mimicry was nearly perfect Too prefect, perhaps, since most of the Negro troops in the unit

12-31-44

Macauley first met the Negro representative with the invading force. "Obviously," he wrote "the coming operation was to be no soft touch for this Liberty. This was learned by merely observing the New Guinea port for soldiers who came aboard. There At that time, nel- was an ack-ack unit which would nor the men knew was an ack-ack unit, which would were from Northern cities- a n d in serving the dinner in the beautiful Southern accents were a bit at a fully decorated dining room of the premium. home were Mesdames J. S. Downs. The 30 Negro soldiers were all ship and its gallant crew and duck drivers, a n d these chaf- Navy armed guard, is told graphifeurs of seagoing trucks had cally by Lieut. John Macauley, joined the invasion on the first ship left a New Guinea port for to Philippines. At

Still Seek Negro Leader Of Guerrilla Band In Philippines

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
Representing the Journal and Guide and the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association
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LEYTE BEACH, Philippines —The exact whereabouts of Capt. Frank Merith, giant American Negro leader of a Filipino guerilla band, is still a military secret, but this correspondent is pushing the search for him.

The guerrillas on Samar continue to fight the enemy. Armed with bolos, knives, even sticks —these natives, many clad in rags, ferociously defend the

be one of the first in the area, one of the first Army units to be relied on for defense against Japanese bombing. Another was an ordnance outfit which would keep replacing vital equipment. There were 30 Negro duck drivers. It was said they would be the first troops off the ship—"

MACAULEY MEETS KING

Later, on Attack Day, Macauley met Lieut. King, the U. S. Maritime Service training center "shavetail" who was in charge of the eight ducks, the amphibious trucks used for carrying small amounts of cargo from ship to shore, up the beach and to combat troops.

"There are duck drivers and duck drivers," he wrote that day, "but the 30 colored boys now under King's command who trained as both drivers and mechanics are experts in their line. They were especially chosen for ability cleanliness and intelligence. They are proud Negroes and King has kept them that way. Both King and his boys were untried in combat until this afternoon, but each day during this trip, King has gone after to feel his boys they must not let him down. Once one of them answered.

"Don't worry sir. We'd all follow you to Manila and back again!" 12-31-44

Later in the day, when the Liberty ship was being unloaded and the duck crews were rushing ammunition to the front, Macauley wrote:

"King and his boys have spent the entire day going in and out of the small town of Palo. Palo has already fallen, but Jap snipers have made it hot for the unarmed ducsk. Still he kept leading them in and not one of his men has hesitated.

"The shadows are lengthening across the water as the correspondent (Macauley), King and his driver and mechanic make their way towards the beach. The bucking of the duck over the waves makes it difficult for the correspondent to beat out his story on his typewriter which he is holding on his knees. We are on our way to spend the night ashore. King's round, sweaty and begrinned face is beaming. The night to come has no terrors for him. His main fear has been stilled; his men have stood their 1st fire, stood it very well.

NONE BETTER 12-31-44

"By damn!!," he says, "There ain't no soldiers in this man's Army that kin do better than mah boys."

Three days later, when the unloading of the Liberty ship was almost completed, Macauley wrote:

'Last night about 6:15 we found a small sandy beach and decided to spend the night there. King and his driver pulled well above the water mark and signaled the other ducks in. The enlisted men began to dig their foxholes. It was getting dark and they were working fast. An ordnance officer, Captain H. W. Richardson, whose mother lives at 219 Elm St. Mansfield, Mass., and who had hitched a ride with us, suggested that instead of establishing our own perimeter we might do well to find someone else who had been in the region more than a few minute. 12-31-44

'King, always coniderate of his

"King, always considerate of his foxholes, demurred. At the moment a bullet hit the side of a duck and went singing out over the water. This decided him. We moved up the beach about 50 yards and stumbled right into a camp that was completed blacked out. The men were having coffee. It tasted delicious. The major in charge of the camp told us we could bed down for the night whenever we could find a clear space of ground near aslit trench. The colored enlisted men went down on the beach to dig their own holes.

NO SLEEP ALL NIGHT

"But there was no sleep all night. 12-31-44

Right after breakfast, five Japanese planes attacked the convoy. One of the planes, hit by flak, went out of control and landed on the deck of a nearby vessel. The ship turned turtle and sank. Another dived straight for the Liberty ship, but a 19-year-old seaman first class remained at his gun and kept shooting at the plane even when its wing hit the edge of the sailor's tub and flung hot metal into his torso and face. The plane crashed into the ocean and exploded Macauley and one of the duck drivers Corp. Ray Peoples, of Cleveland, Ohio, rushed the wounded youth to a beach dressing station.

That night, while King's unit staved off attacks from their water-filled foxholes, the Japanese tried the mimicry trick. It failed however, and the Japanese crept closer.

"They were less than 20 yards away." Macauley wrote, "Sometimes our soldiers would fire at them-more often not. One of the duck drivers next to the correspondent, a big rangy ex-Golden boxer named Karl Mahone, took careful aim and fired. There was a Jap scuttling past on the dead run right in front of us. A fusillade of bullets must have been hitting all around him. He zigzagged inward and we saw his arm fly back and forward.

"There was a blinding flash as he hurled the hand grenade into a dump of over 200 boxes containing 105 and 155 howitzer shells 40 and 30 mm. shelis. The Jap could not have survived the explosion. The blast from the first box of ammunition blew the correspondent's shirt off as if it were tissue paper. Then it really started. 12-31-44

HORROR OF WAITING

"There would be the deep-throated crackle of 20mm. amspangle the sky in all directions. munition and tracer would The resounding bank of 40 mm. shells the roar of 105 howitzer shells ,the earth-shaking crash of the 155s turned the night into a horror of waiting 50 feet away, of wondering whether too much ammunition was going to blow up But the small stuff kept going off in salvoos while the big shells seemed to go off one at a time. We dug our faces into the mud and prayed. And how we prayed! Near the correspondent a colored youth was mumbling the Lord's Prayer. We all ran the gamut of every religious plea we had never learnedd."

It was not all prayer and defensive fighting, however. The next day on other occasions, the duck drivers paid off the Japs for that night. One such occasion arose when Macauley was writing his dispatch on the ruined vafanda of the town grammar school in Palo. This shed was used as the assembling place for the duck drivers in carrying their ammunition up to the front.

"Groups or doughboys from this unit are patroling the village streets and searching every house as often as possible. A Jap runs right across in front of the corsrespondent with a party of yelling Yanks in pursuit. One of the colored duck drivers, T/5 Pedro Croughter, runs alongside the Nip and puts three carbine bullets in him. Before the Jap has been on the ground three seconds he is riddled with tommy gun M-1 and carbine shells.. Later the Filipinos flushed another soldier of the Emperor from under a house. American rifle fire killed him." 12-31-44

In concluding his account of the unit's operations, Macauley wrote:

"Those Negroes had stood like the Rock of Gibraltar-Cpl. James Brown, 1015 N. Caroline St., Baltimore, Md.; Sgt. Osuah Aceptin 142 Ashton St., Los Angeles, Cal; Pfc. Lillean F. Carter, Farmingdale, N. J.; Cpl. Karl Mahone, 2457 Delaware St., Gary, Ind.; Cpl. James A. Johnson, 31 Plainsfield Ave.; Scotch Plains, N. J.; Cpl. Jos. C. Williamson, Jackson, Miss.; Cpl. Eminir B. Hawkins, 1405 North 18th St. Philadelphia, Pa.; Cpl. James A. Ross, 56 Kenilworth St., Orange, N. J.; Pfc. Jas. Williams, Baton Rouge, La.; Cpl. Karrie Davis, Route 2, Box 63, Vamville, S. C.; Cpl. Zachariah Brinkley, 214 Reid St. Elizabeth, N. J.; Cpl. Paul Wright 2217 East 76th St., Cleveland, O.; Cpl. Jas. S. Wells, 161 North 37th St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Cpl. Pedro Croughter, 49 Veronnica Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Cpl. Judge Paterson, 162 Oakwood Pl., Orange, N. J.; Sgt. William O. Jenkins, RFD 3, Box, Henderson Tenn. Cpl Philip Lee, Apt. 2, 501 Hendric St. Detroit, Mich.; Sgt. Tommy L. Thorpe, 209 Madison St., Macon, Ga.; Sgt. William Thorpe, 662 E. Ferry Ave., Detfoit, Mich.; Cpl. George E Hope, 259 Taylor Ave. Columbus, O.; Sgt. Lucius Smith, 255 Cole Alley, Memphis, Tenn.; Pvt. Eddie Ford, Route 1, Box 141A, Caledonia, Miss.; and Cpl. Jas. K. Johnson. 1424 New Jersey Ave., N. W. Washington, D. C. They had come through a first and second night of harrowing combat like veterans."

And in describing the Liberty ship's departure, five days after it arrival and two days after its whole crew had helped unload the freighter's military cargo in less than three days, he wrote:

'At sea the ship is riding out the storm. She should ride it out; she is, in seamen's parlance, "a lady," however ugly and battered. And to whom she will be a great vessel-not great in the individual sense of the ARC ROYAL, the ENTERPRISE, the BOISE, but in the new tradition of steel men on steel freighters, which began when the US Merchant Marine became the first American service to enter World War II, when a man took pen in hand and signed the Lend-Lease bill--'Franklin D. Roosevelt."

Captain Merith, it was told the writer, was chosen as one of the leaders. Under the Negro and others, their valor reaches daily new heights. 12-9-44

The story goes that Capt. Merith has been in the Philippines for many years, making his home on Samar. He married a native woman and owned property. The enemy caught him as well as the others. The population was stripped bare of food. The population Negro was attached to General MacArthur's command. Every three out of five Fil-

TAKE RIFLES FROM JAPS

Few rifles were taken from the Japs. And American planes dropped some ammunition. American submarines smuggled equipment in. However, because of the intenseness of the operations, all has been too little.

The enemy has reached a maximum of ruthlessness on Samar. The town was burned. The enemy its meagrerre resources.

Perhaps the heaviest penalty of all was that the Japs took away the food. The population is miserably from malnutrition. Only since American troops entered have food and medical supplies begun to pour in. Five doctors and one dentist are presently at work patching up the ills of the populace. Sores, blisters, malarial cases, pneumonia — these are only a few of the items which harass the population.

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Is worth walking a continent to find. Every attempt will be made to find him.

Capt. Merith is the story. He is very good fighter too."

good man—our friend. And he is And many have said, "Ah, he is

or know of Captain Merith. pinos questioned on Leyte know

White and Colored Soldiers Work in Harmony In Same Unit Over in France

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
11-24-44

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

(ANP War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE.—(ANP) —I was immensely pleased and gratified when I visited one of the strangest units ever to come under my notice on the western front, called "quarter master effects company" and composed approximately of an even number of white and colored soldiers who work and live like a large family.

I woull not have known of this outfit had I not paid a visit to the "Silhouette" in Paris, a charming little cabaret on Rue-Notre-Dam-de-Lorette where I met Pvts. Ed Warner of East Chicago, Ind., and Conway Butler from New Orleans. Those two GI's presented an air of happiness and contentment, and their eyes were sparkling like the champagne cocktail they were sipping. They asked me to have a drink with them which I readily accepted.

"How are they treating you? I asked. "Swell" said these boys. Here Warner interjected: "We couldn't expect anything better. I am the driver for our commanding officer, Major MaCormick, and I can truthfully say that he makes no distinction in the company." With this information I decided to visit the company the very next day and see for myself.

Greeted by Major 11-24-44

I met Major R. R. MaCormick from Florida who was evidently pleased to see me and tell me about his work and his men. He said that his primary function was the efficient execution of the important task assigned him and secondly, he was interested in the welfare and happiness of each man in his company.

I had lunch with the officers . . Capt. Joseph Minetti from New York who is in charge of the warehouse; Capt. Henry H. Beck from Oshkosh, Wis., Capt. W. Freeman Sharp Jr.; Lt. S. Maurice Pool, Lt. Joseph Vogl from New York City, and 2nd Lt. Thomas F. Flannery from Springfield, Mass.: who is in charge of the colored soldiers in the outfit. All of these officers have expressed sincerely their pleasure of their association with this mixed team.

"We exercise justice in small things, and would avoid all cause of offense, not by seeking merely to please all, but to give all their due." These were the words Capt. Minetti said to me. Capt. Henry Beck said there is always an amicable adjustment of disputes if and amicable adjustment of disputes if there are any. At lunch I saw the men sitting together full of geniality, humor, conversation, and cheerfulness of nature which make men agreeable.

Those people who repeatedly say that white and colored soldiers cannot associate amicably are creating a distortion of right and justice, by imputing defects of character on the part of the Negro. Here is another unit that has given the lie to such unjust propaganda.

Great Injustice 11-24-44

The greatest injustice one can do to any honest man or race is to call his probity in question. The quicker the practice of this ludicrous mischief is dispensed with, postwar conditions in America would serve out among the two races in the most peaceful manner without resorting to violence.

This organization is charged with the responsibility of receiving and storing. In addition, it must make proper disposition of personal effects of all US personnel and people subject to military law in the ETO. For example, those wounded in action, missing, deceased and prisoners of war.

When a soldier is ill in the hospital and becomes well again, the executive department of the hospital communicates with the effects office and the personal belongings of the soldier are returned to him. If he is deceased, his effects are sent to Kansas City to be handed over to his next-of-kin.

The operation of this unit is extremely interesting. All effects are handled in the same manner whether it be a general or a private. If for example Gen. Eisenhower were taken prisoner, he would not have any priority over Ed Warner. Everyone takes as much interest in the material he handles as if it were his personal belongings.

Any matter pertaining to military information is extricated from the effects. Also pornographic literature, obscene pictures and anything that would mar the good memory of the soldier.

Honesty combined with integrity and dignity of character are the outstanding features of this QM effects unit. The colored soldiers are the guards and upon them is placed an obligation of trust in the execution of their duty.

Must Be Firm 11-24-44

They must be firm, constant and alert during the 24 hours that they are on duty. When the colored soldiers were taken into the service, they were given a special lecture as to the importance of their task. A brigadier general once visited the warehouse and was not properly identified, and he was refused admission by the colored guard.

These are the names of the colored boys in the outfit: Sgt. A. G. Newton from Manhattan, Kas., is in charge of the colored soldiers. Sgt. Marvin A. Wortham, Cpl. Charles Albertson, Philadelphia; Cpl. W. Earl Grimes, Detroit; Cpl. Robert Jones, Palm Beach, Fla.; Cpl. Numa Barnabe, Opelousas, La., and Pfc. A. Richie Carter, Houston, who writes more love letters than any other member in the company. Here is the list of the Pfcs.: Clarence Domingues, New Orleans; Robert Franklin, Arizona; James Hennings, St. Louis; F. Julius Lissimore, Valdesta, Ga.; Ike Perry, Atlanta; W. John Robertson, Cleveland; A. Joseph Willis, Atlanta, and Robert Winter, Jacksonville, Fla. 11-24-44

Here is the list of the Pvts.: Frank Collier, Houston; Trellie Culbreath, Monroe, Ga.; Robert L. Giddins, Houston; N. Ambrose Johnson, West Virginia; Walter Latham, Kingston, N. C.; Joseph Lebo, Nantucket, Mass.; James Maxwell, Savannah, William McCall, North Carolina; A. Arthur Nash, Hope, Ark.; Brazee Robinson, Miami; L. Herbert Sanders, St. Petersburg, Fla., and William Wilkerson, Chicago.

Priority Ranks Second Only To The Air Corps

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
12-5-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN

(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World And NNPA)
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LEYTE BEACH, PHILIPPINES — By Courier — The Pacific during recent months. His shifting of levers and gears plus the handling of automatic weapon have made him one of the essentials. His priority ranks second only to the Air Corps. His vehicles are among the primary targets for enemy aircraft.

Interested notice was taken of him during the Biak campaign. Prior to that time his vehicles were used fundamentally as caravans of supply. At Biak the DUKWS ranked equally with amphtracks, and together they compose the first assault wave.

In the present operation here, the DUKW is as familiar as the jeep. And it is used not only as a conveyor for personnel, but ammunition, wounded, and artillery field pieces.

FRESH UNIT HERE.

Representative of the amphibious quartermasters here is a unit relatively fresh from the States. In the Leyte operation they helped form the first wave. Since the initial days of the Philippine campaign, their service "has been inestimable." An official close to MacArthur's headquarters chose to Churchillize his praise: "Never have so few been quite so important in their capacity."

12-5-44

When elements of three divisions hit Leyte beach, as is true with past operations, they spread in a thin layer parallel with the water line. This move prefaced the assault inland. Enemy forces were holding high grounds which served as a backdrop for the beach. Our forward elements were speedily flung from the main base of supply.

Artillery had ripped bridges along the beachhead. This condition left it impossible for heavy trucks to journey to the front. DUKWS and amphtracks could make it with relatives ease. Relative because there remained, at least for a time, enemy aircraft making stabs at our chipping, and also, Japanese mortars vainly attempting harassing on the beach. Loping DUKWS ran into both, even more so as the supply lines lengthened.

Speared away in a semi-dispersal area is located the mentioned units. Negro drivers, caked thickly by the powder-like dust of Leyte, and their seasoned seagoing trucks live like husband and wife. The units stand alerted around the clock. The call can come at 1 p. m., or a. m., and delay can mean delay in the advance since these men are commissioned to roll the ammo forward. 12-5-44

DESCRIBES CAMP

Our visit to the unit showed conclusively that life around the camp is rugged, repulsive, revigorating. Rugged because bombs fall often in and around the bivouav. Repulsive, because in the advance echelon the stench of decayed bodies is discernible. Revigorating, because of the dangerous living.

Technician Fifth Leon Deramus, of Montgomery, Alabama, almost had to return to the post on a prayer. Making one of the lonely and long trips to the lines, he encountered artillery fire. Whether it was enemy or friendly was little concern, Deramus bailed out. He hung to the side of the tossing vehicle. Shells fell close. Recalling the experience, Deramus said:

"I couldn't tell directly where the first was coming from. I could hear it whistling overhead. There was little to do but jump. And jump I did. I clung to the side of the truck until the firing stopped. "It would have been funny had we been hit, I would have been stranded, I guess."

T/5 Harold Breden, of Trenton, N. J., didn't fare as well. Shrapnel caught the duck and left the body of the vehicle resembling a sieve. Twenty-six holes were later found in the DUKW. Breden was blown out. However, he was able to bring her in.

TWO CASUALTIES 12-5-44

Theer have been but two casualties in the unit up to date. Both minor. The total is incredible in view of enemy harassing raids nightly. Considering the overall picture the general casualty rate is low. Night after night the planes come, and remain until daylight. Many of us are of the belief that the enemy has tried everything in the book, and succeeded at many in penetrating our aerial defenses.

In this one unit there are more than fifty vehicles, and two-thirds must be kept in running condition at all times. Except for the facing of enemy fire, this presents a difficult task. T/Sgt. Earl R. Williams, Michigan City, Ind., and T/4 Richard Page, of Anderson, Ind., explained:

Under them are thirteen mechanics who must pull wheels, repack bearings, and periodically pull the motors for repair. The salt water makes the job doubly hard. One of the mechanics has devised a new method of greasing the wheels which might "change the whole procedure and increase the speed of servicing." The plan is at present in use.

STAY ON SCHEDULE 12-5-44

Despite the prevalent hell and high water, missions are completed on schedule time. Completed by drivers like Tech. Fifths Loyal J. Spotser, William Mullins, and James C. Gray, all of Chicago. Tech Fourth Carl Jeffries, and Tech Fifth Fernandus Hall, of Pittsburgh. Tech Fifths James R. Tiller and Arthur L. Savage; and Sgt. Alfred L. Hall, of Philadelphia. Pvt. Henry A. Session of Morganfield, Kentucky.

From Texas and making the trip safely to the Philippines, and driving "hell for leather" are Pfc Griffis Hillis, Naples; Cpl. George T. Winn, Austin; Tech 5 Marcus Smith, Livingston; Tech 5 William V. Cade of Waxahachie.

From Cleveland: Pvt. John E. Cary, Pfc William A. Jones, and Tech 5 Douglas Tucker. Sgt. Louis Rozier, of Lockland; S/Sgt. Ernest Q. Shern, Dayton; and Tech James Marshall, of Cincinnati.

Tech 5 Henry R. Artis and Pvt. Eugene H. Johns, of Norfolk, Virginia. These men look as rugged as hot and tired, scared their "boats," and at the present are taking what their ruggedness requires. They're greasy and dirty, about the DUKWS move on.
12-5-44

Ollie Visits Officers, Men of Tank Battalion at Front

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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By OLLIE STEWART

WITH TANK BATTALION, THIRD ARMY—(By Mail)—I found the adjutant, First Lt. Leonard P. Taylor of Atlanta, trying to get his tent set up in the mud. He was talking to M/Sgt. Robert L. Jenkins of Brooklyn, who wiped raindrops from his face and selected a fairly level spot.

"I don't think we'll be here long," said Taylor, whom I had not seen since long ago in a Florida training camp. "This place is an ideal target and I'll bet Jerry has it zeroed already." (How right he was.

War Too Close

The only tent was the mess tent. We went there and stood before the field range while waiting for some cans of C-rations to heat.

The mess sergeant, S/Sgt. Charles W. Guy of Chicago, was still shaky. He had been shelled on a bridge that morning and his cook hit by shrapnel. The cook was now in the hospital but would recover.

Taylor and Warrant Officer Clarence Godbold of Yonkers began talking. Somebody said something about one company's having eighteen men missing, but whether they were dead or prisoners, I couldn't tell.

Anyway, I was being given some hot meat and beans by Cpl. Albert Thomas, Hempstead, L.I., and Pvt. Osborne Harris, Jr., Brooklyn.

Prediction Accurate

While I ate, Cpl. James Jackson, Indianapolis, and Pvt. James A. Bulluck, Louisville, Ky., came in soaking wet. We all cursed the weather, while First Sgt. Purvis Easley, Atlanta, made some coffee.

I never got the coffee, because I went away with Lt. Taylor to look at the officers' roster and the shells started to fall.

There are three colored captains in the battalion: Capts. Irvin McHenry, Leavenworth, Kans., and Ivan H. Harrison, Detroit, company commanders, and Capt. Garland N. Adamson, Chicago, battalion surgeon.

Other officers included:

First Lts. John D. Long, Detroit; Charles H. Barbour, Junction City, Kans.; Samuel Brown, Charleston, S.C.; Charles A. Gates, Kansas City, Mo.; Richard W. English, New Orleans; Leonard P. Taylor, Atlanta; Warren F. Taylor, Philadelphia; James T. Baker, Indianapolis, Ind.; Joseph O. Kahoe, Chicago;

Second Lts. Kenneth W. Coleman, D.C.; James C. Lightfoot, D.C.; William R. Griffin, St. Louis; Lawrence R. Bagwell, Brownwood, Tex.; Jay E. Johnson, NYC; Richard A. Williams, Jr., Philadelphia; William E. Blake, Jr., D.C.; Edward E. Cannon, Brooklyn; Harold B. Cary, Abilene, Kans.; Thomas E. Bruce, San Antonio, Tex.; Harold Kingsley, Chicago; Robert C. Hammond, Jr., Cleveland, Ohio; John P. Hariston, Columbus, Ohio; Leroy A. Bell, Minneapolis, Minn.; Charles A. Guess, Topeka, Kans.;

Warrant Officers Clarence Godbold, Yonkers, N.Y.; James E. Williams, Detroit; Mark Henderson, Mt. Vernon, N.Y., and William A. Bruce, Winston-Salem, N.C.

Among the enlisted men I talked to, who had not let bad weather nor Germans dampen their spirits, were S/Sgt. John N. Winbush, Cincinnati, platoon sergeant, who saw action the first day; Sgt. Henry L. Jackson, 5008 Foote Street, Washington; Cpl. Aaron Jordan, Los Angeles, who is tank gunner and accounted for a pillbox Armistice Day.

The following want their folks at home to know they're in there slugging:

First Sgt. Emmett W. Parker, Lawrenceburg, Ind.; Pvt. Henry Ferguson, Pittsburgh; Pvt. Cornelius Herring, Dayton, Ohio; Pfc. John Rowland, Waterbury, Conn.; Cpl. Leroy Slater, Cairo, Ill.; Cpl. Elmer Washington, Warrensburg, Mo.; Pfc. Afra Brazil, Shreveport, La.; S/Sgt. Bradley Byrd, 210 E. Upsal Street, Philadelphia;

Pvt. Harold Warren, Los Angeles; Cpl. Tommy Colding, Little Rock, Ark.; Sgt. Albert Carr, Columbus, Ohio; Cpl. Ernest Cameron, Sarasota, Fla.; Cpl. Lawrence Edwards, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Sgt. Charles Young, Youngstown, Ohio; S/Sgt. Frank Landers, Jr., Owensboro, Ky.; Pvt. Jake Martin, Cleveland, Miss.; Pvt. Samuel Barbour, Cleveland, Ohio; Pfc. Jack Tenver, Seattle, Wash.; Pfc. James Gill, Brooklyn.

Performs Hard Missions Across France

Liberated

Fires From Spot Just Over Hills From Germany

ALONG THE SIEGFRIED LINE—Nestled among majestic hill rising from beautiful valleys are the well-camouflaged guns of a Negro 155-mm howitzer battalion which has hurled nearly two million pounds of steel into German defenses since July 10 when it fired first round at Nazi installations on the Normandy Peninsula.

In its initial action, in support of the 82nd Airborne Division, the battalion suffered its first casualty in the person of Lieutenant Colonel Hubert D. Barnes, white, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who was wounded in the leg by a shell fragment.

FIGHT ACROSS FRANCE

These guns are now firing again, from a spot where "just over those hills, lies Germany." From their successful missions on the Brittany Peninsula, the Crozon Peninsula, and that formidable German defensive fight at La Haye du Puits, which changed hands four times before the Americans finally took it for keeps, these troops have fought their way across France, leaving behind them amazing stories about the deadly accuracy of their weapons and of individual heroism U. S. Doughboys like to tell how First Sergeant Joseph Hamilton, of Brooklyn, New York, erroneously reported as being in another outfit by starry-eyed war correspondents, cleaned up a nest of four German machine-guns, single-handedly, and won the Silver Stars.

The battalion was activated at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma on August 5, 1942, and was part of the 333rd Regiment. It was redesignated in March 1943, and Colonel Barnes, then a major, assumed command. After maneuvers in Louisiana in September 1943, the unit came overseas, arriving on March 7, 1944. On July 8, 1944, it sailed for France, landed on a beach on July 9, and moved into position on July 10, at 1855 hours (6:55 p. m.). Three hours and ten minutes later, it opened fire, beginning a record which runs like a movie thriller.

The first firing action saw 28 rounds fired, "Able" battery fired at 2205, Charlie at 2210, and Eaker at 2240. It was harassing fire and interdiction missions. This was in the area of La Haye du Puits, and the next day battlion fired 240 rounds, 15 harassing missions, and 8 counter-battery missions against German artillery positions. The count moved up the next day, as the battle grew warmer and 263 rounds, with 17 counter-battery missions, zoomed into enemy emplacements. From July 10 up to July 28 the battalion fired 3384 rounds, (each shell weighing 95 pounds) for a poundage of 321,480. An La Haye du Puits fell!!

On July 31 they were strafed on the road, while moving to a new position, at 10 p. m., and then bombed at 11:15. Battalion report: no damage. They went into position against La Haye Pesnil, joining the 8th Division as a support unit, firing with the 33rd (Rommel Count your men") group. In three days 1228 rounds were expended, and La Haye Pesnil fell. The battalion liaison officer did duty as an air observer for these three days.

On August 1 the unit went over to the Fourth Armored Division, doing what was most unusual for a field artillery battalion: acting as support for an armored unit with absolutely no protection for themselves, other than their .50 calibre machineguns. It was a unit which used the 155s, and it followed the Fourth Armored Forces across France, and won the highest commendation of Major General John Wood, chief of the division.

On a Transport Loaded with GI's

By DANIEL A. PAYNE

AN EASTERN PORT—We have been on board ship only several hours and are seemingly lining up for a convoy. Spread across the way, we can see a number of ships about our size, carrying troops and standing by as if waiting for the opportunity to get into formation.

Most of the men have expressed a kind of controlled joy. It seems as if they want to be completely happy and "let themselves go"—but they don't know just what to do at this early stage; so they are "holding their cards close to their faces," so to speak, and looking the situation over.

Officers seems to be in a rather jovial mood and already experiences of the past week are forming themselves into entertaining bits of humor. The one narrated by Lt. Edgar B. Felton, 727 Harvard Place, Washington, D.C., takes the cake. It actually happened.

Guard Leaves with G.I.

One of the men in his company had shown AWOL tendencies. Being busy with other details, Lieutenant Felton put a guard on the man with instructions to "keep this man in the area." Later, he noted that both the guard and the prisoner had "cut out."

Just before we got on ship, the guard and the prisoner reported to the company with the explanation that "we wanted to have a ball before we got on the ship. We are willing to take whatever punishment you give us."

There are surprisingly few men who actually wanted to miss the boat. About all they wanted was a few hours in town to "knock themselves out" and leave the country filled with last-minute exploits to chat about as the days go by.

Couldn't Stand It

A striking example of their attachment to one another and to their unit was brought out recently at the Base Hospital. A soldier had complained about a physical ailment which sent him to the hospital.

A number of friends accompanied him there, lingered around until he was processed, then left. Shortly, the sick man returned with the explanation: "I just couldn't stand to see all those fellows leaving me. I had a talk with the doctor and here I am."

Lieutenant Felton, company commander, is credited with having a cracker-jack outfit. Several months ago, back in garrison, he took a fifteen-day leave, went home and married Miss Catherine Middleton, graduate of Howard University's School of Medicine. She is now working in a Harlem Hospital, New York.

The boys, kidding him the other day, asked: "If we want to send you and your wife an invitation, how would we address it, Dr. and Lt. Felton or Lt. and Dr. Felton?" He has two brothers in the Army.

Doctor or Minister

Only other person officially assigned to this cabin is Capt. Bruce McDonald, of Sumpter, S.C., ship's surgeon. He is an old friend of mine and our arguments on medicine vs. religion or the Doctor vs. the Minister have caused quite a stir.

Once when I wrote an article in the AFRO concerning our discussions, fifty rather disturbed souls wrote letters encouraging me to "hold on to the Faith" and denouncing the captain in no uncertain terms.

He came right out of school into the service. His father and three brothers are physicians. While on ship, he is looking after the physical welfare of soldiers, merchant marines, and civilians. So far, there are only minor headaches— and the doctor has one of them.

Crew Confident

One thing that seems to drive fear from the minds of the troops is the calm expression on the faces of the crew members. They go about their jobs as an every-day occurrence, unconsciously spreading confidence to us.

The men are still leaning on the rail of the ship—out on the upper deck—getting a final, fading view at the land of their birth. Almost every man thinks he knows where he is going. Estimates are that the trip will take from 9 to 28 days.

Once in a while someone will yell "Get a good look; your won't see it again until 1949," or perhaps "Hey, Sarg, what about a pass tonight," or "There won't be any AWOL's tonight." There is laughter.

The crew of this ship is accommodating our quarters were without life-savers. We requested them

that is filled with long wooden tables. They eat at those tables and at night sleep in white canvas hammocks slung from hooks when their buddies kid them from

MP's on Job

Already MP's are on the job, with Lt. Alfred (Larry) Savoy, of Washington, D.C., in charge. They are sporting new bands and night sticks and give a shy grin when sleep in a compartment afar.

my fancy, but no soap. Our cabin accommodates two; a double-decker bunk, two lockers, lights conveniently placed, a desk, an electric fan, wash basin with cold water, and a few drawers for personal junk.

Some officers are bunked in rooms in larger numbers. There is a convertible dining room, recreation and reading room just out side the officers' quarters. The men

Furniture Stationary

We mapped out a program of boxing, talent night, stunts, shows, etc. There is a wealth of material on board to use for prizes. He also informed me of the large stores of Special Services equipment overseas that the men can use.

The first thing I noticed on ship is that the furniture is stationary. I tried to move the desk to suit

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Negro Soldiers In Belgium Treated Like Enemy Troops

The following letter, received this week by The Call from a group of Negro soldiers serving their country in Europe, shows how U. S. prejudice against Negroes has been taken abroad by members of the United States Army. The letter speaks for itself. It has not been edited but is printed below just as it arrived from overseas:

The Call, Missouri

Nov. 3, 1944
U. S. Army
Belgium

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.
12-1-44
Dear Editor:

As a service unit, we hit the beaches of France in July with and a part of one of the greatest offenses in military history. Struggling and working for the cause of only one thing, "democracy."

Time has gone by for a long while since then. But somewhere along the way that same old "thing" that most of us are familiar with has been brooding concealed. Now that the war is going somewhat in a smoother way, "it" has begun to unleash itself all over Europe wherever there are white and black U.S. soldiers.

Now for a small picture of it:

A group of five soldiers on passes and seeking some sort of amusement or clean entertainment are visiting a small town in Belgium. Now certain parts of this town are "off limits" which was found out later but only by the crudest way possible. There were no signs.

Bear in mind, dear reader, these are full-blooded American Negro soldiers, born in the States and drafted into the U.S. Army.

After having spent some time in town, they are approached by Military Police, also of the U.S. Army. After being treated somewhat as enemy soldiers and manhandled at the point of guns, to their great disgrace and embarrassment, they were walked six blocks with hands over head, in front of an auto at the point of guns.

En route to the station-house, the military police were encouraged by such remarks from other U.S. soldiers as "Shoot them, get rid of them, we never did like those dark guys."

What we would we like to know is, are we in the same great Army that we heard so much about and knew so little of as civilians? Or are we in the right Army at all?

We write this little episode to you, dear editor, because of your having such a responsibility of editing such a great and famous paper. We are sure that as far as your paper is concerned these five Negro soldiers will receive an honest and true judgement.

Sincerely,
UNSATISFIED SERVICE UNIT

"Soldier, Where's Your Foxhole?"

Journal and Guide

Wonderful Friendship Develops Between Private And Lt. Colonel

Norfolk Va.
12-9-44

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—"Soldier Parks, where's your foxhole?"

The big, husky major scowled down on a nervous private who was seated in front of his tent on a training field somewhere in the United States.

"Well, sir, er—er—I was just about to dig it now . . . sir," the soldier stammered.

"That's right soldier, you're about to dig it right now—along with six other foxholes," said the officer. "That'll teach you that digging a foxhole is the first thing you do when you set up in combat."

The soldier dug seven foxholes, as ordered. He was very tired that evening when the officer came back to inspect them. That was back in the summer months of 1942.

DIGS MORE FOXHOLES

Shortly afterwards the outfit moved again. When the camp had been set up, the same officer appeared again: "Soldier Parks, where's your foxhole?" And, again, Pfc. Parks spent the rest of the day digging foxholes.

The officer's name was John J. Phelan, who today is a lieutenant colonel, serving as regimental executive officer in the 92nd Division. The soldier was Troy J. Parks, of 1231 Carrollburg place, S. W., Washington, D. C., who is now a master sergeant at regimental headquarters, in the same office with Lt. Col. Phelan.

In the good old days, when the division was training for its present assignment, Major Phelan caught Pfc. Parks on a number of occasions in that same old situation: "Soldier Parks, where's your foxhole?"

And, that was the start of a wonderful friendship. Major Phelan and Pfc. Parks was later to become one of the smoothest-working teams in the U. S. Army.

Then came the day when an overseas infantry division needed an executive officer, and Lt. Col. Phelan drew the assignment. He came to the Mediterranean Theater and fought with his outfit through the toughest battles of the Italian campaign, including the Anzio Beachhead classic. For his heroism and leadership he had been awarded the Silver Star and the Bronze Star.

WOUNDED IN ACTION

Lt. Col. Phelan was wounded in action near Pisa last summer. Meanwhile, elements of the 92nd Division joined the Fifth Army in the bloody Italian campaign. When the executive officer of the 92nd outfit was killed in action early in September, the commanding officer put in a request that Lt. Col. Phelan, then in the hospital, be assigned to his unit when he recovered.

Before long, the headquarters section of the fighting 92nd elements buzzed with the news that Lt. Col. Phelan was to join them. When he finally showed up that bright September day, the first to greet him with a snappy salute was M/Sgt. Parks. The officer snapped sternly to attention.

"Soldier Parks," he scowled, "Where's your foxhole?"

Sgt. Parks smiled broadly and pointed to a freshly-dug hole in front of headquarters building.

Negro GI's Keep Gasoline Flowing

12-20-44
Atlanta Daily World

WITH U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE — In a vast gasoline, oil and lubricant dump stretching over five big fields here, as much as 200,000 gallons of fuel a day are pumped into 5-gallon Jerricans, loaded on tremendous "red-ball" truck convoys, and sent speeding forward to keep the wheels of our huge mobile Armies turning without a hitch.

Soldiers of this Negro unit have frequently worked 17 hours at a stretch to keep gasoline flowing out of the 100 nozzles of hose lines in their depot alone. The lines into this fuel dump are tributaries of the vast pipe line system which spider-webs across northern France from huge storage tanks constructed by United State Army engineers.

15,000 GALLONS DAILY

Approximately 15,000 gallons of gasoline daily are necessary to service a division that is standing still. When it moves, the gasoline demands sky-rocket. A division in high gear consumes more than 35,000 gallons of fuel every 24 hours.

Atlanta, Ga.

German General Staff experts calculated that our lunge on to the Continent would founder on the problem of supply. Civilian conservation through rationing in the United States and the gruelling achievement of depots like this one, have sent the enemy reeling across Europe.

A bulk break-down point, this immense decanning area is filled with thousands of Jerricans, the Army's familiar 5-gallon fuel jugs, some full, some being filled, others hauled away in trucks. At the entrance are depot headquarters and control points, directing endlessly incoming convoys from "red-ball"—highest military priority — highways. Vehicles range from standard American 2½-ton trucks to gargantuan trailer type machine.

WORK 'ROUND CLOCK

All day and night, Quartermaster Gasoline soldiers unload empties pile on full and send 65-vehicle convoys lumbering out of the depot packed with the life-blood of mobile warfare.

"The men here have cheerfully worked under the severest schedule. This job and the ability of our Armies to move, are so closely related that no soldier needs to be told about it. They DELIVER," commented First Lieutenant Harmison E. Hale, Depot Street, West Prestonburg, Kentucky, the unit's commanding officer.

The fields adjacent to the depot area are usually covered with 100,000 Jerricans, in five enormous lines, each one 20 cans deep. Gasoline hoses extend down the length of the columns between the giant formations of containers.

"Our work is made doubly tough by the mud," stated First Sergeant Theodore M. Crutchfield, 20 Union Street, Woburn, Massachusetts. "Nothing we've ever seen before can touch the ankle-deep goo that passes for mud.

OFFICERS HELP

When red-ball convoys pile into

the situation existing here, he declared.

The letter containing the order, was directed to be published and the commanding officers were directed to take appropriate measures to avoid misconduct of this nature, the sailor stated.

The definition of the violation of the order is that any one caught associating with Australian Aboriginals or traveling with one who is of the opposite sex shall be presumed to be cohabitating with him or her; the penalty of which is 100 pounds or not more than three years

Aussies Don't Like Negroes, Sailor Says

12-2-44
Amsterdam News

HOUSTON—According to an al-

legation made by a sailor whose name is withheld for obvious reasons, segregation dogging the heels of the Negro troops, has penetrated into Western Australia and the United States Navy has issued an order dated September 21, 1944 prohibiting personnel association with the natives. The sailor, who made known the facts, has been stationed in Western Australia and has first hand information concerning

the depot, even officers join in the loading job. First Lieutenant Clifford A. Smith, Jr., Dedham, Mass., and Second Lieutenant Fred A. Moore, Salt Lake City, Utah, spark their platoons to record performances.

Prepared for any emergency, a fire fighting company is attached to the gasoline dump. Its sole function is to prevent fire hazards, safeguarding the lives of the sol-

in prison.

The order was issued to all personnel, but only enforced where a Negro was intimated. Whites continue to associate with natives.

The Sunday Mirror, weekly newspaper that is published in Perth, is used, the sailor said, as a race-baiting organ urging Negroes to abstain from associating with white women. But if white women had to associate with the Negro personnel of the Navy, they should do it in darkness in order not to offend decent whites.

The sailor recalled an instance where a Negro was caught in a compromising position with a white Australian, and the Sunday Mirror gave a very literal description of the whole affair, and pointed to the shame of the situation.

Suggestive of the slave patrol was the statement made by the sailor concerning the Natives who are not allowed to go into town without a permit and unless they know some white person there.

Gen. Almond, 92nd Commander, Given Tribute As Fighting Man

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Journal and Guide War Correspondent

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WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy—When people talk about Major General Edward M. Almond, commander of the 92nd Infantry Division, they always get around to paying him one of the greatest tributes any military man can get. No matter what the trend of the conversation may be, they all say, "He's a soldier!"

And a soldier he is, this dashing officer who was one of the brightest heroes of World War I. He believes in strict discipline and he expects every man to do well the job assigned to him. General Almond seems determined to make his division one of the truly outstanding outfits of this or any other war.

He looks for courage and ability in his officers, and he shifts and transfers them around until he gets what he feels is the maximum efficiency from the available personnel.

SETS SHINING EXAMPLE

When it comes to courage, the general sets a shining example. It is not unusual for him to shift seats with his driver, and drive his own jeep up to the front lines. On more than one occasion General Almond, and all hands aboard, have had to abandon their vehicle and dive for the nearest hole to dodge Jerrys bullets in the icy Apennines.

He likes to get first hand information on the activities of his units. He insists of personally tailed for duty on the War Department General Staff in Washington.

He enrolled in the Air Corps Tactical School, Maxwell Field, Ala., in August, 1938, graduating in June, 1939. One year later he was graduated from the Senior Course of the Naval War College, Newport, R. I., and then returned to his assignment in Washington.

General Almond became assistant chief of staff for operations and training, G-3 of the VI Army Corps, Providence, R.I., in January, 1941 and was appointed chief of staff in January, 1942.

WITH THE 93RD

In March, 1942, he was assigned as Assistant Division Commander of the 93rd Infantry Division upon activation at Fort Huachuca.

In August, 1942, he was named to command the 92nd Infantry Division, being activated in October, 1942.

Under his guidance this division, with its all-Negro enlisted personnel and its mixed officers, has been thoroughly trained and efficiently equipped so that today it is considered one of the top combat outfits in action.

As the 92nd Division fights on to new glories with the famed Fifth Army in Italy, General Almond marches proudly at its head. They all say: "He's a soldier!"

Crack Negro Fire Fighters Stand Guard Over Biggest Captured Philippine City

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY FORCES AT LEYTE—Armed with 10,000 feet of hose, a crack team of Negro fire fighters stand guard over the tinder-box city of Tacloban.

Tacloban is the largest and most important city yet recaptured by American forces in the Philippines.

The Negro fire fighters are constantly on the alert because of swarms of Jap planes, from not too distant fields, ready to drop incendiaries on the crowded, flimsy thatched cottages of Tacloban.

Commanded by Lt. John Sites of Nampa, Idaho, the men are keenly alive to the importance of their role in the protection of thousands of civilians. They are ready to make any sacrifices to justify the confidence placed in them by the army.

While Sites has been designated as fire marshal for the city, S-Sgt. Spencer Sheffield, former Cardozo high school athlete of Washington, D. C., is the city's fire chief. He takes full charge when the outfit goes into action. The unit, officially known as an engineer fire fighting section, consists of twenty-eight men and one officer.

It is one of twenty such Negro outfits in the army, most of which are in Europe. The one in Tacloban is the only Negro outfit of its kind in this theatre. Its equipment includes more than 10,000 feet of hose and pumps capable of throwing water at the rate of 1000 gallons per minute.

To Teach Civilians

The section occupies quarters in the Tacloban municipal building. Within a few days the scope of the outfit's operations are to be extended to include the establishment and operation of fire stations at a nearby airfield and at Palo, a smaller city about ten miles away. In addition to fighting fires, the outfit, working under the Philippine civil administration unit will train civilian personnel, which will be a part of the permanent civil government now being reestablished here.

With men drawn from anti-aircraft and airport security outfits the fire fighters were activated in 1944 in Louisiana. Overseas seven months, the section has fought a total of twenty-five fires, most of them in Finschafen, New Guinea.

Battle Gas-Loaded Ship

Their two most memorable battles with flames occurred two days apart last August when after spending eight hours extinguishing an oil dump fire, they were summoned to combat a blazing Liberty Ship loaded with gasoline. From 7 p.m. Wednesday until 6 p.m. Saturday, they continuously battled the stubborn fire.

It was the longest and most difficult assignment they've had to date, but not the most dangerous. They spent four hours another time combatting flames in the middle of an ammunition dump. "War itself can't be any worse," Sheffield said; "it's a miracle that with all that ammunition about us we all came out alive."

For their work in New Guinea the unit received several commendations. Their most recent encounter occurred as their ship entered the harbor here on November 6, following a strafing and bombing attack by enemy aircraft. Several fires broke out in the holds of the ship and except for the presence on board of the expert fire fighters the damage might have been greater.

No Losses

Sites, who dotes on the efficiency of the men, pointed out that in spite of their hazardous work they have not lost one man. The outfit is small enough for a strong personal relationship to exist between the commanding officer and each of the men.

As a result he has come to know their individual abilities and has unbounded confidence in them. Much of their exceptionally high morale might be attributed to the fact that Sites has transferred the whole burden of responsibility to the shoulders of the men. They appreciate this expression of confidence and strive to live up to it.

Working directly under Sheffield, who as chief drives a red jeep fitted out with spotlights and other flashy accessories, are four sergeant team leaders. They are Eugene Barry, Beaumont Texas; James Coleman, Greenville, Ga.; Willie H. Williams, St. Louis, and Turner C. Stancil, Tarboro, N. C.

Each team is a complete fire fighting unit of itself and can operate independently of the rest of the organization. The competition among them is keen and they loll about the fire house almost praying for an alarm that will send them into action.

Others in the outfit are Cpls James E. Jenkin, Baltimore; Oscar L. Brannon, Ewiberi, Ala.; John W Bumbray, Orangeburg, S. C.; W. C. Dozier, Albany, Ga.; Hayward L. Ferguson, Fitzgerald, Ga.; Condola Frazier, Vicksburg, Miss.; Grover C. Moore, Jr., Newbern, N. C.; Jeff Monroe, Dunleith, Miss.; Fred Rogers, Beltin, S. C.; J. T. Seay, Lebanon, Tenn.; Charles G. Taylor, Oxford, N. C.; Pfc. Richard Allen, Leland, Miss.; Sam Du Pree, Jr., Greenville, N. C.; Arthur Reeves, Jr., Greenwood, Miss.; Joseph L. Shockency, Louisville, Ky.; Felix Stinney, Manning, S. C.; Privates Timothy Dixon, Clenchfield, Ga.; J. C. Doss, Houston, Miss.; Charlie J. Gathright, Memphis; Charlie D. Ivy, Houston, Miss.; John Miller, Detroit and William Smith of Savannah, Ga.

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Finds Samar Isle Big, Dangerous

Atlanta Daily World 12-20-44

Atlanta, Ga.

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(U. S. War Correspondent)
(For Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

SAMAR ISLAND, PHILIPPINES — By Courier—Captain Edwin James, Army public relations officer, had opposed the idea of me trying to find Major Frank Merritt alone. Samar island was big and dangerous. In addition to Jap forces there were mountains and rivers to cross. And nobody was quite sure where Merritt was. The general information was that "he's in the north somewhere."

"We can't let our correspondents just go roaming around, not definitely knowing just where they're roaming," he explained. "Merritt is a good story, but I'll be damn if you can write it laying somewhere dead."

A week later he telephoned saying that I could join a guerilla band operating on Samar. The guerillas were under the command of an American colonel. He was to direct operations in the push on on Taft, minor enemy stronghold on the east coast of Samar.

MEETS OFFICER

I met the officer the day of departure. He was short, slightly bald, and reminded one of Jimmy Gleason of the movies. The Texan was very likeable. Constantly and nervously puffing a cigarette, he said:

"Sure, I know Merritt. I should, he's my chief of staff. But I'll tell you before we start, you're going to have a hard time locating him."

He pulled down a map from the wall and pointed out a wide area in northern Samar.

"He's somewhere in that area. Just where, I don't know. I can give you a guide and a rifleman. It'll take you a week, probably two, or a month to find him. And I may as well tell you this, there are Japs over there, and the darndest mountains to cross you have even seen. I can't claim responsibility for you."

HAD CAN RATIONS

He advised me to go along on the operation with him, and there was the possibility that we might round into Merritt somewhere around Taft.

I had two boxes of Ten in One rations together with battle gear. There were five correspondents and one Army photographer in the party including Frank Hewlett of the United Press. In the days to come I was to learn that Frank was to be more than a brother when things got tough. We boarded a truck and headed for the dock. It was a beautiful morning, bright and sunny. The green hills glistened under the sunlight, the sky was cloudless.

Our ship was a small rocket ship. Called 'Rick's Raiders' and having two Jap planes to its credit, it was the flag ship of a flotilla of gun boats. We loaded our supplies and made ready for a voyage which was to skirt the southern tip of Samar and land us somewhere on on the east coast.

Among the first fellows I met aboard were Negro seaman, Stewards John Harvey Branson, of Salem, Virginia; Willie Smith of Richmond, Virginia; and Robert Lee Parker, of Memphis, Tennessee. They were veteran seamen and loved Rick's Raiders like a father. Lt. Comm. R. S. Richsbaugh, of Altoona, Pennsylvania, was in command and made us very welcome, as did other members of the crew.

Life aboard the craft was pleasderful food, and coffee anytime, -uon enough to addition in uon there was a giant phonograph and plenty of relatively new records. We played them hour after hour. There was one record the boys liked best. Jimmy Lunceford's 'I'm Going to Move on the Outskirts of Town.' Listening to the music, it didn't seem that we were slowly moving into an adventure of a lifetime.

Seven bunks were put up on the gun deck for our sleeping. Nice clean white sheets, pillows, air mattresses and the cool night air. Around midnight it started to rain and continued until dawn. Several of the correspondents spent the early hours below deck near the coffee pot. It was pitch dark outside and quiet as we eased out of view of Leyte and steamed south.

SEE CONVOY

At dawn we anchored and in the still gray morning we saw a convoy of small skiffs headed in our direction. The ship was alerted. The armade proved to be native borotas. Borotas are small boats resembling much those used in the early days by American Indians, only these had side riggers. Filipinos had come out to meet the ship. Sailors started throwing cigarettes overside and our friends reacted as though cigarettes were manna from heaven.

We unloaded all gear onto borotas and started shoreward, 200 yards away. Although a little crowded the ride was delightful. The small boats skimmed through the water and the moist air was invigorating. We were able to get within fifty yards of shore when the convoy struck the coral reef. I felt quite embarrassed as one of the native men slung me over his shoulder and carted me off as though he were packing a sack of flour.

The whole village turned out in one big welcoming party. Five Americans including Staff Sgt. William Richardson, of Pittsburgh, Pa., had warned us that the native population would move in "and just stare at you—for hours." He advised that we should pick out one man or one woman and stare him or her down until they were shamed into leaving. Then immediately proceed on to another. We later found that we were so outnumbered that the Filipinos easily won the 'battle of stares.' And they gloated over the victory by following us everywhere we went — staring every second.

FEEL ALONE

We put the gear in one of the houses which proved to be a one room job with bamboo floor, and little else. Our hostess, Mrs. Grezoria A. Fabula was just wonderful. She fluttered around the room making things comfortable for the "good American soldiers." Many of the sailors had come ashore, one borrowed a guitar and was entertaining part of the mob with "You Are My Sunshine."

Our photographer to whom I'll give the name Dave (official name withheld) said:

"Isn't this wonderful. What pictures I'll get."

Maybe Dave didn't know that this would be one of his last evenings on earth. He was a slight built New Yorker who had done some work for me in Brisbane. And his constant conversation aboard ship was that he had a can of bacon in his bag and we could have bacon and eggs for breakfast.

At dusk Lt. Comm. Ricksbaugh and his people pulled out, talking two correspondents back with them. We felt alone because that was the last ship we would see for a long while. The American flag flew proudly. We stood ashore with the Filipinos and waved good-bye. Rick tooted his whistle. The sun was fast sinking as the raider gradually disappeared. We turned to go back with just a little choking feeling in the throat.

Negro And White Marines Unite To Subdue Japs

Daily World—Atlanta Ga. 10-13-44

Supply Units Rapidly Turned Into Combat

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Atlanta Daily World And NNPA)
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PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR—By Courier—On July 10, 1944 organized resistance ceased on Saipan and the American flag fluttered over the former enemy bastion. American troops had won the decision of a great battlefield. Another step had been taken toward the coast of China and the prize of Japan proper.

News stories poured into Pacific Fleet headquarters of the intensity of the struggle and sacrifice. One concerned the combat mission of several units of colored marines. Depot units (quartermasters), they took up the cudgel during moments when potential enemy breakthroughs seemed inevitable. They fought, killed and were killed. Although casualties were incredibly light, those who did fall fell as fighting troops of America's prized branch of the service.

HANDLED MATERIAL

10-13-44

These Negro troops were a part of the D-Day assault force and were commissioned to handle material. However, due to capable enemy counterattacks, it became the essential mission of all troops present to help push back the onrushing Japanese infantry. Day after day machine guns and mortars layed fire into the crevasses and caves of the rotten coral. It was primitive warfare. Men fought thru the caves, over maggoty dead, each foot of ground heatedly contested.

Some of those marines have returned to Pearl Harbor. They tell the story of their participation in the campaign. And it is not so much the tale of superhuman endurance and ability as of men sent to do one job and who stayed on to do several—and did them very well.

"We went in on the eighth wave, said solidly-built Pfc. Jeff Smith, of New Orleans "My platoon moved to shore on alligators (amphibious tractors). They had told us to keep ammo cleared off the beachhead. When we ran onto the beach, mortars were exploding. I guess every man knew he was in for it."

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FIGHT TOGETHER

Jeff said the various units dispersed as the barrage grew heavier. Black and white men advanced cautiously together. There was not much time to man supplies as the stubborn and fanatical enemy threatened each movement.

"We opened fire along with the others," the peacetime carpenter explained. "An explosion sounded near our position. Two marines were killed outright. All five of us were hit by shrapnel. I felt as if my hip was paralyzed. I couldn't get along any further."

He must have passed out, Jeff added. When he came around he saw a white marine bending over him and slapping a bandage on his hip. The wound was bleeding profusely and aching.

10-13-44

"Just stick here mate," the medic advised. "They'll come for you." Jeff said he smiled and added, 'this is a hell of a war. One hell of a war." The aid man moved on, crawling along the ground as explosions continued. It was growing dark, artillery thundered. The beach quivered as the battle raged on the strange island where the plants, the animals and the way of life are all foreign to the American soldier.

CHALLENGE STATEMENT

This correspondent did not hear related the incident where several of our troops did not know the simple function of handling a grenade. In fact, the statement was questioned as to its accuracy. The incident was contained in a story written for a weekly news magazine.

10-13-44

"That statement is perfectly ridiculous,' said First Sgt. Aussie McBeth, of Jackson, Mississippi. "We are taught in basic about grenades. And anyway, when a man knows it's him or the other guy, he's going to use

when they learn that we can handle our weapons and what we expected to do with them—eat 'em." If it can be termed charming, for that?"

some people seem to say, 'well, have what do you know? Negro marines can shoot. What do you know about

GETS PURPLE HEART

Jeff Smith said he was taken when the information comes back abroad ship. Later evacuated to be able to be able to shoot. And when it can be trained. It is more alarming, for us to be any soldier he's prised when we ex- been trained. And another thing, and, what we ammunition

ed the Purple Heart, one of the first colored marines in this area to be wounded in action. His mates went on to occupy positions in the forward wall.

Today, it is said, that snipers still dwell in the caves of Marpi Point, the north tip of the island. Infantry continues to completely stamp out the remnants of the defeated garrison. And in the town of Garapan where once lived 10,000 "there is nothing much left but the white corners of the blown-to-bit buildings. Starways stand without buildings, leading a short distance into the air. The Catholic church is nicked with bullets and the front steeple was blown-to-bit buildings. Stairways altar carvings and mosaics are scratched and chipped."

Their mission completed, most of the marines have withdrawn. It has not been revealed to this correspondent whether or not elements were used in the Palau operations but we learned that Negro troops were there and are thought to be still there."

DO SALVAGE WORK

Since Pearl Harbor is one of America's largest supply depots in the Pacific, serving the domain ruled by Admiral Chester Nimitz, much of the work here has to do with supplies. In a tour of the immediate area, we found Negro troops (including marines) doing this type work. Ordnance units servicing heavy field pieces and light artillery. The salvage and repair of shoes and clothing, building crates for ammunition, handling a multitude of machinery. Here the earth is covered with aircraft, lumber, gasoline—days and nights are filled with the multiple singing of engines of heavy machinery, as was expertly put by one observer.

Somewhere in the Central Pacific there is another group of colored marines—defense units. At one time they were bivouacked in the Ellice Islands, approximately 1000 miles east of the Solomons group. An antiaircraft force, they stood radar watches, and manned automatic weapons. The enemy did not penetrate our areas of security, thus these troops saw very little, if any action.

Point System to Keep Negro GI's Overseas

Non-Combat Units Will Be Kept In Service

For Longer Period

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — Negro soldiers serving in non-combat outfits and who have been overseas just as long as, or longer than, combat soldiers will not enjoy the same opportunities for being demobilized, the war department revealed on Thursday.

Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson told his news conference that discharges will be affected upon the basis of a system of points earned through service in combat. The system is one, he said, which was developed "in accordance with the feelings of the troops themselves. The man in the combat service has an advantage," he added.

Combatants Out First

Patterson had been asked how this system will affect men who, without choice, have been required to serve in the service units, who will have spent an equal length of time overseas, and who as a matter of choice would prefer being in a combat organization.

"On the adjusted service rating card credit is given for combat service," he stated. "I think it is indicated by the campaign ribbons. That is a reflection on combat service that is clearly credited on the service cards. The man who wins that credit by service in a combat unit gets credit other soldiers do not get."

The war department announced its demobilization plan early in September. First priority in this readjustment program will be the transfer of elements from theaters no longer active to the Pacific war zone, or from the United States to the Pacific war zone.

The plan developed after months of study takes into account all possible variable factors. The plan for the return of non-essential soldiers to civilian life will start with the assembly in the United States of men declared surplus to the needs of each overseas theater and to the major commands in the United States.

New Ruling After Nazis Quit

As part of the plan adopted, an "adjusted service rating card, will be issued to all enlisted personnel after the defeat of Germany. On this card will be scored the following four factors that will determine priority of separation:

1. Service credit—based upon the total number of months of army service since Sept. 16, 1940.

2. Overseas credit—based upon the number of months served overseas.

3. Combat credit—based upon the first and each additional award to the individual of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Soldier's medal, Bronze Star medal, Air medal, Purple Heart, and Bronze Service stars (battle participation stars).

4. Parenthood credit—which gives credit for each dependent child under 18 years up to a limit of three children.

Race Seabee Unit Doing Heroic Work On Battle-Torn Peleliu

By T/Sgt. DONALD A. HALLMAN, Sr., Marine Corps Combat Correspondent

PELELIU, PALAU ISLANDS—(Delayed)—Two hundred Negro Seabees, grimy and weary from two days of unloading ships under enemy fire, were lined up on the beach here.

"I want volunteers for stretcher bearing on the ridge tonight," an officer was telling them. And 200 Negro Seabees sepped out as one. The incident is typical of the record chalked up by the Seabee battalion, that landed immediately behind assault waves of Marines here and has been working night and day since. They unload ships, wrestle ammunition and heavy supplies to the beach dumps, carry ammunition to the front lines, and bring back wounded. On occasion they have filled in as frontline troops, and for more than a week they have been going forward to drag in wounded Marines.

FIRST ACTION

These Seabees had seen no action until Peleliu. Then they joined the assault. They had more than 100 casualties in the first week, many received during the landing when Japanese artillery and mortar fire was ripping the coral reef, others from mortar fire on the beaches and among the supply dumps, and still more from enemy fire at the front.

RESCUE WOUNDED

When a shell burst on the beach, injuring 15 men, the Negro Seabees reached the scene first. They pulled out the wounded.

When a mortar shell set fire to a large ammunition dump, 50 Seabees started moving the shells. They had to be called off when the exploding ammunition pinned down everyone on the entire beach.

When a stretcher detail was needed to go down into a draw in front of a heavily fortified ridge to bring out wounded at midnight, 16 Seabees volunteered.

The Negroes are enormously proud of the record their unit has made. Individual feats are generously recounted by others. The battalion is high in morale and excellent in achievement.

Seaman 1/c Edward Scott, Freemont, Ohio, was on the lines four times as a stetcher bearer. The second night he was in a foxhole with a Marine officer when four Japanese started moving in. When the Marine fired, one Japanese fell and played dead for a time. Then he attempted to flank the position while the other three came on. Seaman Scott got two of them, the Marine officer accounted for the others.

Seaman 1/c Lemon Jackson, Florence, Ala., was pinned down in his foxhole near the front lines. He had ammunition to get forward and he was irked. He deliberately showed himself to draw Japenese fire (this is the story of others—not Jackson).

Then "I just shot up in a tree and there he was," said the Seabee.

Seaman 1/c Henry Hall, St. Louis, Mo., thanks an unidentified Marine for saving his life. A Japanese was moving in on Hall, and the Seabee's rifle jammed. A passing Marine knocked off the Japanese, but shrugged away the Negro's thanks with "That's okay, you guys have been saving us with the ammo you're carrying."

Seaman 1/c James Key Nichols, Chicago, has a souvenir of one trip across the exposed airport. He was carrying one end of a stretcher when a Japanese machine gun killed the Seabee on the front end Nichols' canteen was pierced by two bullets.

"Left me without water," he moaned at the dressing station where he delivered the wounded Marine by himself two hours later.

Seaman 1/c George E. Jenkins, Chicago, was carrying ammunition across the airport when he saw a Marine fall, hit by a sniper. Seaman Jenkins brought in the wounded man. Moving an inert victim several hundred yards by yourself is a difficult task.

Seaman 1/c Leo McDowell, Chicago (a neighbor of Jenkins), was another Seabee who had his companion shot while carrying a stretcher. McDowell simply placed his buddy on a stretcher with the wounded Marine and dragged it to the first aid station—an ordeal lasting more than an hour.

Machinist Mate 3/c Emory L. Jennings, Altus, Okla., heard there was a wounded man on the edge of the airport. Despite continuous sniper fire, he went and got him.

Recruits Eager To See Isles

By CHAS. H. LOEB
Representing The Informer and Combined Negro Press
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SAN FRANCISCO. — By plane and train, daily, over-burdened carriers, air and rail, bus and boat, disgorge into 'Frisco eager young recruits, who like me, look forward to the adventure of the islands; and battle-scarred veterans who know to well that most of the adventure is buried out there beneath the grim reality of a worthy foe and the ever-present menace of tropical fever.

There was not much time between the multiple details of embarkation to permit extensive research, but here are some of the typical fighting men one meets on the streets of San Francisco.

A veteran who has participated in five battles in and around the islands of New Guinea, Guam, Saipan and the Gilberts, is Officer's Cook 2/c Ernest James Sampson of Alexandria, La. I ran into Major William McKinley Thomas of the Medical Corps at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., who I believe was primarily interested in post-war possibilities for practice in San Francisco which boasts only two Negro physicians for its rapidly swelling Negro population.

Natives here declare that in the years, prior to our entry into the war, San Francisco prope had less than 3,000 Negroes. Now estimates range in the neighborhood of 35,000. Major Thomas is a former chairman of the executive committee of the American Medical Association. His home is in Bryan, Texas.

For the furloughing GI, San Francsico is not such a bad place. The city is replete with amusement sports, theatres and bors, which next to the "creep house" are first on the lists of the men who return from the islands of the Pacific. If he's busted, GI Joe needn't feel too downcast for the color line has not as yet made too deep a dent in the USO program in the far west.

In charge of the USO at 1430 Buchanan street, located in the center of San Francisco's Negro migrants, is Director Ray L. Vaughn former Colgate university track star football star, and a capable staff which includes Miss Eleanor Coleman, assistant director, who is from Alexandria, La., and Miss Bernice Inman of San Antonio, Texas, staff assistant.

Vaughn and his staff carry on a well-organized, almost continuous program of activities for the incoming GI's. Many white servicemen join in, but they are in the minority. The center offers a gymnasium, shower, photograph darkroom, information service, public telephones, letter writing, free stationary cards, ping pong, pool, billiards, library, radio, movies, latest newspapers. voice recordings and a record library containing everything from barelhouse to the classics.

47m-1944

Afro-American Balt., Md.

Football Training Aids GI in Wiping Out Nazis

5-27-44

By OLLIE STEWART

BALTIMORE—Are you guessing about D-Day? Do you have invasion jitters? Well, when you read this story told me by a white officer, you will, I hope, be even more jittery—but you will probably have a better appreciation of what thousands of American boys must face when D-Day comes.

"My outfit," the officer related, "had just been put ashore in Sicily. We quickly dug in on the beach so as to have some measure of protection from the dive bombers and strafing planes that kept getting in our hair.

And then, when we had a chance to stop watching for death from the air, the Jerries and Eyeties from their entrenched positions in the hills started opening up with mortar fire and machine guns.

"They had our range down to within a few feet. If we lay flat we were safe, but every time a man lifted his head, the stream of bullets took his head off.

"A few boys tried sneaking off to one side but the enemy in the hills soon drove them back to cover with a blistering hail of .50 calibre stuff.

Scared to Move

"So we kept our noses in the dirt for a couple of hours, scared to stay where we were and scared to leave. One machine gun nest, in particular, gave us hell. It was a concrete affair, with the machine gun turret about three feet from the ground, and was covered with brush and dried twigs.

5-27-44

"We knew it was there, but it was too far for a man to hit with a hand grenade, and trying to pick the gunner off with a rifle was no good. We couldn't see him.

"But he could see us, and he kept us pinned down so long that one of my boys squirmed over to me and whispered:

"'Lieutenant, I'll bet you $20 I can get out of here and get close enough to that bastard to toss a grenade in his lap.'

"'Don't be silly,' I told the soldier, 'and keep your goddam head down before you lose it!'

Was Football Player

"He kept quiet a few minutes. Then he was by my side again.

"'Lieutenant,' he begged, 'we can't stay here all day. It's just about a thousand yards—well, maybe a quarter-mile to that little hill. I used to play football and I can run broken-field like nobody you ever saw. I'll get there.'

"I shook my head, but I was thinking. We couldn't stay here all day like he said.

"'I'll make it across that ol' field like I used to do in a game back home,' the boy kept insisting in my ear. 'And when I blow that Nazi to hell, you'll owe me $20. I need twenty bucks to buy my wife a present.'

"Maybe I shouldn't have let him do it, but by this time the bullets were kicking dirt in our faces and all around us. Something had to be done. And I couldn't order all those men to certain death by telling them to attack that gun.

Broken Field Run

"So I let that boy try a broken-field run across that flat stretch of sand.

"He was on his belly one minute, and the next he was in a half crouch, like a ball carrier, streaking straight at the hidden machine gun. He swayed and swerved and side-stepped. And the gun began a frenzied chatter, as the muzzle tried to follow his erratic course.

"'Lord God Almighty,' I prayed, 'please let him make it!'

"I was never so anxious to hand over $20 in my life.

"He was still running, the most beautiful running you ever saw, and the most important touchdown anybody ever tired to make. Suddenly he spun half around and one foot was lifted from the ground, as a heavy slug stopped him for a heartbeat right dead in his tracks. But he crouched lower and went forward at a slow trot.

5-27-44

Threw 3 Grenades

"Sweat was pouring off me like a shower, and a couple of men near me swore deliberately and hoarsely.

"Our soldier was near the gun now and still on his feet, but he was staggering drunkenly. I saw him draw back his arm and pitch—once, twice, three times—and then he just stopped and fell flat on his face. He was probably dead on his feet when he threw the grenades, but his aim was perfect.

"Rocks, dirt and concrete flew in every direction, and the crazy chattering of the gun was unbelievably stopped. I yelled to my men to follow me and we raced across that sand in almost nothing flat.

Both Gunners a Mess

"Our boy was torn almost in half by the bullets he had stopped, but the two gunners were nothing but a mess of arms and legs and guts scattered all over the place.

"That's all the story, except that when that boy's wife received his posthumous medal, she also received a nice sum of money which the boy was supposed to have saved. Actually, the money came from the men whose lives he had saved.

"He had bet me twenty he would make it. I put fifty in a hat and passed it around to show how I felt. And every man in the group added something so that his wife would get her present. She got it, too."

Foreign Service

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn.

NAZI ATTACK IN ITALY SMASHED NEGRO LINES

12-29-44

Fifth Army Troops Give Up Two Towns—Planes Hurled Into Fierce Battle

By The United Press

ROME, Dec. 28.—The German surprise offensive in the Ligurian coastal sector of Italy against Fifth Army troops has driven more than three miles through American lines, communiques disclosed Thursday, and fighting on the "forgotten front" reached a greater intensity than had been seen in this theater since the assault on the Gothic Line.

Driving southward through the Serchio River Valley, 13 miles inland from the west coast, in the direction of Lucca, the Germans drove American negro troops from the villages of Barga and Gallicano. The Nazi offensive was supported by concentrated artillery barrages.

12-29-44

Planes Rip Into Foe

Taking fullest advantage of good weather, the Allied Tactical Air Force for the third successive day made an all-out assault on German battle area strongpoints, gun positions and troop concentrations in close support of Fifth Army ground forces. American and British fighter-bombers attacked Barga, Gallicano and Castelnuova, causing fires in occupied buildings and cratering roads. Medium bombers attacked heavily enemy troop concentrations near Aulla, 10 miles northeast of Spezia, and in the immediate rear of the German offensive.

The German attack, mounted along a six-mile front on both sides of the Serchio and in the adjoining mountain terrain, opened Wednesday and its suddenness enabled the Germans to break through the forward American lines. The Germans, in a radio report of the drive, said Italian Fascist forces also were participating in the attacks.

Area Had Been Quiet

The German radio claimed that most of the American prisoners taken in the attack were negroes, and Thursday Allied Headquarters confirmed that the defending troops were of the 92nd Negro Division.

12-29-44

The Ligurian coastal sector, where negro and Brazilian troops have quietly moved northward for the past two months, has been subordinated to the Bologna and Adriatic sectors in headquarters news releases.

Fighting Fierce Here on Armistice Day

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH 92nd DIVISION—Today was Armistice Day back in the States where solemn rites were being held in commemoration of those who gave their lives twenty-six years ago for peace and democracy.

Battling in bloody, muddy Italian mountains, elements of the 92nd Division were punching forward along the Western sector front, having cleared half a dozen small towns in the past three days.

But the battle was much the same as in World War I—as rugged and tough as the Apennines over which it is being contested.

2 Divisions Wiped Out

Though the success of the fighting cannot easily be measured in miles gained, the stubborn fighting has had its advantages for the Fifth Army as the division has virtually wiped out two divisions which had been battling against them.

Torrid fighting last week not only ripped enemy units but was helping rid the division's prisoner of war cage as prisoners trampled

Sniper's Mistake... Fired Too Many Shots

Miami Soldier Riddles Japanese Gunner As 24th Stalks Enemy

5-27-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN, NNPA War Correspondent

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS ON BOUGAINVILLE—(By Courier-Webster says, "One who shoots at detached men of an enemy's forces especially when not in action." The famed lexicographer failed to add his presence he camouflages himself to blend with the terrain—and waits patiently with murder in his heart. In the case of the Japanese snipers, their marksmanship is considered below par by many, but flying steel peppering the sand, or chipping brush, around the objective adds little to his comfort or well being.

When the 24th Infantry began the push that flung a beruddled enemy beyond the Moy river, enemy snipers were found in the abandoned area.

FOLLOWED JUNGLE TRAIL

Two ammunition carriers started from our command post to an observation post 75 yards away. In order to get a better view of action down the beach, your correspondent joined them. We followed the jungle trail rather than the beach-line, thinking our fatigues blended with the green foliage. Fifteen yards were covered before the enemy opened fire. Dropping to the earth, we slithered toward a fallen coconut tree. The sniper fired twice more, kicking up dirt 10 yards away. The tree offered excellent protection, but staying pinned down was out of the question —ammunition was needed forward.

"Hey, what's wrong with you guys?" Sgt. Howard Hall, of Trenton, N. J., ambled up swinging a submachine gun. He had crossed the point, but the enemy refused to take a shot. Evidently the sniper was close enough to see that Hall carried automatic fire capable of chopping down a tree. We started forward again, leaving Hall, almost reaching our point when the rifle barked again.

FIVE FAST ROUNDS

Evidently, another sniper. He fired several rounds in the gun pit of Sgt. William Richardson (Miami, Fla.) and Cpl. Hazer Walton (Lumpkin, Ga.) who operate an anti-tank battery. The 37-mm. gun pointed toward the Mavavia river, was swung around toward the jungle. We waited—studying the trees with binoculars. The sniper fired five fast rounds which whacked against the emplacement. His first and last mistake. He, too, realized his error —shooting five times in succession.

his position when Hall started descending.

Sgt. Richardson fired twice. His first shot was too high. The second cut the tree in half—blowing the Japanese almost in two pieces.

"Got him dead to rights," his companion answered. The barrel of the gun was left of the tree. The gun was raised. What was left of the Japanese fell like a melon. The coconut tree floated to the ground. Sergeant Richardson started cleaning the gun.

Also Takes 5

AFRO-American

Italian Towns

Bz 24-44

Prisoners Tramp in 12-29-44 at Fifty Per Day

MANY DESERTERS

in at the rate of 50 per day, many of them deserters.

5 Towns Taken

The prisoner bag was reported at more than 250 as elements of the division captured in succession five small villages—Bassano, Terrinea, Levigliana, Fabriano, and Nasati—while other elements advanced as far as Azzano and were proving enemy positions.

Clear weather prevailed over the week-end but the battle was much the same—hills and more hills with the Germans controlling the best observation points making fierce fighting strictly an infantry show.

There was little mention of Armistice Day as the fighting men were too busy battling for it. They are battling with a determination to destroy the enemy, hopeful that peace, when it comes, also brings the democracy for which they fight.

Searchlight GI's Resent Transfer to Stevedoring

AFRO - American Balt. Md.
5-27-44

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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SOMEWHERE ON NEW CALEDONIA—(Via Air Mail)—They've got enough wind in their jaws to huff and puff and blow the island of Yokohama right out of the Pacific and they would probably do just that if they got the chance.

The unit was originally made up of searchlight and gun batteries. The men were thoroughly trained to put their powerful lights on enemy aircraft 30,000 feet in the sky, and they had above-the-average firing records on 50-calibre machine guns, .37 and .40mm. anti-aircraft guns and 105-mm. heavy guns.

Now, however, after having had not a single opportunity to show their mettle under fire, the battalion has been redesignated quartermaster service and put to work stevedoring on the docks.

Want Action, Not Safety

On suggestion of the unit commanding officer, this correspondent talked to small groups from the battalion.

I told them how lucky they are to be located where they can have Coca-Cola, beer and regular movies . . . about the rugged life of combat units in battle areas . . . . about ack-ack troops who sit for months atop hills and just wait and fight the mosquitoes and flies.

I told them I envied them and the men in the front lines do, too, then I told them what a treacherous enemy the Jap is. I tried to explain how every man's job is important in the big job of winning the war.

The boys nodded, asked a few questions, told me they appreciated my efforts to boost their morale.

Belittles "Lifting Boxes"

With but few exceptions, these men want a crack at the Japs. One soldier explained his desire for front-line action thusly:

"You see, when we get back home and the flyers will be talking about what they did, the infantrymen about what they did, and the marines about what they did . . . well, I will be wanting to talk about what I did and I don't want to be telling them I lifted boxes."

"You may get back and have to use half an arm to help you explain what you did if you get up front," I told him, but I lost the argument, and knew it when he said:

"I'm willing to make whatever sacrifice is necessary — even to die, to prove I am a man."

49 Win Chance at Combat

Some members of the original unit are getting a chance to see action, however. These men, some selected because of special abilities and others because of luck in a lottery conducted when volunteers were sought and the whole unit stepped forward, number forty-nine.

A Philadelphian, who soldiered with three hometowners in the old outfit said T/4 Enoch Saunders and T/5 John E. Gardner and Elgin Woodward are carrying the banner for the City of Brotherly Love.

Among "Lucky 49"

Others of the "Lucky 49", whose hometowns were not available, are:

Sgts. Henry Perry, Harvey Moses, Richard Parker, Deir Richards, Clarence Napper, Nathaniel Cutts, Oscar Green, Robert Loury, Billie W. Miller, and S/Sgt. John Pleasant.

Cpls.-Walter A. Ratliff, Warren G. Christian, Luther R. Williams, Anthony Johnson, Jesse C. Thompson and Joe Baldwin. T/3rd John W. Henson; T/4ths Leon Bledsoe, Thomas A. Wilson, Julius W. Bacote, and Thomas E. South; T/5ths James D. Pounds, Earl I. Jackson, Foster Westbrook, Samuel Taylor, Willie J. O'Connor, Henry O. Johnson and George House.

Pfcs. Francis L. Sewell, Jerry M. Goodwin, Venus A. Jarrell, Thomas Mason, Willie Pritchett, Haven Jones and George Smith. Pvts. Buster Scales, Henry Taylor, John C. Hood, Howard Haywood, Freddie Pierce, Roy E. Thierry, Alfred C. Williams, Alphonse Watts, Herman Baskett, Theodore Green and Eddie R. Gary.

Reward Heroism Of 'Buffaloes' Over In Italy

Atlanta World Ga.
12-14-44

Memphian Tries To Save Wounded Man Under Fire

Atlanta, Ga.

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY — Bronze Star Medals now decorate the breasts of five more heroic members of the 92nd "Buffalo" Infantry Division, now in action with Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army in Italy, the War Department reported today.

The honored Doughboys are Staff Sergeant Mandy James of Newport News, Virginia; Sergeant Clarence M. Palmer, of Durham, North Carolina; Corporal Floyd Jones of New York City; Corporal Richard A. Warr of Memphis, Tennessee and Private Matthew Rabland of Buffalo, New York.

LED HIS MEN

Sergeant James, "when his company commander was wounded, gathered a group of men and led them forward under intense machinegun fire to rescue the officer. With the aid of another enlisted man, he succeeded in dragging the officer from under the line of machinegun fire and to a place of cover and shortly thereafter to a place of relative safety. His heroic action, under heavy machinegun fire, at grave personal risk, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service."

When a reconnaissance party of which he was a member was forced by intense enemy shelling to abandon their vehicle and seek shelter, Sergeant Palmer made a brief reconnaissance, improved the shelter and assumed the responsibility of the other enlisted men with him.

For three hours, Sergeant Palmer acted as runner and messenger for his commander, who proceeded forward on foot to the frontline, executed orders and transmitted messages over difficult terrain although constantly exposed to danger. His cool initiative and personal devotion to duty were an inspiration to the officers and men of his unit.

RECOVERS VEHICLE

While he was with a reconnaissance party, Corporal Jones was forced to abandon his vehicle because of intense enemy shelling. He accompanied his commander to a sheltered spot nearby where he remained during the heavy shelling, awaiting an order to remove his vehicle.

Ordered to evacuate the vehicle, Jones found the tires had been destroyed. He secured spares and changed the tires although it was hazardous to remain in the area, then recovered the vehicle.

His effective execution of orders and coolness under shellfire, and his high sense of duty were an inpiration to officers and men who were present.

Corporal Warr, then a private first class, voluntarily moved forward, accompanied by another soldier, in an attempt to rescue a wounded man. Although subjected to heavy enemy artillery fire, Warr disregarded personal danger and kept on until he reached the man.

BROUGHT BACK BODY

Finding the wounded soldier dead, Warr and his comrade brought the body back to a position of cover where evacuation for a decent burial was aranged.

"His heroic action, at grave personal risk, is indicative of the finest traditions of the military service," read the citation with the award.

12-14-44

Private Ragland voluntarily moved forward, in the face of heavy enemy fire, accompanied by another soldier, in an attempt to rescue a wounded man. Disregarding personal danger the two men crawled through a tunnel and across 30 yards of completely exposed terrain.

Finding the wounded man had died, Ragland and his comrade brought the body back to a position of cover where evacuation for a deecnt burial was arranged. His citation asid, "His heroic action at grave personal risk, is indicative of the finest traditions of the military service."

-1944

700 Tan Yank Students in S.P. "Foxhole University"

AFRO-AMERICAN

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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SOMEWHERE ON NEW CALEDONIA—(Via Air Mail)—The South Pacific "Foxhole University," currently in session, has almost 100 Tan Yank students enrolled in courses ranging from the three R's to engineering mechanics.

The Foxhole University is one of the many beneficial facilities offered Uncle Sam's fighting men by the Special Services Division and is more accurately called the Army Institute.

It offers instruction by correspondence to all enlisted personnel and includes, beside elementary education, over 700 high school and college courses designed to make GI Joe "a better soldier," help him get ready for promotion," "prepare for officer training," "qualify for a better job" or "continue his education."

Entrance Requirements

Only prerequisites for enrollment are at least four months' active service and willingness to pay $2 for each Army Institute course and or half the cost of any university or college extension course costing up to $40. In the latter case, the government pays half the text and tuition fee.

At Noumea recently a study center was opened where enrollees in the Foxhole University may consult with tutors holding master and doctorate degrees. Forty per cent of those in attendance were Tan Yanks who have since been regular callers at the center.

Most Popular Course

Most popular course among colored enrollees is electric welding, with algebra, machine shop practise and carpentry following closely.

Other courses the boys are studying include water works and sewerage plant operation, Diesel engines, aviation engines, airplane maintenance, plumbing, gas welding, elementary electricity, automobile repairing, refrigeration, mechanical drawing, trigonometry and English.

Highest number of enrollees are members of an engineer construction regiment. Others are members of a port battalion, a quartermaster service battalion and an MP company. They include: Sgt. Bradley Brittain, Arlington, Va., studying arithmetic; T/5 John D. Bullock, Frederick Hall, Md., bookkeeping an daccountancy; T/4 Israel Butler of Smock, Pa., grammar.

T/5 George Sweatt, NYC, arithmetic; T5 Henry White, Cleveland, shorthand: T5 Walter Harper, Atlanta, grammar; Cpl. Hearthel Johnson, Mississippi, bookkeeping; Lieut. E. L. Derry, Ardmore, Pa. traffic movement;

Soldiers L. D. Haynes, Cornelius Hill, Fancy Lee, Bruce Saunders and Dannis Thomas, radio telegraphy bookkeeping, carpentry and electric welding.

Members of an MP outfit, recently arrived overseas after doing a long tour of duty in and near Philadelphia, and now studying courses ranging from shorthand to engineering mechanics, the latter a basic course for structural engineering are:

Lester Sanders, Whitney Cameron, Aliza Bowser, Wayne Kirk, Caryle Black, Alvin Ryan, Willie Bell, Jimmie Rowe, Joseph Kirkland, Joseph LaFleur and Wayman Wave.

70 Engineers Enrolled

The seventy members of the engineering regiment enrolled in the Foxhole University are:

Ted Embry, Herbert Andrews, William Gatling, Joseph Harris, Levin Purnell, Freeman Caradine, Sumner Martin, Jacob Jones, Dewey Hughes, Robert Thomas, Arthur Johnson, August Phelps, Vermal Hill, Luke Harris, W. B. Washington, James Juniel, Albert Evans, Paul Hunter, Paul Wells, Clarence Pheonix, Sam Belcher, Thomas Cassom, Chester Walker Samuel James;

Lawrence Broadnax, John McIntyre, Benjamin Danforth, Reese Morgan, Edward James, John Hicks, James McGhee, William Seals, Essex Morris, Wm. M. Henson, Lester, Jackson, John Johnson, Amos Jenkins, Henry Tillie, John Feagins, Alfred Ragin, George H. Brown, Shelby Johnson, Junius Fininen, James Mims, Millegde Mitchell, Raymond Teal, Denon Allen;

William Mayfield, Dewitt McClain, Fred Osby, Louches Powell, Milton Hall, John Tonsall, Solomon Davis, Leon Brown, Alex Everett, Charles Gowens, James Valentine, William Moses, John Leonard, Clinton Pickett, James Dyson, Ora Osborne, Ernest Fannin, Pheme Turner, Roy Cameron, Alfred Jefferson, William Green, Albert Martin and George A. Martin.

Negro Troops Credited With Assist In Air Blitz

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

By EDWARD B. TOLES

(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH A COMBAT SUPPORT WING OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE IN ENGLAND. — From last February to D-Day a great and decisive air battle was fought and won by Anglo-American air forces all over Western Europe from the Zuider Zee to the Danube. American bombers broke the back of German airpower and cleared Europe's skies for invasion.

Untold has been the Negro's contribution to these great sky battles even though there were no Negro members in those columns of Flying Fortresses streaking through the substratosphere advancing on Germany.

But Negro units compose many of the Combat Support Wings supplying bombs, ammunition, and gasoline to 8th Air Force planes and last week they were still a vital part of the air service command supplying the bombers.

Endless Supply

Said Lt. Theodore "Ted" Lawson, 6345 Rhodes avenue, Chicago, "The principal job that this battalion has accomplished has been an endless supply of the necessary materials that successfully blasted the Luftwaffe from the air. Our men of this outfit have worked 24 hour shifts keeping these fortresses well supplied with bombs. There are several battalions doing this same work and three of them have been made up of our boys with their own officers."

I walked with Lt. Lawson one cold, raw morning to the trucks where a large convoy was proceeding to move off. The trucks were headed for a nearby port where they would receive ammunition and bombs just off the ships.

From the ports these bombs would be transported to the many fields that dot Britain. Sometimes the need was so great that when these trucks speeded in, the great fortresses would be roaring ready to go, and while the trucks stopped bombs were loaded from trucks to fortress.

Vital to Bombing

One trucker anxious to be under way stopped however to tell me some of the other things that this unit has been doing since D-Day He was Pvt. George A. Gaines, 5652 South Parkway, Chicago, Ill., and nephew of Joseph Brice whose Chicken Shack on 55th street made us both wish for home.

"Not only have we been hauling bombs but we have also transported paratroop divisions during and after D-Day on all of their missions. I'll say that trucking can be a vital part of this bombing of Germany for if you had been here during those important days when there was split second timing you'd see some action.

"Imagine, a convoy of some 40 trucks speeding to the airfield where fortresses were taking off and some waiting to take off. The only holdup was our bombs that we used to them fresh from the ships' holds. As fast as our trucks got to them, they moved on off down the runway headed for Germany. It was a pleasant sight to watch and to feel too, for we truckers knew that we had one assist to our credit in the bombing of Germany."

27 Negro Officers

Thirty-three officers are with this unit and 27 are Negro officers. An officer accompanies each convoy on its mission and during the hectic days of D-Day when 8th Air Force was working over duty even enlisted men were pressed into duty as convoy commanders.

For his excellent work during the Normandy invasion days Sgt Johnny Patterson of Greenwood Miss., was commended by Col. Robert M. Goodall, commanding officer of the combat support wing. Sgt. Patterson headed a convoy hauling bombs and was out on the road for 12 days keeping the combat stations well supplied.

"All missions were performed without delay and there were nine men with trucks under Sgt. Patterson's direction," said Lt. Frank W. Morris, 1519 Page street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Besides Lt. Lawson, another old friend and former classmate at the University of Illinois turned up when I made the rounds of Nissen huts where the men were keeping fires going.

He was Sgt. Willis Brown, 1815 Emerson street, Evanston, Ill. Sgt. Brown even had a picture of us both taken during our days in Champaign.

Many Chicagoans

A goodly number of Chicagoans were seen wishing for the old days back home. They were Sgt. Floyd H. Cavins, 3712 South Parkway; Cpl. Albert Fooks, Pvt. Roy L. Tate, 2940 Lake Park avenue; Pvt. Clarence L. Shular, 643 E. 67th street; Sgt. Chester L. McCullough, 5738 Calumet avenue; Cpl. Cecil J. Fleming, 5228 State street; Sgt. Edgar L. Briggs, Pvts. Charles Larterbuck, Albert H. Thomas, Charlie Richards, Walter Williams, Junius Johnson and Sgt. John Fisher, Evanston.

In a nearby town a Chicago Red Cross worker is the director of a club which is one of the homiest clubs that I've seen. She is Miss Olive Blackwell and has as her assistant Miss Majorie Sills.

A huge farewell party was being planned for Lts. Theodore Lawson, Chicago; Hugh DeLeon, Brooklyn, N. Y.; David C. Womack, Detroit, Mich.; James A. Shields, Detroit, Mich., and Kenneth M. Glenn, Detroit, who by this time are somewhere in France.

There's something about leaving a unit where you know so many guys. Although I had stayed only one night with these fellows I hated to leave for they were such grand fellows.

Former Chronicle Man

Lt. Louis Miles, Monroe, La., Special Services officer guided me over the entire camp. I met Sgt. Clifton Moble, Detroit, Mich., who has done work with the Michigan Chronicle. Lt. William A. Perry, 224 McDonough street, Brooklyn, N. Y., saw to my transportation to another unit.

Ranking officers are Captains Walter T. Lewis, Cleveland, Ohio; Bruce S. Thally, Washington, D. C., and McDawson L. Burton, Glen Jean, W. Va., who is married to the former Jane Wickliffe of Fort Wayne, Ind.

Other officers are: Lts. William Dunn, Baton Rouge, La.; Henry K. Holmes, Columbia, Tenn.; Edward J. Putte, New York City; Phillip L. Burton, Kansas City, Mo.; George R. English, Mobile, Ala.; John F. Smith, Phoenix, Ariz.; Daniel H. Turner, Muskogee, Okla.; Louis F. Martin, Princess Anne, Md.; Ronald Mordicai, New York City, and Warrant Officers Clarence E. Mitchell, Walterboro, S. C.; Benjamin F. Travania, Claremore, Okla., and John H. Finley Jr., Tuskegee, Ala.

Sur Seille and soon after lunch had advanced almost three miles to Morville.

Guns, Tanks, Planes Busy

Our artillery had laid down a barrage and our planes had bomped the enemy directly ahead of them, but the tankmen still met considerable German artillery and small arms fire.

In one of the leading tanks was Sgt. Herbert Hayes, Cpl. Landy Scott, St. Louis, tank commander; Pfc. W. J. Turner, Austin, Texas, loader and Pfc. Riley Hill, Texarkana, Ark., machine gunner.

Cpl. Aydis Grahan of Boston and his crew soon after the attack began, shot up a Nazi pillbox camouflaged like a haystack and captured a jerry officer and two men. That particular pillbox had been causing many headaches and had to be knocked out before any advance could be made by the infantry.

Describes Jerry Surrender

Battle Germans in Blinding Snowstorm

AFRO-AMERICAN—Balt. Md.

11-18-44

Crew Knocks Out Camouflaged Pillbox; Captures Officer, 2 Men

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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[EDITOR'S NOTE: Five Baltimoreans fighting with a tank battalion in France are mentioned in this story.]

WITH THE THIRD ARMY, France.—(By Cable)—A blinding snowstorm was raging when I finally caught up with the first colored tank battalion fighting against the Germans on the front.

I arrived by jeep the day after election day and found the tankmen so busy leading one sector of General Patton's assault between Nancy and Metz that they did not know President Roosevelt had been re-elected.

Uusing Sherman mediums and lighter scout tanks, elements of the battalion, Wednesday morning, roared out of the vicinity of

With Graham were Cpl. Arthur Williams, Arkadelphia, Ark.; Pvt. Lawrence Belcher, West Virginia; Cpl. Coleman Simmons, Detroit, and Cpl. Johnnie Holmes, Chicago, tank commander.

Said Graham: "We poured lead into the haystack until it blazed and the Jerries ran out with their hands up. They were the first prisoner our outfit took after going into action."

Major. Gen. Willard Paul commands the Yankee division to which the tankers are attached.

Cold, bone-chilling rain that had been falling for days turned to snow an hour before I reached a mud puddle where several tanks were waiting to go up front. Turning into the area, our jeep ploughed and sank in hub-deep mud and passing vehicles drenched me in gobs of mud.

Everybody Miserable

The area in which the men ate and slept for two days was dotted with foxholes, filled with water, which looked like open-air, square bath tubs. Here and there a sagging pup tent indicated that another GI had been driven out of his home by the downpour.

Everybody looked miserable because everybody was damn cold. Faces were pinched, eyes and nose were running water and all the while the snow and wind made you brace yourself to keep erect.

I found one group nursing a tiny blaze, among them Cpl. Jerome Forbes, 916 W. Mulberry Street, Baltimore, tank driver. He said, with a muddy smile: "Got any papers from home?"

I skidded back to the jeep and gave him three AFRO's published in September. A young riot started as dozens tried to read them at the same time.

Wear Clothes for Weeks

Some of these men had not been undressed in over a week nor dry in several days. When water flooded the tents and foxholes, those who couldn't get into tanks or trucks crawled under the vehicles and snoozed in the mud.

Pfc. Eugene Henry, 2127 Pennsylvania Avenue, Baltimore, tank gunner, hoped to bag a Nazi when they got his tank out of the ditch. I found him in the mess tent while I was thawing out.

Other Baltimoreans seen include Pvt. Leonard Shoultz, 741 Harlem Avenue; Sgt. Lindsey Edwards, 837 George Street, and Pvt. Robert Thorne, 303 Myrtle Avenue.

Lt. Lawrence Bagwell, Palestine, Texas, explained to me between the rumble of artillery what other platoons were doing and where they were fighting, but I was too cold to remember anything he said. He and Lts. John Hairston, Toledo, and Edward Cannon, Brooklyn, waded cheerfully in mud almost to their knees to show me around.

2 Unforgettable Incidents

Two things happened that I'll ean never forget. One was the moment when General Paul showed me on the may where forward elements of the tankers were fighting, then the rattle of guns not far away made the old building we sat in tremble violently.

If he reads this, he will know that I wasn't anxious to go any farther toward the front at the moment.

The other memorable thing was the lunch which consisted of C ration stew and tepid coffee. Not knowing conditions, I asked for a niece of bread, but there was nothing else in the way of food for these fighting men that day. And until more rations were delivered there was nothing on the menu but stew and coffee.

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WITH TANK BATTALION, THIRD ARMY, France. — (By Cable) — After expressing gratitude for being alive and mentioning the fact that on Armistice Day I had my most narrowest escape of the entire campaign, I will try to give a part of the picture of the first three days of terrific fighting by the tankers who helped move the Third Army right up to the border of the Reich.

The battalion has had its baptism of fire now and so have I. As I write this from the comparative safety of the bivouac area to which the tank crews have been withdrawn for a breathing spell, I still have a vivid picture of the terrific shelling we went through Saturday which cost us one tank and made everybody fighting mad.

The first 88-mm. shell whistled over while I talked to Sgt. Albert Word, East St. Louis, Ill., tank commander, who, with his gunner, Cpl. Javan Council, Dayton, Ohio, Thursday, knocked out two 88 guns and a pillbox in a tank named "Baby Evelyn." We paid little attention because the shell landed 400 yards away.

Sixth Shell Hits Tank

The second, third and fourth landed much closer and the fifth or sixth hit the tank and set it afire. The tanks were well dispersed over an area a mile long, but after the enemy got our range, no place was healthy. I crawled under a tank with Cpl. James Grissom, Indianapolis, tank mechanic, and for forty minutes sweated out quite a nasty bit of shelling.

Later, leaving the area for two in the rear, we tried to cross a bridge, zeroed in and were shelled spasmodically. The soldier sitting in the car beside me was hit in the cheek by shrapnel when a shell exploded twenty yards away.

However, on the two previous days our lads did much more damage to the Germans between Vic Sur Seille and Hamport.

"Colored tankmen don't know when to quit fighting. You knock out their tanks, but they got underneath and keep shooting. My company was good enough to go all through Russia, but these men left me nobody, so I surrendered."

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Sing Captain's Praise

The whole outfit is singing the praises of Capt. Irvin McHenry, Leavenworth, Kans., company commander, who with a minimum loss of men and tanks spearheaded the attack that resulted in the capture of one town and gained his objective of the outskirts of another. His outfit's batteries played an outstanding part in repulsing the week-end fierce German attacks near Chateau Salins.

Slugging in there with the 26th Division which protected the snow-blanketed and rain-drenched right flank of the Third Army, the whole battalion hung on grimly more than once when the Nazis hurled all their might into the line, but for each yard yielded two more were gained before the smoke of battle had cleared.

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Fight Germans, Elements, Too

It is brutal, rough, fighting against the elements as well as the Germans, but the tank lads faced death with tight-lipped, eager efficiency when the going was roughest.

Said Cpl. Melvin Bird, 111 S. Bond Street, Baltimore, gunner: "We had a hell of a time and lost some men, but we learned a lot those first few days."

S/Sgt. William Kitt, Tuskegee, commander of a tank called "FDR of War," knocked out [illegible] some pillbox with his crew composed of Cpl. Cecil Garlington, 21840 Vernon Street, Northwest, Washington, gunner; Sgt. Killard Neely, Hickman, Ky., driver; Pfc. Lawrence Wooden, 1224 Maryland Avenue, Northeast, Washington, cannoneer; Pfc. Emmet Williams, Muskogee, Okla, radio man.

Baby Hazel Wrecks the Town

The tank called "Baby Hazel," commanded by Sgt. James Justice, Dallas, Texas, shot up half of a town to rescue the crew of another tank hit at a road block, and commanded by Sgt. Roy King, Detroit. A tank shell caused a huge building to collapse upon score of Germans.

Cpl. Linwood Hicks, Portsmouth, Va., gunner, and Pfc. Odell Williams, Dayton, Ohio, assistant, accounted for two pillboxes, one armored car and a machine gun nest.

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An assault platoon, which has special guns for clearing up stubborn resistance by the enemy, is commanded by First Lt. Charles Gates, Kansas City, Mo. On the second day of the fighting, the platoon wrecked two Mark IV tanks and four other vehicles. Chief of section is Sgt. Joseph Tates, 702 Brune Street, Baltimore. His buddies are:

Many Baltimoreans

Pfc. Raymond Burrell, 1128 Laurens Street; Pfc. Nathaniel Batts, 1008 W. Franklin Street; Pfc. James Cole, 522 Brune Street, all Baltimore; Sgt. James Ballard, 4466 Douglas Street, Northeast, Washington; Cpl. Leon Hopton, Corona, Long Island; Pvt. George Goines, 2418 N. Twenty-fifth Street, Philadelphia; Sgt. Raymond Gaffney, S.C., and brother, George; Cpl. Buddy Branch, Dayton, Ohio, and Sgt. Isaah Parks, Charlotte, N.C., who came out of the escape hatch after the tank was crippled, and slaughtered Jerries from beneath.

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Then there is the reconnaissance platoon, commanded by First Lt. William E. Blake, Atlantic City, which did better than all right over the week end. The job of this section is to scout in advance of the main column and draw the enemy's fire to locate his position.

Most Dangerous Job of All

Pvt. Harry Jones, Bloomington, Ind., radio operator, told me: "Our job is perhaps the most dangerous of all when Jerry is really dug in. We have to be always on the alert to keep from being ambushed or knocked out by mines, but we are crazy about the job.

I talked with the men just after a reconnaissance mission. Lieutenant Blake was shaving and Cpl. Erwin Fry, Cincinnati, half-track driver, was trying to build a fire to keep us all from freezing.

S/Sgt. Dexter Fuller, Chickasha, Okla., ranking non-com, was full of praise for his men. They are:

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Pfc. Eugene Matthews, Kansas City, Mo.; Clinton Harlson, Sacramento, Ky., both gunners; Pfc. James Hughes, Berkeley, W.Va., scout; Cpl. Horace Johnson, Rockville Center, Long Island; Pvt. Wilbur Denson, Brooklyn; Sgt. William Baker, Cleveland; Cpl. Charles Shartward, Chicago; Pfc. Thomas Paulete, and Pfc. Jerome Lampkins, Memphis; Pvt. James Corbin, Detroit; Pvt. William Fuell, Kansas City; Pvt. Sidney Dickason, Berkeley, W.Va.; Sgt. Jay Johnson, Dutch, W.Va., and Pvt. Hardy Gaynes, Chickasha, Okla.

Goes on Secret Mission

While we shivered, Captain McHenry took five tanks out on a secret mission. We all stood up and yelled good luck as the mighty Shermans groaned through mud and clattered down a narrow road where machine guns were barking in a frenzied manner and the screams of enemy shells made us hug vehicles and ditches for protection before the tanks were out of sight.

It was late afternoon Sunday, with occasional snow, but between flurries Thunderbolt fighter planes peeled off just over the hill to dive bomb the Germans.

Maybe we gained a mile, maybe a hundred yards. All I could think of was the fact that the Germans must be as cold as we were in mud over our boot tops, which would be our Sabbath bed.

Captured Nazi Captain Fears Our Tank Men

A captured German captain paid the following tribute to the colored tank battalion on duty at the front in France:

"Colored tankmen don't know when to quit fighting. You knock out their tanks, but they get underneath and keep shooting. My company was good enough to go all through Russia,

Soldiers Demand Voting Right If They Are Expected To Fight

Pittsburgh Courier 5-27-44

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—Asserting that "if we are good enough to fight and die for the cause of democracy, our loved ones and friends are certainly entitled to reap the true benefits of it," 24 Army officers of a combat unit now serving in the South Pacific last week addressed a letter to Georgia's Gov. Ellis Arnall, urging him to seek revision of the State's soldier vote bill and allow all Georgians in the service and out irrespective of race, full participation in American armed forces scattered the primaries and other elections, throughout the world. We are and die on the battlefields of the world. We feel and believe that

Released to newspapermen, Governor Arnall's letter in reply simply stated: "The white Democratic primary in this State is unAmerica proper have stood and are Americans only. der the exclusive control and authority of the State and county Democratic executive committees I am not a member of any Democratic party committee."

"Governor Arnall," the letter read, "we have for the officers read, from the officers been taught to believe that we Americans are fighting for the four freedoms of the Atlantic Charter, and that we are fighting for the preservation of democracy. We believe that it is our constitutional right to vote as qualified citizens of Georgia. Surely, this war is not being fought for Negro Georgians and the Negroes of Georgia the right to cast his ballot in all elections.

"ONE CAUSE . . . DEMOCRACY"

In other letters received only with whether or not mack, 2nd Lt. William H. Perry, 2nd Lt. George M. Shuffer, 2nd Lt. James Francis, C. Battle, 2nd Lt. James Ralph G. Brooks, 1st Lt. Fields, 2nd Lt. E. M. Gardner, 1st Lt. Milton C. Lewis, 1st Lt. Warren K. Hook, 1st Lt. Thomas O. Diggs (chaplain), 1st Lt. Noah Armstrong, 2nd Lt. Luther R. Wood, 2nd Lt. Clarence T. Hendon, 1st Lt. Coleridge, Capt. Clarence A. Ridgely, 1st Lt. Cecil W. Davis.

America, Please Copy! Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mixed Unit In France Proof Two Races Can Live, Work Together

Pittsburgh Courier 11-25-44

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE—(ANP)—I was immensely pleased and gratified when I visited one of the strangest units on the western front, called "quartermaster effects company" and composed approximately of an even number of white and colored soldiers who work and live like a large family. I would not have known of this outfit had I not paid a visit to the "Silhouette" in propaganda.

Paris, a little cabaret on Rue-Notre-Dam-de-Lorette, where I met Pvts. Ed. Warner of East Chicago, Ind., and Conway Butler from New Orleans. These two GIs presented an air of happiness and contentment, and their eyes were sparkling like the champagne cocktail they were sipping. They asked me to have a drink with them, which I readily accepted.

WANTED TO SEE FOR SELF

"How are they treating you?" I asked. "Swell," said those boys. Here Warner interjected, "We couldn't expect anything better. I am the driver for our commanding officer, Major MaCormick, and I can truthfully say that he makes no distinction in the company." With this information I decided to visit the company the very next day and see for myself.

I met Maj. F. R. MaCormick from Florida, who was evidently pleased to see me and tell me about his work and his men. He said that his primary function was the efficient execution of the important task assigned him and secondly, he was interested in the welfare and happiness of each man in his company.

I had lunch with the officers—Capt. Joseph Minetti from New York, who is in charge of the warehouse; Capt. Henry H. Beck from Oshkosh, Wis., Capt. W. Freeman Sharp, Jr., Lt. S. Maurice Pool, Lt. Joseph Vogl from New York City, and 2nd Lt. Thomas F. Flannery from Springfield, Mass., who is in charge of the colored soldiers in the outfit. All of these officers have expressed sincerely their pleasure of their association with this mixed team.

AND THEY EAT TOGETHER

"We exercise justice in small things, and would avoid all cause of offense, not by seeking merely to please all, but to give all their due." These were the words Captain Minetti said to me. Capt. Henry Beck said that there is always an amicable adjustment of disputes if there are any. At lunch I saw the men sitting together full of geniality, humor, conversation, and cheerfulness of nature which make men agreeable. Those people who repeatedly say that white and colored soldiers cannot associate amicably are creating a distortion of right and justice, by imputing defects of character on the part of the Negro. Here is another unit that has given the lie to such unjust

These are the names of the colored boys in the outfit:

Sgt. A. G. Newton from Manhattan, Kans., Sgt. Marvin A. Wortham, Cpl. Charles Albertson, Philadelphia; Cpl. W. Earl Grimes, Detroit; Cpl. Robert Jones, Palm Beach, Fla.; Cpl. Numa Barnabe, Opelousas, La., and Pfc. A. Richie Carter, Houston, who writes more love letters than any other member in the company. Here is the list of the Pfs.: Clarence Dominguez, New Orleans; Robert Franklin, Arizona; James Hennings, St. Louis; F. Julius Lissimore, Valdosta, Ga.; Ike Perry, Atlanta; W. John Robertson, Cleveland; A. Joseph Willis, Atlanta, and Robert Winter, Jacksonville Fla.

Here is the list of the Privates: Frank Collier, Houston; Trellie Culbreath, Monroe, Ga.; Robert L. Giddings, Houston; N. Ambrose Johnson, West Virginia; Walter Latham, Kinston, N. C.; Joseph Lobo, Nantucket, Mass.; James Maxwell, Savannah; William McCall, North Carolina; A. Arthur Nash, Hope, Ark.; Brazee Robinson, Miami; L. Hubert Sanders, St. Petersburg, Fla., and William Wilkerson, Chicago.

'Coon' Story Not True, Declares Gen. Somervell

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 12-9-44

Lt. General Brehon B. Somervell's ideas on the disposition of Negro troops are not what rumors say they are.

The Army's Chief of Service forces, wherein are located some 70 percent of all Negro soldiers, denied this week having called them "coons" or having said the desert was the proper place for them.

General Somervell was quoted recently by a Washington White House correspondent as having said when asked concerning the use of Negro troops for combat purposes: "I would like to take all of the coons and drop them in the middle of the desert.

Contacted here by the Chicago Defender, General Somervell appraised the report, said: "There is not a word of truth in the story."

Race Soldiers Operate Rail Head Near German's Border

12-15-44 Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

First Army Is Kept Supplied By Quartermasters

WITH THE FIRST U. S. ARMY IN BELGIUM — Amid the huge mountains of supplies of all kinds intended for use by front line units of this Army, now across the German border, the all-Negro 3170th QM Service Company is one of the two companies of a QM Group assigned to the operation of a large railyard, which was recently used by the Germans as a marshalling center.

It now serves the First Army as one of its distribution points, receiving freight by rail from the French coast over routes opened by the Army's Transportation Corps.

In the distance can be seen the ridge which separates this part of Belgium from the present-day borders of Germany. Once this same station was actually in Germany, but the area was divorced from the Reich after the World War. It is now a Class III depot.

The QM Group is under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth E. Keverin, white, of Twin Falls, Idaho.

Two Negro warant officers operate in Group Headquarters. They are warrant officers, junior grade Robert E. Gayle, of 1418 Eagle St., New Orleans, Lousiana, a Dillard University graduate, and who also studied business administration at Atlanta University and Henry G. Crockett, of 1303 East 4th Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

Along Jungle Roads Toward Tokio, Negroes, Whites Build Friendship

Northwest Herald—Seattle, Wash.

Eyewitness Relays Story Of 'Great Job'

11-21-44

By DOUG WARD

Along the jungle trail of smashed equipment, bleaching skeletons and rotting corpses which leads toward the eclipse of the Japanese Empire, American Negro troops are making a powerful contribution to victory, and a foundation of friendship and respect upon which post-war unity can be built, is being created between Negro and white Americans in uniform.

For four months, as I write this article, I have lived in close daily association with both white and Negro troops, in Australia and in British and Dutch Guinea; from Milne Bay northward through Oro Bay, Buna, Finschhafen, Hollandia, Maffin Bay and Biak.

My observations and conclusions are drawn from contact with men of the Army Engineers, Quartermaster's Corps, Transportation Corps, white infantrymen, and Navy Seabees. There were Negro combat units in the area, but I was never fortunate enough to contact them.

New and Growing

In the Australian city of Sydney, "liberty-town" for servicemen on war-fatigue leave, conditions surrounding Negro soldiers on leave revealed that which is old and passing slowly but surely away in the relations between Negro and white Americans.

After first seeing this, I was better able later, in the Guineas, to see and appreciate that which is new and growing.

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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BOUGAINVILLE, (By Cable, Censored) — A few miles inside here is one of comparative calm, of the U.S. peremiter, elements of the 93rd Division have set up only occasionally when the machine-guns of a bivouac area of a maze of pup tents where they chatter is a throwback to what they can lie around on the ground and soak up the warmth of the morning sunshine dured on the front lines. A few while resting from the soldiers may grab their rifles and But they are not entirely idle, get on the alert, but then they lay for a new training cycle has been launched and there are short spells of close-order drill, study of gun nomenclature and the articles of war.

Your correspondent joined outfit this week and the tacks by either side, but there doubtful luxury of a tent was wasn't a moment when the men where rain flow weren't under the strain of constant vigilance through like the Grand Rapids.

War Not Far Off

Up there they lived in foxholes we are constantly and dugouts, surrounded by dense aware that the war is not too far jungle in which the Japs spied away. Every few minutes the on them very closely. Patrols went out daily — as bang of one of our heavy artillery many as four a day — for ten days when the unit garrisoned and fought on Hill 65 and the Numa Numa Trail.

There were other jobs, too, for the unit ferried up its own rations and those of several other elements and some of the boys nicknamed themselves the "Swift Packing Co."

Patrols Lost 10

Some of the patrols got into fights and there are ten dead and eight wounded to attest to the

100 JAPS KILLED 2-3-44 Easterners Tell Tubbs of Experiences.

93rd Getting More Training Afro American Baltimore, Md. Bivouac Area Set Up Near Front Lines

toughness of one scrap. The Japs lost an estimated 100 men in tackling the boys, however.

Nightmare memories lurk in the minds of Sgt. Edward Hall of Parole, Md., and Sgt. Carey Woods of St. Louis, for they stayed in the jungle all one night with wounded comrades. Sergeant Wood smeared the blood of a pal on his face and played dead while a Jap rolled him over, searched him and took his pistol. The two men were outnumbered so they didn't start a fight.

From time to time little groups get together here in our camp and relive their experiences.

Junior officers conduct classes in gunnery. Among these are First Lieuts. Aaron Jackson of Eufala, Ala., and James Shelton of Nashville, Ark., recently promoted; and Second Lieuts. William McZeal of Chicago, Hilary Moore of Cairo, Ill., and William Scruggs of Brooklyn. 6-3-44

Rains Come Daily

The rains come in the middle of each afternoon and as we lie under shelter halves the boys talk to me, mostly about war correspondents.

"We were scared and we moved up because Lieut. Scruggs told us to dash, and we killed because we wanted to save our hides," Pvt. Clarence Johnson of Wilmington, Del., said.

When the rains stop the men go back to their drilling or studying. Among them are: 6-3-44

Pvts. Theodore Smith, 1911 Seventh Street, Northwest, Washington; Walter Young, 733 Saratoga Street, Baltimore; Robert Strickland, Rock Hill, S.C.; Wilbert McLean, Rowland, N.C.; Robert Thompson, Cheraw, S.C.; Pfcs. Curtiss Pitts, NYC; Rudy Johnson, Bluefield, W.Va.; Pedro Ocampo, NYC; T/Sgt. Roy Jenkins, Pittsburgh; S/Sgt. Henry Middlebrooks, Atlanta, mess sergeant, who is to become a father next month and is wanting a picture; S/Sgt. I. W. McNear of Phoenix, Ariz., father of a boy born May 9, and S/Sgt. John Harris of Detroit, who guards some of unit's equipment.

Segregation Disappears at Celebration on Transport

afro American 12-9-44 Baltimore, Md.

ARC Workers from Philly, D.C., and N.Y. Among Those Arriving in New Guinea

By CONRAD CLARK

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA — Old Man Jim Crow was forgotten here recently as newcomers from the States — colored and white, — celebrated together their safe arrival in New Guinea.

The celebration took the form of dances on a transport which had docked for a short while at this base for refueling before going to its destination farther north.

6 ARC Workers Arrive

Two Red Cross workers, Miss Evelyn (Pat) Sutton of Philadelphia and Ellen Torrence of La Grande, Ore., were the only colored women on the boat.

Other ARC workers were John C. Ballard, Washington, D.C.; Chappelle Glenn, NYC; Ralph Long, Atlanta, Ga.; and Wilson Berry, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Among those at the dance were colored and white ARC workers, white Wacs, nurses and army officers.

GI's Celebrate

In the enlisted section of the boat, both colored and white soldiers united in celebrating their safe arrival in this theatre of war.

Also on the transport was Capt. J. H. Clanton, a chaplain, whose wife is the former Miss Josephine Moore, head of the home economics department at Washington High School, Raleigh, N.C.

A former teacher, social worker and newspaperwoman, having worked for the Philadelphia AFRO, Miss Sutton is the daughter of Mrs. Charlotte Sutton, 4051 Aspen Street, Philadelphia.

Mr. Ballard, a former member of the National Capital Housing Authority, is the husband of Mrs. Dorothy G. Ballard, a Washington teacher. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ballard of Lumberton, N.C.

Before accepting his present post, Mr. Glenn did social work in New York and also was employed at the Raritan Arsenal in New Jersey. His wife is Mrs. Claudia S. Glenn of Plainfield, N.J. 12-9-44

H.U. Grad Ranking Non-Com

Among enlisted men on the boat was a unit organized two months ago at Indiantown Gap, Pa. The ranking non-com in the group was a Howard University graduate, S/Sgt. James P. Harris of Richmond, Va., who was acting first sergeant.

Other Easterners in the outfit were:

S/Sgts. Russell Hawkins, Washington, D.C.; King R. Hodges, Bennettville, S.C.; and Ralph Yates, W.Va.; Sgts. Matthew Carter, York, Pa.; James P. Grant, NYC; Leroy C. Nelson, Charleston, S.C.; and Ralph S. R. Thomas, NYC; T/4 James Lawrence, NYC; Pfcs. Walter L. Floyd, Tazewell, Va.; and James F. McIver, Charleston, S.C.; Scott L. Harris, 263 S. Twenty-second Street, Philadelphia; Clarence Brownlow, Greenville, Miss.; Pvt. Pelvin J. Matterson, NYC; Cpls. John D. Spencer, Chicago; W. G. Ashford, Memphis.

La. Sgt. Uses Nazis' Gun to Repel Attack: Honored

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 12-16-44

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY — Back on September 16, when a motorized patrol was attacked by enemy snipers at the front-line village, S/Sgt. Fred D. Rhodes of Gibsland, La., disregarded his own life in an attempt to save his comrades by exposing himself as an enemy target until the others had scattered for cover.

His gallant action was recognized with the award of a Silver Star on Friday as Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, commanding general of the division, decorated nine enlisted men during appropriate ceremonies.

Bronze star awards were presented T/Sgt. Richard A. Simmons, Jefferson City, Miss.; Pfcs.

Let Men Take Cover

When the truck was scattered Rhodes leaped to the street and opened fire, forcing the enemy to scatter while his own men dismounted and took cover with light casualties.

Later, he moved to the doorway of a building and continued with a harassing fire on the enemy while the wounded patrol members were evacuated.

He was hit by shell fire but, in spite of his wounds, he exhausted his own supply of ammunition and obtained an enemy automatic weapon which he used until all its available ammunition was gone inflicting three certain casualteis on the enemy and probably many others.

Administered Aid to Self

He spent the night in the field administering first aid to himself and then returned to his company next day unaided.

Sergeant Simmons, who participated in the same action with Rhodes was cited for evacuating the wounded under shellfire. Pfcs. Harris, Brownlow and Pvt. Materson are members of a mortar platoon commanded by Lieut. A. Julien, NYC, who discovered that a mortarman's life consists of much more than just lugging the weapon around, dropping in shells and holding the ears.

Go to Aid of Riflemen

Called upon for mortar fire by a rifle company under attack on November 8, the unit became an enemy target itself shortly after shooting its first rounds. One section received five immediate casualties and was forced to abandon to a nearby house.

Notwithstanding the contiruous shelling, the trio took turns running from this spot to the mortar and remaining for five-minute intervals each, firing on the enemy and eventually breaking up the artillery and mortar attack from the Germans.

"Between us, we threw 100 rounds at them," said Pfc. Harris. "The first ones fell short, but we got their mortar and the company moved up," added Matterson, a former shipyard welder.

Repair Wires Under Fire

Corporals Ashford and Spencer are members of an artillery battery which lost communication with its fire direction center when the lines went out. They volunteered to leave the gun position under hostile shelling and repaired the wires successfuly, re-establishing communications.

A dozen shells dropped within twenty yards but they restored communication in time to let the battery execute counter battery fire and check the enemy attack.

Some 4,000 Colored Soldiers Serve Persian Gulf Command

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va. 10-14-44

By FRANK E. BOLDEN

U. S. WAR CORRESPONDENT

(Representing the Journal and Guide and the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)

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CAMP AMIRABAD, TEHERAN, IRAN—(Delayed)—There are two large military installations located here at Teheran, making this area somewhat of a "Pentagon of the Persian Gulf." General headquarters of the Persian Gulf Command are located at Camp Amirabad while on the other side of Teheran is Camp Atterbury, the railroad transportation center of the entire command. All final orders, directives, and clearances stem from this nerve center and business is quite brisk seven days a week.

No colored troops are stationed at Camp Atterbury, but there are a few at Camp Amirabad. Most of the colored units, numbering some 4,000 soldiers, are serving in the central and southern sections of the command. 10-14-44

Here there is Company "C" of the 352nd Engineer Regiment, the 519th QM Car Company, and a unit of the 153rd QM Bakery Company, Company "C" and the 519th Car Company are serving as chauffeurs and truck drivers, while the unit of the 153rd handles the baking for the Post. All take their turn at guard duty.

CAROLINA SOLDIER

Company "C" was the first unit that I had the opportunity of visiting. Their First Sgt. David R. Hilton, of 1107 E. 14th street, Winston-Salem, N. C., is a soldier's soldier, and would certainly do well as an officer. He has the confidence of the men and they respect his leadership. 10-14-44

The unit has had its problems and seen some dark days since landing here in March 1943, but with Hilton's guidance the company has pulled through magnificently. He has assumed the role of leader and morale builder—which was a tough job during those early days when homesickness was chronic.

Shy and amiable Lonnie Hill, 4607 Evans street, St. Louis, Mo., serves as the personnel sergeant and is so meticulous about the company records that he has been dubbed the "sgt. adjutant

Toll Of Troops 10-14-44

...y of the chauffers for the Hardy Anderson, Marquez, Tex-...hicles, and among thoseas; Alfonso Washington, Pres-...in such capacity whomton, Okla.; Louis Daniels, ...t and who wish to be re- Streetman, Texas; Roscoe Law-...red to the folks back ...re: T/5s Peter S. Gilbert, ...d, Calif., and James S. ... Pittsburgh, Pa.; T/4 J. ...rence, Chicago; Jesse J. Brooks, ...don, S. C.; Sgts. R. C. Lafayette, La.; Richard N. Ecles, ...ell, Berine, Ark., and Los Angeles; Albert King, ... Rogers, Starkesville, Sheridan, Ill., and Levi Milond, ...Cpls. Vernis M. Byrd, St. Pittsburgh, Pa. ...Mo., and Clarence Sea- ...Detroit) Mich.; and Pfcs. ... Lawson, Pittsburgh, Pa.; C. Gordon, Campbell, Carl J. Rogers, Miss.; Cpls. Louis, Mo., and Clarence Brooks, Detroit, Mich.

CHAUFFEURS 10-14-44

...Sgt. Olious Hightower, of ...Philadelphia, has the distinction of being the best heavy equipment operator in the outfit. This company furnishes the

Dysentery Takes Largest

Roly-poly Pfc. Whit Virgin, ...

Foreign Service

Eisenhower Blasts Slander Against Negro Troops As Harmful To War Aim

12-2-44

By MARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON. — (NNPA) — Gen. Dwight C. Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander, this week wrote a lowly Negro staff sergeant agreeing with his protest against derogatory remarks about Negro troops appearing in letters to Stars and Stripes, servicemen's paper.

Eisenhower wrote: "I agree with you that the publication of statements that are derogatory to the accomplishments in this war of any American group or race is harmful to the war effort."

The original article appeared in a column called "The B Bag" of the Stars and Stripes. In this column, GI's are given the opportunity to express their thoughts on any subject. One signing himself "S-Sgt. H.L.W., Inf." wrote the following:

12-2-44

'Too Much Credit'

"Our outfit is composed of boys from North and South. We have been fought the Civil War over and over again in friendly arguments, but on one point we are agreed. The Negro soldier in this war is getting more credit than he deserves.

"He is, in the majority of cases, a rear-echelon cowboy who never saw the front lines. We have been on the front lines since shortly after D-Day. Never have we seen a colored soldier on the front lines.

"We, the fighting doughboys, give credit where it is deserved. Even the medics get their share of credit. It makes us mad to see a bunch of rear-echelon cowboys grabbing credit where they have done nothing to deserve it."

12-2-44

Staff Sgt. George Woods, Jr., attached to an Engineer Regiment took exception to the piece and wrote a letter to Gen. Eisenhower. He cited the last two sentences of an official letter on the "Treatment of Negro Troops," which read: "The United States troops, either white or colored, must be considered as conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline and offenders must be promptly punished. In the interest of military efficiency, if for no other reason, isolated incidents of friction must be eliminated."

Sees Motive For Riots

Sgt. Woods then told the general that the article referred to was detrimental to the morale of a group of fighters "who are putting forth every effort in their power to play their part as good soldiers where they are assigned to perform their duty, regardless of whether it be on the front lines or in the 'rear-echelons'."

Woods said such statements as those of the sergeant who wrote in Stars and Stripes have been the prime motives of recent race riots in America. "It is my sincere hope that our full military strength may be continued directed against the German forces, rather than stop at this point of success and debate on the issue 'which race is playing the more important part in this war'," he told the general.

12-2-44

In reply, nine days later, the general wrote the sergeant saying: "Thank you very much for your letter of the 14th. I agree with you that the publication of statements that are derogatory to the accomplishments in this war of any American group or race is harmful to the war effort. I also agree that it is the duty of the good soldier to perform well whatever task may be given him, in the front line or in the rear area.'

"I am glad you invited my attention to an article that apparently was written in disregard of these principles."

Editor Cites Record

The editor of the Stars and Stripes, in an editor's note immediately following the article to which Sgt. Woods took exception, said the following:

"Prejudice knows no state or national boundaries. Uncle Sam's men in the forces serve and fight where they're told to.

12-2-44

"The activity of Negro troops in this war includes landing with the first U. S. assault forces to hit the Normandy beaches on D-Day. Barrage-balloon men, port battalions, Duck companies and quartermaster truck units were in on the landings.

12-2-44

"Two of these units were commended by Gen. Eisenhower. One Negro infantry division, the 93rd, is at present in action on Bougainville in the South Pacific. The second Negro infantry division to see action in this war, the 92nd, is in there fighting right now in north Italy. Negro airmen have made a notable record in Italy as well as North Africa and Sicily where the 99th Pursuit Squadron and Col. Benjamin Davis' fighter group have been flying combat missions with the 15th Air Force."

Tank Unit Wins High Praise From Nazi Foe

Chicago, Ill.

12-16-44 Chicago Defender

WITH THE THIRD ARMY FORCES NORTH OF DIEUZE—A captured Nazi lieutenant who has fought against Russian soldiers in the East, met his waterloo on the Western Front when confronted by Negro tankmen.

Describing the skirmish in which the tank crew fought off superior enemy forces, the Nazi spoke admiringly of the Negro fighters: "Only once have I seen a tank crew as full of fight as that one and that was the crew of a Russian tank knocked out and in a similar situation," the prisoner declared.

The conduct of the tankmen he described as being "one of the real feats of bravery."

12-16-44

When their tank became disabled and while the Nazis, just 70 yards away were firing away with bazookas, members of the crew rescued two of their own men who were badly wounded while two others climbed out through the escape hatch.

Then lying on their sides close to the useless vehicle Cpl. Herbert Porter of Asheville, N. C., the tank gunner, who was the last to leave the tank, Capt. James Whitby, Detroit, the tank's driver, Pvt. John McNeal, assistant driver, killed the attacking bazooka team and knocked down or captured the remaining enemy troops.

This action the captured German said surpassed "anything I had seen during my four years on several fronts."

12-16-44

The crew which the Nazi praised was a part of the first U. S. Negro tank destroyer battalion to see action with the 95th Infantry division which figured in the capture of the German fortress city of Metz.

Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Frank S. Pritchard, 2535 Forrest avenue, Lansing, Mich., and composed of four companies completely staffed by Negro officers, the unit completed its trek from the Normandy Peninsula, the day prior to the fall of Metz. It had been awaiting orders to move to the front since October 8, when it landed in France.

12-16-44

The tank destroyer battalion was activated at Camp Carson, Col., on July 25, 1942. and received its training there and at Camp Bowie, Texas, before it moved to Camp Hood, Texas, the home of battle training for tanks and tank destroyers in March, 1943. In August, 1944, the unit landed in England, and continued training while it awaited the call to action.

The battalion took its place with front line troops in the Metz area, not far from the sector in which the all-Negro Tank Battalion is fighting.

12-16-44

Typical of the crews and their aptness for their weapons is the range score turned in by the crew of gun commander, Sergeant Robert C. Garrett, of Route 1, Box 19, Tarboro, N. C. In range tests his crew did not miss the direct fire target a single time with the 3-inch anti-tank gun, which their vehicle mounts, in addition to its .50 calibre and .30 calibre machineguns. Crews are composed of ten men, including the gun commander.

It is a "towed" destroyer unit, meaning that the big AT guns are mounted on a separate chassis, with the M-8 half-track serving as the prime mover.

The staff of the unit includes three Negro officers, Captain Thomas M. Campbell Jr., of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., son of the noted agricultural expert of the institute, who serves as battalion surgeon; Chaplain (Captain) Harvey E. Johnson, 568 Auburn avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Ga., and First Lieut. Robert S. Williams, of 1909 Fourth street, N. W., Washington, D. C., a Howard university product who is the battalion reconnaissance officer.

Other officers of the staff are Major LeRoy H. Sample, of Mount Clemens, Mich.; executive officer; Captain Charles W. Ogelsby, of Bryn Mawr, Pa., S-2; Captain Robert J. O'Leary, of Glenburn, N. D., S-3; Captain Charles J. Richard, of Oklahoma City, Okla., S-1, and Captain Gordon P. Maloche, of Santa Barbara, Calif., S-4.

The all-Negro staffs of the various companies are composed of the following officers:

12-16-44

Headquarters company — Commander: Captain James H. Carr, 624 Gresham Place, N.W., Washington, D. C.; liaison, First Lieutenant Ormonde Forte Jr., Cleveland, Ohio; public relations and special services officer, First Lieutenant Leonard I. Burch, 5724 South Parkway avenue, Chicago, Ill. Other officers: First Lieutenant Serreo S. Nelson, 3014 R street, Omaha, Neb.; First Lieutenant Joseph L. Keeby, Chicago, Ill.; First Lieutenant Claude W. Ramsey, Ypsilanti, Mich.; Second Lieutenant Preston Helm Jr., 518 Browning avenue, Chicago, Ill.; Second Lieutenant Andrew J. Favors, 1339 South May street, Philadelphia, Pa. Two warrant officers complete the staff of this company—WOJG Arntie E. Hollis, of San Marcos, Texas, and WOJG Raymond Lamb, of Detroit, Mich.

Company A—Commander: Captain Beauregard King, born into the Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and a veteran of 15 years regular army service with the 24th and 25th Infantry regiments. Other officers: First Lieutenant Milton B. Deas, 4435 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill.; First Lieutenant Charles Robinson, of Long Beach, Calif.; First Lieutenant Edward J. Cary Jr., 2118 Montgall avenue, Kansas City, Mo., and Second Lieutenant Lloyd Gregory, of 98 Morningside avenue, New York City.

Company B—Commander: Captain Robert L. Finley, 6540 Stanford avenue, Detroit, Mich. Other officers: First Lieutenant Raymond H. Powell, 437 Breadon street, Youngstown, Ohio; First Lieutenant Ulysses W. Watkins, of Huntsville, Texas; First Lieutenant Charles J. Nelson, 26 Wilkes street, Battle Creek, Mich., and Second Lieutenant Forrest A. Walker, of 2420 North Sherman street, Kansas City, Mo.

12-16-44

Company C—Commander: First Lieutenant Charles L. Thomas, of 5877 Beechwood avenue, Detroit, Mich. Other officers: First Lieutenant George Mitchell, of 3446 Magnolia street, New Orleans, La.; First Lieutenant Thomas H. Shaw, 902 Fayetteville street, Durham, N. C.; First Lieutenant Walter S. Smith, 410 Parallel avenue, Los Angeles, Calif., and First Lieutenant Floyd J. Stallings, also of Los Angeles.

There are several veterans among the enlisted personnel who have had long periods of regular army service.

MEN AT FRONT BUSILY PREPARING TO HELP BUILD A BETTER WORLD

Pittsburgh, Pa.

11-25-44

By BILLY ROWE, Courier War Correspondent

WITH THE U. S. ARMY IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—From the bowels of the earth's foxholes and slit trenches, dugouts and pillboxes, muck and mire, scum and heat, new men have grown to face a future just around the corner of peace. Every one of them is aware of a changing world. All of them expect to be given a chance to participate in that new era. For that cause they came. For that cause some among them will forever sleep beneath the open terrain of a

European battle front—some forgotten Pacific beachhead or the squamous undergrowth enclosed by a sightless jungle.

GETTING HOME IMPORTANT

The groundwork for that future is being laid daily in the minds and deeds of these men fighting for it. Their ideals fail to touch the lofty veneer found on the words of the politician negating the obligations of his party. Though some among these soldiers who live in the past, have, and must die in the present, their hopes are illuminated by the future. Strange as it may seem, there is little thought out here in regards to the Four Freedoms, the Atlantic Charter, or the vigorous new world. Getting home is the essence of thought. Those who lived a comfortable life, want to find America as was. Those who groped in the darkness of ghettos, want to be able to get away from them. Those who were discriminated against, want to see an end to it. In the main all these wants add up to the same and would be best realized with the aid of the other. These men hope, these men think, these men plan, but they are so busy working and fighting, they can't find the time to express their desires.

As this is a new army, its soldiers will become new citizens when the military flood gates are released and they flow into the channels of civilian life again. They won't be the same men who boarded an army transport ages ago. They won't think the same or feel the same, and neither will they expect to be treated in the same manner.

WILL BE BETTER MEN

In the main, however, they will be better men. Not necessarily physically so, for the rigors of modern war, will leave their marks on many of them. From a standpoint of mind and character, the biggest majority will be better, despite the fact that for many months they have lived in a man's world and have grown tough and tough. However, to the man with the basic background, the Army has done something else, it's safe to say, it made a man out of him. He's been taught to shift for himself, to think in terms of others, hold fast to a principle and do what he's told. More important, it has relegated him to the company of others, giving him a chance to meet and understand how the other guy lives. Many of them have discovered that Jefferson was right and that all men are created equal, mental and physical handicaps in no way altering that truth. 11-25-44

This isn't a story about the entire picture, because it's far too great a montage, with hypocritical selfishness and cold cynicism also a part. This is just about those guys who have never been, but want to be. And those who have been who want to see all men given a chance to emancipate their spirits, cultivate their hearts and minds and move forward. These are the men who are the groundwork of future world security. It is believed that they are the masses.

If you get right down to earth with these men and translate the meaning behind their seemingly unimportant sentiments, passions and ambitions, you come face to face with a tangible solution to the peace. Most of what's happening out in the free world is a reminder of a story, now twice told, about the diligent nurse who wakes up the patient to make him take a sleeping potion. All that's really needed is for him to be left alone.

Most of the Tan Yanks we have met in nine months overseas, hope to forget all the hate and greed of war. They want to live in peace, appreciate a home that wasn't too important before, become fathers and be successes. There are those among them who want to go into business, be doctors, lawyers, professors or embrace the arts. Few of them want to do what they were doing when they were caught by the big wind.

Up to 80 per cent of the men of the 93rd Infantry Division are working towards that end and have enrolled in the Army Service Forces Institution. Regardless of their educational background, they can take one or more of the courses offered by most of the leading colleges in America.

Enrollees for the various courses are from every section of the country and are a cross-section of the Division. Some are college graduates, others high and grammar schools, while others are those who never had a chance to spend 10 per cent as much time in pursuit of education.

Among those who have enrolled in the new institute are Tech-Fours, Henry J. Price of Danville, Va., a correspondence student in sociology at Virginia State; Allen B. Flynt, Fayetteville, Tenn., taking the Iowa State university's genetics and heredity, and also plant ecology from the University of South Dakota; Peter Williams of Sylvania, Ga., enrolled for Ohio university's course in English literature, sociology and history; Jason N. Calhoun, who came from Austin, Tex., did graduate work at the University of Michigan, is taking German at the same university and zoology at the University of California; Joseph L. Rousseau, Chicago, now studying the Army Institute course in residence architecture offered by the University of Washington; Carney Reynolds whose education was gained in his home city of Cleveland, is taking a correspondence course in photography from the University of Michigan; William R. Jordan, Fairfield, Ala., is taking a course in stenotyphy; Maceo Braxton, who attended LeMoyne college in Memphis, is now polishing up on reading and composition, and algebra; and Winifred Brice of Dayton, Ohio, who embraced bookkeeping and accounting while at Huntington High, Aberdeen, is continuing that course.

Sgt. Charles H. Peoples, Jr., of Toledo, Ohio, studying cost accounting; M/Sgt. Clarence E. Cummings of Los Angeles finished his pre-war education at Drexel Institute of Technology, where he majored in drafting. In the post-war world he expects to attend USC, taking a course in architecture; Sgt. David Sams, who completed his education at Allen university, Columbia, S.C., is now taking a correspondence course in history; S/Sgt. Leon A. Saunders of Eagle, W.Va., is taking the Army course in physics; Cpl. Tendrill H. Lavender, Vienna, Ga., is studying accounting under the army plan; Cpl. Woodrow Williamson of Detroit selected mathematics for his GI time.

Sgt. Bernard L. Johnson, New York, plans a pre-med course, University of Long Island; Pvt. Leon K. Richardson, Baltimore, is studying sociology through Ohio university.

Tech-3 Isaiah Burton, Washington, D.C., is taking a psychology course through the University of Illinois; S/Sgt. James E. Wallace of Chicago and has a B.S. in bacteriology from Virginia State, is embracing a medical career. Among the men taking academic courses and working towards a high school diploma are Sgts. Irvin P. Jackson, New Orleans, and Marion J. Davis, Social Circle, Ga.; Cpls. James Yates, Sumter, S.C. and A. M. Watson, Del.; Pvts. Arzie Chambers, Phoenix, Ariz.; Robert H. Clark, Thomasville, Ga., and Henry Speight, Jacksonville, Fla.

Tech 5 Lloyd Howard, Kenova, Ohio, is taking the course in auto mechanics. Others working along the same line are Tech-4 William Brown, Hopkinsville, Ky.; Pfc. Willis Curry, Jamaica, N.Y., and Pvt. Carl Matthews of South Carolina. Business courses are being embraced by S/Sgt. Manuel R. Maisonet, New York; Tech-5 Joe N. Roberts, San Diego; Tech-4 Wm. E. Pullin, Atlanta, was graduated from Morehouse before entering the service. Also Tech-4 Reuben Conner, Fulton, Ky.; Pfc. Nathaniel Williams, Fla., and Pvt. John McBride of Philadelphia.

Pfc. Melvin Jones, Robertville, Mo., is taking air conditioning; Tech-4 Clyde H. Powell, Hilburn, N.Y., is working on elementary electricity; Tech-3 Eddie Le Suer, Philadelphia, is taking the course in machine shop practice, and Pfc. Albert King, Louisville, Ky., is studying the fundamentals of typewriting. Taking the English course are Sgt. Ray S. Smith, Bastrop, La.; S/Sgt. Robert Coats, North Carolina; Tech-5 Henry Gage, Hempstead, Tex.; Pfc. Josh Jackson, Clarkville, Tenn., and Pvt. William D. McCree of Brooklyn, N.Y., among score of others.

While making war, these are just some of the men who are making plans for the peace, for the new world. For this cause . . . they came.

Pontoons Become Trucks, River Becomes Burma Road

Chicago, Illinois
Chicago Defender

CARRYING SUPPLIES TO CHINA

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

ALONG THE LEDO ROAD—If there can be compensation for being far away from home, it's the spine-tingling thrill of an unexpected meeting with old-time friends.

This happened twice in the past two weeks, when I chanced upon two prominent Chicagoans, Pvt. Matt Carey, grandson of the late Bishop A. J. Carey, nephew to Judge and Mrs. Patrick Prescott; and 1st Sgt. George "Dodo" Maxfield, wealthy young real estate operator. I was beating out a trip by land and water to be the first American correspondent to follow the ground supply route from beginning of the Ledo Road to the furtherest point to which American troops have yet advanced.

It was at the end of a ride down the swiftly-moving Mogaung River in an assault boat driven by Earlis Samuels (Roanoke, Va.) of a light pontoon engineer company, convoying combat supplies to Chinese infantrymen, that I ran into Carey.

12-2-44

Talk of Old Times

He was standing on the bank as the boat hit shore—tall and lean, and burnt brown from months in the hot Burma sun—when he spotted me. His mouth shot open as if he had seen an apparition from another world. I was equally surprised.

After our first shock of meeting we ate together and talked of college days and inter-fraternal basketball of a few years ago when Carey was an outstanding star of the local Omega Psi Phi team in its hotly contested tilts with Alpha Phi Alpha.

12-2-44

It was necessary for me to get to the town of Mogaung before dark, a distance of some thirty-five or forty miles, but we were reluctant to leave each other. So Carey made the jeep ride with me along a trail still littered with bones and uniforms of dead Japs.

We parted when I reached my night's destination—he to return to his station in order to be ready on the morrow to pilot his assault boat up river for more supplies.

This pontoon company of which Carey is a member was activated heat Fort Custer, Mich., in 1941 and trained at Fort Belvoir, Va., and it has done a magnificent job in getting supplies to combat troops during monsoon seasons when part of the road has been unpassable.

It's a dangerous tough business as the trip I took with this outfit showed. As we proceeded down river I saw overturned and partially sunk barges, the result of gashes torn in their hulls by obstacles lurking unseen under water. Three of the company have been drowned in these accidents, and two others were lost when a Jap patrol fired on them and they had to beach their boats and take to the jungles. They haven't been heard of since.

12-2-44

It was ten days later that I saw Maxfield on my way back from the front. Thanks to Carey I knew where to look for him, so when my jeep pulled into his area along the mountainside where he rules as first sergeant of an engineer company, only one of us was surprised.

12-2-44

Plenty Chicagoans

But I got as much kick out of it as "Dodo" who is as happy as a man can be. He's been overseas nearly two years and had to leave a beautiful young wife behind. Besides his business in civilian life, Maxfield has been a prominent member of the Chicago chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity for a number of years.

Among the group of pilots who weaved their motor-driven assault barges down the Moguang River the day I took the trip were a number of Chicagoans including 1st Sgt. Earl C. Barnett, S-Sgts. Edward K. Singleton, Charles P. Stone, T-5 John B. Stewart, T-4 Eddie Russ, and Pvts. Joseph W. Pippion, Leon V. Jefferson, Sam Hill, Ollie Lowry, Ferdie Kilgore, and Madison D. Corey Jr.

Colored GI's of a light pontoon engineer company convoy supplies down the fast-flowing Mogaung river for Chinese infantry up ahead. Careful watch must be kept lest an underwater obstacle tears a hole in the hull, sinking the boat and drowning the men.

Jerseyites Help Down 2 Planes

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Quocko Reports How Japs Were Stopped

POET GAVE ALARM
Says Fire Kept Most of Enemies Away

Quockco, who was known as a poet when he attended Central High School here, writes the New Jersey AFRO-AMERICAN to supply a news story that no regular correspondent was on hand to obtain—a story of how his outfit downed two Japanese planes during an air attack.

Other Newarkers in the unit participated in the fight.

Pfc. Quocko, on duty in the Southwest Pacific with an anti-aircraft unit [illegible] of Jap planes approached their position, but the unit, firing under orders of Capt. Henry B. [illegible] of Christian, Herman Dawkins, Willie McJunckins, Woodrow Shipley.

[illegible] Guard Tiny Island [illegible] Avenue.

In his letter he told of his unit's arrival in New Guinea last September, and of moving in December to supply regular corps to a tiny island between New Guinea and New Britain, where they were assigned to guard the southwest strip of an airdrome being used by British pursuit planes. On December 20, he said, a force of Japanese planes approached their position, but the unit, firing under orders of Capt. Henry B. Chaptime without being able to reach the raiders. [illegible]

Two Shot Down

[illegible] duty at the command post, had [illegible] sounded the alert and the red signal.

Decem- [illegible]

[illegible] New [illegible] where [illegible] "The determined Japs returned [illegible] shortly and got the same hot recep- [illegible] be-tion," Quocko continued. "They [illegible] planes, turned tail again, but one of their [illegible] a force planes did not escape and we saw [illegible] their po-it plunge to earth. They made the [illegible] underattack a third, fourth and fifth [illegible] Chap-time without being able to reach

Negro GI's Link 3rd Army With Network of Phone Lines

Atlanta, Ga. Daily Atlanta World 11-23-44

WITH THE THIRD ARMY NEAR METZ — "This is Army headquarters" comes the voice over the wire, and another call is through to its destination, and nine times out of ten that call was made over the wires strung by the Signal Construction Battalion, a unit of companies of Negro communications experts, who have followed the Third Army drive, in its march across France, and have strung out most of the vast network of communications lines which link the forces of the Third Army.

The battalion landed in France on June 23rd, and has moved up to Luxembourgh border, stringing wire all the while. Recently when the Third Army was pushing its way to the outskirts of embattled Metz, the Signal crews were strung out right behind the Army armored units, and could be seen on hillsides, in valleys, in fields, in rain and mud, putting down their poles, putting in their poles, and putting up their wires. Their work has a decided aid to the maintaining of communications between the various Third Army units, and the headquarters. The unit has been commended by ranking officials for its performances.

11-23-44

Lieutenant Colonel Marlin S. Moody, of Fayetteville, Tennessee, is the battalion commanding officer, and Major Thomas W. Riley, of Pittsburgh, Pa., is executive officer. The personnel at battalion headquarters is all colored. Among them are:

Master Sergeant Parst Jones, Box 7, Bladenboro, N. C., sergeant-major; Technical Sergeant Anthony Brown, Jr., 255 Edward Street, Ridgewood, N. J.. personnel sergeant-major; Sergeant James Breason, 60 Howell St., N. E., Atlanta, Ga.; Staff Sergeant Benjamin Matthews, 320 W. 41st St., New York City; Technician 4th Grade Sinclair Careathers, Jr., 24 Sawyer St., Chattanooga, Tenn., personnel clerk; Technician 5th Grade Robert L. Cook, 415 E. Brainard St., Pensacola, Fla.; Private 1st Class James M. Myrick, 531 Third St., N. W., Atlanta, Ga., and Private 1st Class Henry Schuyler, Route 1, Box 132, Bowman, S. C.

Negro Troops Drop Supplies In Jungle

Atlanta (3) Ga. Atlanta World

Atlanta World 11-23-44

SOMEWHERE IN BURMA — (SNS) — A battalion of Negro troops in the Burma-India Theater is known officially and was trained as a Quartermaster Truck Battalion, but its vehicles are big Army planes, and its cargoes, kicked overboard or dropped by parachute over remote jungle areas run into hundreds of thousands of tons monthly.

The supplies delivered include a variety of items and range from 75mm howitzers and TNT to eggs for breakfast and medical supplies.

The battalion arrived in India late in 1943 and began delivery of supplies by air after receiving only ten days instruction. It had to improvise most of its equipment and devise its own methods of storage and safe delivery, including the dropping of such delicate material as highly sensitive wet gun cotton, and delicacies as live ducks and chickens, and even live pigs.

11-23-44

The outfit's job is to deliver virtually all of the supplies needed by American troops pushing the vital supply road through the jungle, as well as to American and Chinese troops helping to clear the area of Japanese.

Special packaging and packing methods were worked out — often by the trial-and-error method. For example, it was found that 55-gallon drums of oil and gasoline could best be delivered by lashing sacks of rice husks to the drums, to serve as bumpers, and using two or three chutes to drop them.

Fresh eggs were prepared for air-dropping by packing them in cases with cushions of rice hulls between the individual eggs for shock absorbers. Ammunition of many sizes has been dropped, and two-wheeled ammunition carts, too bulky and heavy to load and drop through the plane door by the kickout method, have been sawed into convenient sections, drilled and fitted with bolts and braces for quick reassembly and dropped in sections.

11-23-44

NEGRO SEABEES RETURN TO U. S.

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

11-11-44

WASHINGTON—Veterans of 20 months of jungle warfare in the South Pacific, and bearing a unit citation for many outstanding feats of construction completed under great difficulties, the first battalion of Negro Seabees to go overseas has returned to this country, the Navy Department announced this week.

The unit, the 34th Construction Battalion, indoctrinated at Camp Allen in Virginia, sailed outside the continental limts of the United States on January 7, 1943, and arrived in Noumea, New Caledonia, nineteen days later. Since that date, the unit has suffered casualties of five men killed in action and 35 wounded.

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The first big job tackled by the unit was the construction of the Halavo Seaplane base at Halavo in the Florida Islands. Brigaded there with the Acorn (Red) Four, an air unit, the 34th Battalion helped carve its camp out of a deep jungle. During February and March 1943, the two outfits experienced two direct enemy bombings and were under almost nightly enemy air raids in the area for a period of five months. Casualties from these raids resulted in two killed and 28 wounded.

Construct Mountain Roads

The entire battalion was reunited in November 1943, in the Tulagi area, with approximately one-half of the battalion quartered at Halavo, and the other half scattered over the adjacent Islands of Tulagi, Savo and Phillips Peninsula on Purvis Bay. The construction tasks at Halavo varied from marine railways, fueling docks, and coastal defense gun mounts to harbor boat nests, dolphins, piers and considerable jungle and mountain roads for the Army defense. A unit at Tulagi took over and performed Naval Base maintenance, relieving the 27th Seabees until the arrival of the two CBMU's to release the battalion for assignment to Guadalcanal in March 1944.

Just before the men embarked for home, Capt. Mark L. Halsay Jr., USN, Commander of the Naval Base, sent them the following unit citation:

"On the occasion of the completion of your work in this area, covering a period of 20 months, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you and the officers and enlisted men of your command for the splendid record which you have made and the outstanding reputation which your Battalion enjoys. During this period your battalion has accomplished many outstanding feats of construction, too many to mention in detail, which will stand as a monument to your ability and efficiency for many years after the U. S. forces leave this area. . . 11-11-44

"The best wishes to this command for future success and continued usefulness to the Naval Service go with you and the personnel of your battalion."

After 30-day furlough, the 34th Battalion will be re-assigned to duty.

The Navy Department recently announced that, as of October 1, 1944, there were 12,337 Negro enlisted men in the Seabees, of whom 10,351 were assigned to special battalions.

200 Seabees Volunteer To Bring In Wounded

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.

11-18-44

(By Technical Sgt. Donald A. Hallman, Sr., of 51-01 39th avenue, Long Island City, N. Y., a Marine Corps Combat correspondent).

PELELIU, Palau Islands—(Delayed)—Two hundred Negro Seabees, grimy and weary from two days of unloading ships under enemy fire, were lined up on the beach here.

"I want volunteers for stretcher bearing on the ridge tonight," an officer was telling them.

And the 200 Seabees stepped out as one.

The incident is typical of the record chalked up by the Seabee battalion, that landed immediately behind assault waves of Marines here and has been working night and day since. They unload ships, wrestle ammunition and heavy supplies to the beach dumps, carry ammunition to the front lines, and bring back wounded. On occasion they have filled in as front-line troops, and for more than a week they have been going forward to drag in wounded marines.

These Seabees had seen no action until Peleliu. Then they joined the assualt. They had more than 100 casualties in the first week, many received during the landing when Japanese artillery and mortar fire was ripping the coral reef, others from mortar fire on the beaches and among the supply dumps, and still more from enemy fire at the front.

From the first they worked up to 16 hours a day, unloading supplies on the floating docks out at the edge of the 600-yard wide coral reef. They were under constant mortar and artillery fire.

11-18-44

On the beach they had to handle the heavy ammunition and vast stores of other supplies to the various dumps. Here they were also endangered by mortars, by snipers, and on occasion, by Jap machine gunners who came to life behind the front lines. Once, they were even charged by three enemy tanks.

When a shell burst on the beach, injuring 15 men, the colored Seabees reached the scene first. They pulled out the wounded.

When a mortar shell set fire to a large ammunition dump, 50 Seabees started moving the shells. They had to be called off when the exploding ammunition pinned down everyone on the entire beach.

11-18-44

When ordered to carry ammuni-

Nine Missing Pilots Return to AAF Base

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American 12-30-44

One Hid in Hills of Greece for 10 Days While Allies Took Athens

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE FIFTEENTH AAF IN ITALY—(By Cable)—Legend around this airbase is that fighter pilots will get back, somehow, someway, and after the experiences of Lts. Freddie E. Hutchins, Donaldsonville, Ga.; [illegible] Marshall, Bristol, [illegible]

S-1c Henry Hall, St. Louis, Mo.; S-1c Marine infantry officer told them, "Knock it off. We just want enough ammunition for the night. We don't need the entire dump."

When a stretcher detail was needed to go down into a draw in front of a heavily fortified ridge to bring out wounded at midnight, 16 Seabees vol-

James Key Nichols, Georgia; and S-1c Leo McDowell, Chicago, Ill.; Individual feats are generously re-counted by others. The battalion is high in morale and excellent; in

S-1c Edward Scott, Freemont, O.; S-1c Lemon Jackson, Florence Ala.; Jimmy Shearard, Anderson, S. C.

Special mention must be made of achievement.

lam W. Green, Jr., Staunton, Va., who were forced down in Greece and safely made their way back to their base, hope runs high for every flyer who meets the same difficulties.

They are among nine members of the 332nd Fighter Group who have returned after being reported missing over enemy-held territory in the past month.

Marshall, who holds the distinction of being the first Allied soldier to land on an island off Greece and the first American to land anywhere in Greece, was forced down October 6, after flak bursts disabled his plane during a strafing attack on German airfields near Athens.

Celebrated with Greeks

After twelve days and several wild celebrations by Grocks, he

LT. ANDREW D. MARSHALL
(He came back from the dead)

hitchhiked a plane ride back to base.

Eisenhower Hits Criticism of Colored GI's in Letter

AFRO-American Balto, Md.
12-2-44

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — In a letter to S/Sgt. George Woods, Jr., of an engineer general service regiment, General Dwight D. Eisenhower agreed with the sergeant's protest of derogatory remarks about colored men appearing in a recent issue of Stars and Stripes.

A "S/Sgt. H. A. W., Inf." had written in the service men's paper: "The colored soldier in this war is getting more credit than he deserves. He is, in the majority of cases, a rear-echelon cowboy who never saw the front lines."

Woods, citing an official letter prohibiting the spreading of such remarks, told the general that the article was detrimental to the morale of a group of fighters who are striving to be good soldiers regardless of their assignment.

Hurt War Effort

In his reply, the general said: "I agree with you that the publication of statements that are derogatory to the accomplishments in this war of any American group or race is harmful to the war effort.

"I also agree that it is the duty of the good soldier to perform well whatever task may be given him, in the front line or in the rear area," he said, expressing thanks for the letter.

The editor of Stars and Stripes, moreover, in an editor's note, had criticized the article, citing the accomplishments not only of the service groups, but also of the 92nd and 93rd Divisions and of the colored airmen.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
12-24-44 47m

ALLIED WARPLANES RAIN BOMBS DOWN ON COUNTERATTACKING NAZIS

Yanks Destroying 1,800 Japs A Day On Leyte Island.

By the S.N.S.

The weather broke in Allied favor Saturday and hundreds of warplanes swarmed on the German counteroffensive. The American fighters, downing at least 84 Nazis planes. Railway centers were attacked in Germany, while supplies to troops in the Bastogne area of Belgium were dropped. Returning pilots said most targets were hit.

Meanwhile, it was officially disclosed that a Nazi armored force had struck to within 29 miles of historic Sedan by Thursday noon. Reports of action aground lagged under the Allied censorship screen. Enemy comment implied that a large part of Lt. Gen. George Patton's Third Army was striking to relieve the embattled First Army led by Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges.

The German high command said that strong Nazi elements were "pursuing dislodged U.S. units" on both sides of the Ourtre river in Belgium.

Allied headquarters in the Philippines revealed early today that fleeing remnants of Japanese fighting units in the northwestern mountains of Leyte island faced destruction with the escape port of Palompon under American artillery fire while 77 77th U.S. Division doughboys advanced in the town. American air activity in the archipelago continued heavy It was indicated that 1,800 Japanese a day were being killed on Leyte.

Moscow reported that a Soviet extraordinary state commission investigating war crimes reported Saturday that 700,000 person, including an undermined number of citizens of the United State and Britain, had been killed by the Germans in three camps in Lwow province, Poland.

Negro Service Troops Engage Enemy Ground Forces In 3-Day Battle

Informer — Houston, Texas
12-30-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
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LEYTE BEACH — For the first time in the Pacific war, and on the third anniversary of the enemy's dastardly attack on Pearl Harbor, Negro service troops have actively engaged the enemy ground forces here, accounting for twenty-seven dead in a three-days running battle. The enemy force was reported to be over 200.

In the San Pablo area, colored aviation engineers were among those troops waiting as enemy para-troopers filtered down from the black seas. While others infilterated from the West. In a two prong attack, the japs vainly attempted the capture of any American air strip, but they were beaten back and finally annihilated by our forces.

First to spot the para-troopers were: Cpls. William McCall of Detroit, Charles Mumford of Baltimore, and Sgt. Winzer Alston of Rankin, Penn., who were working on vehicles at the time. They joined and fought through the night. The enemy ground troops were then attacking other elements of engineers and white signal corps units. Staff Sgt. James Martin of Newport News, Va., (a former school teacher), received the news first and spread the alarm, calling in First Sgt. Hugh Smith of Philadelphia.

Our troops led by Cpl. Samuel Johnson of Washington, D. C., Pvt. William Rumsey of Chester, Pa.; Cpl. Hubert Johnson of Winston Salem, N. C.; and Sgt. Leon Wilburn of Bryn Mawr, Pa., rushed to defensive positions, and opened fire on the running targets. Firing point blank, Johnson killed the first enemy Rumsey, manning a machine gun, received credit for four. The units of engineers had moved speedily into position and were constantly firing as the bewildered enemy troops weakly counter-attacked.

At 4 p. m., we lost our first man, who at the time was repairing a machine gun. Cpl. Herbert Johnson of Washington, D. C. stated that the enemy spotted the machine gun and moved in, Johnson whispered to his group, "We have only four rifles and there must be twenty of them, take good aim." Following the deadly fire, the enemy hastily withdrew after five Japs had fallen. Pvts. Silas White of Pittsburgh and Lenwood Gore of West Virginia carried the wounded man to a dispensary. He died enroute. 12-30-44

On the para-troops front, Sgt. Leon Welburn and Cpl. Milton Diggins of Cumberland, Md., manning an anti-aircraft weapon, received official credit for helping bring down one transport and assist on two probables. One parachutist was killed by the team. An enemy trooper, dressed in partial American uniform, was entering Sgt. Martin's supply tent when a Filipino yelled, "Jap." Hugh Smith and Martin opened fire simultaneously, killing the enemy, who is thought to have been an officer. 12-30-44

After the third day, our troops pulled back to their own area and set up guard, also patrolling the areas. Elements of the Infantry moved in to finish off the enemy.

Major Thomas Brown said of his troops: "They set up positions and fought like infantrymen. No one backed up an inch during the attack."

When asked how they felt about combat, Martin said that he would rather pursue a regular line of work, building and defending the strips we build. This time we were defending. A majority of our troops had the idea that they had to kill as many as possible. They knew that if the enemy succeeded in getting into camp there would have been widespread slaughter. Major Brown added: 12-30-44

"Tell that at home that whatever anybody thinks about these men who do heavy work, they've shown the fighting spirit America boasts of."

352nd Strafes Greek Airfields; Wise Freed From Bulgar Stockade

(BY JOE ROVER JORDAN-Guide War Corresp.

AN ADVANCED ALLIED AIRBASE IN ITALY--(Via Wireless)--Sparing with sure fluvies for an occasional break, the fighter pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group here were up to their old tricks last week. They struck out at Nazis in assorted directions from their base here, destroying an undetermined number of planes on three airdromes.

Meanwhile one of the Mustang pilots, a Virginian, returned to his base after several weeks interment in a Bulgarian prison camp. He is 2nd Lt. Kent Wise, of Cape Charles, Va. Lt. Wise is now however bound, having been relieved from any further tour of combat duty.

When Bulgaria capitulated before the onrushing Soviet armies, Lt. Wise was liberated from his Bulgarian prison stockade and he was brought back to Italy via Cairo, Egypt. He was one of several American aviators who were freed by the Russian advance.

LIVING CONDITIONS BAD

Lt. Wise reported good treatment at the hands of his captors but told his mates that living conditions were very bad.

One of the replacement pilots who recently joined the 332nd and who was assigned, by the commanding officer, Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., to the 99th Fighter Squadron, one of the units of the group, Lt. Wise was forced to bail out of his ship when his engine developed trouble during one of the long escort missions across Germany.

He landed near the Russian front and spent more than two years as a prisoner of war. Upon his return, he was released to go back to the States. It is a provision of international law that prisoners of war cannot be returned to combat. If they should be captured again, they may be shot as spies. Lt. Wise is a cousin of the Rev. J. T. Wise, of Norfolk, pastor of the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church.

In last week's action, the 332nd strafed three airdromes near Athens in Greece in support of the British invasion of that nation. The Mustang pilots struck at Kalamaki, Tatoi, and Eleusis airports in the vicinity of the Greek capital.

Reconnaissance [illegible] that [illegible] undisclosed number of German planes were left burning and destroyed. No interceptors challenged the Mustangs on this fighter sweep.

The entire 15th strategic air force including the 332nd Group, was grounded by rain for a stretch of eight days before the recent action which occurred on October 4.

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 10-14-44

VIEWS and Reviews

12-3-44

BY GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa

(This column represents the personal opinion of Mr. Schuyler and in no way reflects the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors)

From Paris, France, Roi Ottley has written of the growing resentment of Negro soldiers over their relegation to non-combatant service as laborers and truck drivers, and the resentment of white soldiers over the same thing.

The Negro soldiers want to really fight instead of being helpers on the sidelines, while the white soldiers want the Negro soldiers to do some of the hard fighting.

On the Italian front, where a division of Negro troops is actually doing some fighting (with most of the Negro troops in Italy doing laboring work), the general of the Negro division has flatly stated that he will not promote any Negro officers so that they will be superior to white officers.

On the Pacific front most of the Negro soldiers are also laborers, and report has it that the one division of Negro troops sent out there to fight are now doing laboring work.

* * *

All this was a foregone conclusion when the new army began organizing in 1940 with the same old traditional segregation system. Segregation always means discrimination. In this case it has meant that with segregation Negroes were placed largely in non-combatant services in separate units.

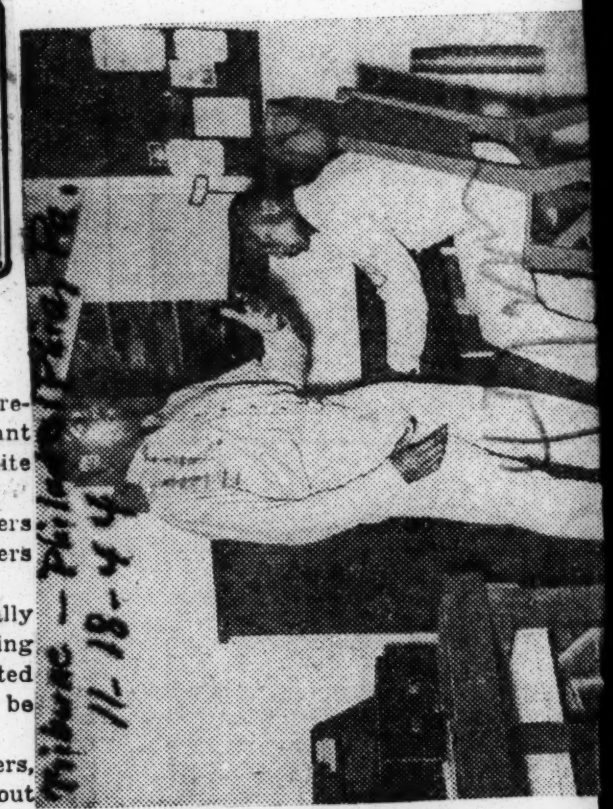
President Roosevelt knew very well that this would be the result of continuing the traditional jim-crow system. As Commander-in-Chief, he could have done away with a segregated army and his orders would have been carried out, but he absolutely failed to do so. Worse, he did not even compel General Hershey, his draft director, to enforce the non-discrimination clause of the Selective Service Act.

* * *

All the ballyhoo about Negroes serving in all branches of the military and naval service has been so much eyewash designed to cruelly fool Negroes into thinking they were making some progress. Real progress in building a democratic army and navy and a united America after the war could have been made by eliminating segregation in the very beginning when the President was hectically preparing for war while telling the American people "again and again and again" that he was not going to send American boys into a foreign war. It is not too late now to undo what has been done. The President, with a Democratic Congress at his disposal, can inaugurate this new policy tomorrow if he desires to do so and if he loves Negroes as much as his loud-mouthed followers believe that he does.

But Mr. Roosevelt does not desire to make a change. He wants changes in Europe and Asia, but he wants none where he can make them with the stroke of his pen. Because of his refusal to create a truly democratic army, the wind has been sowed and we are beginning to reap the whirlwind. Negro soldiers are rightfully resentful. So are Negro sailors. White soldiers are resentful because they are bearing the brunt of the fighting. When they come home they will be constantly throwing up to Negroes, whenever the latter demand their rights, that they do not deserve them because they did not help actively to defeat the common enemy. Of course this will lead to internal conflict, weakening America at a time when she should be strong, and increasing racial prejudice dangerously despite high-powered propaganda to the contrary.

When we see how amicably white and black Brazilians are fighting and winning the war together, it incenses us to see Americans divided because our President refuses to stand at home for the things for which we are supposedly fighting abroad.



Tribune Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-18-44

SOMEWHERE IN THE MARSHALLS — (Delayed) —They gave them classical music and Marines here not only liked it, but asked for more. The musicians were attached to an all-colored Leatherneck defense battalion. At the piano was Platoon Sergeant Charles P. Rhineheart, Jr., of Waterbury, Conn. Private First Class William A. Smith, of Philadelphia, Pa., furnished the vocal refrains.

The concert, which was held at the Red Cross shack, was advertised as strictly classical—no boogie-woogie—but the shack was filled to overflowing, some even standing outside, and the crowd kept calling for more. The repertoire consisted of everything from Debussy to Shostakovich, with a light sprinkling of Jerome Kern and a few semi-classical numbers.

Rhineheart received his musical education at the Yale University of Music, and has given numerous recitals before entering the service and after. Smith was service director of Gimbel's Department Store Choral Society in Philadelphia and broadcast over KYW, WCAU and WIP, all in Philadelphia. In 1942, he won the Marian Anderson Prize, given by Miss Anderson each year to enable talented Negro men and women to continue their studies. Smith is the son of Mrs. Ruth E. Smith, of 339 north Redfield street, Philadelphia.

Many Negroes Fight Within German Arena

N.Y. Amsterdam News

GI's Among Troops Taking Large Part In Big Invasion

N.Y., N.Y. 12-30-44

By JAMES A. SANDERS

WITH AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES IN FRANCE (ANP)—This might be it! This might be the beginning of the end. It is that unprecented surge of men and armor and air power which on the 1075th day of the United States' participation in World War No. 11 lashed out at Hitler's Germany along a 400 mile front, and in less than 48 hours, on the 741st day after the Allied landings at Casablanca and Oran, hurled four of its six great armies across the border into the crumbling defenses of the Reich.

From Cherbourg past Paris to Aachem; from Marseille to Nancy, into the battered fortress city of Metz and the once peaceful town of St. Die, colored troops of the service arms are throwing thousands of tons of impedimenta so necessary to such an all-out offensive. Other intrepid colored troops in the forward waves are knocking on destiny's door; one is a field artillery battalion, anothr a tank battalion.

Magnificent Men

There is somethting akin to magnificance about those artillery lads. Their ease and grace and self-assurance is the result of long, hard training, of native courage and the possession of the finest guns in the world.

For a long time the men of the tank battalion have "sweated it out on the bench." Now they have been given their chance, and there isn't a man in the 26th Infantry division to which they are attached who does not believe that they will vindicate the high trust placed in them.

It takes guts—a lot of guts—to throw one of those "rolling coffins" around. Incidentally you and Emily Post might have a silkier, drawing-room for it, but out here the only word one has for it is guts. It's the courage and stamina and what-have-you of all their ancestors that enables a man to push a tank into the most blistering heat of German lies, and the Kraut be damned.

Great Offensive

This great offensive called by expert military observers, "the most concentrated in the history of warfare," the sledge-hammer blows being delivered by seven Allied armies—four American, two British and one French—the devastation being wrought by heavy bombers of the 12th TAC with their fighter-bomber mates. didn't really begin that morning when the first flash came from SHAEF. It began weeks before on the docks of allied seaports, in the dimmed out address of ordnance shops, in the mud and mine infested rubble of blown bridges and wrecked rail facilities, and along the crater-pocked, water soaked highways loading up.

In this colorless off stage panorama Negro troops of Army and base sections worked 24 hours a day to get the stage set and insure the success of the operation. Engineers, ordnance men, port and quartermaster outfits all claim a piece of the glory being written into this breathless chapter of the war.

Crack Medic Unit Wins Praise Of Lt. General Lee

Atlantic Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

11-13-44

A U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL, England — A crack Negro Medical Sanitary Company has received commendations from Lieut. General John C. H. Lee, Deputy Commander of the European Theatre of Operations, and Brigadier General Charles O. Thrasher, Base Section Commander, for meritorious services before D-Day in Northern France, the War Department reported today.

This unit aided in the evacuation of casualties suffered by our troops when they were attacked by German E-boats during pre-invasion maneuvers. On D-Day and for some time after these soldiers of the Medical Corps worked day and night with little food and less sleep, transferring battle wounded from the Normandy beaches to hospital trains and ambulances.

Staff Sergeant Henry C. Ray, 34 of 1344 Richmond Street, Memphis Tenn., remembers an amusing incident which occurred during these operations. An LST loaded with German casualties had arrived at a port in England. The litters bearing the wounded were secured with ropes to prevent them from shifting during the crossing.

"When I approached the first litter with knife drawn in preparation for cutting the ropes, a Nazi stared wildly at me and then recoiled in fear," said Ray. "He threw up his hands and began to edge away. I guess he thought that I was going to use Gestapo tactics on him."

Germans Cremate Negroes; Ashes Used For Fertilizer

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

8-26-44

BY CHATWOOD HALL

(Only Negro Correspondent In Russia)

SOMEWHERE ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT, (ANP)—That Negroes were among the tens of thousands of victims brutally cremated by the Germans in the fiery ovens outside of Lublin, Poland, was the eyewitness testimony given by a Polish lawyer, Yedzek Bargolski, who was forced to work on the territory near his bloody concentration camp.

Where the Negroes came from, their background and nativity, is still unknown. Some suppose they may have been French Negro soldiers, captured behind the Maginot line in 1940, or African Negroes captured in the battles of North Africa, or Negro civilians living in France and Germany. Chinese, Turks and many thousands of Europeans of all nationalities were victims of cremation. 8-26-44

Many people in the vicinity of the Lublin ovens believe that the ashes of the cremated victims were used as fertilizer for the Nazis. This supposition is supported by finding a large experimental garden nearby. The soil of this garden is much richer and the harvest yields much larger than similar surroundings projects in this agricultural district. Furthermore, the garden area of the concentration camp is littered with blood-red poppies and other red flowers right up to the walls of "Death Factory," which labels the crematory building.

47m-1944

Foreign Service

These GIs in France Have Hot Rolls Almost Everyday

AFRO-American

Natives Haven't Seen Bread in Two Years, But Cooks in Engineer Unit Turn It Out by the Pansful

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Eastern France

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WITH INVASION FORCES IN EASTERN FRANCE (Censored) — I have found an engineer unit, a company of Treadway bridge builders, which has buttered hot rolls EVERY day — well, almost every day.

Max Johnson

Not just biscuits, but rolls — made from honest-to-goodness flour and as light and fluffy as any you ever sank your store teeth into. Natives have had no bread in the past two years, and have recently seen their first white bread in some areas in five years.

Most of our troops have had nothing but a bread substitute since landing but the rationed graham-type crackers. Others are now getting the French brown bread being made in some liberated areas, and still others have managed to establish contact with some army quartermaster bakeries farther behind the front and get a fair share of the coarse white bread they make.

The whole thing came to my attention Tuesday morning when I stopped at the wooded area where this outfit was bivouaced. It was raining but here and there some men had open fires going under whatever protective covering trees can give in such instances.

I stopped at the fire where First Sgt. James A. Fields, of 310 W. 118th Street, New York City, head non-com, stood with several other soldiers, most of whom had mess kits.

In Time for Lunch

"You're just in time for lunch," Sgt. Fields told me. I agreed that a cup of hot coffee would go nicely.

Before we had traveled the 200 yards through the woods to the mobile kitchen, I caught the scent of rolls. It was mingled with that of damp earth, decayed wood, burnt wood, pan smoke and a half-dozen other odors found nowhere else under the sun perhaps than in a warfront area.

First things I saw when I climbed up inside the closed-in six-by-six army truck were a big pan of dough and a tough-looking little soldier giving it a good working over. His name was Pfc. James E. Twitty, of 112 Valley Street, Tarrytown, N.Y.

Standing there in scuffed combat boots, much-worn brown pants and shirt, with something that looked like a flour sack for an apron and at least a two-day growth of beard, all under a helmet cocked over one ear and eye, Twitty was the most perfect picture of an army cook in combat territory I have ever seen.

Four on Staff

Another of the four men around two stoves and two tables was S/Sgt. Samuel W. Dates, of Folly, Va., head cook.

Dates, whose brother, Henry, lives at 1137 N. Calhoun Street, Baltimore, was taking the dough from Twitty balling it into golf-ball size rolls and placing them in a big pan.

Now and then he would turn and pull a pan of golden brown rolls from the stove and T/5 Oatsey Lewis, of 1081 Dean Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., or T/5 James A. Rice, of 10 Lee Street, Union, S.C., would dump them in another pan.

Every-Day Event

"We have these almost every day," Sgt. Dates said in response to my query. "The men like them and we like to fix them."

His staff, of Pfc. James S. Tindall, of Sumter, S.C., and Pvt. Frank Johnson, of Troup, Texas, refused to divulge the secret.

Sgt. Dates said that his staff cooked the banquet dinners the men of his company gave some time ago in Casablanca for the contingent of colored army nurses on their way back to the States from Liberia and for Bishop Gregg during his visit there last fall.

"That spread for the nurses cost us about $300," a GI said.

While they were talking I had been attacking the meal of sausages, lima beans, spinach, butter, jam, coffee and HOT ROLLS. Other men of the outfit paraded past the doorway and another cook placed two rolls and butter or jam on their mess plates beside their portions of the same meal I had.

I had already eaten nine rolls when Dates pulled a fresh pan from a stove and offered me some more. "This is a little touch of home," he said. "At least it strikes us that way."

I agreed and accepted four more. Having repeated this visit to this kitchen on several occasions, Sgt. Dates and his staff are now my favorite army cooks.

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Stewart Describes Triumphant Entry

9-2-44

First Americans in Paris Are Colored Truck Drivers

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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PARIS — The first time I saw Paris her heart was old, and she was not very well fed, but oh, how gay! The heart of France, in fact, was mad with joy because Americans had arrived.

I entered along Avenue De Fontainebleau Saturday morning at eleven with Cecil Carnes of the Saturday Evening Post, Tom Henry of the Washington Star, and Dave Baylor of Radio Station WGAR, Cleveland, Ohio. Our jeep was driven by Pvt. Arthur Holton of Lee, Mass. 9-2-44

Our arrival concluded three days and nights of camping on the outskirts of the city waiting the mopping up of the last pockets of German resistance.

Along the broad boulevards, we had used as barricades in their last stand on Friday, but in a few places where road blocks had been, we saw workmen already making repairs.

Hang Nazis in Effigy

Dummy Germans were hanged in effigy in two places but all signs of organized resistance had disappeared. Americans in armored vehicles in control of certain areas in other FFI (or Fighting French or the Interior) were in charge. 9-2-44

Beautiful women dashed into the streets to kiss dusty GI lads, to throw flowers and to offer wine and fruit.

Thousands of bicycles filled the boulevards and crowds lined the streets to wave and shout welcome.

We set out to enter Paris on Wednesday but were held up about fifty miles away and slept Wednesday night almost in the laps of the enemy. Thursday we tried again but had to turn back, so we took over a deserted chateau, bought chicken, eggs and had a feast. Friday we rushed the Seine south of the city but 88 shellfire forced us to retreat to the rear of an armored column storming strong-points outside the city, and just ahead of us 200 Nazis were captured after having been shelled into a daze. Friday night, we slept in the open country with our rations almost gone.

Early Saturday, we headed for Versailles but were cut off and rode into Paris without an escort. We found the greatest collection of correspondents in history from every part of the world. Many of them were veterans of former campaigns who expect to return home soon. 9-2-44

This is the city that they have waited for and this is the day that the French nation prayer for. After all, there is but one Paris.

My hotel room was just vacated a few days ago by a German officer who took the key with him. Signs in German still remain in many parts of the city but the gray Nazi horde is fast retreating toward Berlin which is the last stop on the liberation parade.

616th Bomb Squadron Sets Perfect Record In Flights

GODMAN FIELD, FORT KNOX, Ky.—Few large part in the daily routine organizations of checking, testing, and inspect- can boast ing the bomber prior to take-off. Army Air Force record set by Over 100 separate items must flying safety be checked each day, including Bomb Squadron, sta- the engines, instruments, pro- Field, Ky., peller, radio, lights and electrical Air Force. This system, armament, and other all-Negro auxiliary equipment. squadron, part of the Responsible for the condition Bomb Group, has flown of the plane is the crew chief. The over 300 days without an acci- crew chief must be a graduate of dent of any kind. Squadron Engineering Officer, an Airplane Mechanics school. When asked to what this amaz- First Lieutenant Clarence E. ing record could be attributed, Lewis, of Dayton, Ohio, replied: "You can give the credit to the entire personnel. It was their expert maintenance, thorough checking, and just plain perseverance that did the job."

Perseverance, indeed, plays a vital part in the evacuation of casualties suffered by our troops when they were attacked by German E-boats during pre-invasion maneuvers. On D-Day and for some time after these soldiers of the Medical Corps worked day and night with little food and less sleep, transferring battle wounded from the Normandy beaches to hospital trains and ambulances.

11-17-44

Staff Sergeant Henry C. Ray, 34, of 1344 Richmond Street, Memphis, Tenn., remembers an amusing incident which occurred during these operations. An LST loaded with German casualties had arrived at a port in England. The litters bearing the wounded were secured with ropes to prevent them from shifting during the crossing.

"When I approached the first litter with knife drawn in preparation for cutting the ropes, a Nazi soldier stared wildly at me and then rolled in fear," said Ray. "He threw up his hands and began to edge down from the litter. I guess he thought that I was going to use Gestapo tactics on him."

Memphis World

Crack Medic Unit Wins Praise Of Lt. General Lee

11-17-44

A U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL, England — A crack Negro Medical Sanitary Company has received commendations from Lieut. General John C. H. Lee, Deputy Commander of the European Theatre of Operations, and Brigadier General Charles O. Thrasher, Base Section Commander, for meritorious services before D-Day in Northern France, the War Department reported today.

Tan Marines Played Big Role in Fierce Battle for Saipan, Now in U.S. Hands

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
11-4-44

Another Unit Took Part in Invasion of Palau, Still Others Stationed in Hawaii

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
NNPA War Correspondent

PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR — (By Courier)—On July 10, organized resistance ceased on Saipan and the American flag fluttered over the former enemy bastion—American troops had won the decision of a great battlefield, another step had been taken toward the coast of China and the prize of Japan proper.

News stories poured into Pacific Fleet headquarters of the intensity of the struggle and sacrifice. One concerned the combat mission of several units of colored marines.

Depot units (quartermasters), they took up the cudgel during moments when potential enemy break-throughs seemed inevitable, fought, killed and were killed. Although casualties were incredibly light, those who did fall, fell as fighting troops of America's prized branch of the service.

Part of D-Day Assault Force

The colored troops were a part of the D-Day assault force and were commissioned to handle material. However, due to capable enemy counterattacks, it became the essential mission of all troops present to help push back the onrushing Japanese infantry.

Day after day, machine guns and mortars laid fire into the crevices and caves of the rotten coral. It was primitive warfare. Men fought through the caves, over maggoty dead, each foot of ground heatedly contested.

Some of those marines have returned to Pearl Harbor. They tell the story of their participation in the campaign. And it is not so much the tale of super-human endurance and ability as of men sent to do one job and who stayed on to do several—and did them very well.

Marine Tells Experiences

"We went in on the eighth wave," said Pfc. Jeff Smith of New Orleans. "My platoon moved to shore on alligators (amphibious tractors). They had told us to keep ammo cleared off the beachhead. When we ran onto the beach, mortars were exploding. I guess every man knew he was in for it."

Jeff said the various units dispersed as the barrage grew heavier. Black and white men advanced cautiously together. There was not much time to man supplies as the stubborn and fanatical enemy threatened each movement.

11-4-44

"We opened fire along with others," the peacetime carpenter explained. "An explosion sounded near our position. Two marines were killed outright. All five of us were hit by shrapnel. I felt as if my hip was paralyzed. I couldn't get along any further."

First to Get Purple Heart

He must have passed out, Jeff added. When he came around, he saw a white marine bending over him and slapping a bandage on his hip. The wound was bleeding profusely and aching.

Smith said he was taken back aboard ship and later evacuated to Hawaii. Recently he received the Purple Heart, one of the first colored marines in this area to be wounded in action. His mates went on to occupy position in the forward wall.

Today, it is said, snipers still dwell in the caves of Marpi Point, the north tip of the island. And in the town of Garapan where once lived 10,000, there is nothing much left but the white corners of wrecked buildings.

Stairways stand without buildings, leading a short distance into the air. The Catholic church is nicked with bullets and the frontton steeple was blown away by a shell. The rich altar carvings and mosaics are scratched and chipped.

They're on Palau, Too

Their mission completed, most of the marines have withdrawn. It has not been revealed to this correspondent whether or not elements were used in the Palau operations, but I learned that "colored troops were there and are thought to be still there."

Since Pearl Harbor is one of America's largest supply depots in the Pacific, serving the domain ruled by Admiral Chester Nimitz, much of the work here has to do with supplies. In a tour of the immediate area, I found colored troops (including marines) doing this type of work.

Ordnance units are servicing heavy field pieces and light artillery, salvaging shoes and clothing, building crates for ammunition, handling a multitude of machinery.

Here the earth is covered with aircraft, lumber, gasoline—days and nights are filled with the multiple singing of engines of heavy machinery.

11-4-44

Another Marine Unit

Somewhere in the Central Pacific there is another group of colored marines—defense units. At one time they were bivouacked in the Ellice Islands, approximately 1000 miles east of the Solomons group.

An antiaircraft force, they stood radar watches and manned automatic weapons. The enemy did not penetrate our areas of security, thus these troops saw very little, if any, action.

Representatives of this group are now at a rear base receiving specialized training in aircraft detection.

They are Sgt. Cyrus J. Hanna, Philadelphia; S/Sgts. John H. Boxhill, NYC; Charles G. Guillebeaux, Evanston, Ill.; Odell Crenshaw, Dallas, Tex.; Cpl. Frank A. Carroncejie, NYC; S/Sgt. William E. Johnson, Des Moines, Iowa; T/Sgt. John D. Lewis, Raleigh, N.C., and S/Sgt. Elmo Wade, Jr., of Detroit.

Easterners in Hawaii

Returned to the mainland for V-12 courses are Sgt. Herbert L. Brewer, San Antonio, Tex.; Cpl. Clinton Branch, Philadelphia, and First Sgt. Charles C. Johnson, of Des Moines, Iowa.

The depot units in Hawaii are from various sections of America. Most of the men are in the age group between 18 and 23. Among them are Pfc. Charlie Coles, Radford, Va.; Sgts. Ernest Cower and Eugene Cox, NYC; Cpl. Raymond Hobson, Lynchburg, Va.; Pfc. Richard Martin, Bostton; Pfc. Alonzo Mays, Isabelle, Pa., Pfc. Earl Miller, Baltimore, and Pfc. LaLois Bennett, Jamaica, L.I.

Negro Soldiers On Leyte Went Thru "Living Hell"

N.Y. N.Y. 12-30-44
N.Y. Amsterdam News

WITH THE 96TH DIVISION, SOMEWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES (Delayed)—Negro soldiers have played an important role in the landings in the Philippines, the War Department revealed for the first time today.

Two members of an amphibious tractor unit attached to the 96th Division distinguished themselves by entering an ammunition dump which had caught fire and saved from destruction three huge amphibious trucks loaded with mortar and artillery shells.

Staff Sergeant Robert Jones, Roxbury, Massachusetts, says of the men, Sergeant Clarence Jackson, Washington, D. C., and Technician Fifth Grade Samuel Bryant, New York City, "They entered a living hell to save the ammuntion.

Sharing in the general praise given to their amphibious tractor unit which plowed through muddy roads and terrain thought impassable to bring up supplies and ammunition are Technician Fourth Grade Prince E. Anderson, 239 W. 138th Street, New York; Technician Fifth Grade William H. Holland, 10 E. 126th Street, New York; Technician Fifth Grade Leonard Ingram, 541 W. 124th Street, New York, Technician Fifth Grade Allen Smith, 233 E. 127th Street, New York, Technician Fourth Grade Daniel J. Evertz, Rams Inn, Bridgeport, New Jersey, and Private Everett Elam, 33 John St., Bloomfield, New Jersey.

Technician Fifth Grade Mayo L. Gentry, 2384 Champlain, N. W., Technician Fourth Grade Robert McCaney, 226 47th Street, N. E., and Technician Fourth Grade Robert Wiley, 3028 Park Place, all of Washington, D. C.

Private First Class David Mitchell, 926 S. 15th Street, Philadelphia, and Sgt. Samuel Binkins, 3869 Alabama Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C., members of a Transportation Corps unit, killed a Jap sniper infesting their bivouac area. Later they narrowly escaped death when their jeep, carrying a casualty to the hospital, hit a mine, throwing them from their vehicle.

Negroes in the beach party landing in the vicinity of Dulag were warmly greeted by the Filipinos. Their admiration for Negroes arose from the heroic deeds of a Negro guerilla, Joe George, of San Francisco, who came to the Phillipines prior to the war Marrying a Filipino woman in Tacloban, he became a popular local figure. He set up a trucking service between the towns of Dulag and Tacloban on the island of Leyte.

After the fall of Bataan, he used his truck to supply Filipino guerrillas operating in the hills. Captured by the Japs and sentenced to be shot, he escaped and became a local hero by carrying out daring raids on the Japs.

NEGRO ARTILLERYMEN IN FRANCE BLAST NAZI THEORIES OF RACIAL SUPERIORITY

Age N.Y. 8-12-44

A.U.S. ARTILLERY COMMAND POST, France—Showing utter contempt for "master race" divisions facing them, U. S. Negro artillerymen, firing 155-mm howitzers, are blasting German installations and troop concentrations, pounding to pieces the Nazi theory of "inferior" and "superior" races.

First Negro combat artillery team to fight in this sector, this outfit is the howitzer member of a four-unit artillery group that includes a battalion of 105s and two of 155-mm long Toms.

They make music horrible to enemy ears, but to U. S. doughboys

Kelsey, the unit's commander, knows artillery, having been an artillery man himself. "I'll put them against any artillery outfit over here."

Accuracy Acclaimed 8-12-44

The battalion's uniqueness far transcends the fact that it's a Negro combat unit. Its firing record, accuracy and output are acclaimed from corps artillery headquarters to the foxhole-pitted ridges of Hill 122 where muddy infantrymen fight.

A fabulous amount of intricate mathematics—plotting and computing—precedes the sending of fire directions to the individual batteries. Armed with this data, computant Lawrence E. Iners Staff Sergeant Lewis, of New York City; Private Van Q. White, of East Orange, New Jersey; Private Otis B. Walker, of Passaic, New Jersey, and Technician Fifth Grade Joe Hodge, a survey section man from Detroit, "and we know those Germans up there don't like it a

Lieutenant Colonel Harmond S.

White-Negro Soldiers Work In Harmony In Same Unit In France

Savannah Tribune — Ga.
11-16-44

SAYS ASSN. NEGRO PRESS CORRESPONDENT

Men Live Like One Big Family

A SAVANNAHIAN IN THE COMPANY

11-16-44

by Rudolph Dunbar

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE — I was immenseley pleased and gratified when I visited one of the strongest units ever to come under my notice on the western front, called quarter master effects company and composed approximately of an even number of white and colored soldiers who work and live like a large family. 11-16-44

I would not have known of this outfit had I not paid a visit to the "Silhouette" in Paris a charming little cabaret on Rue-Notre- Dam-de -Lorette, where I met Pvts. Ed Warner of East Chicago, Ind, and Conway Butler of New Orleans. These two GIs presented an air of happiness and contentment, and their eyes were sparkling like the champagne cocktails they were sipping. They asked me to have a drink with them which I readily accepted.

"How are they treating you, I asked." "Swell," said these boys. Here Warner interjected, "We couldn't expect anything better. I am the driver for the commanding officer, Maj. McCormick, and I can truthfully say that he makes no distinction in the company." With this information I decided to visit the company the very next day and see for myself.

I met Maj. F. R. McCormick from Florida who was evidently pleased to see me and tell me about his work and his men. He said that his primary function was the efficient execution of the important task assigned him and, secondly, he was interested in the welfare and happiness of each man in his company. 11-16-44

I had lunch with the officers, Capt. Joseph Minetti of New York, who is in charge of the warehouse; Capt. Henry H. Beck from Oshkoch, Wis., Capt. W. Freeman Sharp, Jr., Lt. S. Maurice Pool, Lt. Joseph Vogl, from New York city, and 2nd. Lt. Thomas F. Flannery from Springfield, Mass., who is in charge of the colored soldiers in the outfit. All of these officers have expressed sincerely their pleasure of their association with this mixed team.

"We exercise justice in small things, and would avoid all cause of offense, not by seeking merely to please all, but to give all their due." These were the words Capt. Minetti said to me. Capt. Henry Beck said that there is always an amicable adjustment of disputes if there are any. 11-16-44 At lunch I saw men sitting together full of geniality, humor, conversation and cheerfulness of nature which makes men agreeable.

Those people who repeatedly say that whie and colored soldiers cannot associate amicably are creating a distortion of right and justice, by imputing defects of character on the part of the Negro. Here is another unit that has given the lie to such unjust propaganda. The greatest injustice one can do to any honest man or race is to call his probity in question.

This organization is charged with the responsibility of receiving and storing. In addition, it must make proper disposition of personal effects of all U. S. personnel and people subject to military law in the ETO. For example, those wounded in action, missing, deceased and prisoners of war. When a soldier is ill in hospital and becomes well again, the executive department of the hospital communicates with the effects officer and the personal belongings of the soldier are returned to him. If he is deceased his effects are sent to Kansas City to be handed over to his next of kin.

Honesty combined with integrity and dignity of character are the outstanding features of this GI effects unit. The colored soldiers are the guards and upon them is placed an obligation of trust in the execution of their duty. 11-16-44

These are the names of the colored boys in the outfit: Sgt. A. G. Newton of Manhattan, Kan.; Sgt. Marvin A. Wortham, Cpl. Charles Albertson, Philadelphia; Cpl. W. Earl Grimes, Detroit; Cpl. Robert Jones, Palm Beach, Fla.; Cpl. Numa Barnabo, Opelousa, La., and Pfc. A. Richie Carter, Houston, who writes more love letters than other members of the company. Here is a list of the Pfcs.: Clarence Dominguez, New Orleans; Robert Franklin, Arizona; James Hennings, St. Louis; F. Julius Lissimore, Valdosta, Ga.; Ike Perry, Atlanta; W. Jno Robertson, Cleveland; A. Joseph Willis, Atlanta, and Robert Winter, Jacksonville, Fla.

11-16-44

Here is a list of the privates, one of whom, James Maxwell, is from Savannah, Ga.: Frank Collier, Houston; Trollie Culbreath, Monroe, Ga.; Robert L. Giddings, Houston; N. Ambrose Johnson, West Virginia; Walter Latham, Kingston, N. C.; Joseph Lobe, Nantucket, Mass.; William McCall, North Carolina; A. Arthur Nash, Hope, Ark.; Brazeo Robinson, Miami; L. Hubert Sanders, St. Petersburg, Fla., and William Wilkerson, Chicago.

Col. Howard Queen's Unit Assigned to War Front

Baltimore Md
Afro-American 5-13-44

African Segregation Much Like That Experienced in Dixie; Men Glad to Leave

By MAX JOHNSON

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA — A recently arrived infantry unit, under Col. Howard D. Queen, still intact with all colored officer and personnel, has advanced to a war front assignment. The men are in good spirits, due largely to their eagerness to leave this area, where they found conditions too similar to those in the Southern States.

Max Johnson

Entertainment, especially dancing, existed under segregated arrangements for the enlisted men at Red Cross Clubs. Mixed dancing was not allowed even at officers' clubs although other facilities were provided.

The men found the attitude of civilians colder than expected. The general belief is that this was due to forewarnings from some unestablished sources.

Personnel of this unit includes, in addition to Col. Queen, Lieut. Cols. Alonzo G. Ferguson, Washington and Oscar Randall, Chicago, Majors James H. Robinson, George P. Lawrence, and Clinton C. Burke of Washington; Willis D. Polk, Philadelphia;; Edward C. Johnson, and William H. Bowers, Chicago, Capt. James D. Fowler, Washington, a 1941 West Point graduate.

Baltimoreans in Unit

Baltimoreans in the unit include:

Lt. Leroy Boldin, S-Sgts. Ralph Boyd, Calvin Thomas, Horace Palmer, Jr., and John Pitts; Sgts. Casper Pigot, Jr., Martin Wake, Alexander Ross, Preston Watson of Sparrows Point, Everett West; T-5s Robert and Charles Evans, Cpl. Joseph Hines;

COL. HOWARD D. QUEEN

Pfc. Clyde Garnes, Henry West, Elmer Dennis, Melvin Fentress, Milton A. Holly, Elgin Butler, John O. Hill, Walter Montague, Alfonso Curry, Grady Nichols, William Jackson of Sparrows Point, Pvt. Arthur Crieglar, former AFRO composing room employee.

NEWS OF ITS VALOR SPREADS THROUGHOUT SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa
4-1-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN, NNPA War Correspondent

BOUGAINVILLE—(Via Wireless from South Pacific)—Colored troops of the 24th Infantry and the 54th Coast Artillery, which is now doing artillery duty, are proving to even the most skeptical their effectiveness as combat units.

They are stopping the enemy in his tracks and have not yielded an inch of ground.

Their fire discipline has drawn many compliments. One general remarked that, considering their two years in the jungles doing other hard work, the men have taken to combat weapons like "naturals" and the base is "mighty proud of them."

Martin

News of the 24th having gone into action has spread throughout the South Pacific area. Major General Lehman, commander of a Negro combat force in this sector, visited our position. Whether this is an indication that colored reinforcements will be sent here in the future has not been authenticated as yet.

Brigadier General Arnold refuses to be quoted, but one official remarked, "Never can tell."

4-1-44

BLINDING FIRE STOPS ATTACK

Seasoned by preliminary skirmishes and co-ordinating efficiently, these elements of the American defense in this sector have successfully thwarted vain attempts by the Japanese to force a beachhead.

The 24th refuses to quit its muddy tract of jungles, stopping the enemy attacks with blinding automatic fire while artillery salvos thunder in the background.

The jungle reeks with the musty stench of dead Japanese bodies, which litter the boggy, bloody ground.

4-1-44

Twice the enemy tried infiltration tactics through our position, sergeant replied, "My God, let it go!" He did, and three Japanese, coming down stream in front of the position, were routed.

MACHINE GUNS SPRAY DEATH

Sporadically, machine guns spray the area with their message of death. They are a nemesis to the invader. Cpl. Joseph Luke, Atlanta, Ga.; Pfc. Dave Yancey, Rossville, Tenn.; Pvts. James Reynolds, Birmingham, Ala.; John Henry, Pittsville, Ala., and Freeman Jones, Oakland, Ala., to name a few, lie behind the pulsating monsters, discouraging any enemy advance.

Often the "long Toms" bark, and we know that our gunners of the 54th have been called back to duty in their sector.

The last few days of quietness can only mean that all hell will break loose in the near future. The Japanese usually attack us during rainy nights.

At our command post, when the rifle fire gets loud and close, those of us behind crouch lower in our foxholes which are very often filled with mud.

When periods of calmness occur, the falling leaves sound like boulders as they crash against the turf. Our breathing sounds not unlike a steaming locomotive.

Nights become centuries, and home a far-away place of the not too distant past. Sleep comes in jerks. Suddenly, shrieking shells pierce the air and start exploding, and the war climbs into the foxhole with you.

It is impossible to predict just how long an attack will last. God be praised! We have plenty of ammunition and sturdy men, who have been shooting straight.

4-1-44

and both times he left many dead and others dying. One brave son of Nippon surged through and his riddled body was later found—well ventilated.

In ever advancing waves the enemy attacks and in broken waves he dies, as our boys prove themselves to be masters of the situation. Our troops are keen of eye and steady of hand.

FOUR DIE IN ACTION

As we enter the second week of combat action, enemy resistance has quieted down. He may be licking his wounds. But we know that he is not through. His striking force numbers thousands.

During the interim our troops dig deeper into their lines and are waiting.

One desperate, though befuddled attack by the Japanese began on March 8. The enemy's losses numbered approximately 3,000, while those of the American defenders were under 300, among them four Negroes, who were killed in action. Our last death casualty occurred as the result of a sniper's bullet fired from ambush. Our troops aided by Fijiian defenders scoured the area in search of the enemy.

The morale of our troops soars despite the long hours spent in total darkness in jungles so thick with vegetation that it is difficult to use hand grenades. The strength-sapping heat in this area of operations must also be listed as a liability.

Our patrols continue to move into the bosom of the enemy's positions, not only reconnoitering, but engaging him when possible.

HIDE IN BUSHES

The soldiers of the Rising Sun have so far refused our challenge, and the few shots that have been fired by our accurate marksmen have been at the Japanese darting through the bushes.

Pfc. "Guns" Cheaton, Derry, La., remarked, "Each night we pray that they will come out instead of hiding like bushes." The enemy camouflages himself with bushes from the waist up and squats in waiting. However, shrewd eyes have caught the bushes running, and quite a few of these bushes have been rendered stationary by our men's unerring rifle fire.

The first blood has been drawn. The 24th is rocking in the saddle with little thought of withdrawal.

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Colored and White Engineer Units in Iran Build Highway in Record Time

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
11-4-44

Groups Gain Mutual Admiration for Each Other; Tan Yanks Tops in Repairing Vehicles

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA War Corerspondent

SABZ-AB, DESERT DISTRICT, IRAN—(By Courier, Delayed) — Few seem to remember the little cogwheels in the mighty Persian Gulf military machine when the subject of supplies to Russia through the Iranian corridor is discussed.

I visited with one such unit, the 436th Engineer Dump Truck Company and a detachment of Company E of the 352nd Engineer General Service Regiment, here at Sabz-Ab (pronounced like "Zab-Zab") in the heart of a torrid desert where the temperature remains between 150 and 170 all summer.

Arrived Here in 1943

The 436th was also one of the early arrivals here in the command, arriving in January, 1943. In the beginning the company performed general maintenance and hauling duties at Khorramshahr, and later at Ahwaz, which was their permanent station for quite some time.

It was on the road between Khorramshahr and Ahwaz that the beginning of the supply route to Russia that the 436th turned in one of the finest jobs ever performed in the Persian Gulf Command.

The construction of the road had been started by a New York civilian firm, but a manpower shortage and the continual floods which washed away much of the road as fast as it was built, were holding up the passage of materials through to the Soviet front.

Sets Record

Being the only dump truck outfit available, this company was thrown into the breach and proceeded to "dump" the entire road in record time.

On this job, the 436th was attached to the 334th, white, special service engineers, and this team set a terrific building pace that left the civilian contractors holding their mouths and eyes open in candid amazement.

Today, these two units have great respect and mutual admiration for each other, and feel mighty proud of their accomplishment.

New Yorker in Unit

Later, the 436th teamed up with the 352nd detachments in "blacktopping" the road between Ahwaz and Andimeshk, as well as operating the huge gravel pit located in the desert between the Shaur and Kharkheh Rivers.

Men like First Sgt. John C. Cammack of Chicago, T/4 Moses Roderick, Cape Cod, Mass., and Cpl. William Johnson of NYC, of the 436th, worked this section of the supply route in the early days on 24-hour shifts, and in temperatures which went as high as 189 degrees in the sun and 135 degrees in the shade.

Good Mechanics

These men have had to resort to all types of ingenious means and devices to keep their "ancient vintaged vehicles" in working order.

Although they were supposed only to grease and check the timing of vehcles, they can now perform any job, no matter how big or difficult, according to their commanding officer, Lt. Milton Krauss of Lock Haven, Pa.

I watched T/5 Benjamin Bard of Roxbury, Mass., and several other soldiers, supervised by Sgt. Willard Barnes of Detroit, welding broken axles, cutting out gaskets, and building up spark plugs by splitting 10-mm. and 14-mm. ones and then combining the two.

Average Age 35

The average age of the men of this unit is 35 years, and the effects of a life in this area, which has been quite rugged because of the heat, sandfly fever, dysentery, and malaria, shows quite plainly in most of them.

11-4-44

The majority of these GI's, whose homes are in the Midwest, spend their evenings attending the show, reading, or sitting around discussing the standard GI topic: "What Will There Be for Men of Our Age to Do in the Post-War Era?"

Jim-Crow Swimming

A mobile PX, operated by the Red Cross, moves up and down the line, thus giving these men, who frankly feel like exiles from home, the opportunity to do their general shopping.

When they feel like it, the men are able to drive in to Andimeshk for a swim on the days set aside for colored soldiers to use the pool.

47m-1944 **Foreign Service**

Harlem Hell Fighters Guard Pearl Harbor

By Fletcher Martin, INPA War Correspondent

PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR--(By Courier)--Honolulu, a symphony of races, creeds, colors! To these islands, over a period of years, have come Occidentals, Orientals, and natives from the South Seas--all to mingle with native Hawaiians. A melting pot of multi-colored peoples living amidst the grandeur that is the Territory of Hawaii. Then came deep tanned Negro troops from America to complete the tapestry of color. Fine, sturdy men--representatives of all black men who have fought in America's wars. And America was at war again.

"Harlem Hell Fighters," they call themselves. Armed to the hilt with anti-aircraft field pieces, they arrived in early 1942. The embers of enemy treachery were still smoldering when these inheritors of the famed records made by the envialle "Black Regiment," the 15th New York infantry during the last war arrived.

10-21-44

UNIT READY TO FIGHT AGAIN

At this hour, the reorganized unit under Lt. Col. Wilmer J. Lucas of Brooklyn, N. Y., is ready to push forward again--to fight for the right to live as equals to any man, anywhere. And as former commander, Col. Chauncey M. Cooper, said, "Every man in the regiment is eager to match the record made by the unit during the last war."

Their tactical mission at this highly strategic command is the guarding of Pearl Harbor. An important cog in the Caribbean-air-or it defenses, this regiment of more than 1500 Negro officers and men help guard the harbor from mountain recesses. The first colored combat unit to reach Pearl Harbor following December 7, a prodigious amount of lor has been expended by the New York outfit.

WANT TO SEE ACTION

What of future operations out of American waters out where enemy inner defenses begin? Lt. Faulkner Watts, one of the battery commanders, summed it up:

"We would like to see some action. I can imagine all fighting units do. We would hate to go home without having fired at an enemy plane. But they tell us we are a part of the island defenses, an important part. It has been over two years now, and perhaps the chances of combat fade. But then you can never tell. As God, the American Army works in mysterious ways! You can never tell."

WOODRUFF COMMANDS BATTERY

Big Johnny Woodruff, great halfmiler from the University of Pittsburgh, is here, now Captain Woodruff, battery commander. And there are numerous other athletes. But perhaps better known than the runners, baseballers, and other athletic greats, is the array of known musicians. Cpl. Otis Johnson (Louis Armstrong); Pvt. Robert Ashton, Dick Thompson (Benny Carter); Ben Richards (Blanche Calloway); shy Reuben Reeves, formerly with Cab Calloway.

The most popular presentation of the group was the "Chocolate Soldier," a musical extravaganza. The curtains ran upon an audience that overflowed to the woods behind the beautiful outdoor theatre built by the regiment. All was under the direction of Major Marshall, who left his job as engineer in the Brooklyn Navy Yards and entered the New York National Guards with the rank of captain.

KEEP IT UP TO DATE

The unit is kept up to date on the Pacific situation. Orientation officer, Capt. Basil A. Lane, of Louisville, Ky., has been sent here by the war department especially to keep the unit tactically informed on current developments. Affable, lively Captain Lane is "just one of the fellows," but from all indications it goes a bit deeper than that. The men have recognized the former West Virginia state college lean as a scholar; his opinions carry weight.

Courier---Pittsburgh, Pa. 10-21-44

Negro Troops In Aleutians Eat Lunch With FDR

AN ALEUTIAN ISLAND BASE---Negro soldiers, sailors and marines were among the enlisted men who lunched with President Roosevelt when he visited this base two weeks ago.

Seated indiscriminately around the large mess hall, the colored service men ate with their commander-in-chief as he shared their simple meals. Earlier, thousands of sailors and soldiers, white and Negro, stood at attention as the President passed, waving and returning their salutes.

The President paid a surprise visit to this Aleutian base, arriving on a warship, by way of Honolulu. At the end of lunch, he made some impromptu remarks praising the members of the armed forces participating in the Aleutian campaign and construction program.

Defender--Chicago, Ill. 8-19-44

92nd Living Up To Its Tradition

World — Memphis, Tenn. 9-22-44

BY JAMES A. SANDERS

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY — (ANP)—The 92nd Infantry division which distinguished itself in the Argonne in 1918, is a new member of Lt. Gen. Mark Clark's

Fifth army storming through the battered Gothic line in Italy. The 92nd is the first such combat team of Negro ground troops to enter the siege of Hitler's Fortress Europe. If past performances is to be used as any measure of present or future accomplishments, the die is cast for those elements of the Hitler plague who are feverishly back pedaling out of Italy.

In the historic Argonne conflict elements of the 92nd remained in the line for more than three months without relief. So magnificently did they acquit themselves that France awarded them the Croix de Guerre, ranking French decoration. They were also among the first troops of the AEF to set foot on enemy territory.

DARING HERITAGE 9-22-44

It must have been of this that Gen. Clark was thinking when he told them on the eve of their first battle participation that they "have a chance to cover yourselves with glory fighting side by side with other allied Armies in Italy." These youngish men and officers are sons and brothers, some of them, of the heroes who put the 92nd in the niche of great war machines. Their courage and daring has come down to them as a heritage from their predcessoors, and they will keep that tradition untainted, these men who represent every segment of American life and come from every state in the union.

When Gen. Clark visited the wounded of the 92nd at an evacuation hospital, he awarded ten of them, nine infantrymen and one white officer, with the Purple Heart. The general talked a few minutes with each of them, and commended them and their outfit for their initial accomplishments.

MORALE IS HIGH 9-22-44

Courage and esprit de corps is very high, unlike their comrades of '18 they know what they are fighting for, they know what victory will mean to them and their posterity. They will tell you that they know that when victory is achieved every man in the arsenal of democracy will be accorded the dreams set forth in the bill of rights. That and the long waited chance to take a crack at the false "super-men" is all a part of the majestic dynamic that promises to give them a commanding place among the victors of World War II. 9-22-44

Their training and equipment is second to none which gives them an advantage over the enemy from the beginning. The 92nd was reactivated in the fall of 1942 at Breckenridge, Ky. Their later and more intensive training was carried on at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. The outfit is fortunate in that most of its colored officers are men who have been with the division since its reactivation. Also to their advantage is that many of these officers came up through the ranks, and later were sent of the infantry officer candidate school at Fort Benning, Ga. The non-commissioned officers have the command of the newest and most exacting techniques because most of them have come through army specialist schools, and have had special training for the job they have.

TIME IS SHORT 9-22-44

Only time will tell just how far this well-tuned machine will go in winning and writing a colorful chapter in World War II—and the time is short. From somewhere out in the heaven of these men who died at Argonne, those boys have caught and will hold "what it takes." Their's is just another example of the love for freedom, devotion to country, of training and the red badge of courage that has come down from the distant most prime of their race.

NEWS OF ITS VALOR SPREADS THROUGHOUT SOUTH PACIFIC AREA

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-1-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN, NNPA War Correspondent

BOUGAINVILLE—(Via Wireless from South Pacific)—Colored troops of the 24th Infantry and the 54th Coast Artillery, which is now doing artillery duty, are proving to even the most skeptical their effectiveness as combat units. They are stopping the enemy in his tracks and have not yielded an inch of ground.

Their fire discipline has drawn many compliments. One general remarked that, considering their two years in the jungles doing other hard work, the men have taken to combat weapons like "naturals" and the base is "mighty proud of them."

Martin

News of the 24th having gone into action has spread throughout the South Pacific area. Major General Lehman, commander of a Negro combat force in this sector, visited our position. Whether this is an indication that colored reinforcements will be sent here in the future has not been authenticated as yet.

Brigadier General Arnold refuses to be quoted, but one official remarked, "Never can tell."

BLINDING FIRE STOPS ATTACK 4-1-44

Seasoned by preliminary skirmishes and co-ordinating efficiently, these elements of the American defense in this sector have successfully thwarted vain attempts by the Japanese to force a beachhead.

The 24th refuses to quit its muddy tract of jungles, stopping the enemy attacks with blinding automatic fire while artillery salvos thunder in the background.

The jungle reeks with the musty stench of dead Japanese bodies, which litter the boggy, bloody ground.

Twice the enemy tried infiltration tactics through our position, and both times he left many dead and others dying. One brave son of Nippon surged through and his riddled body was later found—well ventilated. 4-1-44

In ever advancing waves the enemy attacks and in broken waves he dies, as our boys prove themselves to be masters of the situation. Our troops are keen of eye and steady of hand.

FOUR DIE IN ACTION

As we enter the second week of combat action, enemy resistance has quieted down. He may be licking his wounds. But we know that he is not through. His striking force numbers thousands.

During the interim our troops dig deeper into their lines and are waiting.

One desperate, though befuddled attack by the Japanese began on March 8. The enemy's losses numbered approximately 3,000, while those of the American defenders were under 300, among them four Negroes, who were killed in action. Our last death casualty occurred as the result of a sniper's bullet fired from ambush. Our troops aided by Fijiian defenders scoured the area in search of the enemy.

The morale of our troops soars despite the long hours spent in total darkness in jungles so thick with vegetation that it is difficult to use hand grenades. The strength-sapping heat in this area of operations must also be listed as a liability.

Our patrols continue to move into the bosom of the enemy's positions, not only reconnoitering, but engaging him when possible.

HIDE IN BUSHES 4-1-44

The soldiers of the Rising Sun have so far refused our challenge, and the few shots that have been fired by our accurate marksmen have been at the Japanese darting through the bushes.

Pfc. "Guns" Cheaton, Derry, La., remarked, "Each night we pray that they will come out instead of hiding like bushes." The enemy camouflages himself with bushes from the waist up and squats in waiting. However, shrewd eyes have caught the bushes running, and quite a few of these bushes have been rendered stationary by our men's unerring rifle fire.

The first blood has been drawn. The 24th is rocking in the saddle with little thought of withdrawal. They have enlarged their muddy tract. The enemy, who bounded in it was either bounced off or carried off by his comrades as hors de combat.

During one night on duty, First Sgt. Arthur Jones, Detroit, was testing a telephone line running to the front. A voice on the opposite end yelled, "I've got a grenade in my hand and have already pulled the pin! What do you want?" The sergeant replied, "My God, let it go!" He did, and three Japanese, coming down stream in front of the position, were routed.

MACHINE GUNS SPRAY DEATH 4-1-44

Sporadically, machine guns spray the area with their message of death. They are a nemesis to the invader. Cpl. Joseph Luke, Atlanta, Ga.; Pfc. Dave Yancey, Rossville, Tenn.; Pvts. James Reynolds, Birmingham, Ala.; John Henry, Pittsville, Ala., and Freeman Jones, Oakland, Ala., to name a few, lie behind the pulsating monsters, discouraging any enemy advance.

Often the "long Toms" bark, and we know that our gunners of the 54th have been called back to duty in their sector.

The last few days of quietness can only mean that all hell will break loose in the near future. The Japanese usually attack us during rainy nights.

At our command post, when the rifle fire gets loud and close, those of us behind crouch lower in our foxholes which are very often filled with mud.

When periods of calmness occur, the falling leaves sound like boulders as they crash against the turf. Our breathing sounds not unlike a steaming locomotive.

Nights become centuries, and home a far-away place of the not too distant past. Sleep comes in jerks. Suddenly, shrieking shells pierce the air and start exploding, and the war climbs into the foxhole with you. 4-1-44

It is impossible to predict just how long an attack will last. God be praised! We have plenty of ammunition and sturdy men, who have been shooting straight.

S-Sgt. H. A. W. In

been on the front line since shortly after D-Day. Never have outfit is composed of boys rth and South. We have ught the Civil War over r again in friendly argu- ments, but on one point we are cut on one point we are The Negro soldier in this Even the medics get their share rves. of credit. It makes us mad to see , in the majority of cases, a bunch of rear-echelon cowboys chelon cowboy who never grabbing credit where they have front lines. We have done nothing to deserve it.—

1-24-44

St. Louisans In France Give Views Of The G.I.'s

St. Louis Post-Dispatch
St. Louis, Missouri

St. Louisans, members of a war is getting more credit than duck company serving in the mighty drive against the German Siegfried Line, forwarded clippings from the U. S. service newspaper, "The Stars and Stripes," which asked people at home can have "you people at home can have first hand information about the thoughts of other people about us Negro men over here."

The group making the request are Warrant Officer John Andrews, 1708 Cora avenue; S-Sgt. Earnest Smith, 2744 Thomas street; S-Sgt. Fred Barker, 2716 Stoddard street, and Pfc. Harold Saunders, 4336 Cook avenue.

The lines in the official newspaper read as folows:

The Humans Should 11-24-44

"I'm in a hospital in the ETO. There are only three colored boys in this ward and we get along like humans should. We are treated well regardless of race, creed, or color. That's the post-war pattern!

—A regular Army GI., Franklin Lathan, Jr., 1-Sgt.

* * *

"Let's Set the Post-War Pattern" in your Sept. 9 issue crack-

* * *

"Our outfit is composed of boys from North and South. We often fought the Civil War over again in friendly arguments, but on one point we are agreed. The Negro soldier in this front line deserves. Even the medics get their share of credit. It makes us mad to see, in the majority of cases, a bunch of rear-echelon cowboys and over again. We have done nothing to deserve it.—

"He is, in the post-war pattern, a rear-echelon cowboy who never saw the front lines. We have done nothing to deserve it.—

COLONIALS PERFORM 'IMPOSSIBLE' FEAT

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

By RANDY DIXON, Courier War Correspondent

12-2-44

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES—Last week it was the colored troops, comprising the French Fifth Army, who astounded the world with the epic breakthrough at Belfort Gap and shoved the very commendable deeds of the U.S. Negro tank, tank destroyer, artillery and smoke generator units into the background.

This week it is the spectacular lunge into Strasbourg of General LeClerc's Second Armored division, the same division that liberated Paris, which has further intensified the decisive aspects of the Allies' Southern salient and simultaneously relegated for to the rear the arrival in the battle zone of the first Negro combat engineers dispatched to this combat theatre.

EISENHOWER CONFERS

The significance of the situation on the Southern salient was reflected Sunday midnight, when the Algiers radio quoted Paris as stating that General Eisenhower, accompanied by Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, had hastened to the sectors, where the French are fighting for important conferences, with Gen. DeLattre DeTassigny, commander of the French First Army.

New ordeals for the harassed Hun are being prepared with the black Frenchmen added to the full house General Eisenhower is parlaying along his far flung Western offensive. At this moment Gen. Jacob Devers of the U.S. Sixth Army group, to which the French are attached, is pouring tanks and artillery into Strasbourg to help seal the escape routes of 77,000 Germans in flight from the Vosges mountains through the narrowing gap between Strasbourg and the French First Army converging north from Mulhouse.

PINCER MOVE

When General Devers planned this pincer move, even the most optimistic Allied commander didn't expect such rapid and spectacular successes and although it is LeClerc's armored liberators, who today hold the forefront, it was the French First Army whose punch at Belfort was the key to the Allied successes. They achieved the impossible by forcing the Belfort Gap, a feat no one accomplished before.

Then General Patch, with LeClerc's armored spearheads, and American infantrymen, by one smash blow to Strasbourg split the German army, which is now fighting 30 miles behind the main front.

FRANCE IN RAPTURE

Incidentally France continues in rapture over the feats of its black soldiers and their commanders. When the news of the entry into Strasbourg reached Paris Wednesday, the debate in the assembly was suspended, while soldiers were acclaimed and assemblymen sang La Marseillaise.

On the next day DeTassigny and his divisional commanders were awarded the Cross of Liberation for their and their men's feats. Emphasis is being placed too on the rare achievement of LeClerc's unit in liberating both Paris and Strasbourg. It is an achievement which has befallen no other French General since the French revolutionary wars.

LeCLERC'S STORY

Long before the Allied liberation of France the legend of LeClerc and his men had begun with one of the greatest marches in military history. It was the expedition from Lake Chad, when as a colonel he led a motorized column across 1200 miles of mountain and desert to join Montgomery's Eighth Army in Libya and Tunisia.

In January, 1943, when they started out, the 40-year-old crippled LeClerc told his followers—a scratch lot of French officers, who had escaped the Nazi holocaust in France, with brown and black volunteers from Senegal and Brazzaville—"Our objectivet is Paris. We shall keep going until we get there and then we shall go on to Strasbourg."

TRUE PROPHECY

Never has prophecy been uttered with such devastating and piercing accuracy. During the days of Patton's great drive to Paris, the official communiques did less than justice to the men of LeClerc's army. Within a few minutes of landing in France at the beginning of August, these vets, who had received their Sherman tanks just a few days before embarking, began a non-stop march night and day through villages.

After three days, worn out and grimy, they assembled and went into action from a point near Avranches. They drove the German Panzer divisions back into the Falaise gap. In three more days they knocked out between 400 and 500 German armored vehicles, destroyed one Panzer division, and the best part of another.

FIRST IN PARIS

They fought a terrific three-day tank battle north of Alencon, after which they were selected to rescue Koning's beleaguered patriots in their precarious plight. After prematurely announcing Paris as liberated, LeClerc's men were the first Allied forces in Paris, setting up headquarters underneath the Gare Montparnasse, an overhead railway station, with a strong concrete roof. German snipers were firing spasmodically along the tracks, but LeClerc and his black heroes were up and down the platform and across the tracks, indifferent to the occasional crackle of machine gun and rifle fire.

LeClerc is slim, fair-haired, with brilliant eyes, in a tanned face. He is adored by his men who respond automatically to his familiarity, gentility and sterness in turns. His Paris achievements were phenomenal, but his feat at Strasbourg even more so, from a military standpoint. Strasbourg is a city of 180,000 people and was one of the most important communications centers seized by the Germans in January, 1942.

COMBAT ENGINEERS

The U.S. Negro combat engineers mentioned above were formerly an infantry battalion. They were activated as combat engineers last year at Camp McCain, Miss., and went on maneuvers with the 75th, the 44th and the 92nd divisions in Louisiana. They are under the command of Major Fuller, a West Point graduate, who says he is proud of their record so far, and is certain they will come through in combat.

Equally certain are Pfc. Theodore Hawkins and T/5 Calvin Scott, two members of the unit with whom I talked. Hawkins, from Asbury Park, N.J., where his wife, Mildred, now lives, is 40 years old, and attended Greenville college, Tenn. Scott, 20, is from Houston, Tex., the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Scott. He attended Fisk and Prairie View and is a dental technician with the battalion headquarters company. He has a cousin in the Navy and another in the Army.

The unit's chores include mine detecting, laying bridges, general combat engineering and fighting. Their weapons include 88 mortars, rifles, machine guns and bazookas. Three colored warrant officers: Max Mosby, Redbank, N.J.; another named Thompson, and a third named Mack, are with these engineers.

Tears Largest Hole In Gothic Line Defenses

Journal & Guide - Norfolk Va
10-14-44

Infantrymen Cross Serra; Threaten Port of La Spezia

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright. Reproduction Forbidden.)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN THE GOTHIC LINE—(Via Wireless)—One of the most significant gains made by Fifth Army troops in the last several days of slow, difficult fighting in mud and blinding rain was credited to the courageous units of the 92nd division.

These units crossed the Serra River on Monday and captured the town of Seravezza, 21 miles southeast of the big naval base of La Spezia. This sudden thrust northward by these Negro infantrymen was regarded as an outstanding contribution to the progress on the Fifth Army front. It was the biggest gain of any units on Monday. 10-14-44

During these operations, the 92nd combat team was flanked by the Brazilian Army which made limited gains further inland.

Despite intermittent cloudbursts, these infantry units had continued their pressure on the mountains near the west coast of the Italian peninsula south of Bologna throughout the past few days when the fighting here almost reached a stalemate. The German defenders of these Gothic Line fortifications have been throwing heavy artillery, mortar, and automatic weapons fire at these Negro troops in an effort to abate this pressure.

JORDAN

STAR FULLBACK 10-14-44

Marshall Kesselring's cramped Krauts are probably wondering where those Negro infantrymen will turn up next. They have been shifting around from sector to sector in the Gothic Line like a star fullback for the last several weeks. Just before their sensational drive into Seravezza, the combat team had pushed relentlessly forward along Highway One taking strategic heights just south of La Spezia which, when captured, will be an important prize for the Fifth Army. 10-14-44

FOUGHT 3 SECTORS

This is the third sector of operations for the 92nd unit in recent days. The infantry division fought a terrible battle with the Germans north of Lucca until the Nazis withdrew. Then they shifted to the sector north of Pistoia. Finally, these units shifted into the coastal sector where they are now driving toward the key Italian naval base. base.

Probing northward in rain and mud, the 92nd took Mt. Costa and Mt. Canala, about 20 miles north of the seaport, Via Reggio on Saturday of last week. On Sunday, the units fought their way into the town of Ripa. Other units crossed the Serra and entered Seravezza. 10-14-44

CHAPLAIN HERO

In a spectacular advance in the Gothic Line on Sunday, units under Captain Hurlon J. Dulan, of Oklahoma City, temporarily lost contact with the main body of troops.

92nd's Band of 67 Pieces Praised as Best in Area

Afro-American Baltimore, Md
12-2-44

By ART CARTER
U.S. Troops in Italy

AFRO War Correspondent with
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WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—(By Courier)—Although a recent arrival here, the 92nd Infantry Division Band, a 67-piece unit, which has taken its music up to the combat zone, is already fast winning praise as the best in the theatre.

The band, directed by Warrant Officer Earl W. Madison, Chicago, and Hector [illegible] Hill, New York City, graduates of the Army Music School at Fort Myer, Va., serves not only for regular military programs, but also for division entertainments, hospital programs, and radio broadcasts.

2 Orchestras Formed

To take care of many of the requests, two orchestras have been organized, under the direction of M/Sgt. Robert Plater, composer and T/Sgt. Oscar Smith, Mineral Wells, Tex.

Years of music experience is scattered among the members of the band, as many were plucked from some music job in civilian life and cast in the role of soldier-musicians after the basic training period.

Among its members are:
Cpl. Frank A. Freeman, 1013 W. Lanvale Street, Baltimore, the only Marylander; T/Sgt. Laverne E. Newsome, Indianapolis, Ind., who taught music at Talladega College and In-

[illegible] graduation from Northwestern [illegible] University; Sgt. Joseph Simmons, assistant band leader, who has been in the army twenty-seven years, twenty-one in military bands, two of which he organized; Pfc. Warren H. Rooser, Trenton, N.J., trumpeter; T/5 William White, 6-foot-two-inch drum major, Pontiac, Mich.;

2 SETS OF BROTHERS

T/5's Eugene and Samuel Hicks, Albuquerque, N.M., and Pfcs. Henry O. and Marshall M. Penn, Chicago, the latter former member of Michigan University's band;

Sgt. James H. Suggs, Jr., Springfield, Ohio; S/Sgt. Oscar L. Cobb, Fort Worth, Tex.; S/Sgt. Clarence H. Gray, Champaign, Ill.; T/4's Frank A. Scott, Charleston, S.C.; T/5's Paul L. Miles, Boston; John A. Gordon, Fred King, NYC; Howard T. Murphy, Pontiac, Mich.; Earl C. Crawford, Ossining, N.Y.; B. Miller, Bridgeport, Ohio; Raymond Muskogee, Okla.; Clarence M. Petrie, Kittaning, Pa., and George and Clifford A. Love, Kansas City, Mo.; Walter Cox, Detroit, and Edward L. Brown, New Orleans; Kermit L. McFarlin, Tampa, Fla.; William J. Allston, Abraham L. Beckwith, Camden, N.J.; William Cumming, and Robert H. Washington, Newark, N.J.; Warren Ferebee, Philadelphia, Samuel Buren, St. Louis;

FROM ALL SECTIONS

T/5's John N. Hughes, St. Joseph, Mich.; Isaac J. Powell, Pittsburgh; Amos W. Wright, Jackson, Miss.; T/5's Joseph E. Rainey, Jr., NYC; Mills, John [illegible] Booker T. Brown, Pfcs. Lawrence E. Brown, Prather Flynn, Wallace Jones, Louis C. Luckett, Ernest Miller, Charles H. Porter,

Chicago; James N. Dupree, Indianapolis; James B. Gasley, John E. Imes, St. Louis; George W. Guines, John E. Franklin, Detroit;

Pfcs. Andrew D. Wilson, Dayton, and William Carter, Columbus, Ohio; John K. Burris, Clinton, Mo.; Charles S. Watson, NYC; Henry C. McKinney, Waycros, Ga.; Earl L. Morris, Los Angeles;

Pfcs. Leroy Lang, David W. Paschal, Miami; Warren Myers, Kittaning, Pa.; Henry R. Slaughter, Wheeling, W.Va.; Ernest Wiley, San Bernardino, Calif.; Eugene L. Collins and James R. Hughes, Austin, Texas.

PRIVATE GIVES LIFE IN GRUELLING FIGHT

Pvt. Conrad, Pa.

12-2-44

By HASKELL COHEN
(Courier War Correspondent)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—This battle story isn't being written to glorify Lt. Royal F. Bolling or the private who died by his side. Their deeds speak for themselves. This story is written rather to explain the weekly communique of the 92nd Division which continues to read: "The situation along the front remains generally unchanged."

During the past few weeks we have tried to point out that the terrain which the 92nd is fighting for is the hardest in the world to capture. One mountain peak after another is stymying the advance of the division in the toughest, most gruelling fighting imaginable.

CAPTURES HILL

Last Saturday afternoon a 92nd company in the fighting captured the hill designated as Georgia. Georgia is the lowest knoll in four graduated knolls. It has steep drops on both flanks commanded by enemy artillery from adjacent peaks, making it imperative to attack from the front. Midway up the hill is a stone wall with a break in the middle.

Two squads started up the slope intent upon rushing through this small gap. It wasn't a question of manpower. We could have a million men grouped for the attack, but only small groups in single file could attempt to scale and attack the Nazi stronghold in this sector.

HELL BREAKS LOOSE

As the two squads breached the gap, all hell broke loose. The Jerries above began to sock them with mortars and machine guns. Our heavy guns on surrounding flats poured artillery fire into these mortar teams intent upon destroying them before they took too great a toll of our attack squads.

Despite the intense enemy barrages, the boys of the 92nd sped to the left inside the broken wall where two Germans manned machine guns in an elevated outpost. When these two saw they were outgunned, they immediately hoisted white handkerchiefs. Just as soon as they began waving their kerchiefs, the German artillery trained their guns on the outpost and blasted away, killing their own men and dispersing our patrol, wounding five of our soldiers.

THREE-MAN TEAM

Lieutenant Bolling and his group of men continued climbing the knoll hand over hand, passing supplies and ammunition along as they wrestled their way toward the objective. Working in a three-man team, Bolling and two others—a sergeant and a private—tossed hand grenades to each other with the top man pulling the pin and chucking it upward toward the German dugouts.

The Germans, using a reverse slope tactic, merely dropped their grenades downward trying to knock the persistent trio out. Just as Bolling and the other two reached the crest of the objective, a blast killed the private, blowing off both his legs. Unable to take the hill by themselves, Lieutenant Bolling and the sergeant made their way back to the company.

A day later members of the operations staff showed me exactly how the battle site looked from the German side. With the aid of maps I was able to see clearly how the field of battle appeared to the Nazi entrenched on top of the knolls.

The four hills stand out boldly and outposts, guns and bunkers are pin-pointed on the map.

In addition they clearly revealed how the Jerries make use of the reverse slope for dugouts. These slopes drop precipitously down from the summit. After nine months of preparation they have carved out of the granite walls on the reverse side gun proof dugouts. Just as soon as we open fire on these summits, Jerry rushes into these dugouts and pulls his guns in with him, making the defenders impervious to our heavy gunfire.

And that is why the weekly communique continues to read: "The situation along the front remains generally unchanged."

Mystery-Veiled American Peaks Face 92nd

12-9-44

Bloody Battle Being Fought for Seaport

MEN JUST VANISH

Baltimore, Md.

Nazi Advantage Fails to Quell Courage

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—(By Cable)—There is a mystery about the mountains here which adds a strangeness to this front where rugged infantrymen of the 92nd Division are making slow, painful penetration against Germans in the hill defenses barring Allied troops from the seaport of La Spezia.

A gray tantalizing haze hangs over the brutal mountain-tops most of the time and one peak, which towers over the rest is now capped.

This is the German-held Altissimo appearing very near and easily accessible from this distance, but the path to that dominant height is being stained with blood of many men, just like the roads leading to already captured peaks.

12-9-44

Bloody Brawls

The tremendous struggle necessary to reach these enemy peaks is not marked by large-scale close-in battling but by calculating artillery duels and bloody brawls between small opposing bands of riflemen who drove through rocky hillsides and cross valley streams on patrols.

An unnatural darkness hovers over the valley and men walk into the shadows of mountains and often are swallowed up.

Hard to Evade Enemy

They sometimes vanish like leaves blown away by cold winds, as thumping reports of the enemy's unseen shellfire echo against the hills, sounding twice as loud to soldiers on flat ground.

In a steep-sloped terrace like this, it is extremely difficult to take cover from the enemy who is above you, as Jerries invariably are.

The advantage of altitude was clearly demonstrated on a recent attack when the Germans securely dug in and peppered the terraced mountainside with everything in Ammo book, as the infantrymen attempted to climb the slope.

Situation Tense

Only our mortar fire finally routed them from the spot but a draw which other men had to pass was still exposed to artillery and machine gun fire, curtailing any mass movement in that direction.

Artillery shells kept the situation tense. Lt. James H. Gillam, 1813 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, a platoon leader, was receiving a phone message from the leader on a flank when a voice said, "I am being shelled."

Simultaneously he heard the crash of a shell and the phone went out. He never heard the voice again and the man who made the call has never been seen again.

Tells of Narrow Escape

"Pure luck," is the way Lt. Gilliam described his own narrow escape when three mortar shells dropped five yards away from his foxhole leaving him unscathed.

That characterizes the kind of fighting in the coastal sector of the Fifth Army front where men like Capt. Robert Hough of Washington, William S. Banks, New Orleans; Lts. Edgard Felton, Jehu Hunter, Jr., both of Washington are among company commanders leading men into action.

12-9-44

There are also platoon leaders like Royall Bolling, Framingham, Mass., and James W. Parrish, Oakdale, La., who go forward at night with patrols to gain information, test rival defenses and locate gun positions, and wire barriers.

N.Y. Officer in Group

It is this kind of terrain that keeps determined infantrymen like Lt. Stanley Braithwaite, NYC; Pfc. Robert Saunders, Memphis; Cpl. James Grant, Cincinnati, busy directing 105-mm. fire against mountaintops.

It also helps soldiers like Cpl. Elvin Adams of Charlotte, N.C., lugging ammunition and supplies on their backs because pack mules cannot get over the trail which leads their unit's fighting line.

D.C. Soldiers on Alert

It is the kind of a war that keeps three Washington fellows like Sgts. Clarence Burke, 104 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest, operations clerk; Robert Horsley, 3020 Arkansas Avenue, Northwest, and Samuel White, 1634 Fifteenth Street, Northwest, on the alert back at regimental headquarters.

Lts. Milton H. Curtis, 1824 S Street, Northwest, Washington, and Morgan C. Brown, Jamestown, N.Y., are kept busy jeep-racing back and forth up a long stretch of shell-exposed highway with liaison reports, while Lt. Taber DeCosta, Charleston, S.C., is constantly on his toes keeping communications in tact.

Smoke Screens Used

This war keeps all sections and all men busy as the 92nd continues to maintain heavy pressure against the Germans who have found it necessary to use smoke screens to protect their movements.

For three successive days, observers have reported smoke used in the extreme coastal area of South Massa, the last sizable town blocking the road to La Spezia, but there has been no let-up in the resistance by Jerries and no material changes in the positions.

Everybody is still dug in deep and no one dares move from his hole during the day.

At many points our positions are hardly more than 300 to 1000 yards apart from the enemy, which is always looking down our throats. The fog adds an eerie mystery to the scene.

American on Leyte Famed as Guerrilla Band Leader

12-17-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
NNPA War Correspondent

LEYTE BEACH, Philippines—(By Courier)—On Samar Island, northeast of Leyte, fighting with rare fierceness, is Capt. Frank Merith, an American and the leader of a Philippino guerrilla band, whose deeds have spread among American troops like wild fire.

The exact whereabouts of the giant captain, who was attached to General MacArthur's command, is still secret by military information. Captured by the enemy, he later escaped and was chosen by the guerrillas as one of their leaders.

Japs. American planes dropped some ammunition and American submarines smuggled equipment in. However, because of the intenseness of the operations, all has been too little.

Because the Japs took away the food, the population has suffered misserably from malnutrition. Now, however, five doctors and one dentist are at work patching up the ills of the populace, chief of which are sores, blisters, malarial cases and pneumonia.

Captain Merith, reportedly, has been in the Philippines for many years, making his home on Samar. He married a native woman and owned property. Three out of five Filipinos questioned on Leyte know or know of Captain Merith.

Few rifles were taken from the Armed with bolos, knives, even

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Guerilla Warriors On Samar Island Avenge

Philadelphia Tribune 12-30-44

Ruthless Jap Ravishing of Treasured Relics

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
Representing the Philadelphia Tribune and NNPA
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SAMAR ISLAND, PHILIPPINES—By Courier—The humanistic element in guerilla warfare is the fascinating element that differentiates it from general large scale battle. And as a results it is more exciting to observe. This fact is largely true because it represents war waged by people who, by the principles of war, are defeated, but refuse to accept defeat. It's the fight of the underdog against the hound in a backyard shrouded by obstacles of nature which gives the underling a chance at countering in his own surroundings.

On Samar guerilla fighting is swift attack in the darkness, and swift withdrawl. Its carrying supplies on back over mountain trails, down rivers by native borotas. Its marching by day, by night, ever watchful for ambush.

It's sleeping on the ground, eating dry rice, killing hogs for meat on the way. It's running, sweating. It's war on a small scale, but it reaches the maximum in intenseness. And the reason is obvious:

It represents a war of revenge. The fight is not one solely for principles, but the fulfillment of the Mosaic Law. It is waged by home folks who have seen a ruthless enemy level to ashes those things they hold dear.

For th past few weeks this correspondent has accompanied Filipino guerillas on the typhoon-swept island of Samar, northeast of Leyte island. The trip originated as a search for the black-skinned guerilla leader Major Merritt, Filipino of American Negro extraction. I did not find Major Merritt who at th time was elsewhere in the bosom of combat, but wound up in the midst of the battle for the city of Taft on Samar's east coast.

In the valleys and on the mountainside of this, the third largest island in the Philippines, we watched brown youngsters armed with rifles and bolos stalk and kill. We heard their battle songs, shared their food, helped care for the wounded. We saw them charge in a hail of fire and sweep Japanese before them.

The interior of the island is mountainous, most of the half million people live along the seacoast. There are few roads and its is very difficult to cross from one coast to the other. The whole of the island is subject to destructive typhoons which originate in the Pacific Ocean and sweep across the Philippines to the China Sea.

The islanders are childlike in simplicity. Most of them are farmers who know little save the care of their rice paddies and water buffaloes. Those who did not farm eked out a distilling the salt from ocean water. They weave their cloth from plants and go barefoot. The rice they grow they eat along with native potatoes and pork.

When the Japs came early in 1942 those who couldn't fight "buckwheated" into the hills. Buckwheation means evacuation. Major Merritt (then captain) and others who refused to surrender formed a guerilla army and carried on the fight—harassing enemy troop movements. Merritt made fighting equipment—grenades, rifles—out of scrap metal. But despite these weapons and those America was able to get in by submarine, it was not enough.

At the present there are arms—Garand rifles, Browning automatic rifles, mortars, and Enfield rifles. There is captured enemy arms. And best of all—there are men who know how to use them.

One young, grinning officer remarked, "There were times when we thought the General (MacArthur) had forgot us. And there were some of us who were weakening to Japanese stories that Americans would not return to the Philippines. They used to tell us, We are all the same color, why should colored people be fighting one another? The white monkey is the common enemy.'"

Evidence here proves that while the enemy spread this talk on one hand they mutilated Filipinos on the other. And now the table has been spun in the other direction.

We reached Samar under cover of da ness. The small rocket ship sailed around the southen tip of the island and we disembarked at a point almost halfway on the east coast. Twenty-one native borotas met us at dawn, laughing brown people stood ashore. The sight was almost unbelievable. The guerilla village turned out, and it was surprising to see soldier twenty-one.

Fires were started, pigs were killed—the feast was made ready which was to preface our trek over the mountains into enemy country. Long haired, beautiful girls said American songs. We didn't know what the future held in store, but the present was pleasant. We didn't know that we were soon to experience hairraising experiences, perhaps we did not care. The moon shone over the blue waters, the pigs roasted, the rice was steaming—and for the present, there was peace.

Battalion In Action Near Metz

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

12-8-44

Lt. Charles Gates Of Kansas City in Thick of Battle

12-8-44

WITH THE THIRD U. S. ARMY IN THE METZ AREA.—Spearheading a task drive of the 26th "Yankee" division which jumped off November 8, the all-Negro 761st tank battalion now in action with the U. S. Army captured four important towns, secured two bridge crossings and successfully battered its way through the strongly defended Forest de Bride, the war department announced this week.

The Negro tankmen were committed to action following the 26th Division's capture of Metz, which never before fell to direct assault in modern times. They lunged into the battle with such ferocity and courage that Captain Irvin McHenry of Leavenworth, Kas., received the nickname of "The Bronze Devil," and Staff Sgt Reuben Rivers of Route 1, Box 27, Tecumseh, Okla., received the Silver Star for routing nearly 300 Germans. A dozen members of the medical detachment were cited for heroism under fire.

German Praises Bravery

A captured German officer, after having had a taste of the Negro tankmen and their work, said: "So far as fighting is concerned, I have never before seen such bravery except once before, and that was on the Russian front."

It came when a German rocket gun knocked out a tank of the Negro unit. The crew dismounted, brought out the .50 calibre and .30 calibre machineguns, crawled under their tanks for protection, and continued to blast away at the enemy.

12-8-44

There was an occasion when Sergeant Warren G. H. Creecy, of Corpus Christi, Texas, a tank commander, climbed up on the rear of his tank which had been immobilized by anti-tank fire, and held an enemy force at bay with his own anti-aircraft gun, while protecting the advance of an infantry group.

The unit moved out from Athianville for its first action at six o'clock on the morning of Nov. 8, as part of a task force, which was operating in two columns.

Athianville is approximately 14 miles east of Nancy. This task force consisted of tank destroyers, infantry, engineers and medics, with units of the Negro tank battalion. It was divided into two colmuns, with their ultimate objective being a town some twenty miles away, beyond the edge of the dense Forest de Bride.

Take 2 Towns Quickly

The two columns moved out for the attack, and in short order captured Vic-sur-Seille and Moyenvis, two strongly defended towns which skirted a German rail supply route from the Saar Basin. They secured crossings over two canals. These towns were some fifteen to eighteen miles east of Nancy, and constituted the German frontline defenses at that point. Here the forces began to meet with stiffer opposition.

After securing these two towns, the next task was to move on to Morville, a town some four miles beyond Vic-sur-Seille. Splitting up here, one column moved toward Morville for the attack.

It was here that they ran into their most stubborn opposition of the drive, for here the Germans had constructed a two-mile-long anti-tank ditch in anticipation of the offensive. They had re-enforced this tank bearer with staggered concrete pill-boxes, completely covered with earth, and with rocket launchers and bazooka teams dug in strength.

Facing Morville, which was at the entrance to the Forest de Bride, the columns met these obstructions and Company B was halted by pill-box opposition at the edge of the woods. Company C, commanded by Captain McHenry, on the left flank, moved up the anti-tank ditch, where it encountered fierce opposition. With Company B halted, the German guns in the center were turned on Company C, and immobilized the unit for a while. Company C finally retired the position.

Kansas Citian In Command

During this action, the crack assault platoon, with 105-mm howitzers commanded by First Lieutenant Charles Gates of Topeka, Kansas, a Hampton Institute alumnus, moved up to support these two companies.

It shelled the German positions in the woods. The 8-mm mortar platoon, commanded by Second Lieutenant James C. Lightfoot of Washington, D. C., also moved into the action and pounded the Germans. Elements of the Fourth Armored Division, equipped with bull-dozer tanks and flame-throwers, also moved in, and the positions were finally taken.

12-8-44

Captain McHenry's company saw the hardest fighting.

All units gave a good account of themselves. Company C knocked out approximately 18 enemy anti-tank guns. Company P knocked out ten, and Lieutenan Gates' assault platoon knocked out six German armored vehicles and two pill-boxes.

After passing Merville, which they had practically destroyed, the columns moved on to Hamport, four miles farther east, where units of Companies B and C reached the town.

Meanwhile, Company A, commanded by Captain Dave Williams, of Pittsburgh, entered the action and helped to obliterate and capture Chateau-Salins, the first major town of Nancy. Following this, Company A also moved to Hamport. It was during these engagements that Staff Sergeant Rivers began to earn his spurs, for in almost every instance his tank was the first to enter a town and he was always in the thickets of the fight.

Heroic Under Fire

A platoon of Company D, commanded by First Lieutenant Richard W. English, of New Orleans, a former teacher at the Hoffman school there, moved up and took the town of Saliva singlehanded, with no infantry units along. Sergeant Creecy, who displayed heroism on several different occasions under fire, was a member of this platoon.

12-1-44

After the juncture at Hamport, Company B and C pulled back for a brief rest, maintenance and vehicle check. B Company came back up to relieve Company A after its check-up. Company D was doing screening and reconnaissance. Company C returned to action southeast of Saliva, operating a team with the 101st Infantry Regiment which cleared all Germans from the woods up to the edge of the forest just west of Harracourt.

Following this action, it retir-

MANY (By Cable)—Once upon a time there was a city in Germany named Ubach, with doctors, teachers, shopkeepers and happy children. On Friday I rode through piles of rubbish all that remained of the town, about fifteen miles inside the Reich border.

I saw not one civilian, only muddy doughboys standing guard over the ruins.

Less than an hour later I

12-2-44

Gunners Drive Off Nazi Strafing Planes

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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Tan Gunners Fire Afro-American Past Roer River

Stewart Hears GI's Sing About Foxholes

UBACH LEVELED

WITH NINTH ARMY IN GER-

Former Chicago Truck Driver Is Ace Triggerman

Takes Over After White Gunners Killed At Ormoc

BY FLETCHER MARTIN
(U. S. War Correspondent for Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

ORMOC BAY SECTOR, PHILIPPINES — By Courier — "Killing Moe" is as about a unique figure as can be found in this heated section of the world. And from what various members of the 24th division has to say, the Negro is one of the best machine-gunners in the Ormoc sector.

Chicago's Pvt. Ross Hueta was a truck driver who tired of driving his truck. Charged with taking supplies to the front, he had watched infantry continuously trudge by, dragging their guns behind them. He figured that things were pretty interesting up front, at least more exciting than mere truck driving.

TAKES OVER GUN

"Killing Moe" wanted to get in the tussle. Leaning against his truck November 5th, puffing a cigarette, Hueta again saw infantry troops push by. Things were very rugged up front, enemy had landed reenforcements, and frankly our side was catching hell. Someone yelled out at the tall Negro:

"Say fella, you want to fight?"

"That's what I joined up for," 'Killing Moe' answered. The former truck driver from Chicago's west side joined in. That has been over two weeks ago and Hueta has been handling a machine gun since. And the fighting in that sector is among the bloodiest in the world.

KEPT FIRING

During the second such charge four machine-gunners were killed. "Killing Moe" and three others volunteered to take over. Withstanding the third attack, the Negro and his crew kept firing for ten hours, with only water under their belts.

Despite heated resistance Hueta's unit was pinned. Withdrawal was effected by following a dry stream bed to the sea. Our forces were grossly outnumbered during the operation and suffered appreciable casualties. The Negro withdrew with his unit, carrying supplies as were the other troops.

When reinforcement arrived Hueta's people were back in the thick of the fight. And it's still tough up there. The enemy refuses to yield the Ormoc sector without making American troops pay in casualties. In addition, is is that sector where the enemy has been landing his reinforcements. That little southeast tip of Leyte has become doubly important.

In the bowels of it all is the lone Negro among thousands of Japanese and white Americans. Hueta has been adopted semi-officially by the Texas division, and his name has spread like wild-fire. Not only because he is a Negro, but one who left a good job in a quiet town to fight in the life-and-death struggle which has deevloped among the rice fields of the province.

WANT TO KEEP HIM

The story was told this correspondent by the unit commander. He also added that commendations were being drawn up for the Negro.

"Sure, we want to keep him," the Texan drawled. "The boys are crazy about him We never saw anybody just like "Killing Moe." Just keeps smiling all the time, and keeps the boys in good humor."

When asked how the Negro could be found, the officer pointed to a ridge five hundred yards away, and drawled:

Follow this little path, it'll lead you right on up the hill. It's just down the road a piece. I. you live you'll probably find Moe over there somewhere."

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caught up with the first colored artillery outfit to fight inside Germany, with their guns laying down a barrage up to and over the Roer River, where the Ninth Army Infantry was fighting its way into Julich.

Firing Effective

Tramping in mud and shrouded much of the day in fog, these lads were pasting the enemy with continuous fire, so synchronized that it sounded automatic. The unit had spent a month in Germany, but the day of my arrival it made an exciting move that thrilled.

My genius for drawing enemy nregsaw to it that, even as I rode into the area, jerry planes zoomed up and down the roads strafing and machine-gunning, but our ack ack set up such an intense barrage of flak that the raiders became discouraged.

Casualties were negligible — mainly bruised shins from diving into ditches and foxholes.

The boys have a theme song called "Foxhole Boogie and Cellar Just Jump."

I am writing this from the depths of a cellar. Outside tanks clank by on their way to battle; our artillery maintains its steady pounding on enemy strong points.

The cold rain stings and bites one's face and the artillerymen stay at their posts day and night, bundled in heavy clothes and boots, but nothing stops their deadly fire. 12-9-44

I was met, upon my arrival, by Lt. James H. Robinson, Jr., of Cincinnati, a graduate of Wilberforce and Meharry, who is battalion surgeon and public relations officer. His wife, Lt. Rose Robinson, is a nurse in Burma.

2 Warrant Officers

Robinson is the only colored commissioned officer, although the battalion has two warrant officers, James Walters of Braddock, Pa., and Royal Elliott, of Pittsburgh.

The medical aid station is the center of the unit's activity. Colored and white troops with colds and cuts keep the staff busy. Assisting are:

Cpl. Robert Martin, Wharton, Tex.; Sgt. W. J. Hosky, Houston; Pfc. Brown L. Brackens, San Antonio; Pvt. Limone Collins, Gonzales, Tex.; Pfc. Willie Hoosier, Galveston;

Cpl. Mitchell Brunson, New Rochelle, N.Y.; Cpl. Harold Lane, Cleveland; Pfc. Hartsell Pryor, Nashville, Tenn.; S-Sgt. Hilton Thomas, Jackson, Miss.; S-Sgt. Marion Collins, Saginaw, Mich.; and Pvt. Beerland Thompson, Newport News, Va.

Commended for Accuracy

All of the unit's gun sections have been commended for accuracy since going into combat, but one crew in particular, under Sgt. Sidney Gilmore of NYC, has already become known to infantry men in Germany.

Cpl. Herbert Jordan of Houston, Tex., is gunner, and the No. 1 man who pulls the lanyard is Pfc. Joe Preston, of Fort Worth. Preston broke the lanyard rope while firing Friday night, and before the end of the fire mission had tripped the switch by hand eighteen times in the dark. Others in the crew are:

Pfc. Eli Crawford, Dallas; Pvt. Pleas Ransom, Chicago; Pvt. Theodore Mitchell, Houston; Pfc. Jesse Davis, Lufkin, Tex.; Cpl. Aaron Jones, Macon, Ga.; Pfc. Robert Burns, Atlanta; Pfc. Solon Owens, Wilmington, N.C.; Pvt. Robert Crawford, Valdosta, Ga.; Pvt. Solomon Brock, Statesboro, Ga.

Tasks Dangerous

The lads who have the most dangerous job in the outfit belong to the wire section. They string communication lines from headquarters to the observation post at the front, often a few hundred yards from the enemy.

As fast as they string the wires, enemy guns destroy them. Wire breaks occur most frequently at night, when the crew has to work in the dark by feeling along the wire with their hands, usually under fire.

T-Sgt. James Brown, Chicago electrician, has charge of the wire crew, which also includes:

Cpl. Fred Hickson, Atlantic City; Cpl. Thomas Boleware, Karnack, Tex.; Cpl. Willie Fitzgerald, Alleyton, Tex.; Cpl. Alfred Montgomery, San Francisco, and Pfc. Harold Walker, Fort Worth, Switchboard operator.

Danger Ignored

Montgomery once scaled a pole in full view of the enemy to string a wire when ground troops were evacuating their positions. He told me simply, "It's my job and it had to be done."

Hickson said the hardest work is finding breaks at night when you can't use any kind of light.

The liaison section, which maintains contact between the air strip used by cub observation planes and the battalion, includes S-Sgt. Frank Hunter of Long Island as mechanic, Pfc. Eldridge Dregon, Cleveland, Ohio; Pfc. James Johnson, Cleveland, and Pvt. Thomas Wooldridge, Phoenix, Ariz.;

On my first day with the unit, its air strip was bombed, and a bomb blast blew several men down into a shelter when they rushed to the door.

U. S. SOLDIERS' QUARTET IN BURMA

Chicago Defender 1-29-44

When Lt.-Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell walked quietly from his jungle basha on the North Burma front, and sat down under a tree to listed to a Negro soldier quartet who didn't even know he was around. They were members of an engineer unit that was passing down the Hukawng Valley toward the front. Their music was so excellent that the general listened for over an hour and requested some Hawaiian numbers which they sang particularly well. Left to right, are: Cpl. Joe Jacob, Plant City, Fla.; Frank Method, Rommey, W. Va.; Sgt. Albritton, Kinston, N. C.; Cpl. Frederick Barrow, Chicago, Ill. They call themselves "Four Notes in Harmony," and have been singing together for four months, mostly to Chinese and Kachin audiences. The photo shows them in the early morning for just as they were the night before, sitting on air dropping cushions in front of their jungle hammocks.

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Servicemen Find A Friendly Welcome In London, Enaland

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

12-8-44

By UNA MARSON

(Born in Santa Cruz, Jamaica, but now living in Britain, where she produces the West Indian program of the British Broadcasting corporation. She has lectured in Geneva, Turkey and the West Indies.)

LONDON. — (ANP) — Hello folks, this is Una Marson calling you from London.

That's how I started this story for you readers in America, through force of habit. I have come to the conclusion that broadcasting is not good for journalism, though to go from journalism to broadcasting is pretty easy.

I promised to write something about your servicemen and women over here. It didn't strike me then that I was setting myself a difficult task—but you over there have been hearing a mighty lot about your folk over here, so I'm pretty jittery about your saying, "For goodness sake, where has she been all this long while!"

Real Look at Men

You know what I would like to do is to give you a real look in on your own folks as they make their way about London, sightseeing, sitting in at the west end cinemas, mooching round the servicemen's clubs, and dawdling wistfully by the rather tame wartime shop windows.

Now today I've been talking to some of your servicemen over here. Being the morning after your election news had come through I thought it would be a good idea to crash in on the Liberty club and see how your men had taken it. Many of you will know of the big colored club in London,—it's an American Red Cross club, chiefly used by colored United States servicemen and run by colored American Red Cross personnel. I guess in many of your letters from London your men have told you they have been "putting up" or "hanging out" or stopping at the Liberty during leave in London.

I'll tell you something that perhaps you don't know. The club has its peak numbers at the first of the month and the numbers trail off as the month lengthens till towards the last days the staff can say, "Hey, It's not so hectic now." That sounds very English, but never mind, one day I'll master the bright and breezy American language!

Many Soldiers In

There were crowds of servicemen in today—sitting in the lounge, some reading, some dozing, some having a snack. In the recreation hall there was a lot of business going on—darts, table tennis; and the retailer of popular music, the juke box, was in power.

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In the small lounge a few soldiers were coaxing as much heat as they could from the electric fire without getting their fronts scorched and their backs frozen. In another bright, spacious room used as an office I had a word with your Red Cross worker, Julie Johnson, and then went back to talk to a few of your men.

The thing that interested me most was that they were all so quiet. There was no air of excitement. Two men were standing by the window talking, but so quietly you couldn't hear a word they were saying. Even in the recreation room, where things were happening, there was no shouting and bantering.

A couple of men sat by the window looking out on the wet murky streets where the dreary mother-in-law drizzle had settled for the day and the cold and dampness seemed to rise from the ground to envelop the people who hurried alond. I didn't say "penny for your thoughts" to them: I know what they were thinking—they were back home with you

Sergeant Talks

I should have told you that as I came in at the door captured a large cheerful looking sergeant who seemed to be standing by, saying to himself, "To go out in this dripper or not to go out—that's the question." Well, I decided it for him and with a pleasant smile agreed to talk to me for a few minutes.

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He was Staff Sgt. Austin Simons Jr., a platoon sergeant in one of your engineering outfits. Born in Philadelphia—for which he has a great affection—two and a half years in Uncle Sam's army, six months in England, looking forward to going to the continent any time now. Stationed in the south of England. Thinks English people pretty nice and sociable, though the chaps from the north of England said that was the place for kind and friendly English people. Morale of his particular crowd of men was pretty high. An odd fellow now and again looked a bit "browned off" but they soon cheered each other up. He was very interested in his platoon and made it his business to see that his men were as well and happy as posible. He struck me as being a nice sympathetic kind of guy—you know, someone to whom a fellow would gladly talk if he felt a bit down in the mouth.

12-8-44

London Nice

Sgt. Simons thought London a nice quiet city. I couldn't help feeling that there was a nice quiet happy confidence within himself that nobody could shake, not even war, so he was pretty O.K.

Election: He'd voted Roosevelt and know he'd get in.

Then I had to switch my mind over to North Carolina, for I got talking to a corporal with a nice cheery name—Charles Twitty. Engineering outfit, two and a half years' army life, six months in America, two years in Britain: been all over the British Isles People had been very friendly and kind, and he thought the scenery really beautiful.

People in small villages more friendly than in large towns because one get to know them better. The people of Britain loved to hear them sing, and he had sung with 30 others in many places and been given a wonderful reception. American sports interested the British too, and they had had lots of fun teaching enthusiastic school children how to play baseball and basketball. Some of the kids had got so good they could play a pretty tough game and loved it.

12-8-44

Had been to London many times on leave and passed the time in movies, sightseeing and dancing. He seemed to be doing pretty fine and feeling quite at home, this Cpl. Twitty of yours. Election— not a bit excited; was a staunch Democrat and knew Roosevelt was sure to get in, and thinks it's a good thing for America and the war.

Glad F.D.R. Back

Over to Atlanta, as I talked to Pfc. Alvaron Bush. I couldn't help thinking how young, and homesick he looked. He cheered up and smiled a bit while we chatted. My guess was right, he'd been in Britain only six months and was on his first visit to London. About the election—he thought it was a good thing President Roosevelt was back. Soon Pfc. Bush was back behind his American paper. He'll be O.K. when he finds his feet.

Washington, D. C. I always get a thrill when I hear these words. Washington, D. C. I don't know why, maybe I will when i get there. Pleased to meet you, Cpl. Leroy Reynolds—and a Republican too. My first meeting with a Republican.

He figured that the persistanc of the war gave President Roosevelt his chance of a comeback, and anyway he's a good man. A nice-generous, soft-spoken youth, I couldn't help feeling that England has a way of moulding people who come to her into her own quiet, soft, restful ways. I wondered if you could walk into such a club in America and hardly be conscious of the numbers of people around.

First time in London. Leroy thought it quite as gay as Washington. He found the English very nice and friendly and helpful. Anyway, he was looking forward to the time when he would be back home in Washington at his job in the engraving bureau

12-8-44

Natural Charm

Time was closing in on me. It was getting nearly past the lunch hour break, and I had to be back at the office. I thought we should hear a man of the sea. In a corner a slight slip of a boy was dozing, and Leroy gave him a shake for me. He came over smiling disarmingly. You know, the longer I live the more I feel that our people are the nicest people in the world. There's a natural charm and ease and grace about them that springs from a fundamental generosity and goodness of heart that you can never miss.

Ammunition Is Salvaged From Destruction

Daily World—Atlanta Ga.

12-24-44

Amphibious Tractor Unit Receives Praise

WITH THE 96th DIVISION, SOMEWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES — (Delayed) — Negro soldiers have played an important role in the landings in the Philippines, the War Department revealed for the first time Saturday.

Two members of an amphibious tractor unit attached to the 96th Division distinguished themselves by entering an ammunition dump which had caught fire and saved from destruction three huge amphibious trucks loaded with mortar and artillery shells.

Staff Sergeant Robert Jones, of Roxbury, Massachusetts, says of men Sergeant Clarence Jackson, of Washington, D. C., and Technician Fifth Grade Samuel Bryant, New York City. "They entered a living hell to save the ammunition."

12-24-44

TRACTOR UNIT PRAISED

Sharing in the general praise given to their amphibious tractor unit which plowed through muddy roads and terrian thought impassable to bring up supplies and ammunition are Technician 4th Grade Prince E. Anderson, 239 W. 148th Street, New York. Technician Fifth Grade William H. Holland, 10 E. 126th Street, New York; Technician Fifth Grade Leonard Ingram, 541 W. 124th Street, New York, Technician Fifth Grade Allen Smith, of 233 E. 127th Street, New York, Technician Fourth Grade Daniel J. Evertz, Rans Inn, Bridgeport, New Jersey and Private Everett Elam, 33 John Street, Broomfield, New Jersey.

Technician Fifth Grade Mayo L. Gentry, 2384 Champlain, N. W., Technician Fourth Grade Robert Wiley, 3028 Park Place, all of Washington, D. C.

More By Thompson.

chell, 926 S. 15th St., Philadelphia, and Sgt. Samuel Binkins, 3869 Alabama Ave., S. E. Washington, D. C. members of a Transportation Corps unit, killed a Jap sniper infesting their bivouac area. Later they narrowly escaped death when their jeep, carrying a casualty to the hospital, hit a mine throwing them from their vehicle.

12-24-44

WARMLY GREETED

Negroes in the beach party landing in the vicinity of Dulag were warmly greeted by the Filipinos. Their admiration for Negroes arose from the heroic deeds of a Negro guerilla, Joe George of San Francisco, who came to the Philippines prior to the war. Marrying a Filipino woman in Tacloban, he became a popular local figure. He set up a trucking service between the towns of Dulag and Tacloban on the island of Leyte.

After the fall of Bataan, he used his truck to supply Filipino guerills operating in the hills. Captured by the Japs and sentenced to be shot, he escaped and became a local hero by carrying out daring raids on the Japs.

Unit Kills 27 Japs On Leyte

Daily World—Atlanta Ga.

12-30-44

Enemy Driven

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
NNPA War Correspondent

LEYTE BEACH — (Delayed) — Negro troops on the morning of D[illegible] the third anniversary [illegible] the enemy's [illegible] on Pearl Harbor, [illegible] gaged enemy [illegible] here, accounting for 27 dead [illegible] in a three-day running battle [illegible] an American air strip, but were beaten back and finally annihilated by our forces.

SPOT PARATROOPERS

First to spot the paratroopers [illegible] paratroopers filtered down from the black seas, while others in [illegible] filtrated from the west in a two-prong attack. The Japs vainly attempted the capture of [illegible] an American air strip, but were beaten back and finally annihilated by our forces.

In the Pablo area colored [illegible] aviation engineers were among those troops who [illegible] waiting as enemy

were Cpls. William McCall of Detroit, Mich.; Charles Mumford of Baltimore, Md., and Sgt. Winzer Alston of Rankin, Pa., who were working on vehicles at the time they joined a white depot unit and fought throughout the night. The enemy ground troops were then attacking other elements of engineers and a white signal corps unit.

SPREADS THE ALARM

S/Sgt. James Martin of Newport News, Va., a former school teacher, first received the news and spread the alarm, calling in F/Sgt. Hugh Smith of Philadelphia. 12-30-44

Our troops, led by Cpl. Samuel Johnson of Washington, D. C.; Pvt. William Rumsey, Chester, Pa.; Hubert Johnson, Winston-Salem, N. C.; and Sgt. Leon Wilburn of Bryn Mawr, Pa., rushed to defensive positions and opened fire on running targets. Firing point blank, Johnson killed the first enemy. Rumsey, manning a machine gun, received credit for four. Two units of engineers had moved speedily into position and were constantly firing as the bewildered enemy troops weakly counterattacked.

LOST FIRST MAN

At 4 a. m. we lost our first man, who at the time was repairing a machine gun. Cpl. Herbert Johnson of Washington, D. C., stated that the enemy spotted the machine gun and moved in. Johnson whispered to his group, "We have only four rifles and there must be 20 of them. Take good aim."

ENEMY WITHDRAWS

Following the deadly fire, the enemy withdrew. After five Japs had fallen, Pvts. Silas White of Pittsburgh, and Lenwood Gore of West Virginia carried the wounded man to dispensary. He died enroute.

On the paratroops front, Sgt. Leon Wilburn and Cpl. Milton Diggins of Cumberland, Md., manning an anti-aircraft weapon, received official credit for helping bring down one transport and assist in two probables. One parachutist was killed by the team. A trooper dressed in partial American uniform was entering Sgt. Martin's supply tent when a Filipino yelled, "Jap!" Hugh Smith and Martin opened fire simultaneously, killing the enemy who is thought to have been an officer.

TROOPS PULL BACK

After the third day our troops pulled back to their own area and set up guard. Also patrolling the areas, elements of the infantry moved in to finish off the enemy.

This is the first time in the Pacific war theatre that Negro service troops have helped engage so large a force, reported to be over 200. Major Thomas Brown said of his troops, "They set up positions and fought like infantrymen. No one backed up an inch during the attack."

When asked how they felt about combat, Martin said that he would rather pursue his regular line of work, building and defending the strips we build. 12-30-44

FIGHTING SPIRIT

A majority of our troops had the idea that they had to kill as many as possible. They knew that if the enemy succeeded in getting into camp, there would have been widespread slaughter, Major Brown added. "Tell them at home," he said, "that whatever anybody thinks about these men who do the heavy work, they've shown the fighting spirit Americans boast of."

92nd Division Hit By Nazis

12-29-44

Atlanta World

ROME — (S N S) — American Negro troops of the Ninety-Second Division battled Thursday against a German counter-attack along a six-mile front in the Serchio Valley at the Western end of the Fifth Army front.

Allied headquarters confirmed an earlier German radio report that the surprise attack had been launched against the Negro units. The German radio said the shock of the first assault in a sector that had been quiet for more than a month carried German and Italian troops through the main American fighting line.

The Americans were forced to yield the town of Barga, 15 miles north of Lucca, headquarters announced, indicating that the Germans had advanced up to three miles.

Units of the Eighth Army made contact with the enemy on the outskirts of the German stronghold of Alfonsine on the Ferrera Road in further progress along the east bank of the Senio River.

Elsewhere action on the Italian front was confined to patrols and artillery exchanges.

Engineers Study French For Invasion

Journal and Guide — Nov. 18 — Col. Ed.

ENGLAND—When the Allies storm the beaches of Hitler's Fortress Europe, there will be at least twelve Negro soldiers who will be prepared to use the French language against the enemy. They are members of an engineer battalion stationed in England, and devote one evening a week of their own time to the study of French.

Photographs, furnished by the Army Special Services Division to troops throughout the United Kingdom, are used by two officer instructors to facilitate the instruction.

3-11-44

Among those attending the classes are Corporal Thomas J. Trower, Philadelphia, Pa.; Corporal Oscar L. Prince, Sumter, S. C.; Corporal Marshall P. Auguste, Sunset, La.; Pfc. Arthur Dudley, Gurdon, Ark.; Pfc. Albert Ross, Philadelphia; Pvt. Walter Henry, New York City and Pvt. James B. Henderson, New York City.

Danville, Va.; Samuel G. Patton, Indianapolis, Ind.; Andrew G. Roberts, Los Angeles, Calif.; Hugo V. Tallaferro, Washington, D. C.; William W. Walton, Salisbury, N. C.; Leonard Kennibrew, Cleveland, Ohio, and Roger W. Johnson, Phoenix, Ariz.

Ledo Road Job By Negro Troops Key To Jap Defeat

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

11-11-44

By DETON J. BROOKS

(Defender War Correspondent)

ALONG THE LEDO ROAD. — Deep in monsoon-swept, malaria-infested jungles of central Burma, mud-drenched Chinese, American and British fighters slink forward to smash the Jap — all because of a road.

And behind them — also mud-covered and sloughing forward — are thousands of American troops, great numbers of whom are Negroes, building that road, maintaining it and carrying supplies over it.

That road is the key to grand strategy in the China-Burma-India theater. And unless this is understood, it is impossible to appreciate how great a contribution colored boys from the streets of Harlem or Bronzeville or the plantations of the deep south are making to successful operations in this area.

Supply Mission

Basic mission of the CBI is to keep China in the war until Germany is crushed and the combined might of allied land, sea and air power is free to move on the Jap hordes. 11-11-44

Thus it is essentially a supply mission — a problem of getting guns, ammunition, food, clothing, medical supplies into the hands of poorly equipped Chinese soldiers. Only if China gets these things can she be expected to continue her eight-year-old resistance, giving America and Great Britain a hard-hitting ally when they do invade the far-east in force.

With the closing of the Burma Road shortly after Pearl Harbor, all land routes to China were sealed. Nothing gets in, except by air over the Himalayan mountain peaks, highest in the world.

To increase supplies a new land route has to be opened. Thus combat strategy as well as logistics revolves around the dangerous and difficult task of building the Ledo Road. Every combat mission which has taken place through Assam and northern Burma for the past two years has been for the primary purpose of pushing the Japs back so road construction can go ahead.

Strategy Successful

With the recent capture of Myitkyina, strategic Burmese nerve center from which future operations will radiate and which had to be cleared before the road could be completed, this strategy has proven successful.

Starting at Ledo in upper Assam, India, the road winds up into the jungle-covered Patkai mountain range. At the Pangsau Pass about 44 miles from Ledo it crosses over into Burma, down into the Hukawng valley (miles 130-170) then over the foothills of the purple-hued Himalayas, down again into the Mogaung valley.

When completed it will either cross to Bhamo connecting with the Burma Road or go over the 9000-foot tailbone of the Himalayas into Tenchung, China. 11-11-44

Most of the Negro troops stationed in this theater are either engineer or quartermaster troops and are therefore here along the long route of the road.

In a recent jeep trip over the length of the road, I had an excellent chance to see the job they are doing. Over narrow mountain passes where monsoon floods have caused landslides, colored boys hatless and shirtless were driving huge bulldozers, clearing the road so traffic can go through. Others were supervising large gangs of Indian pioneer troops and contract laborers.

Better than 95 per cent of the trucks we encountered carrying supplies and construction materials up forward, were handled by Negro drivers.

Only if terrain and climatic conditions are taken into consideration can the difficulty of their task be fully appreciated. 11-11-44

"This is the only place in the world where earth pours like water," one engineering officer commented. And this is true. Daily cloudbursts during the monsoon season, averaging more rainfall in three days than New York averages in a whole year, causes earth to literally flow down hillsides.

These conditions make road maintenance work almost as difficult and hazardous as new construction at the "point."

The difficulty of keeping the road open has caused some pessimism as to its value when completed. But tough, stubborn Brigadier General Lewis A. Pick, who demonstrated that it could be built, when other engineers shook their heads, assured me in an interview, "that the road will carry enough supplies to relieve the pressure on China when finished." 11-11-44

In the meantime engineers and quartermasters battle jungles and rain, in carrying out a glamourless, tough and dangerous task — pawns in the chess game of far eastern grand strategy which can only be won when the Japs are checkmated as terms of unconditional surrender are dictated in Tokyo.

Names of Negro MPs assigned to the London district follow:

Acting First Sgt. Kenneth E. Washington, Philadelphia, Pa.; Sgt. Richard S. Williams, Washington, D. C.; Pfc. Booker T. Hills, Hamtramck, Mich.; Pvts. Albert J. Brown, Washington, D. C.; Elwood D. Brown, Ypsilanti, Mich.; William T. Brown, Ridge, Md.; Henderson E. Burton, troit, Mich.; Clinton R. Elmore, Montery, Ala.; George M. Fallin, Baltimore, ; Wardell Gooch, Jr., St. Louis, Mo.; Lee, Hamtramck, Mich.; Pvts. Albert J. Euro- skell O. Humes, Washington, D. C.; has nes P. Meige, Jr., Novata, Okla.; Nathan Morton, Bronx, N. Y.; Robert H. Penn,

White, Negro MPs Work Together In London

Pittsburgh Courier 9-9-44

HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATRE OF OPERATIONS—In the streets, and operate the jeeps which ndon, the world's largest city, d patrol jeeps together in per- ite and Negro military police pa e exhibiting a fine spirit of

Company A of an arrange- tioned here. vation, these Lon- ave handled many s involving racial ordinarily might confusion. And at this experiment John C. H. der of the Euro- Operations, has successful.

mraderie under the ent, as part of Com- battalion stationed ve resulted in con- has proved that this Lieut. Gen. John since their activation puty commander of n mixed MPs have h licate situations inv

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Senegalese Troops Again Help To Liberate France

ATLANTA DAILY World
Atlanta Ga
12-28-44

Gallant Africans Now Form Backbone Of Fighting Force

12-28-44

By NANCY CUNARD

LONDON (ANP)—France's Senegalese troops are much in the fighting again, playing an active role in the victorious drive to the Rhine. A French officer told me the other day here: "So many are to be seen in Alsace that our national soigan, Liberto, Egalite, Fraternity, has been changed in these parts to 'Liberto, Fraternite, Sen-egalite."

Behind this quip of the French soldiery are terse cabled facts such as: "French and Colonial troops form Senegal, Morocco, Algieria were under Gen. Bothouart in an attack which gained all objectives, freeing nine towns and vilages." That was just before the taking of Belfort. A few days later, French motorized Colonial Infantry reached the Rhine, advancing on Mulhouse.

12-28-44

What Gen. LeClere said to his offices and African volunteers from Congo, Senegal and other French African possessions in 1942-1943 during the great swoop up from LakeChad to the North African coast where he joined with Gen. Montgomery's forces, soon to enter Tunisia, has now come true. LeClere, a cavalry captain in 1940, is the great military French leader of ane of the most remarkable feats n thewar.

His army, very largely composed of Africans (as can be seen in all the pictures of his campaign), tarted from thousands-of-miles-distant Equatorial Africa tawards the freeing of France. His words were: 'Our aim is Paris. We will keep on till we reach it. Then, on to Strasburg." And this he and his army have magnificently done.

While French West Africans help drive the Germans out of France,

12-28-44

East African troops with British armies have cleared the Japanese fram a key port on the Chindwin in Burma. Another East African force linked up with them here at Kalewa. Press cables say this represents the East Africans' first big victory over the Japanese.

Officer Tells Journal + Guide—Norfolk Va. Jordan About Young Heroes

12-9-44

Wishes All America Could Have Seen Negro Infantrymen

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright. Reproduction Forbidden)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—"I wish you could have seen those boys fighting and clawing their way up that hill. Every German up there had an automatic weapons. They had grenades and mortars. They threw all of the artillery they had at us. But that didn't stop those kids. I wish you could have seen them. I wish every-body in America could have seen them. . . ."

The officer, one of those toil-ing, fighting fellows who lives with frontline men of the 92nd Division, peeped up over a stone fence and squinted at the ugly mountain that rose not over a quarter of a mile away. A three-day beard bristled on his face and he needed a haircut. He looked to be about forty years old, but it was more likely that he was thirty.

"Some of our men made it to the top of that ridge. Everyone of them scrambled and fought their way as far up as they could. Not a single one of them lingered behind or even stopped, until they were ordered to withdraw. . . ."

CORRESPONDENT DUCKS

The menacing whistle of a Nazi shell punctuated his talk. He told me to duck, and I did. The shell exploded about fifty yards to our left. He went on with his story:

12-9-44

"On the map that mountain is just another dot. The plan of attack probably seemed quite simple. But somehow it didn't work out that way. . . .

"We jumped off at the appointed time. We had a certain number of minutes to make it across the draw and up to our objective. . . . Every man was on his toes. The Germans, holding the commanding heights around, had perfect observation on us. As soon as we started to advance, the jerries up front shot two red flares. That was their signal for the artillery. And, fellow, they really dropped that stuff in on us. . . .

MEN KEEP ADVANCING

"Then their mortars opened up. The whole valley seemed to rock with fire and thunder. But our boys kept on advancing. They opened up their machine guns and blurp guns. Every goi-durned Jerry on that hill had an automatic weapon. . . .

"Those kids continued to press on, clawing and scrambling up that hill. Some had to step over their wounded and dead buddies. But they kept on going. Not one of them stopped. . . until the order came for them to withdraw . . . ."

12-9-44

A couple of Nazi shells exploded not far from us. The officer did not seem to notice them. He looked about in the area where men were busily engaged in varied duties.

HEROIC DEEDS

"People should be proud of those boys. They fought their way right up into the worst the Germans could give. Take T/S Sam Knight, for instance. He's a Chicago boy. He was among the first to reach the top of that ridge. . . .

"And Pvt. Elmer Sussex . . . I believe he's from North Little Rock . . . and Pvt. Wallace C. Baker, of Greenville, Ky. . .he's in the mortar squad. They threw 300 rounds during that attack. . .

12-9-44

"And let's not forget the officers. For instance there's Second Lieutenant Roy Bolling who came to us from Washington, D. C. He led his platoon in the attack and he stuck right there in front all of the way. He doesn't send his men anywhere that he wouldn't go. . . .

"Then there was Pfc. Eddie L. Johnson, of Belzone, Miss., he's a radio man and he was right there with his radio every time he was needed. And Sergeant Curtis Scott, of Colorado City, Texas, fought his way up there and then brought down two wounded men with him in the withdrawal. You can't beat guys like them. . .

MEDICS PRAISED

"And don't overlook the medics . . . those fellows don't have guns, so they can't shoot back . . . but they're right there just the same, and they're just as brave as any. . . Take Pvt. Oscar Underwood, of Braddock, Pa., for instance . . . all night long he brought down wounded men. And the Jerries were shooting at him just as much as they shot at anybody else. That red cross on his helmet means only one thing to a German—a better target."

12-9-44

Shells from one of the 92nd division supporting artillery units were now dropping in the sloves of the big ugly mountain that frowned up before us. We could see the pattern of explosions, veiling a section of the mountain with smoke and dust.

"Those jerries are fighting from positions that are deliberate and carefully prepared . . . caves that have been dug into the marble of that mountain. Months of work went into the preparation. It will not be easy to drive them out."

One of the men came up and told the officer that the new maps had just came through. The officer excused himself and went into a motly building that was being used as an advanced command post. I looked over at that big ugly mountain. The bodies of some of our soldiers were still out there. They could only be evacuated at night.

609th Has Passed Shells for 3 Invading Armies

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Md.

11-18-44

Their Record Is 3300 Tons a Day

In this article are names of 8 soldiers from Washington, 12 from Maryland, 14 from Philadelphia, 7 from Jersey and New York, 17 from Richmond and Virginia cities.

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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AVERSA, ITALY—(By Courier) never rains in the army, it only rains in the army. Members of the 609th Ordnance Company worked in the rain many times during the Tunisian, Sicilian and Italian campaigns since their departure from the States, November 2, 1942, so a little mud and falling water couldn't deter the celebration of their second anniversary at Club Casa Mia—the camp club built from scrap lumber by their own off-hour labor.

11-18-44

Record Set by Unit

Since hitting the shore at Casablanca, November 18, 1942, the unit has passed the ammunition for every army that has participated in the three campaigns, handling an average of 1500 tons per day. Just before the Salerno

All Colored Officers

They have worked—rain and shine. One big factor in their success is the fact that the unit is staffed by all colored officers.

Capt. Kenneth H. Moore, Waukegan, Ill., graduate of the University of Illinois, is the commanding officer. Others on the staff are: Lts. Farris J. Posey, DuQoin, Ill., executive officer; George E. Rice, Havre de Grace, Md.; George H. Whitaker, Boston, Mass., and George B. Van Buren, Washington, D.C., former Howard University football star.

The quintet has proudly kept the company flag flying since the unit's landing at Casablanca on D plus 10, besides guiding the work of a 25-man detachment with a gas ammunition depot.

CLUB OFFICERS

Club officers at the Casa Mia, which is operated under supervision of the soldiers are:

T/Sgt. Wesota F. Valentine, Idabel, Okla., president; T/Sgt. Charles L. Smith, Birmingham, vice president; T/4 Wilbert J. Whitehead, Virginia State College graduate, 1500 Lakeview Avenue, Richmond, secretary; S/Sgt. Louis Dupra, 649 N. Fifty-seventh Street, Philadelphia, treasurer; S/Sgt. Henry L. Proctor, Cincinnati, Ohio; Pvt. Prentiss Johnson, Philadelphia, Pa., and T/Sgt. John Fairfax, 2137 Division Street, Baltimore, in charge of club facilities.

EASTERNERS

Easterners dominate the company's roster, but only seven Washingtonians are among them. They are: S/Sgt. Frank Richardson, 34 Q Street, Northeast, ex-Yellow Jacket grid star; Sgt. Robert T. Wilson, 1239 Waller Place, S.E.; Pfcs. Howard Stone, 84, I Street, S.W.; and William J. Blue, 330 U Street, N.W.; Pvts. James E. Spicer, William H. Stevenson, and Randolph Fitzgerald.

BALTIMORE

Sgt. William B. Bynum, 120 W. Hamburg Street, and Pfc. Carlton Brewer, 1117 N. Gilmor Street, head the Baltimore representation, which includes:

Pfc. Carroll Chesley, Pvt. Leroy Edmonds, Pfcs. Clifton R. Green, James E. Gregory, Cpl. John L. Manning, Pvt. Arthur G. Parker.

PHILADELPHIA

T/4 Lee R. Griffin, 2917 New Hope Street, Philadelphia, Pa., who secured ice cream for the two-year celebration in his capacity as mess sergeant, tops the Philadelphia colorbearers, among whom are:

Pvt. Thomas J. Brown, S/Sgt. Louis A. Dupra, T/4 John E. Dancy, Pfcs. Fletcher Finley, Robert L. Glenn, Pvt. Edward F. Harris, S/Sgt. Samuel Hawkins, Pfcs. Leander Mitchell, Latham Oliver, Pvts. Gerald H. Peterson, Hubert C. Rainey, T/4 William R. Smith, Jr., T/5 James G. Weinberg.

Incidentally, T/4 Griffin just took over the mess duties relieving S/Sgt. Milton Cooper, Nashville, N.C., who left for the States on rotation the day after the overseas party.

JERSEY AND NEW YORK

Pvt. Boris A. Williams, former Penn State College track star, Camden, and Pvt. John Shipley, Plainfield, N.J., uphold New Jersey's standards while Pfc. James E. Watt, 310 W. 153rd Street, and Sgt. Walter Rush, Sgt. John O. King, Pfc. Adolph Isaac, and Pfc. Frederick Curtis are New York Citians.

VIRGINIA

Petersburg, Va., is well represented by Pfc. William Barlow, T/5 George G. Cotton, Pvt. Thomas A. Dails, T/4 Everett Master, Pvt. Sterling A. Evans, Pfc. Norris Fields, Sr., Pvt. David L. Dill, T/5 James E. Jackson, and Pfc. Addison D. Lewis, while other Virginians include:

Pvt. Ernest J. Reed, Cpl. Roy L. Nelson, Richmond; Cpl. Jasper H. Kincaid, Chase City; Pfc. Oseadell Jones, Blackstone; S/Sgt. Clarence L. Carter, Ashton; Cpl. Terry Pollard, Covington; T/4 Russell E. Callahan, Hopewell; Pfc. George M. Blackwell, Chatham; T/Sgt. Willie L. Goodman, and Pvt. Vernon B. Eaton, Norfolk.

MD. AND N.C.

Other Easterners, located with the help of T/4 Whitehead, personnel section chief, were Pfc. Arthur R. Brown, Eastern Shore, Md.; T/5 James W. Gassaway, Cambridge, Md.; Pfc. Leroy Meade, Norristown, Md.; Pvt. Thomas L. Williams, Kisenton, N.C.

GI Receives Finest Care

11-18-44 N.Y. Amsterdam News

A U. S. ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, ENGLAND — Machine-gunned by enemy fighter planes while getting gasoline for a trapped armored division in the vicinity of Saint Malo, France, Private Joseph Corinth Harding, 25, of 2094 Madison Ave., New York City, machine-gunner on a troop-transport vehicle, is now convalescing at this United States Army general hospital in England. He received the Purple Heart.

Pvt. Harding, wounded in the right hand, sought cover, then bandaged himself with his first-aid pack. When the planes had gone he was driven by truck to the nearest field hospital. There the bullet was removed and the wound dressed. From this hospital the soldier was taken by ambulance to an evacuation hospital, given further treatment then evacuated by plane to England.

Captain Marie A. Luongo, of 1402 Woodbine Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., the soldier's Ward Officer, says: "Pvt. Harding is recovering rapidly."

Explanation may be found in the words of Lieutenant-Colonel Wayne G. Brandstadt of Chicago, Ill., who states: "Private Harding is receiving treatment here which compares favorably with that available in the most modern hospitals in the United States."

An electrician and carpenter before enlistment, the soldier has a wife, Daisy, and five-year-old daughter, Josephine. His parents, Richard and Rosette Harding, live at the same address.

Hang Soldiers in London for Rape

Afro American Baltimore, Md. 8-19-44

LONDON—Pvts. Willie Smith, 21, of Birmingham and Eliga Brinson, 25, of Tallahassee, Fla., were hanged August 11 for the rape of a 16-year-old girl, American Army headquarters announced here.

Their sentence was reviewed and confirmed by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, following their conviction by a court-martial April 29.

and lived to tell the tale, are typical of the type of men who made driving history here.

Others in the unit include:

Cpl. Julius C. Matthews, Newark, N.J.; Sgt. Frank Stanfore, Atlanta; Sgt. Uriah Summers, Larchmond, N.Y.; T/5 Rafael Novarro, NYC; Sgt. James Brothers, Philadelphia, and the only colored officers, CWO Joseph A. Meekins, Chicago, and WOJG Raylston N. Black, San Antonio, Tex.

Tan Drivers First to Work in Soviet Union Territory

Afro-American Balt. Md. 11-18-44

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA Pool Correspondent

CAMP ANDIMESHK, DESERT DISTRICT, IRAN—(By Courier, Delayed)—Motor Transport Service Stations with American personnel are now in operation at Mianeh and Tabriz, 306 miles northwest of Kazvin, marking the first time that U.S. Army units of the Persian Gulf Command have operated installations within the Soviet sphere of influence.

Temporarily discarding the Block System, MTS truck companies of the 114th Quartermaster Truck Battalion, colored, and the 516th and 517th QM Trk. Bns., white, are now operating test convoys all of the way from Khorramshahr to Tabriz, a distance of some 942 miles. Convoys are expected to complete the 1884-mile round trip in 17 days.

The supplies have to be taken over rough, dangerous roads which often find the drivers operating along the edges of 1000-foot precipices.

Story of "Driving Devils"

In addition to delivering certain types of cargo outside the command, as such, the MTS is also making deliveries to points inside the command which are not served by the railroad. Every Diesel in the command is now on the road and new transport convoy records are in the offing.

This is a partial story of the unsung heroes of the Persian Gulf Command, the crack 114th Quartermaster Truck Battalion Mobile, formerly the 26th QM Truck Battalion, whose rugged GI's are known over here as the "Driving Devils of Hell's Highway."

They were the first American troops to convoy Lend-Lease supplies from the Southern Gulf Ports to the Russians at Kazvin, in Northern Iran. The initial run was made in February, 1943, and since that time a steady stream of vital materials has moved through the Persian Corridor without interruption.

The deeds of this scrappy outfit are a legend in this command and veteran PGC soldiers will tell you that they will wager that there isn't another truck outfit in the army that can match the 114th in "skill, guts and physical endurance.

Unit a Living Monument

Pounding across dusty, scorching desert roads which were mere camel trails, shaking through tortuous mountain passes, some of the men cheating death, others falling before the Grim Reaper, stubbornly fighting temperatures from below zero in winter to 170 degrees or more in summer;

Beset with the ravages of dysentery, malaria and sandfly fever, but always getting the supplies through, has been and still is the daily routine which has made this gallant battalion a living monument to perseverance and endurance.

Dislocated vertebrae, sore eyes, hemorrhoids, respiratory ailments, the passing of blood during excretory processes and the after-effects of heat prostration are all part of the price these truck commandos have paid for serving on one of the roughest and toughest supply routes in the world.

Only 2 Colored Officers

M/Sgt. Will D. Bryant of Bridgeville, Del., First Sgt. Charles D. Hollingshed, Clayton, Ala.; Sgt. James Boone, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Pvt. Nelson Harris of Raleigh, N.C., who went over a steep embankment in a truck

Terrific Fight for Hill Waged by 92d Companies

Afro American 12-9-44 Baltimore, Md.

Forced to Retreat by Nazis in Defense Positions, GI's Plan for Final Assault

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY (By Courier) — On the huge map at divisional headquarters, "Hill 702" is just another objective that remains to be taken, but to members of Companies F and G, of one regiment's second battalion, it has been the scene of terrific fighting.

For not many hours before, on November 18, they had tried to take the hill but had been repulsed as the Germans threw everything in the book at them. It was suspiciously quiet as I talked with some of the blood-spattered survivors of the "Battle for Hill 702" the next day.

Emerging from the dimly-lit, dingy basement room of the battalion command post, First Lt. William A. Goodrum, Asheville, N.C., battalion S-2, commenced, "You should have seen those guys try to take that hill. It would have made all Americans proud.

None Retreated

"They caught hell all the way, but not one of them attempted to retreat until ordered to do so. They had to crawl all the way to the top," he continued, pointing to the peak of a mountain 400 yards away.

The only evidence of habitation was the remains of a shell-battered farmhouse, partially hidden by the heavy trees and green vegetation.

"We have some men up there now, but the Germans are only 300 yards away, and what is more, the Jerreis are dug in in deliberate defense positions," he added as two shells whistled overhead.

"Don't worry about those, they are going out," he explained as I started to take cover.

Nazis Couldn't Be Routed

Pvt. Wallace C. Baker, Greenville, Ky., chimed in with "We threw 300 rounds of mortar shells on them but couldn't rout them, but it won't be long for we are going back soon."

The lieutenant went on to say, "Private Baker is one of the heroes in the battle. Anyone could be pointed out, as all were heroes, but here are a few over here," he added, leading me to the company CP at the foot of the hills.

"Stay low," he cautioned as we edged along the narrow path amid the trees and wrecked farmhouses — all that was remaining of the little Italian town in which the unit was billeted.

Two Lost in Platoon

At the CP, T/Sgt. Sam Knight of Chicago, said, "It was a pretty tough time up there. They threw mortars, hand grenades and machine-gun fire at us." Knight's platoon, led by Second Lt. Royal Brown, Boston, lost two men in the battle.

Company F is commanded by First Lt. Charles H. Lancaster of Washington, who was up in the mountains with the men preparing for another attack.

Pvt. Elmer Sussex, Little Rock, Ark., rifleman; Sgt. Rene Leamont, New Orleans, communications sergeant, Pfc. Eddie L. Johnson, Belzone, Miss., radio messenger and S/Sgt. Alfred Richardson, Chicago, had nothing but praise for Lancaster's leadership.

2nd Washingtonian Praised

They also praised the leadership of Second Lt. Roy Boldren, formerly of Boston, but more recently of Washington, chorusing, "He's a good soldier."

The names of First Sgt. Isaac L. Wheeler, New Orleans; Pfc. Waverly Collier, 1823 Idawood Avenue, Richmond, and First Lt. William E. Cook, Boston, were then mentioned as the men talked about the work done by Company G.

Second Lt. James Janifer, liason officer from the anti-tank com-

511 E. Lee Street, Richmond, field artillery liason officer, and Cpl. Howie Mitchell, ex-Boston University football star, now a draftsman in the S-2 office, said:

"Yes, the boys have had a mess kits en route and making helluva time taking that hill, and the worst part is that as soon as they take that one, there is another on the other side."

Back at regimental headquarters, Second Lt. Frank Randolph

party who had braved the jeep ride up "88 Avenue," a narrow, two-lane road under direct observation of the Germans, with me, declared, "Those fellows deserve a lot of credit."

Saved Comrade's Life

The talk next turned to Pvt. James Robinson, a South Carolinian, who pulled a dud out of a German observers were on the comrade's leg just in time to prevent him from bleeding to death.

Colored Unit Services Front Lines On Leyte

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
Representing The Philadelphia Tribune and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association

12-2-44

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ORMOC BAY SECTOR, PHILIPPINES—By Courier—Within rifle range of the Ormoc sector is stationed an all-Negro railhead unit serving the 24th and 1st Calvary divisions, infantry forces of the 10th Corps operating in southeast Leyte.

Commanding the unit is First Lt. Clarence A. Laws, former executive secretary of the Urban League in New Orleans. Other officers include Second Lts. Leon G. Weston, Columbia, South Carolina; Berry Sater of Los Angeles; and Joseph Kimbrough of Chicago. All are graduates of the Officers Candidate School, Brisbane, Australia.

Receiving, breaking down, colored and supplying rations to two divisions plus the administration of another colored service unit is the all-important mission performed by these troops. Immediately behind the line, work has often been retarded by bombings and long range artillery. The supply dump holds high priority on the enemy list of installations "to be immediately demolished."

Lt. Weston admitted that the work "has its moments" of exciting experiences, but the unit has not suffered any casualties. Men live in huts evacuated by natives who fled to the mountains when the enemy occupied Leyte. Surrounding the bivouac are countless acres of rice. Filipinos work these fields in the midst of shell fire.

Frontline observation proved conclusively that infantry men hunger for hot bread, fruits, canned vegetables, and beef not of the bully variety. And having the highest priority on supplies, this foodstuff is rushed forward.

The first night with the units revealed several important items. Tons of foodstuffs arrive preiodically and a type of inventory and daily record must be kept. However, such work is not strange to these men, sixty percent of them having served overseas for 32 months.

As Lt. Slater explained it is all a matter of organization. To hear various titles is amusing, for instance:

Vice president in charge of labor coordination, Platoon S-Sgt. Louis Sizemore, of Jersey City, New Jersey.

Vice president in charge of checkers, Sgt. Albrecht W. Ingram, of Detroit, Michigan.

Section chief, Sgt. Walter Edgehill, New York City.

General manager supervising stock records, Sgt. James Hillery, of Jersey City, New Jersey.

Breaking down stock are Cpl. Bradley Barbee, Jersey City, New Jersey; Cpl. Edward M. Lewis, of Indianapolis, Indiana.

12-2-44

Since landing on White Beach two days following the invasion, the unit has experienced 116 bombings, and a number of strafings. Their first job was to set up a ration dump on the beach. Time was divided for the unit; part time working; part time ducking.

Laws' unit was formerly commanded by one of the first Negro captains in the Southwest Pacific, Captain Edward Lowe, of Muskogee, Oklahoma. Later by 1st Lt. Elisha Burno, of Hartsville, South Carolina. Burno presently commands a port company on Leyte.

How Afro's Ollie Stewart Got to Sleep in Nancy

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore, Md.

12-2-44

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France

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WITH TANK BATTALION, THIRD ARMY, FRANCE—All I have written about the tank boys seems inadequate when I look at the situation in retrospect. For instance, the Armistice-Day shelling I mentioned in a previous dispatch was much more thrilling than I made it; and this piece is an attempt to fill in some blank spots.

12-2-44

Before the fireworks started, I had made arrangements to ride back into Nancy with Warrant Officer Clarence I. Godbold, Yonkers, N.Y., at 4 p.m. The first 88-mm. projectile whined over at 3:30, and I was finished with my interviews as of that moment.

But to keep the tankers from knowing that I was scared silly, I put on a nonchalant air and decided to stick it out until four. Along about a quarter to four, when one tank had been hit and set on fire close to where I was hugging the ground under another tank, I was determined to get the hell away from the hot spot.

"Felt Silly as Hell"

The road was a quarter of a mile away, and in between was a solid sea of mud almost knee deep. I took off without saying goodbye to anybody and half trotted and slid about a hundred yards before a low shell made me sprawl head first into the slime. My helmet popped off and I felt silly as hell crawling on hands and knees to grab it.

I passed some white ack-ack boys who huddled about their gun and grinned sympathetically at me as I ploughed through. One yelled pleasantly: "Hope you don't draw that 88 fire this way, Mack."

I told him: "You and me both, Bud," and kept trotting. Soon I reached the road, after diving twice more when shells landed close, and yelled at a major in a recon car to give me a lift into Vic Sur Seille.

12-2-44

Plays Hide, Seek with Shells

He said okay and told me he was taking this road which led over a bridge, also being shelled, because the short road at the other end of the tank area was blocked.

The major and his driver were in front. In back with me was the radio operator, talking to his company by radio as we rode along, and it was this radio man who was hit by shrapnel a little later.

A five-minute ride brought us to the bridge, or to within a hundred yards of it. Just then a shell landed fifty feet away on our side of the bridge and almost immediately another exploded on the opposite side. The radio man rubbed his cheek and his hand came away bloody. I began to feel myself to see if I were hurt.

Listens to Heart "Thunder"

The driver leaped to the ground while the car was still in motion and started for a ditch. The major looked around grimly and yelled at the driver to get the hell back into the so-and-so car and back it away from the bridge. I just sat there listening to thunder that was my heart thumping like ten thunderbolts.

All the soldiers along the road were lying in the ditch as we turned around and headed back toward the tank area. "We can't chance the bridge," said the major. "We'll have to go through that road block."

That didn't suit me. The tank area was also being shelled even more heavily now, but this was my only chance to get out soon, so I crouched and mumbled that it was all right by me—which was a statement for which I shall have to be forgiven.

12-2-44

The radio man paid no attention to his slight wound and was talking like mad as the major dictated to him. Back to the tank area we went to find the road block still in effect. So we had to sit there like sitting ducks on a pond while Jerry did his stuff.

It was forever and always to me—but in reality only about five minutes—before we got through and hightailed it through some woods and into town. The town was within artillery range, but was not being zeroed in, so I climbed down and caught another ride into Nancy.

12-2-44

Nancy had an 8 o'clock curfew and anybody on the streets after that was liable to be shot. Several had been recently shot. The precaution was taken because the place was still a haven for Germans in civilian clothes.

Just before 8 I found myself completely lost, so I went to an MP station and had the boys take me to the outfit that had invited me to be their guest for the night. Ironically, they were billeted in barracks called the Rommel Caserne, or Rommel Barracks to you.

Negro Fighter Leads Philippine Natives

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

12-9-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. WAR CORRESPONDENT
Representing the Philadelphia Tribune and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association

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LEYTE, Beach. Philippines—(By Courier)—On Samar island, northeast of Leyte, fighting with the fierceness of an enraged American Negro and leader of a Filipino guerrilla band. Capt. Merith is one of the big stories to fight the enemy. Armed with bolos, of the war. His deeds and those knives, even sticks—these of his rugged men have spread natives, many clad in rags, ferociously defend among American troops like wild the homeland. Tales of superhuman courage and endurance have reached us here.

Exact whereabouts of the giant Negro is still secret military information, but this correspondent is pushing off in search of him. It is a search well worthwhile, because what Livingston meant to the natives of Africa, surely Merith means the same to the people of the Southern Philippines. And as the news of Livingston spread around the world, so should the deeds of this Negro be made known.

12-9-44

Capt. Merith is the story. He is one of the heaviest penalty of all worth walking a continent to find. Every attempt will be made to find him.

For instance, the total population of Basey and one dentist are presently at work the important town of Basey numbered 29,000 Sores, blisters, malarial cases, pneumonia. When the surrounding villages number are only a few of the before enemy occupation. of these people items which harass the population. enemy arrived most of there they fought Captain Merith. It was told the fled to the hills. There writer, was chosen as one of the leadthe enemy for over a year. ers. Under the Negro and others, their While women and children foragers. coconuts, and edible valor reaches daily new heights. for food-fruits, coconuts, in the heart of The story goes that Capt. Merith pith which grows in the able-bodied men has been in the Philippines for many coconut trees—all hard fight, and years, making his home on Samar. He fought. It has been the guerrillas are married a native woman and owned continues to be. The property. The enemy caught him as lacking in modern equipment others. The Negro was at- Few rifles were taken from the Japs well as the And American planes dropped some ammunition. American equipment in the form of smuggled equipment in to the Negro cause of the inhenseness of the situations, all has been too little. The enemy reached a maximum of ruthlessness on Samar. The said, "Ah, he is good man and friend. ar. The town was And he is very good fighter too." meager resources. Capt. Merith is the story. He is Only since Amer- stripped bare of its meagre have food, medical supplies begun to pour in. Five doctors

Britons Reward GI Who Lost Watch In Daring Rescue Of Drowning Girl

Pittsburgh Courier-Pa. 11-25-44

BARNSTAPLE, England—The heroism and gallantry of an American Negro soldier, Cpl. Rudolph Johnson, has won him the honor and love of this southwest section of England. Corporal Johnson, a few weeks ago, was lying on the beach at Croyde when he heard cries of help from a girl bather in distress. Johnson took off his gold wrist watch and gave it to a female bystander, plunged into the sea, and after a struggle in which he was badly cut by submerged rocks he brought the girl to safety. But . . . when he went to reclaim his watch, the woman had disappeared with it.

The North Devon Journal-Herold published the story and within a few days gifts of money started pouring in to help the soldier replace his watch. Maurice Prince, manager of a moving picture house, volunteered to serve as treasurer of the fund, and last week in impressive ceremonies in the Guildhall of Barnstaple, Corporal Johnson was presented a white gold watch and a check for more than 42 pounds.

MAYOR PRESIDES 11-25-44

Mayor Charles F. Dart and W. T. Buckingham, chairman of the Barnstaple Rural District Council, presided over the presentation ceremony. Mayor Dart expressed his regret that an Englishwoman could have stolen the watch, particularly from guests on English soil, but he pointed out that the spontaneity of the fund to replace the watch showed the truer feelings of the British.

Johnson, who was loudly cheered, replied, saying: "I have the greatest admiration for the British people and I shall always remember your kindness." Johnson's commanding officer said that he did not have a better soldier in his outfit than Johnson.

A. G. Doubt of Bristol, accepting an invitation to be present at the presentation ceremony, said that the incident "serves to show in a very striking way how desperately mean a white person can be and how nobly unselfish and persistently courageous a colored person can be, and also enables us to note with pride how true at heart and spontaneously generous our fellow-countrymen are."

Mr. Doubt said that the incident should serve to diminish color prejudice and that in Bristol as a result of the publicity of the Johnson case, two meetings had been arranged to be addressed by Sgt. Robert Turner, a Negro soldier.

Mr. Doubt concluded: "Two views of the color problem are commonly held. Some say the colored peoples are good for nothing but cheap labor. Keep him poor and helpless; others say preserve him in the tribe . . . Still others say the colored man must be educated and trained for freedom and self-government. Those active in the matter here—Christian-Socialists—support the latter view wholeheartedly, and the time is especially now, and the need urgent."

ENTHUSIASTIC CROWDS

The North Devon Journal-Herald described the scene following the presentation ceremony thus: "At the close of the ceremony the scene outside the Guildhall was reminiscent of Fair Wednesday at noon. Traffic was stopped by a huge concourse of people who cheered enthusiastically as Corporal Johnson and the mayor appeared on the steps of the Guildhall."

Negro Forces Of 92nd Division Fighting On Hard Front In Italy

News - Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-6-44

BY WILLIAM B. KING

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY, Nov. 20 —(Delayed—(AP)—Axis troops are getting no respite on the coastal left flank of the Italian front where American Negro forces of the 92nd Division are fighting in a sector which combines the swankiest of prewar beach resorts with some of the toughest mountain terrain in Italy.

American troops already hold long stretches of the Tyrehennian coast which Mussolini developed to complete with the French Riviera. Along the heavily mined beaches are sprinkled now useless blockhouses which invasion-fearful Fascists built to oppose a landing.

These fortifications, some camouflaged as restaurants or beach cabanas, lie in empty decay as American military vehicles ply the nearby highways in the never-ending stream necessary to keep the front in motion. Only a ghost of the vacation and resort atmosphere remains as military and civilian life goes on in the towns and villages, which are within easy shell-range of enemy guns. 12-6-44

* * *

A SHORT JEEP RIDE takes you into the actual battle area, where the fighting takes on the familiar Italian front feature. You climb into a jeep and start out on a series of roads under the easy observation by enemy troops in the hills above. On every side are crumbling buildings and gaping holes in the roads and fields, evidence of recent shellings.

Behind in another jeep, come three infantryment armed against any contingency, Sgt. Clarence M. Palmer, a former athletic coach at a Durham, N. C., playground. He rides with a rifle ready between his knees. With him are Pvts. Elmer Partrice and Oscar L. Mann, both of New York City.

We started up a snaky trail leading up a mountainside. The trail winds through terrace after terrace of gnarled but well-kept olive trees. The presence of Italian peasants with flocks of sheep grazing on the lush grass makes the facts of war seem almost impossible.

* * *

AT THE SUMMIT you join Lt. Stanley Braitswait, New York City, in an artillery observation post. You watch as he and Corp. James Gant, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Pfc. Robert Saunders, Memphis, Tenn., direct a concentration of shells against an enemy position on a ridge ahead. 12-6-44

Back in the jeep, you make your way to the foot of a forward hill atop which American soldiers hold front positions. You tuck your jeep under the covering of trees and start up beyond a rusted barbed wire entanglement which marks the outpost of a recent German defensive position. Up the steep mud track, you move with an ear cocked for the warning whine of enemy shells. When one comes, you lie flat and wait for it to crash.

Near the crest, Sgt. Coby Edmond, Wardell, Mo., a mortarman, tells of his pride in the work of his section. Pfc. Johnny Gibson, Monroe, La., and Corp. Alvin Adams, Charlotte, N. C., trudge up carrying ammunition across terrain no pack mules could negotiate. The ammunition, they say, is for their machine guns, which are in position a few yards away.

The 92nd is not fighting on an easy front. It is opposed by tough and determined German units who give no ground without a fight.

Negro Saves White Boy's Life; They Are "Like Brothers"

Informer-Houston, Texas 12-16-44

HOUSTON—Another story of the interracial comradeship being forged on the various battlefields across the seas was barred this week when Sergeant Bobbie Allen, just back from a 30-month stay in the South Pacific, recited how he and a white San Antonio soldier became "just like brothers" after he had saved the white youth's life.

Sgt. Allen said he was serving in New Guinea when early one morning he was coming through the jungles near the front and saw a white soldier prostrate on a jungle track, as a result of having been shot through the mid-section with a number two millimeter cannon shell.

The white soldier, Sgt. Allen said, was losing blood fast, and he tore his shirt off and bandaged him as best he could and rushed him to a first aid station.

Two days later the wounded soldier sent for the local colored sergeant and a close friendship was started. The white soldier was only 18 years old.

Came Home Together

Sgt. Allen and his white comrade received rotation furlough at the same time and traveled all of the way to San Antonio together. They occupied the same seat from New Guinea to California, and occupied the same berth to San Antonio, where the white youth's parents met them at the train.

After thanking the colored youth for saving their son's life, the parents carried both of them to their home and they had dinner together. The parents told the colored soldier to always feel free to call upon them for any favor that he might need. They are wealthy oil people.

Sgt. Allen is the son of Mrs Sarah Allen, 2420 Briley. He was induced to tell his story to The Informer by a cousin, Mrs. Lillian Prophet-Wake.

He entered the army in 1940 and after training with the 349th Field Artillery, was shipped to Australia April 6th, 1942. He served in Australia seven months and next went to New Guinea, where he was in the Battles of Buna, Leyte and Salalumua.

Buy Those Bonds.

Sgt. Allen urges all civilians to buy bonds, saying the men behind the guns feel mighty good when they receive letters from home saying how many bonds are being purchased in their respective communities.

He will report to Fort Sam Houston Dec. 19th, where he might be discharged due to an injury sustained when he was hit by fragments from a bomb during a Jap raid.

Marine Saves Wounded White Buddy, Then Downs Jap Sniper

By TECH. SGT. PAUL G. LONG. 11-25-44

A Marine Combat Correspondent, Formerly of the Chattanooga Times

PELELIU, PALM ISLANDS—(Delayed)—The Japs, entrenched on the ridge in the toughest fighting of this tough campaign, had all the advantages.

For two days the veteran jungle fighters of the First Marine Division had pushed solidly upward, seeing their comrades killed and wounded. Now they were dug in awaiting orders advance again.

"Want to come out for a smoke?" A colored Marine had crawled up to a white comrade in arms. He and the rest of his company of stretcher bearers were relieving men at the front, giving them a break in the tension of front-line combat.

In this campaign, the colored Marines have performed gallantly. Day and night they have carried wounded back to aid stations and returned to the front with ammunition and water. Rough, precipitous crags has made their job harder. One 200-pound wounded fighter apologized for his weight, but they only smiled and groped on down the tortuous trail with him. Often they went beyond the front in search of wounded Marines. But what they wanted most was a chance to kill the Japs.

This is the way it happened to Ramey—Private First Class R. L. Ramey, 21 of Bluefield, W. Va. A wounded rifleman fell forward from an escarpment into a gulch. Without hesitation and without command, Ramey jumped headlong to save him.

"Come out of there," ordered a captain. "You haven't got a chance." "I'm coming out, Captain, soon as I get this Marine," replied Ramey.

He brought back the Marine.

The captain recognized Ramey.

"Want to shoot a Jap, Ramey?"

The captain pointed out a sniper's nest. Ramey eagerly accepted his Tommy gun. So it was that Ramey got his first Jap.

Trained for combat, like all other Marines, colored Marines know how to use weapons. Their non-commissioned officers saw to that, just as they taught them to drill so well that the Secretary of the Navy and the Commandant of the Marine Corps commended them at their New River, N. C. training base.

First Sgt. Nolan Marshall, 20, of 3421 Baronne street, New Orleans, La., graduate of New Orleans' Gilbert Academy, helped organize this extraordinary "depot" company, systematically weeding out the less apt recruits and replacing them with the best men he could find.

Gunnery Sgt. Victor Kee, 21, of 15 School street, Newark, N. J., studied for three years at Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., before joining the Marine Corps. He

British Women Express High Esteem For Negro GIs In Democracy Pleas

Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

12-30-44

c/o American Red Cross Service Club, 102/104 Whitechapel, Liverpool, England.

DEAR EDITOR: May I take a small amount of space in your paper to try to express my esteemed regard for the American Negro troops it has been my privilege to meet and work with during the year? When I first volunteered to work with the American Red Cross here in Liverpool my knowledge of the average Negro and his ways was very meagre, but working daily with these boys soon taught me that there was much more to them than just a Stepin Fetchit of the movies, or a Rochester of the Jack Benny radio program. Yes, here were men and boys from high schools and colleges all over the U.S.A., from many and varied walks of civilian life.

I met former waiters, lawyers, clerks, doctors, farm workers, yet all were now wearing the khaki of Uncle Sam's Army, each one with the same job to do and the same determination to see it well done. Except for a few members of the Army of the United States, the boys I met were not soldiers, they told me so themselves. They were, so they said, just civilians in GI clothing, but that did not make any less the significance of the job that they knew had to be done, so that they could return soon to their wives, mothers, children and girl friends back in the States. 12-30-44

The friendships I have made here in this Red Cross club are something which I know I will never forget and which I am going to cherish all my life. In future years should I be given the chance to visit the U.S.A. it is going to be a wonderful feeling to anticipate meeting once again Frank A. Carroll of Newark, N.J.; Adolph Reed of Chicago, Ill.; John Thurston, Arthur Fair and George Johnston, also of Chicago, Ill.; Nathaniel Oliver, whose sister lives in Detroit, Mich.; George Duerson of Indianapolis, Ind.; Len Floyd of Kansas City, or Johnny Perkins of Tupelo, Miss. It will be really great to see and speak once again to George J. Evans, Stanley W. Gale, Alonzo Sudler, Jr., Lazarus H. Goodwyn or Walter Brannon of Philadelphia, Pa. It's going to be nice ot hear George L. Jackson of Ohio playing his piano in the surroundings which I have no doubt he loves more than any other, to hear once again the singing of Bill Thompkins of Long Island. Yes, these and many others I am longing to meet again. I've mentioned these names not for desire to impress you, but just because I thought it might be nice for you who may read this paper to know that up to the time they left Liverpool these boys did not lack for friends, they had plenty friends who like myself will not forget them. 12-30-44

It's like that in a Red Cross club. Soldiers come and go and with each one my admiration for them increases. They've taught me about places and things which were once very foreign to me, but which I now understand well. They've given me something, these Negro sons of America, something which I can't quite explain; perhaps it is a broader outlook on life, perhaps it's just the feeling that my work with and for them has been every bit worthwhile. At any rate it's here inside me and it's a flame that is not diminishing but is growing stronger every day.

Well, I won't take up any more of your space now as I have no doubt that paper is just as precious in the States these days as it is in England, but just let me say once again that I mean every word of this small (yes, I say small for I have not said half I could have said) expression of regard.

MISS ANN RILEY

(Signed) ANN RILEY.
ARC Volunteer.

* * * 12-30-44

SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF

"Park View,"
110 Cliff Lane,
Ipswich, Suffolk, England.

Dear Editor:

I am a Volunteer Canteen Associate and hostess of the ARC club in town and I wondered if you would be interested enough to let all mothers, wives and sweethearts know that all the colored boys stationed near us use our club, we are proud to have had the privilege and honor of meeting, serving, and entertaining them. Through so doing I have met some of the most courteous, educated and grateful men I have ever met. You certainly have

MRS. ELSIE M. CATLING

12-30-44

something to be proud of. To think I was brought up to give my pennies to help educate and civilize Negroes. I feel ashamed as to what some of these boys really think of our so-called Christianity and civilization, for their respect for mother, God, and home-makers, we wonder. Apart from the club where I worked for some time with a most wonderful personality, Miss Martha Stafford, Harvard place, Indianapolis, I used to chaperon a party of young ladies to a nearby camp for parties and dances. Miss Stafford was director of an Aero club there. We had some jolly times and all were astounded at the reception we received and the wonderful behavior of all the boys. Our very esteemed friend, Capt. Chaplain Perkins of Philadelphia, used to escort us to and from the camp as often as he could and they were indeed happy journeys.

Another dear friend, Alexander Jordan, Minnesota, conductor of the large Negro choir, has made a name that will long be remembered. He brought part of that choir to our church and they gave us some of their spirituals. We shall never forget that singing, in fact, when we know where they were singing, several of us would follow them around. My husband is just as keen as myself and believe me, is very disappointed if one or more of the boys does not come in each day. I have had about 40 boys home. The first outfit of boys we had moved off about five months ago; first North, then South about 300 miles each way and some have traveled all that way to spend their 48-hour pass with us. 12-30-44

I consider myself honored when they are coming home and call me Mother, because I realize what it all means to them. There is one thing this cruel war has in its favor, it has given all nations chance to know each other better and I trust that when real peace, freedom and democracy is won, all those who helped to win the same will be able to share and take an equal place in this world.

Trusting that victory is just around the corner, I am

Sincerely yours,
ELSIE M. CATLING.

* * *

HOPE NEGROES WILL GET THEIR WAR AIMS

12-30-44

Braeside Road,
Wentworthville.
Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

Dear Editor:

I have just spent the evening reading The Pittsburgh Courier, which was sent to me by a young Negro soldier now serving in the S.W. Pacific. I sincerely hope that the Negro people will get what they are fighting for today. All men are born free and equal. I have had several Negro soldiers who were in camp here, guests at my home and I cannot speak too highly of them. They are all gentlemen. Two have since been down on leave and called to see my family. One stayed several days with us. You may publish this letter if you think fitting.

Yours truly,
(Signed) MRS. BERTHA REGAN.

* * *

PROUD TO KNOW "GUYS" WHO ARE "ON THE BALL"

The Unicorn Hotel,
Coleford, Gloucestershire,
England.

Dear Editor:

I cannot allow the letter from the hostesses of Hull American Red Cross club and printed in a recent issue of The Pittsburgh Courier pass without my saying my pretty piece.

As manager of a west country Red Cross club, I would like to express my appreciation for the firm hand of friendship which has been extended to hostesses, staff and myself by each and every one of the colored soldiers we have had the good fortune to meet since this club has been open.

My earliest and most memorable experience of the sincerity and feeling of these men occurred New Year's eve, 1943, when a handful of colored soldiers, Gladys Martin (at that time director, now in France), Red Cross staff including myself, gathered together that the chaplain might ask God's blessing for the New Year and all that it held for each and every one.

After prayers had been said and hymns sung, everyone joined hands to sing "Auld Lang Syne." Although more than 3,000 miles separated these Americans from their homes and their loved ones, they were "home" in thought for each and everyone of those brown eyes filled with unrestrained tears.

To the average reader this incident may seem rather a trivial thing to write about, but having known these "boys" for many months I realize that although many things disturb them it is seldom that they allow anyone to see them moved to any great extent. 12-30-44

Many of these boys are far away now, but wherever any of them go or whatever they do, there will always be a very warm corner in the hearts of all connected with this club for all the colored people who have made our task both easy and never-to-be-forgotten pleasure.

If fate decrees that these friends never pass this way again, then I thank God that I was privileged to know the "guys" who are really "on the ball." 12-30-44

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) MARY GREEN.

Home Address:
Three Oaks, Rushlake Green
Heathfield, Sussex, England.

Artillery Gets New Guns to Fire on Siegfried Line

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
12-16-44

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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WITH NINTH ARMY IN GER... By cable — "They hi... what they shoot at." That's the... verdict of tank crews and infan... trymen in this sector who have... profited by the devastating fire of... the artillery battalion to which I... am now attached.

The battalion commander, Lt. Col. L. G. Witmer of Philadelphia, was more reserved. Said he, "I want this unit to be the best, and until it is the best I am not satisfied. Until they go overboard in the... of the... comfort in the cel... and we are forbidden to speak to the natives.

Find Co... My adopted... all know well, "Through these portals pass the fastest mortals." ... fire across ... We are not too uncomfortable. ... We seem to live ... We have wood and coal and plenty of heavy clothing. A few ... r own out here ... The little civilians, looking very pathetic, ... had most of its ... are coming back to live in the ... Everybody ... ruins, but this is enemy country ... before tries to find ... attained. lars.

The battalion has an unusually high IQ. At least half of the men are college graduates.

Work 60 Feet Underground

Sixty feet underground is the fire direction center. The chief computor is S/Sgt. Clarence McMichael of Nacogdoches, Texas, captain of the 1942 Texas College football team.

Assisting him are:

Sgt. Edward Evans of Prairie View, whose father teaches at Prairie View State College; Sgt. Thomas Cheatham of Fort Worth, a graduate of Texas College; Cpl. Marion Jones of Dallas, former foobfall star at Wiley College; Cpl. Leon English of Waxahachie, Texas, former Prairie View track star who did the 100-yard dash in 9:6 at the Drake Relays; Cpl. Walter Parks of Chicago, former Morehouse student; Cpl. James Turner of Tyler, Texas College graduate; Pfc. Melvin Staff of Grambling, La.; and Pvt. Eddie Carter of Houston, a Wiley graduate.

In order to hit the target, computing must be accurate with consideration for distance and wind velocity. The fire direction center is the brains of the battalion. Here instructions are given gunners who simply load and fire when told to.

The day I arrived, the target was an emplacement of heavy railroad guns that rose up to shoot then dropped back out of sight.

Once our gunners got the correct range, they waited until an observer spotted the German guns rising then they cut loose and knocked out all but two before the enemy had time to fire.

Cheyney Grad in Outfit

Interesting personalities here

Sgt. Rosmond Nelson, 1605 W. Butler Street, Philadelphia, a graduate of Cheyney and the University of Pennsylvania; S/Sgt. Leonard Morgan of Memphis; M/Sgt. Albert Darenbourg of New Orleans, Xavier alumnus; Pvt. Leroy Moss of Bellefontaine, Ohio, who played with Tiny Bradshaw's orchestra;

Sgt. Jesse Brown of Houston, who is so cool that he peeled potatoes for supper right through an enemy raid; Sgt. Ronall Tucker of Athens, Texas, 1943 graduate of Prairie View in 1943; S/Sgt. Richard Sands, 642 Bergen Street, Newark, N.J., who was track star in his high school days;

S/Sgt. Robert Sampson of Roanoke, Va., battery supply sergeant; and 1/Sgt. David Hayes of Logan, V.Va., a Morehouse graduate, who formerly taught school and was narrowly defeated when he ran for the House of Delegates from Logan County.

TALKS TO PA. CONGRESSMAN

Men who keep the battalion supplied with food, clothes, and ammunition include:

Sgt. Eugene Matthews of Brenham, Texas, a Prairie View graduate; Sgt. William Sims of Detroit, former recreation instruction; S/Sgt. Otis Montgomery of San Antonio; S/Sgt. William Owens of Greenville, Texas, a Wiley graduate; Sgt. Joseph McElroy of San Antonio; and S/Sgt. Joe Jackson of Versailles, Ky.

FLASH: Thursday night I saw one of a group of visiting Congressmen, John E. Sheridan of the Fourth District, Philadelphia, who bought me beer and said he recently bought a professional football team called the Giants, which has Brud Holland on the roster.

Two Soldiers Contest For Honors As First Ashore On Philippines

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

11-4-44

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

ON THE LEYTE BEACHHEAD —Two soldiers, Cpl. Harry Carter of Charleston, W.Va., and Sgt. Arthur DuPrees of St. Louis, Mo., contested claims this week of being the first Negro soldier to land in the new Philippines invasion.

Setting foot on the beach here two hours before the first port company platoons came ashore while Japanese fire raged around them, the two were definitely known to be first ashore in General MacArthur's historic comeback here. But who was first between the two was a hotly debated question.

They were part of an all-Negro port company that hit the beach at Leyte, six hours after the first assault troops had swept inward behind a barrage of rockets from landing craft.

When Jap machine gun fire ripped through his area, Staff Sergeant John Lindsey of Chicago was wounded in the shoulder and became one of the first casualties in his company. Sergeant Lindsey, however, was soon back into action and supervising the unloading of more invasion cargoes.

The soft sandy beach was teeming with men, truck, tanks, bulldozers, fuel rations, supplies and other equipment. Snorting bulldozers wrestled to extricate heavy vehicles mired deep in the soft sand.

The pair spent an hour traveling a quarter of a mile.

The first segment of the company arrived only shortly before the second and the whereabouts of the third was not known.

Only Negro Unit

No concern over the failure of the third platoon was expressed by Lt. Albert R. Bishop of Washington, D. C., commander of the company. He said that after unloading one ship it had most likely shifted to another where it spent the night so as to be handy for an early unloading Saturday morning.

11-4-44

The company is the only all-Negro outfit to take part in the Philippines operation. When the second platoon, commanded by Lt. Weaver A. Turner of Los Angeles, Calif., landed, infantrymen had driven several hundred yards inland so they risked no danger in landing.

The skill and experience of the Negro dock workers enabled the three shifts to which they were assigned, to be released more than an hour ahead of schedule. The men were disappointed in not being permitted to operate the winches, the navy preferring its own operators. The men, reputed to be the best winch operators in the theatre, had counted heavily upon their own operators in an effort to set a record as soon as the landing craft were launched.

With efficiency born of long experience, hatch covers were raised and the men began to hook up loads. Soon ammunition tanks and ration fuel were disgorged from the four holds of the vessels. For three hours and five minutes they worked continuously the unloading wasn't even interrupted when the ship moved from its original anchorage of about nine miles off shore to within three miles of the beach.

11-4-44

Beach Bombarded

The steady and unrelenting bombardment of the beach by destroyers, cruisers and battleships had been underway since dawn. It made the ship tremble and the holds reverberate with deafening sound. But that and the general air of excitement failed to disrupt the rhythmic and continuous operations of the Yonkers in the hold.

Captain Harold Baker, USN, Baltimore, commander of the naval transport division of which the ship was a part, commended the outfit on what he called a record. They unloaded three hundred and fifty tons of cargo in three hours and five minutes. The normal rate of unloading is at the rate of 100 tons per hour.

Not Glamorous But Vital

While their task is not nearly so glamorous as that of cambat troops, it is part of the huge task of logistics which show that modern warfare is not only a gigantic job but one of A-1 importance. The entire well - planned operation might have failed had these men not succeeded in speedily dispatching to the beachhead vehicles, tanks, ammunition and fuel.

Casualties would certainly have been greater and more serious had they not rushed to the beach medical supplies and equipment. They were the lifeline of the feeding to the advancing troops everything required for them to successfully carry out their objectives.

11-4-44

Gang foremen on the ship I saw unloaded were Sgt. Hiram Dudley, Mt. Pleasant, Texas; Sgt. Fred C. Ragland, Bowling Green, Ky.; Sgt. Theodore Hendley, Chicago, and Sgt. James Freeney, Chicago.

Staff Sergeant Lindsey, who was injured, later supervised the four gangs. And now, with our troops in posse[illegible] of Hill 522, an important strategical position, the airstrip, the city of Tacloban, the paved highway to Palo and Palo itself, th[illegible] men are still unloading s[illegible]ips and they'll keep on unloading ships until the Philippines are free

Tough Job Keeping Up, One Operator Asserts

Atlanta Ga.

12-16-44 Atlanta Daily World

CHERBOURG — The powerful, giant arms of their crawler cranes daily hoisting much of the world's highest priority military cargo, Negro crane operators here in this thriving Allied harbor are chasing port tonnage records ragged.

Ships loaded to the gunwale with subsistence, tanks, planes and every conceivable kind of war material needed by fighting Allied troops on the continent are packed into this immense harbor.

12-16-44

There is neither time nor space for quayside discharge of these vital supplies. The cargo is therefore loaded on barges and "ducks," the Army's famed sea-going truck, which waddles into the harbor water to receive equipment from ships often miles offshore.

WORK DAY AND NIGHT

Thousands of these 'ducks" travel between ship and quay day and night. Sturdy Negro crane operators taxi their huge derricks up to water's edge with the ease of jeep-drivers, manipulating the maze of pedals and levers around them, lifting cargo from barges to waiting trucks that often take off in direct "red Ball" military express deliveries to the advanced front lines.

"It's a tough job keeping ahead of the barges, but we try to have a net or sling always open," says Sergeant Julius Freeman, 25, 1114 East Washington Street, Wilson, North Carolina.

"Lots of times we handle stuff that we've got to be pretty doggoned careful with, but just the same we take a lot of short cuts in crane operation that are really sending our tonnage records up," points out 19-year-old Private James M. Sanders, Jr., 1512 7th Avenue, South Birmingham, Alabama.

GETS REAL COLD 12-16-44

Main growl of crane operators is the bitter cold that goes along with their exposed job in the crane cab. "It is not so bad when we're actually loading," says Corporal Alonza Rooks, 30, 342 Brush Street, Spartanburg, South Carolina, "but between loads, we turn off the motor and it gets pretty cold. We could keep the machine going for heat, but fuel is too precious around here for that." 12-16-44

"We know we've had thorough training back in the States," observes Corporal Nehemiah Gooden, 25, Fifteen Miles, Awendaw, South Carolina. "We used to practice working under blackout conditions. It sure has come in handy."

Men of the outfit have seen duty during air raids. Their crane operation continued even while the sky was lit up by the deadly yellow streaks of our antiaircraft fire.

12-16-44

"Sometimes we know that it has been less than a day between our handling of ammunition and its use up front where it belongs," points out Corporal Robert Walters, Jr., 19, 1406 Argyle Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. "A good percentage of Allied supplies in France have dangled on the ends of our cranes at one time or another," he adds.

deeds and those of his ragged men have spread among American troops like wildfire. The exact whereabouts of the giant warrior is a military secret. However, this correspondent has been granted permission to find and join him.

My search should be well worthwhile because what [illegible]

of Africa, this Negro means to the people of these islands. As the news of Livingstone was spread around the world, so should the deeds of this man be made known. He is worth walking across a continent to find, and every attempt will be made to find him.

BY FLETCHER MARTIN
War Correspondent, Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

ON AN ISLAND NEAR LEYTE (By Cable) — Fighting with the fierceness of an enraged animal is an American Negro leader of a Filipino guerilla band.

This man is one of the big[illegible] stories of the Pacific [illegible]

U.S. Negro Leads Filipino Fighters

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

The IOWA BYSTANDER
Des Moines, Iowa

Negro Tankmen Take Four Towns in Battle Near Metz

12-7-44

With the Third Army in the Metz Area—Spearheading a task drive of the 26th "Yankee" Division which jumped off November 8, the all-Negro 761st tank battalion now in action with the U. S. army captured four important towns, secured two bridge crossings and successfully battered its way through the strongly defended Forest de Bride, the War Department announced today.

The Negro tankmen were committed to action following the 26th Division's capture of Metz, which never before fell to direct assaut in modern times. They lunged into the battle with such ferocity and courage that Captain Irvin McHenry of Leavenworth, Kansas, received the nickname of 'The Bronze Devil," and Staff Sergeant Reuben Rivers of Route 1, Box 27, Tecumseh, Oklahoma, received the Silver Star for routing nearly 300 Germans. A dozen members of the medical detachment were cited for heroism under fire. 12-7-44

..'Such Bravery'

A captured German officer, after having had a taste of the Negro tankmen and their work, said: "So far as fighting is concerned, I have never before seen such bravery except once before, and that was on the Russian front." It came when a German rocket gun knocked out a tank of the Negro unit. The crew dismounted, brought out the .50 calibre and .30 calibre machine guns, crawled under their tanks for protection, and continued to blast away at the enemy. 12-7-44

There was an occasion when Sergeant Warren G. H. Creecy, of Corpus Christi, Texas, a tank commander, climbed up on the rear of his tank which had been immobilized by anti-tank fire, and held an enemy force at bay with his own anti-aircraft gun, while protecting the advance of an infantry group.

The unit moved out from Athianville for its first action at six o'clock on the morning of November 8, as part of a task force, which was operating in two columns. Athianville is approximately 14 miles east of Nancy. This task force consisted of tank destroyers, infantry, engineers and medics, with units of the Negro tank battalion. It was divided into two columns, with their ultimate objective being a town some twenty miles away, beyond the edge of the dense Forest de Bride.

The two columns moved out for the attack, and in short order captured Vic-sur-Seille and Moyenvic, two strongly defended towns which skirted a German rail supply route leading from the Saar Basin. They secured crossings over two canals. These towns were some fifteen to eighteen miles east of Nancy, and constituted the German frontline defenses at that point. Here the forces began to meet with siffer opposition.

After securing these two towns, the next task was to move on to Morville, a town some four miles beyond Vic-sur-Seille. Splitting up here, one column moved toward Morville for the attack.

It was here that they ran into their most stubborn opposition of the drive, for here he Germans had constructed a two-mile-long anti-tank ditch in anticipation of the offensive. They had reenforced this tank barrier with staggered concrete pill-boxes, completely covered with earth and with rocket launchers and bazooka teams dug in in strength.

Facing Morville, which was at the entrance to the Forest de Bride, the columns met these obstructions, and Company B was halted by pill-box opposition at the edge of the woods. Company C, commanded by Captain McHenry, on the left flank, moved up the anti-tank ditch, where it encountered fierce opposition. With Company B halted, the German guns in the center were turned on Company C, and immobilized the unit for a while. Company C finally retired the position. 12-7-44

Assault Platoon

During this action, the crack assault platoon, with 105-mm howitzers commanded by First Lieutenant Charles Gates of Topeka, Kansas, a Hampton Institute alumnus, moved up to support these two companies. It shelled the German positions in the woods. The 81-mm mortar platoon, commanded by Second Lieutenant James C. Lightfoot of Washington, D. C., also moved into the action and pounded the Germans. Elements of the Fourth Armored Division, equipped with bull-dozer tanks and flame-throwers, also moved in, and the positions were finally taken.

Captain McHenry's company saw the hardest fighting. 12-7-44

All units gave a good account of themselves. Company C knocked out approximately 18 enemy anti-tank guns, Company B knocked out ten, and Lieutenant Gates' assault platoon knocked out six German armored vehicles and two pill-boxes.

After passing Morville, which they had practically destroyed, the columns moved on to Hamport, four miles farther east, where units of Companies B and C reached the town.

Meanwhile, Company A, commanded by Captain Dave Williams, of wants."

"We have not yet faced the painful fact that whatever the problem is concerning white people and colored people, it will be found in the ideas and feelings which we white people have about ourselves and our color," she concluded.

NEGRO TROOPS SWARM OVER LEYTE BEACH

Defender-Chicago
11-4-44

Defender Scribe Lands In Philippines With Invading Soldiers

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES—Up and down the entire Leyte beachhead from Palo to Tacloban, thousands of Negro troops are hard at work consolidating the big push into the Philippines by General MacArthur's armies.

Coming ashore six hours after the first assault troops, the Negro soldiers have performed Herculean tasks under Jap air raids—and not without casualties.

When the first troop and freight-laden Liberty ship pulled into the dock at Tacloban, capital of Leyte, Wednesday afternoon, a Negro-officered company, commanded by Lt. Elisha Burno of Hartsville, S. C., from the Southwest Pacific's most famous port battalion, was on hand to unload it.

The scene on the dock, untouched by our bombers and somehow left intact by the fleeing Japs, was the strangest these veterans of almost three years' overseas service have witnessed in the Pacific.

Pretty Filipino girls in gay, print dresses, clean and stiffly starched, and men in shorts, white duck trousers and vari-colored open-neck shirts, carrying American and Philippine flags, were on hand to greet the vessel. 11-4-44

Color, Beauty, Laughter

There was color and beauty and laughter, there were cries of "Victory," and the universally understood "V" for Victory finger symbol. The reception was spontaneous and the enthusiastic Filipinos had to be forced off the dock to avoid an accident as ropes were tossed over the side and the 10,000-tonner made fast.

The holiday atmosphere, however, belied the great danger with which the atmosphere was charged. Just a few hours earlier, the strongest attempt yet made by the Japs to bomb this place since the Americans took over, had been successfully fought off by swarms of our fighters.

For almost an hour our strong anti-aircraft batteries and fighter planes staged a demonstration which spoke clearly of our determination to stay here.

Several Jap Bombers Downed

One of the several Jap bombers which went down under the furious American barrage, zoomed over a Liberty ship in the Bay where men from another port company, commanded by Lt. Elbert R. Bishop of Washington, D. C., were at work. The Jap aircraft crashed into another vessel, setting it afire. One officer and two enlisted men from the outfit were among the injured.

Simultaneously, another Jap dive bomber, which escaped, killed a Negro soldier in a strafing raid of a bivouac, and even while the ship was being made fast to the dock, our ack-ack guns opened up on another Jap plane hovering overhead. 11-4-44

Despite the danger of the situation, Lt. Walter B. Seagraves of Los Angeles, led his men aboard the vessel to begin unloading. It was correctly anticipated that the Japs would make an early effort to bomb the dock and knock out the ship.

A constant watch was maintained at the ship's guns and several hundred yards offshore a small, heavily armed vessel kept an alert watch up and down the beach Bofors, with their crews scanning the skies, stood ready for an enemy threat from the air.

Indifferent To Danger

The Negro troops went to work with an indifference to the lurking danger that bespoke their courage and long experience in similar situations. It was these same men who withstood the fire from Japanese cruisers and destroyers while they were unloading a ship at Milne Bay in 1942.

This is the same company which suffered more than a score of casualties when Jap aircraft strafed and bombed them at Finschafen in January of this year. Their heroism on that occasion resulted in a general commendation from the company and bronze stars for Lt. Hampson H. Field of Cleveland, Ohio, then in command, and for two enlisted men, T-Sgt. Eugene Stewart, 5314 South Parkway, Chicago, and Sgt. R. D. O. Cross of Sherman, Texas.

Japs Bomb Dock, Ship

But an even more daring thing was to be done this time, in spite of the almost assured attempt of the Japs to blast the dock, where unloading of the vessel was to continue throughout the night.

The bright lights required for the operation would make the dock and ship perfect targets for Jap airmen. In spite of nine alerts during the night when lights were turned off and work brought to a complete standstill, with a total loss of three hours—the men had unloaded 125 tons by daylight.

Lts. Robert L. Rimmer of Detroit, who was later transferred to Lt. Bishop's company, and Lt. Welton C. A. Biggs of Suffolk, Va., shared night shifts. 11-4-44

Thursday, however, the Japs really turned on the heat and three times within an hour they bombed and strafed the vicinity of the docks. One bomb tore a large hole in the dock and two more Negro soldiers were injured.

Right after the raid in which the two men were injured, S-Sgt Robert J. Hampton, Cincinnati, in charge of the detail unloading the ship and Sgts. Isaac McGee, Orange Texas, and Dehomer Moore, Paris Texas, said the men are taking the whole thing calmly.

"Not Going To Stop Us"

"We're not going to let this thing stop us," Hampton declared. "We have got a good record up to date and the boys are determined not to let Tojo mess up that record."

Since the arrival on D-Day of Lt. Bishop's company at White Beach, troops' equipment, supplies and rations have been pouring in at an inconceivable rate, and in goodly proportion, Negro troops are being landed.

Negro troops have been observed from Palo to Tacloban performing almost every conceivable service. Task ducks, driven by Negroes, are bounding over the waters of Baya Palo and Tacloban carrying out cans of beans, stew, soup, milk and army trucks are bouncing in the cities of Palo Bay officered by Lts. Clarence T. Laws; Leon Weston, Miami; ban and intermediate b over the rough roads. Negro truck New Orleans; and like the others, are drivers in the Joseph Kimbrough, Chicago, and theatre—are moving tons of sup- Berry Slaten, Los Angeles, has tak- share of sight-seeing, so plies. Negro ordnance companies en over the distribution of rations lecting and friend-makin are setting up ammunition depots at one point. Vehicle drivers are pitching in to help civilians lug to their homes with heavy gen- erosity, our soldiers are passing highly prized 50-lb. bags of rice

An all-Negro railhead company. Troops Enjoy Sightseeing 11-4-44

which the Japs neglected to take with them and no Filipino need walk if there's an Army vehicle going in his direction.

The Filipinos are a very grateful and friendly people and so are the American soldiers. Between the two, it's like "old home week" as they saunter through the narrow, unpaved streets, admiring the smiling, bashful girls, acknowledging the salutes of the men with cigarettes and distributing chewing gum, candy, chocolate and coins to the children. 11-4-44

The soldiers are invited into the modest homes by hospitable householders for a cup of tea and a chat. The gesture is highly appreciated.

Strange to the Americans—who, by comparison with the small Filipinos, look like giants—are the thatched bungalows the bakyas which look like wooden shower shoes with embroidered velvet straps chenelas slippers, woven from palm leaves; straw hats which look like inverted funnels; two-wheeled, oxen-drawn carts; Filipinos balancing huge loads on their heads; Filipino flags; small, poorly stocked, dimly lighted shops and streets with odd names—like Padre Gomes, Avenida Rizal, Calle Real and Juan Luna.

But familiar to the Americans are innumerable beauty parlors, school buildings, Kolynos toothpaste ads; traffic signs, reading "Slow Down, School Area;" doctors' and lawyers' shingles, public buildings and American flags.

If it weren't for the persistence of the Jap fliers and the Army jobs which leave but little leisure time, the boys over here would be quite content to remain for the duration.

'Master Race' Idea Forgotten

Nazis Run From French Sengalese

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (ANP) — The "master race" theory of the German soldiers disappears like magic when faced with the daring and capability of colored Allied troops, T. Sgt. Walter Melichi Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Malichi of Bennetsville, S. C., and just back from France on furlough said while visiting in Columbia Wednesday.

"I have seen Germans, fully armed, run away like the devil upon being confronted with colored soldiers," Sgt. Malichi continued. Most feared by the Germans are Senegalese. French colonial troops who, the Germans contend, delight in cutting off their heads and ears as retaliation for brutalities inflicted upon their less fortunate comrades who fell into German hands in the ill-fated battle for France back in 1940.

World's Best Soldiers

"The Senegalese," the veteran said, "are beyond doubt the world's best soldiers. They are plenty tough and I am very glad we are on the same side."

T. Sgt. Malichi's outfit is the 320th AA Balloon battalion, the army's only such outfit. On D-Day, it was assigned to fly barrage balloons from the invasion convoy and captured areas on the beachhead to prevent strafing by enemy planes at an effective altitude. "We were the first all-colored outfit to reach Normandy on D-Day," Malichi boasts.

For its part in the invasion, on the Normandy beachhead, in Brittany and in Belgium, the outfit has been cited by its commanding officers, Gen. Timberlake and Gen. Eisenhower. It is back here for a few days of re-equipping before being sent into another theater of operation. 12-29-44

Superior To Germans

T. Sgt. Malichi believes the American soldier and his ally in Britain far superior to the German soldier. German soldiers are kept sogged in dope and alcoholic drinks, he said. When without the influence of these stimulants, they surrender in large numbers. "I have seen them slipping away from their own outfits with white flags or upraised hands over to our men to surrender," he continued.

T. Sgt. Malichi and his fellow soldiers have high praise for the reception tendered them by both the French and the British, the British going the French perhaps a fraction better in their treatment of colored soldiers. Both, he said, seem quite puzzled over our race question and try hard to make the colored soldier feel himself appreciated and loved.

92nd Given Brief Relief from Battle

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy 12-30-44

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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY. (By Cable, Censored).—With the past week-end activities of the 92nd Division in this sector of the 5th Army front still limited to reconnaissance work, troops may get, in a measure, continued respite from battle for the holidays.

Outstanding among the recent patrols is one three days ago led by First Lt. William E. Porter of Lima Ohio.

T/Sgt. Howard W. Edwards of Bridgeton, N.J.; Sgt. Oscar M. Wilson, Avondale, Pa.; Pfcs. Isaiah Carroll, Watha, N.C.; Linwood M. Flowers, Newport News, Va., and Pvt. Nelson E. Durham, Greensboro, N.C., were members of it.

Called an Example

So successfully executed was its mission that Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, division commander, extended special commendation and termed the work of this patrol the type expected of others in his command during future operations.

Porter's patrol, operating in the vicinity of the town of Massa on December 14, encountered two machine gun positions before reaching its objective. The patrol destroyed one with hand grenades and silenced the other though both were dug in in positions between them and the objective.

For silencing this opposition and completing the mission rather than turning back after it faced heavy enemy fire, the patrol won commendation.

Elsewhere along the front, activity is quiet while all GI's await the promised turkey dinner for Christmas. 12-30-44

Civilians Laud Regiment

The infantry regiment I accompanied overseas last March was cited this week by the civilian population of the town in which it was once based. In a letter of commendation to Lt. Gen. Joseph A. Moore, commanding general of the theatre, the mayor of the town in the south of Italy told of the typical high esteem the officers and men have created among the civiilan populace in areas in Italy where they have served. The letter stated in part:

"Under the wise guidance of the commanding colonel, all components of the unit, officers and soldiers, have demonstrated the finest expression of human solidarity by giving aid and assistance, particularly of sanitary nature, to the whole civilian population.

Aid to Poor Cited

"These attentions and the medical care granted have left in the heatrs of all my citizens the most profound gratitude for their thoughtfulness, especially to the poor people who needed the most attention.

"Therefore, I desire to make known to you these expressions from our heart for such extreme solidarity and also to express the best wishes for victory by the Allies Armies."

Santa Claus came early to a 28-year-old Washington janitor, when he found himself the unexpected heir to $150,000 in cash and fifteen pieces of real estate this week.

Women Of Italian Town Fight By Side Of 92nd Infantrymen

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN

Guide War Correspondent

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WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN THE GOTHIC LINE IN ITALY — (Via Wireless) — The favor with which the 92nd division infantrymen have been received by the natives of Liberated Italy was never more graphically illustrated than in recent fierce fighting in the mountains north of Via Reggio when, in the quaint town of Gustigliano, the gallant Italian women volunteered to assist in getting supplies to our units when the terrain proved too tough for jeeps or mules. 11-4-44

Women of all ages — pretty senoritas and senoras, old women and young girls—daily assisted in the supply problem. They carried packs of ammunition and food to troops holding vital mountain points. The women seemed delighted and happy to help despite the fact that they toiled under the fire of German artillery.

When our troops occupied the town, the commanding officer was informed that German patrols were frequently seen at a point high above the rocky terrain. The women advised the 92nd officer to station troops in that sector to capture prisoners but the commanding officer explained that it would be difficult to supply the troops in such a position. 11-4-44

VOLUNTEERED TO HELP

Whereupon, the women volunteered to carry the necessary supplies up to these men in what is believed to be the first time in the history of the Italian campaign that native women actually worked with fighting troops.

As these women filed across the rocky terrain with these supplies, we saw a profound and amazing picture of cooperation which will become a significant part of the proud history of this famous Buffalo division.

The men of the 92nd will never forget the women of Gustigliano who fought beside them. 11-4-44

MOUNTAIN BATTLE 11-4-44

Meanwhile, a bitter battle for Mt. Strettoia, less than five miles south of Massa off Highway One, raged most of the past week with the 92nd combat units continually boring into fanatical Germans who are now aided by their strongest remaining ally, General Bad Weather.

A portion of the mountain objective was taken and held by a platoon under command of 2nd Lt. Horner and was later consolidated by the main body of our troops. The entire unit finally moved into this forward area and continued its attack on the mountain from this position. 11-4-44

Supply the forcers under the heavy fire laid down by Kraut artillerymen continues to be the major problem and some of the most exciting adventures of the war occur daily as men toil along the hazardous supply route in full observation of the Germans.

BLUEFIELD GRID STAR

Lt. John Flippen, of Bluefield W. Va., former Bluefield College football star, now an officer in an infantry cannon company with the 92nd, told this reporter that "Our Big Guns are steadily blasting those mountain positions. Those Nazi rats have got to leave their holes before long. Yes sir, something's got to break and I don't think it will be us." 11-4-44

However the Jerries continue to shoot back peppering the supply routes and dropping heavy shells into rear areas. We must be careful with trucks and even jeeps because the Germans start shelling when they observe the slightest movement. It is now evident that the Krauts will fight for every inch of road to La Spezia which the 92nd is determined they will capture.

STILL CARRY FIGHT

After three months of the heaviest frontline fighting, these heroic tan soldiers are still carrying the fight to the German supermen. Despite their casualties, our soldiers continue pressure on the fanatical Krauts as blistering fighting rages spasmodically in the mountains dominating Route One.

The combat infantrymen of this courageous outfit pau e now and then to lick their wounds and then wade right in and start slugging again. 11-4-44

On their right, the Brazilians recently secured two more strategic heights. Elsewhere on the Anzio stalemate. The Fifth Army front, mud and the Krauts are hoping to gain precipitous rampaging streams built up by a time in which to improve their defenses and install more heavy downpour of rain, have barbed wire and minefields. brought a virtual standstill to All evidence points to the fact offensive operations. that this forgotten front may

FORGOTTEN FRONT

Taking advantage of the bad continue providing the bloodiest weather, the Germans are firing battles of the war. more artillery than ever before in Italian campaign, including

NAZIS CALL LEADER OF HEROIC U.S. BATTALION "BRONZE DEVIL"

Press—Scimitar Memphis, Tenn. 12-8-44

WITH THE BRONZE DEVIL —WITH THE TANK DESTROYERS ON FRONT LINE IN FRANCE, WITH THE THIRD U. S. ARMY, Nov. 20—Here is the indirect fire team of Company A, of a Tank Destroyer Battalion, first, and, so far, only Negro unit of its type in front line action anywhere in the Army. The team was about to fire for the record at a range in England, just before sailing for the front line assignment it now holds with the 95th Division. In the picture, reading from left to right:

Pvt. Thurston B. Smith, St. Louis, Mo.; Pfc. William T. King, Memphis, Tenn.; Tec. 5 William A. Walker, Harlan, Ky., and Tec. 5 Levitus DeLoney, of Freeport, L. I., N. Y. All are now in the front lines in France. Company A is commanded by Capt. Beauregard S. King, of Birmingham, Ala.

Soldiers Disappointed in Liberian Yule Celebration

AFRO—American 12-30-44 132 Lt. Md.

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO Representative on NNPA African Commission

MONROVIA, Liberia — (By Cable)—Drums rolled in Liberia for Christ's natal day. They began at dusk on Christmas Eve, paused spasmodically for breathers during the daylight hours and resumed at nightfall.

The day itself began with the sun blazing hot as if to dissuade any ideas about a white Christmas. There were no toys for children. What's more, there are differences in customs anyhow.

Dances with Natives

In Krootown, we sat on benches and heard the Christmas story told twice at one time, for the minister spoke a sentence in English and an interpreter at his side spoke in the Kroo dialect.

It was a long and hazardous business, but God's purposes were served and the dual sermon was new to none except this correspondent.

In Bassatown, we danced around two drummers, singing in dialect and shuffling our feet in dust—mine were the only ones in shoes. We sang:

"All friends come for this happy time,
Who cannot dance let him drum;
Who cannot sing, let him dance;
In this happy time must everyone be happy."

The Women in Bandannas

Women wore bandannas on their heads and several yards of gingham pulled tight at the waist and dragging the ground — nothing more.

The men wore twill knickers or colorful muslin pants looking like pajamas. On their drums they beat figures that would make Cozy Cole put his sticks away in shame, while we shuffled on into the night beneath a moon so big and beautiful that it really should be censored. 12-30-44

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Baltimoreans here are Albert Tatum, George Marshall and William Green, 1523 E. Fayette Street.

Have Kept Pace With Units Of More Experience

Daily World—Atlanta Ga. 11-18-44

Negro Officers Offer Problem

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—(A N P)—While the commanding general of this first Negro combat unit to meet the Germans in the European theater reports that their development and progress has been normal and satisfactory, the boys of the 92nd division let it be known that they object to special attention because of their race.

To a man, they wish their battlefield exploits to receive the same consideration as other units, no more no less. Aware of the great historical nature of their work as American Negro soldiers, the men who form the fighting vanguard of the 92nd division have been in the front-line for more than two months and have successfully kept pace with more experienced divisions in some of the more fiery sectors around Bologna.

All of this has been done, according to the testimony of the officers and men, with the same degree of fate and fortune that generally accompany and military unit. The 92nd has had its losses. On the other hand, it has its heroes. One of the men is up for citation for having killed 13 Germans with his damaged carbine. 11-18-44

While Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of the Fifth army, will not admit that there is a problem of race relations within his army, the sinister hand of race prejudice overshadows the unit. It is there, although every effort has been made to push it out of sight. Its hand writing is on the wall in at least two places.

First, white officers are an issue within the 92nd division. At present, all officer replacements are white. There are many Negro company officers, captains and lieutenants, but according to the colonel, who is a native of Connecticut but recently of Virginia, the time is far distant when Negro junior officers will outrank white junior officers.

Secondly there is the question of MPs. The military police problem has been solved by having one white and one Negro MP patrol border areas together. The basic principle is that the white man handles white offenders and the Negro handles Negroes. Negro MPs do not carry concealed knives.

According to Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, Luray, Va., the 92nd division is a military and not a sociological problem. Negro officers are stressing that race is secondary to patriotism. They say that they want above all to be regarded as American fighting men, but some of the enlisted men confusingly place more emphasis on race pride than Americanism.

To Gen'l Clark

Army Point System Will Keep Negro GIs Overseas

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga. 12-9-44

Four Factors On Rating Cards To Determine Status

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Negro soldiers serving in non-combat outfits and who have been overseas just as long as combat soldiers will not enjoy the same opportunities for being demobilized the war department revealed on Thursday.

Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson told his news conference that discharges will be affected by the number of points earned through service in combat, he stated. "On the adjusted service rating card" will be issued to all enlisted personnel after the defeat of Germany. On this card will be scored the following four factors that will determine priority of separation:

1. Service credit—based upon the number of months of army service in a total number of months of service since Sept. 16, 1940.

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3. Combat credit—based upon the first and each additional award to the individual of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service cross, Pacific war Service cross, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying cross, Soldier's medal, Bronze Star medal, Air medal, Purple Heart, and Bronze Service stars (battle participation stars).

4. Parenthood credit—which gives the United credit for each dependent child under 18 years up to a limit of three children.

The value of the point credits are to be announced after the cessation of hostilities in Europe. In the meantime, the point values are being kept under continuous study. The total score will be used to select surplus men from the theaters overseas and in the United States.

Patterson had been asked how this system will affect men who, without choice, have been required to serve in the service units, no longer active to the Pacific war zone, or from the United States. The plan developed after September. First, priority will be the basis of a system of points, earned through service in combat, service that is clearly credited on the service cards. The man who has been developed in accordance with the feelings of the troops themselves. The man in the combat unit gets credit by service, but the combat service has an advantage," he added

47m-1944

Foreign Service

NAZIS CALL LEADER OF HEROIC U.S. BATTALION "BRONZE DEVIL"

Negro—St. Louis Grp. 12-8-44

12-8-44

WITH THE BRONZE DEVIL—WITH THE TANK DESTROYERS ON FRONT LINE IN FRANCE, WITH THE THIRD U. S. ARMY, Nov. 20—Here is the indirect fire team of Company A, of a Tank Destroyer Battalion, first, and, to far, only Negro unit of its type in front line action anywhere in the Army. The team was about to fire for the record at a range in England, just before sailing for the front line assignment it now holds with the 95th Division. In the picture, reading from left to right:

Pvt. Thurston B. Smith, St. Louis, Mo.; Pfc. William T. King, Memphis, Tenn.; Tec. 5 William A. Walker, Harlan, Ky., and Tec. 5 Levitus DeLoney, of Freeport, L. I., N. Y. All are now in the front lines in France. Company A is commanded by Capt. Beauregard S. King, of Birmingham, Ala.

Soldiers Disappointed in Liberian Yule Celebration

AFRO-American

12-30-44

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO Representative on NNPA African Commission

MONROVIA, Liberia — (By Cable)—Drums rolled in Liberia for Christ's natal day. They began at dusk on Christmas Eve, paused spasmodically for breathers during the daylight hours and resumed at nightfall.

The day itself began with the sun blazing hot as if to dissuade any ideas about a white Christmas. There were no toys for children. What's more, there are differences in customs anyhow.

Dances with Natives

In Krootown, we sat on benches and heard the Christmas story told twice at one time, for the minister spoke a sentence in English and an interpreter at his side spoke in the Kroo dialect.

It was a long and hazardous business, but God's purposes were served and the dual sermon was new to none except this correspondent.

In Bassatown, we danced around two drummers, singing in dialect and shuffling our feet in dust—mine were the only ones in shoes. We sang:

"All friends come for this happy time,
Who cannot dance let him drum;
Who cannot sing, let him dance;
In this happy time must everyone be happy."

The Women in Bandannas

Women wore bandannas on their heads and several yards of gingham pulled tight at the waist and dragging the ground — nothing more.

The men wore twill knickers or colorful muslin pants looking like pajamas. On their drums they beat figures that would make Cozy Cole put his sticks away in shame, while we shuffled on into the night beneath a moon so big and beautiful that it really should be censored.

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Patterson had been asked how this system will affect men who, without choice, have been required to serve in the service units, no longer active to the zone. The plan developed after months of study takes into account all factors. The plan stars (battle participation stars).

12-10-44

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General Clark Lauds Men Of 92nd; Awards Hero Medals

Pittsburgh Courier
Chicago Defender
Pittsburgh, Pa.
11-25-44

By HASKELL COHEN, Courier War Correspondent

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—Comparing the Fifth Army to an unheralded football line that paved the way for its backs and the American and British troops in France to the stars who carried the ball over for a touchdown, Gen. Mark W. Clark lauded members of the Fifth Army highly in an impressive ceremony last Thursday at beautiful Montecatini, a bustling little center nestling at the foot of the Appenines.

The men were described as holding off the threatening line play of the best German troops in order to facilitate the broken field running of our fleet backs on the Eastern and Western fields of battle.

SIX WIN AWARDS

Among the numerous awards were six members of the 92nd division, including two Pittsburghers, Pfc. John S. Downer and T/Sgt. Joseph W. Fry.

Before presenting the awards, General Clark told the assembled men and women that he was glad to see colored troops of the 92nd among the honored. The variety of the Fifth Army troops, including colored boys, Japanese-Americans, Indians and Brazilians, only goes to show how harmoniously the unit is battling a common enemy, the general said.

FIVE COMMISSIONED

Five boys who had shown their mettle in battle were advanced from the ranks of enlisted men and promoted to second lieutenants in the field as natural born leaders who knew how to head a platoon.

In addition, Pfc. Downer and Lt. Cunningham C. Bryant received bronze stars for heroic service in action. Downer went to the rescue of a staff sergeant on September 12. Their platoon had been deployed in a northward flanking attack and had almost gained the crest of a hill when the sergeant was hit in the stomach by an enemy sniper. At the same time the rest of the squad was pinned down by machine gun fire. Despite this hazard Downer crawled forward to rescue the non-com and carried the sergeant to a point of evacuation.

Lieutenant Bryant, Clifton, Va., received the bronze star for meritorious service in combat, October 22, in Italy. As the leader of a platoon of combat engineers in support of an armored unit, Lieutenant Bryant was ordered to prepare a road with two blown bridges for passage of tanks. A bypass for the first bridge was accomplished. However, in starting with the armored bull-dozer for the second bridge, Bryant was subjected to heavy artillery fire. He refused to withdraw and despite the heavy shelling, finished the second bridge two hours before dawn.

The promotion of five sergeants in the field to second lieutenants marked the first time that the men of the 92nd have been so honored. The officers commissioned by General Clark are T/Sgt. Frank Whisonant, Washington, D. C.; First Sgt. Gilbert Boothe, Forsythe, Ga.; T/Sgt. Joseph W. Fry, Homestead, Pa.; T/Sgt. William Hicks, Cleveland, Ohio, and First Sgt. Joseph [illegible], Boston, Mass.

Warrant Officer Gayle in Belgium With Transportation Corps

The Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

Operate Railroad Near German Border

12-16-44

With the First U. S. Army in Belgium.—Amid the huge mountains of supplies of all kinds intended for use by front line units of this Army, now across the German border, the all-Negro 3170th QM Service Company is one of the two companies of a QM Group assigned to the operation of a large railway yard, which was recently used by the Germans as a marshalling center. It now serves the First Army as one of its distribution points, receiving freight by rail from the French coast over routes opened by the Army's Transportation Corps.

In the distance can be seen the ridge which separates this part of Belgium from the present-day borders of Germany. Once this same station was actually in Germany, but the area was divorced from the Reich after the World War.

The QM Group is under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth E. Keverin, white, of Twin Falls, Idaoo.

The Negro warrant officers operate in Group Headquarters. They are warrant officers, junior grade Robert E. Gayle, of 1418 Eagle Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, a Dillard University graduate, and who also studied business administration at Atlanta University, and Henry G. Crockett, of 1303 East 4th Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

Warrant Office Gayle is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Gayle, of 1418 Eagle Street. He has a brother, S/Sgt. Irving C. Gayle, somewhere in Italy.

12-16-44

WARRANT OFFICER
ROBERT E. GAYLE

Unit Removes 2742 Mines From Normandy Beaches

Bystander—Des Moines, Iowa
11-9-44

With U. S. Forces in France—Mine detector squads of a general service engineer regiment operating on the Normandy beachheads removed the amazing total of 2742 mines and booby-traps in eight days, August 4 to 12, the War Department announced this week.

The existence of these pernicious devices proved that danger and death lurked on the beaches for sometime after D-Day to hamper the work of Negro Quartermaster and port battalion units which worked furiously to keep supplies flowing to the First and Third Armies.

Make Beaches Safe

Making the beaches safe for the working groups was a big job, but the Negro engineers pitched in with all they had. The success of their efforts was reflected in the gigantic strides made by American forces following the break-through at St. Lo.

Now they are starring in another role in the great drama of this war as it is being unfolded over the rolling terrain of France, for this regiment has been doing its share in putting the French railroads back in shape for operations. Thus, the lengthy American supply lines are being further augmented by railroad rolling stock.

11-9-44

Modern Trail Blazers

Mile after mile of steel rails have been laid by these khak-iclad modern trail blazers. They have put tracks back in line and installed new heavy steel rails, manufactured in America, all along the excellent roadbeds on which French tracks were once used by Germans. The Nazis were unable to take full advantage of them because of the strafing tactics of Ninth Air Force planes which literally blasted them off the tracks. The precision bombing of the Eighth Air Force heavies also took its toll, and many water tanks, stations, and junction points, which were intended for marshalling points by Germans, were shot to pieces.

Two Negro officers are among the regimental staff personnel. One is Chaplain (Captain) James C. Myers, Augusta, Georgia. The other is Chief Warrant Officer Herman Williamson, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who has been with the unit since its activation at Camp Pickett, Virginia, in July 1942.

12-16-44

Terrors of War Momentarily Forgotten As A Cappella GI Choir Sings at Front

AFRO-American—Baltimore, Md.

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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WITH NINTH ARMY IN GERMANY—(By Cable)—I was in the medical aid station getting a typhus shot when a group began to assemble. When they started singing, I forgot the sting of the needle and quit rubbing my sore arm.

There were only nine men in the choral ensemble of the artillery battalion here, but never in my life have I heard more beautiful music.

Without a piano or any other musical instrument, these artillerymen, who formerly sang in college choirs, sang their hearts out for sheer joy of it.

Preparing for Christmas

The director, Cpl. Philip Woods, Charleston, W.Va., who learned music at Bluefield State College and was a member of the a cappella choir there for three years, was rehearsing the singers for a program for Christmas music.

"We hope to give a program for the soldiers here in Germany. Would you like to hear the song we sang in California when our battalion surgeon, Lt. James Robinson, got married?"

Unashamed of Tears

I said yes, and the group sang "Where My Caravan Has Rested." Maybe combat conditions have made me a softie, but when the music brought tears to my eyes, I did not feel ashamed. It was that

Guns were chamming away out side and none of us were sure we would be alive next day, but for the moment we were able to forget the terrors of war. It occurred to me that men like these will be in post-war everything them.

The singers included:

Cpl. Langston Lewis, Huntington, W.Va., West Virginia State; Cpl. Donald Jacobs, Little Rock, Jarvis College; Pfc. Conaley Garret, St. Augustine, Tex., Prairie View; Sgt. Robert Pruitt, Huntsville, Tex., Bishop; Pfc. John Powe, New Orleans, Dillard; Cpl. James Turner, Tyler, Tex., Texas College;

Cpl. Walter Parks, Detroit, University

47m-1944

Foreign Service

GI Yarns In Burma Full Of Dynamite, Scribe Finds

Chicago, Ill.
Chicago Defender
11-25-44

FIRST WRITER IN FAR EAST

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

ALONG THE LEDO ROAD—Darkness had fallen and rain was pounding on the tent-top. One GI idly fiddling a "mosquito bomb" sent a stream of killer-fluid up toward the light bulb where insects kept buzzing about while the rest of us were lounging on anything we could find which resembled a chair.

We were in the quarters of a chaplain of an engineer battalion—a group of GIs, the chaplain and myself. These men have been in the jungles for over two years building and maintaining the worst stretches of the Ledo Road, so it was inevitable that their conversation turn to some of their hair-raising experiences.

"Have you ever been on a dynamite-loaded runaway truck?" asked Pfc. Harry J. Whitlow of Baltimore, Md. "Well, I have."

"I had been carrying Diesel fuel all day long up to the point of the road which at that time was about six miles from the Burma border. I hadn't been able to get through with an ordinary truck so I was using a tractor to which I had attached a carrier. It was my last trip back and the sergeant had loaded the carrier to the top with dynamite. Then seven of my buddies climbed on the tractor with me.

Clutch Goes Out

"It was about midnight—pitch-black—and the only light to guide me was the dim glare of my headlights which carried about 25 feet. Just as I started to round a curve through the mountains, the steering clutch went bad and the tractor was out of control.

"I yelled to my buddies to jump and they lost no time in bailing out. I stood up on the foot-brakes, but it was too late. Over the cliff we went—plunging crazily down at least a hundred feet—tractor, dynamite and me. Every moment I expected to be blown into oblivion. And when, with a final jar, we reached the bottom of the ravine, I lost no time in getting out.

"I started up the side of the cliff as fast as I could go. But when I looked back, I saw that the lights were on and the motor was still running. Reluctantly I went back down to turn them off. That's the most scared I've ever been in my life."

DETON J. BROOKS

Chicago Defender war correspondent in the Far East who is the first colored scribe to enter the China-Burma-India theater of war. Here he is in Myitkyina, Burma, recently recaptured from the Japanese.

Blast Mountain Road

Another GI spoke up, recalling another incident with dynamite that ended in a tragedy. "A large piece of rock about 20 feet high was jutting out of the side of a mountain and overhanging the road. Our officers were afraid that it would break off and kill someone. So my company was ordered to blast it out.

"Maybe you don't know, but dynamiting takes a lot of skill, but if properly handled accidents are kept to a minimum. The expert can almost pick his position where the object he is blasting will fall.

"M-Sgt. William F. Wright, of Washington, D. C., who was head of the detail, saw that the holes were properly loaded and warned each man where to stand. But somehow, William Allen, Manhassett, N. Y., became confused and didn't go where he was sent. As a result he was killed by rock fragments."

A Real Hero

Sgt. Dennis Oliver walked into the tent and someone introduced him saying, "Now here's a hero."

"We were standing in the noon day chow line recently when we noticed that a supply basha (bamboo shack) was on fire. A couple of officers and some enlisted men went in to try to put it out unaware of what was in there.

"Oliver suddenly remembered that this basha housed a couple of boxes of TNT. He rushed through the flames and pulled that stuff out before it had a chance to explode. Sergeant Oliver has received a battalion commendation for his bravery in this instance."

"The worst experience I have ever had occurred during a movie," another soldier recounted. "It was a beautiful night, the first time during the entire week it hadn't rained. So all of my company was taking advantage to see a good show. Just about the middle of it we were suddenly jolted back to reality by machine gun and rifle bullets whizzing overhead.. It seemed as if a big hand smashed us to the ground, we hit mother earth so fast.

"No it wasn't the Nips. Chinese troops on night maneuvers had filtered into our clearing shooting at random before they discovered that the place was occupied by American troops."

"We had almost the same experience," another soldier recounted. "We were ordered to place our mess tent in a certain clearing which was near the Chinese rifle range. We were sitting down to chow one evening when we heard the tell-tale zing of machine gun bullets. Looking up we saw holes in the top of our mess tent. We got out of that place in a hurry."

It was getting late and the men began filtering out to go to bed and be ready for the next day to continue their life of isolation and boredom, oftimes sprinkled with a big dose of danger.

Included in the list of GIs met at this camp area are some Chicagoans: First Sgt. John A. Marshall, Cpl. Harry Cladwell, Pfc. James Woodson, and Pvt. Robert Ryce.

From other states: S-Sgts. Wayne H. Bell, Wichita Falls, Tex.; Thomas Jefferson, Wabash, Ind.; Sgts. Ernest J. Barnes, Ensley, Ala.; William V. Scroggins, East Chicago, Ind.; Cpls. William J. Bowen, of Washington, D. C.; Osedena King, Greensboro, N. C.; Vincent E. Johnson, New York City; Pfc. Harry Robinson, Bluefield, West Virginia; Pvt. Albert Harvey, of St. Louis, Mo.

Takes Exception To Article In Stars, Stripes

Atlanta Daily World — Ga.

Smear Letter On Race Troops Is Deplored

11-25-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — A personal letter from General Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force, to a lowly staff sergeant of a Negro Engineer General Service Regiment, in which the general acknowledged and agreed with the sergeant's protest of derogatory remarks about Negroes in an article appearing in an edition of the Stars and Stripes, servicemen's paper, has come to the attention of the NNPA.

The article appeared in a column called "The B Bag" of the Stars and Stripes. In this column, GI's are given the opportunity to express their thoughts on any subject. One signing himself "S-Sgt. H. W. A., Inf." wrote the following:

RAPS OUR BOYS

"Our outfit is composed of boys from North and South. We have often fought the Civil War over and over again in friendly arguments, but on one point we are agreed. The Negro soldier in this war is getting more credit than he desreves.

"He is, in the majority of cases, a rear-echelon cowboy who never saw the front lines. We have been on the front line since shortly after D-Day. Never have we seen a colored soldier on the front lines.

"We, the fighting doughboys, give credit where it is deserved. Even the medics bet their share of credit. It makes us mad to see a bunch of rear-echelon cowboys grabbing credit where they have done nothing to deserve it."

WRITES COMMANDER

Staff Sgt. George Woods, Jr., attached to an Engineer Regiment took exception to the piece and wrote a letter to General Eisenhower. After commending the general on his success in coordinating the allied forces into one gigantic fighting machine to crush the Nazi military forces, he cited the last two sentences of an official letter on the "Treatment of Negro Troops", which read: "The United States troops, either white or colored, must be considered as conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline and offenders must be promptly punished. In the interest of military efficiency, if for no other reason, isolated incidents of friction must be eliminated."

Sgt. Woods then told the General that the article referred to was detrimental to the morale of a group of fighters "who are putting forth every effort in their power

11-25-44

DEPLORES TATEMENT

"I am glad you invited my attention to an article that apparently was written in disregard of these principles."

Commenting on the General's

to you by the people of to the War effort. I also agree that
States and the other al- it is the duty of the good soldier
ons. Remember that we to perform well whatever task may
ou 100%." be given him in the front line or
y, nine days later, the in the rear area. 11-25-44
wrote the Negro soldiers that our full military strength may be continued directed against the United Stations.
you have my sincere that the publication of statements
14th. I agree with you derogatory to the accom-
publication of statements in this war of any
derogatory to the accom- group or race is harmful
in this war of any
group or race is harmful
prime motives of recent race riots will enable you to successfully accomplish the task that has been American
in America. "It is my sincere hope

letter, Sgt. Woods declared that the people of America should know that "our Supreme Allied Commander-in-chief of the European Theatre of Operation, General Dwight D. Eisenhower is a military officer, who pays as much attention to a non-commissioned officer of a Negro Engineer General Service Regiment as he does to the members of his staff in certain respects."

It should be added, however, that the editor of the Stars and Stripes, in an editor's not immediately following the article to which Sgt. Woods so bravely took exception, said the following:

"Prejudice knows no state or national boundaries. Uncle Sam's men in the forces serve and fight where they're are told to.

LANDED ON NORMANDY

"The actvity of Negro troops in this war includes landing with the first U. S. assault forces to hit the Normandy beaches on D.-Day. Barrage balloon men, port battalions, Duck companies and quartermaster truck units were in on the landings.

"Two of these units were commended by Gen. Eisenhower. One Negro infantry division, the 93rd is at present in action on Bougainville in the South Pacific. The second infantry division to see action in this war, the 92nd, is there fighting right now in north Italy. Negro airmen have made a notable record in Italy (as well as North Africa and Sicily), where the 99th Pursuit Squadron and Col. Benjamin Davis' fighter group have been flying combat mission with the 15th Air Force."

First Colored Nurses Begin European Duty

A U. S. ARMY STATION HOSPITAL IN ENGLAND—Sixty-three colored nurses, the first to arrive in the European Theater of Operations, are now on duty at the oldest hospital in the United Kingdom, according to a War Department report.

Among the nurses appointed by Captain Mary L. Petty, of Chicago Ill., are 1st Lt. Susan Harris, of Rochester, Pa.; 1st Lt. Jessie Glenn, of Columbia, S. C., 2nd Lts. Dorcas Taylor, Louise Hanley, Zola Long Thelma Caloway, Alice Ishmael, Alma Favors, Marion Ridgely, Lucy L. Akers, Anna L. Collins, Gussie Daniels, Phloy C. Frierson, Ruby Gill, Magnolia L. Harris, A. M. Hibbler, Sarah E. Johnson, Theresa J. James, Roberta Johnson, Lizzie V. Moore, Lydia M. Pinkett, Catherine E. Randle, Estella L. Smith and Aslan A. Shenard.

Engineers Provide Reilef For Fighting Troops; Set Up New Training Centers

A United Kingdom Base Engineer Depot, England—As part of the Allied "On to Berlin" offensive, Negro engineers, in an invasion port in England, help provide relief for fighting troops by work that facilitates the movement to the front lines of replacement units.

In a recent undertaking, one that required detailed planning, the engineers provided in three days the housing, bedding, and food for an Infantry ivision which stopped in England for a short time before moving to the Continent. It was a priority job. Some of the engineers were working cleaning and assorting used material for reuse as needed by the fighting troops on the Continent; others were doing maintenance work at rehabilitation and reception centers for the United States wounded at the time when word of their new mission was received.

Returning to the camp after a daily tour of duty, the engineers were informed that the new mission meant a change in locality. One of the units was assembled from a radius of 200 miles before work could begin. The men packed their baggage during the night and emptied their straw mattresses the following morning and were prepared to leave at eight o'clock for the new assignment.

Planned Every Detail

The reception party planned every detail that concerned the welfare of the incoming troops. Every department of the unit, including administration, supply, motor pool as well as cooks, bakers was organized with each man assigned his own responsibility. Space for lodging in the British Isles is a problem. Scores of barracks and manor houses, spread for miles over the countryside, were prepared for the new arrivals. But this was only the beginning. The engineers scrubbed floors and washed walls, polished brass, checked the water and pipe lines, fixed electrical wires and installed some 1500 light bulbs as their first assignment. Simultaneously, the carpenters were making thousands of braces and putting together 6600 double-decker beds. There being a shortage of beds the carpenters secured lumber from the depot and built more.

Under the direction of Staff Sergeant Charlie Edwards, 25, Wharton, Texas, and Staff Sergeant Elijah Tinsley, Jr., 24, at Penscola, Florida, details of men were organized to convoy the beds to the various camps and space them in the quarters in the manner prescribed for sanitation and health.

The engineers also used 2250 bales of hay, made mattresses, and placed one on each bed. From the depot 20,000 blankets were drawn and two of them were placed on each bed. In addition 27 tons of coal, to provide fire for warmth and cooking, were distributed among the various installations. There was also the problem of securing static personnel to prepare the food. And in addition to housing and bedding this was the number one concern of the reception party. When compared with the daily routine of a mother that is responsible for a family of five, an idea of the job before the group working against a three-day deadline in preparing for a family 3000 times larger can be seen.

Food Costs $5,000 Daily

Feeding such a family costs Uncle Sam approximately $5,000 daily. Warrant Officer Joe. A. Pattillo, 25, 310 W. 150th street, New York City, was responsible for this vital phase of the activity. He prepared menus for the men and organized the truck convoy to secure the rations from the depot.

British civilians, paid by lend-lease agreement, operated the depot from which the food was drawn. Drawing of the rations was a slow process even though this was a priority requisition.

At the depot, because of a shortage of manpower, two civilians did work that formerly required ten men. The ration detail checked with the depot subsistance officer to determine whether supplies for menus desired were on hand; ironed out differences between British and American measuresements and weight; convoyed it to a central location and broke it down according to the number of men in each camp. This was done to insure fair distribution.

The ration detail was among the most active groups on the project. The warrant officer with his assistant, Corporal Antonio Davis, 38, 510 Lowell street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, secured 164,000 pounds of food, worked a straight 36-hour shift and delivered it to the various mess halls on schedule.

The infantry division ate in six mess halls that were organized under the supervision of Staff Sergeant Woodrow Foster, 25, Hub, Mississippi. Sergeant Foster also planned the outlay of the kitchens and the installations of huge British ranges. In addition he directed the work of 178 Negro and white cooks that were assigned to him.

Sergeant Foster, on the basis of experiences as mess sergeant, was able to avoid bottlenecks in his chow line. By running a double line he served 100 men every four minutes. This correspondent made a tour of the mess halls and found that the reception committee had done a magnificent job of organization. And the guests had nothing but praise for the royal reception that was accorded them. There was not a single complaint about the food and the cooks were singled out for special mention.

With these provisions made, the replacement unit had what it needed: time to relax and drop a line to the folks back home, before moving into action against the enemy on the European continent. The reception committee's work was directed by the battalion commander Captain Walker G. Stone, Chicago, Illinois.

Color No Issue When Our GIs Are Commended in England

By GEORGE GOODMAN
(From Common Ground)

One of the most impressive long-time demonstrations of good feeling between the English and Americans that I know about occurred in one of the largest cities in Great Britain and involved about 300 colored soldiers.

The type of work they had to do made it imperative they be located near the center of the city. They were therefore housed in the very center of the best residential section.

Familiar with Colonials

In this area resided any number of retired Naval, Army, and Civil Service officers of the British Colonials who had served in the Far East, India, Africa, and other parts of the Empire. Many of these officers lived in that community for approximately a year without any incident of expression of ill-feeling.

Didn't Mention Color

They conducted themselves so well that when it was announced they were being moved out to build a camp [illegible]

[illegible] Commander from [illegible] community organi- [illegible] extreme regret. [illegible] emphasized the fact [illegible] were the best [illegible] they had ob- [illegible] pression of opinion [illegible] and that Stars and [illegible] an editorial en- [illegible] ighbors," indicat- [illegible] contribution Amer- [illegible] would make toward [illegible] merican relations [illegible] ior. Only—no men- [illegible] of the fact that [illegible] ed soldiers.

[illegible] are familiar with the English colonies because they have spent a great part of their working lives there.

I mention this because it seems reasonable to assume that if there were a group in England that would be suspicious and prejudiced toward American soldiers it would be this group. They would know things the rank and file of Englishmen would not.

But this group of soldiers lived in that community for approximately a year without any incident of expression of ill-feeling.

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Martin Visits Shock Victim in Hospital in Philippines

11-25-44

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Large Numbers of Colored Troops With MacArthur in Invasion of the Islands

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
NNPA War Correspondent

TACLOBAN, PHILIPPINES — (By Courier)—While visiting our troops in an evacuation hospital in this area, this correspondent was assured by one patient who was recovering from shock:

"If you just say that everything is going to be all right, I will be all right. Just say everything is going to be all right."

Fortunately, in his case everything will be all right. He is fast mending from the shock incurred when an enemy plane crashed his ship and exploded. Bursting bombs injured many aboard, but only shook this patient helpless.

Lauded with MacArthur

With General MacArthur during initial landings in the Philippines were large numbers of colored troops who felt the enemy's poor attempt at counterattack. They spread fanwise along the beach, engineers, port units, quartermasters.

Amphibious quartermasters, who of late have been much in the limelight, were making repeated trips from landing barges to positions lately occupied by wave after wave of onrushing Americans. The area was hot, fire plentiful.

However, with the landings, day after day, of more troops and materiel, the enemy was forced to fight only rear-guard actions. The American fan grew larger and more devastating.

At this writing the offensive rolls forward down Leyte Beach and the casualty ratio as given by public relations shows eight Japs for every American. To date, the enemy has suffered over 24,000 dead and wounded. Our losses, 3000 of whom 1000 are known dead.

Anxious to Get Back into Fight

In several of the hospitals I found a number of our troops, most of them suffering from shrapnel wounds, and only a few considered serious.

They had come out of a bad situation on the credit side of the ledger and were eager to get back to the field. Bandaged heads, feet and legs had not dampened to a great extent a rare sense of humor.

The soldier who wanted assurance that "everything was going to be all right" grinned after being assured by no less an authority on medicine than a former sports reporter. He peeped through his bandage, explaining:

"The Nerve of Those Guys"

"Imagine the nerve of those guys. They couldn't get me with a bomb, so they threw the whole plane at me."

Walking from bed to bed, I found that what the men wanted most was somebody to listen to them tell about their part in the D-Day operation. Nursing a nasty wound in the leg, a lined-faced, bull dog-jawed technical sergeant talked on:

"I am with the amphib truck company, see. We move in along with the other guys, see. There are Jap planes and some mortar fire, but what can you expect?

"I don't know how I got it; sort of felt a sharp pain in the leg following a bomb burst. Doc thinks I'm scared to be told how badly the leg is hurt. But he don't know me. I can take it as long as the next guy."

"Hurts a Little, but I'll Live"

But there were other guys in bed who didn't say anything. Their eyes just watched every move you made. They're the soldiers to whom you try to say something cheerful, but fail miserably. I walked to the bedside of one soldier who had been shot in the leg, side, and groin.

He wore a look, not of pain, but unadulterated disgust. I sat down on the bed, didn't say anything—we just looked at each other. After several moments he grinned sheepishly, saying:

"Aw, it isn't as bad as all that. Hurts a little at times, but I'll live."

11-25-44

"Sure you will and we'll take in the Derby once we get back home," I said aloud, but thought his chances were very slim.

Another soldier kept saying, "Hey, count my fingers. Count my fingers. Hey, count my fingers." His fingers were all there, but shell shock had momentarily affected his mind. As the ward boy and I turned to go, the soldier repeated, "Hey, please count my fingers."

Ward after ward we visited. Sat on the side of beds, enjoying a cigarette with patients. These were the men who had helped to face it. And they seemed proud of what they had done. They were proud of the planes that had given them protection, the anti-aircraft.

Both Races Share Hospital

White soldiers as well as colored occupied all wards. A white member of a cavalry unit beckoned me over. His sides appeared to have been crushed in and, packed in plaster cast, he could move only his head. He refused a proferred cigarette.

"Got to lay off of them awhile, doctor's orders," he explained. "How's the war going? We don't hear much about it in here. How are we doing?"

Assured that the offensive was gaining momentum daily, he eased his head back and asked to be allowed to smell some cigarette smoke. I lit a cigarette, blew two puffs in his face, put it out.

"You didn't have to put it out. Go on and smoke if you like." He, too, wore a half grin.

A young, professorish-looking doctor came by, saw me taking a few notes, walked over, saying: "Don't pay too much attention to them. They want sympathy," he laughed. "Considering what some of them have gone through," he added seriously, "it's miraculous that we have so few real bad cases."

Yanks in Italy Salvage Everything on Wheels

Afro American

11-25-44

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

Baltimore, Md.

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AVERSA, ITALY—(Censored)—Things ain't what they used to be around the Italian camp of a particular ordnance evacuation platoon working in the Peninsular Base Section. At Anzio, their job was to evacuate tanks under artillery fire, and the stench of the dead perpetually penetrated their nostrils. Two of the unit's platoons were sent to France, leaving the third, the only colored, among three such specialized outfits in Italy.

Art Carter

The big guns are now far away. The soldiers do a tremendous salvage job on tanks, trucks, jeeps and anything that moves on wheels, evacuating the wrecked ones from the forward areas, dismantling them nut by nut, and shipping the parts off to base section shops for reuse.

Derrick on Wheels

Pvt. William Thornton, former Armstrong High athlete, Washington, D.C., who drives the platoon "A Wagon," an improvised derrick on wheels, says: "We save the army millions. All this looks like junk but most of it will be in use again within a month."

Thornton was shifting gears in the huge truck as he hoisted wrecked jeeps preparatory to transfer to an imaginary assembly line where Italian civilians, under guidance of his platoon members dismantled them. "You can tell the ones wrecked in combat from the road wrecks," Thornton added; "they are bullet-riddled and often blood-spattered."

Six times in 15 minutes he made the trip to the assembly line, and just over the other side of the roadway stood "Anzio Express," "Betty," and "Doc C," three two-and-a-half-ton trucks waiting for evacuation.

A couple of German tanks were behind them, and scattered throughout the yard were every conceivable kind of tank and vehicle waiting for "treatment."

Baltimorean Takes Over

Once the vehicle is dropped on the assembly line, the real work begins. That is where Sgt. James E. Tripps, ex-Vocational High athlete, 704 N. Bruce Street, Baltimore, Md., takes over. Tripps was formerly in the anti-tank unit of the old Second Cavalry Division and knows tanks from A to Z, so to speak.

He supervises the tank dismantling and does the mechanical work on the wrecks. "Now it is just a job, but at Anzio we were frequently evacuating dead men as well as tanks," he recalled.

The salvage depot is under direction of Lt. Arthur C. Fergerson, Chicago, Ill., while Lt. John M. Couch, also of Chicago, is in charge of the 500 Italian civilians working around the entire ordnance battalion. Both speak the language fluently.

1000 Salvaged Vehicles

In two months the unit has handled nearly 1000 salvaged vehicles with First Sgt. Enos N. Cabell, Pittsburgh, Pa.; M/Sgt. Nemiah Queen, Brook Haven, Miss.; Sgt. George McWilliams, Omaha, Neb., and Pvt. Ellison Robbs, Washington, D.C., providing important factors in keeping the wheels rolling.

"When the men first started working with Italians, they could not understand each other," declared Lt. Fergerson. "Now the boys have a working knowledge of the language and there is little difficulty."

Mans Machine Gun With White Unit In Phillippines

Former — Houston, Texas

11-18-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
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WITH 24th DIVISION, ORMOC BAY SECTOR PHILLIPPINES—Manning a machine gun with an all-white unit, Private Ralph Hueca of Chicago became the first colored unofficial member of the Texas Division volunteering to fight because he considered truck driving monotonous.

Fighting side by side with white troops, Hueca manned his weapon in the midst of three enemy Banzai attacks, taking it ever after four casualties had been bayonetted to death. His company suffered heavy casualities when it was isolated, and the Negro stuck at the gun for an hour. Hueca has received two written recommendations.

Hueca was leaning against his truck as the infantry passed and some one yelled, "Hey fellow, you want to fight?"

He answered, "That's what I'm here for," and immediately joined the unit. He has been with the unit more than a week in which the division has seen the toughest fighting in the Pacific.

During the first night Hueca served in the rifle pit, and during the second night as enemy resistance grew with their suicidal threats, he took over the machine gun with three others and held out until reinforcements arrived. During the enemy Banzai charges, four gunners were killed. The unit finally withdrew and Hueca stayed on back to his ship. When asked why with the troops and at present is he wanted to join the infantry he replied.

"They're the guys who do the fighting."

At the sector front of the tenth corps, I found Negro units servicing the 24th and First Cavalry. Division units were commanded by colored officers including Leon Weston of Columbia, S. C.; Becro Flatter of Los Angeles; James Kimbrough of Chicago, and Clarence Laws, former Urban League secretary of New Orleans.

Enemy snipers attacked our party repeatedly as we got within 100 yards of the Front. We passed stiff bloated dead bodies along the trail. The intensity of the artillery fire signified that Japs were in the sector in large numbers. This

11-18-44

The commanding officer of the unit stated that he has nicknamed Hueca, "Killer Moe", and visited the Negro could remain with the

Killer Moe"

promises to develop into one bloody scrap. 11-18-44

Despite the fact that most Negroes in the area are moving up ammunition, there is one somewhere in there slinging it out—"Killer Moe."

Gallant American Leads Filipinos Against Japanese

12-8-44

Memphis World

Memphis (Tenn.)

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the ATLANTA DAILY WORLD and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)
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LEYTE BEACH, PHILIPPINES — By Courier — On Samar island, northeast of Leyte, fighting with the fierceness of an enraged animal is Capt. Frank Merith, American Negro leader of a Filipino guerrilla band. Capt. Merith is one of the big stores of the war. His deeds and those of his ragged men have spread among American troops like wild fire.

Exact whereabouts of the giant Negro is still secret military information, but this correspondent is pushing off in search of him. It is a search well worthwhile, because what Livingston meant to the natives of Africa, surely Merith means the same to the people of the Southern Philippines. And as news of Livingston spread around the world, so should the deeds of this Negro be made known.

FIGHT WITH KNIVES

The guerrillas on Samar continue to fight the enemy. Armed with bolos, knives, even sticks — these natives, many clad in rags, ferociously defend the homeland. Tales of superhuman courage and endurance have reached us here.

For instance, the total population of the important town of Basey and surrounding villages numbered 30,000 before enemy occupation. When the enemy arrived most of these people fled to the hills. There they fought the enemy for over a year.

While women and children foraged for food — fruits, coconuts, and edible pith which grows in the heart of coconut trees — all able-bodied men fought. It has been a hard fight, and continues to be. The equipment.

TAKE JAP RIFLES

Few rifles were taken from the Japs. And American planes dropped some ammunition. American submarines smuggled equipment in. However, because of the intenseness of the operations, all has been too little.

The enemy reached a maximum of ruthlessness on Samar. The town was stripped bare of its meager resources.

Perhaps the heaviest penalty of all was that the Japs took away the food. The population suffered miserably from malnutrition. Only since American troops entered have food and medical supplies begun to pour in. Five doctors and one dentist are presently at work patching up the ills of the populact. Sores, blisters, malarial cases, pneumonia — these are only a few of the items which harass the population.

MERITH LEADERS

Captain Merith, it was told the writer, was chosen as one of the leaders. Under the Negro and others, their valor reaches daily news heights.

The story goes that Capt. Merith has been in the Philippines for many years, making his home on Samar. He married a native woman and owned property. The enemy caught him as well as the others The Negro was attached to General MacArthur's command.

Every three out of five Filipinos on Leyte know or knows of Captain Merith. And many have said, "Ah, he is a good man — our friend. And he is a very good fighter, too."

Captain Merith is the story. He is worth walking a continent to find. Every attempt will be made to find him.

Ready And Willing To Take Positions On Pacific Fronts

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa.

12-23-44

By BILLY ROWE, Courier War Correspondent

WITH THE ARMED FORCES IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—The supreme test of the 93rd as a fighter division is yet to come. In the Pacific sector for over ten months, it has not yet seen action as a whole. Its elements have saturated the area and held some of the most advanced and strategic islands along the road to the Philippines. In such a position its men have been well trained in jungle warfare, and are now ready for come what may.

The fight against the Japanese forces is at last well under way. American and Allied troops have over-run Japan's outer perimeter and are now striking telling blows at her inner defenses. The ultimate outcome of the gigantic struggle is assured, but any guess is as good as another as to the length of time it will take to crush this enemy.

PLAYED GLORIOUS PART

From Gaudalcanal to Leyte, Tan Yanks have played a glorious part in the victories which have been ours. They have loaded the ships, passed the ammunition, delivered the supplies, driven and worked on the trucks and amphibious ducks, built and maintained roads and bridges, fought when they had to and died in action also. Part of a highly specialized army, these men served side by side with fighting white Yanks under various designations, but in few cases have they been men of the infantry.

With the crucial hour of the war in the Pacific having already struck, Tan Yanks are ready, willing and able to take their positions on the battle line. With the exception of the Marines, the only combat Negro Infantry in this sector is the 93rd division.

The soldiers of that outfit, or any other, have a definite feeling about the war. It is a universal one and need not be described in glowing words. "If it will get this thing over, and get me home quicker, I want to fight every step of the way."

No speech makers are needed to make them hate the enemy they are fighting against. What Japan has done and continues to do, keep our men in a perpetual state of seething indignation. There is no secret to the personality of these men who are in this thing up to their eyes. Yet, it never fails to fascinate one standing on the side lines watching the passing parade. If you piece together the fragments of their conversation you will wind up with a tangible biography of what the masses really want.

CIVILIANS IN UNIFORMS

These men out here, in the main, are not really soldiers as such, but civilians in uniforms. They have laid aside their books and pencils, typewriters and adding machines, shovels and plows, wagons and trucks, shears and needles and all other implements of modern labor to man a gun. They are the minute men of our generation. Their interpretation of what they are fighting for is different from that of the politician. Their democracy centers around a mother, a wife, a sweetheart, a home and all that goes with it. A chance to get away from the squalid ugliness of poverty and be fully integrated into the American form of life.

It was Major General Robert McClure, commander of the American Division, who said: "The Negro soldier is best equipped for jungle warfare, but he serves well wherever he is put." The one fighting element of the 93rd division which was attached to his command during the final stages of the Northern Solomon campaign, proved that assertion.

Now under the command of a new general, the entire outfit is being revived and has improved greatly inspired by his understanding and constructive plans.

Stewart Nurses a Cold on 3d Thanksgiving Overseas

American - Baltimore, Md.

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in France
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PARIS (By Cable)—My third war time Thanksgiving overseas was spent in Paris nursing a cold. Allen Morrison telephoned. Cpl. Trezzvant Anderson came to see me.

12-2-44

Corporal Anderson is just back from visiting a tank battalion and the tank destroyers on the Third Army front, bringing the latest news that the entire company of tankers under Capt. Irvin McHenry, Leavenworth, Kans., has been cited for heroic efforts near Metz and the assault platoon, commanded by 1st Lt. Charles Gates, Kansas City, has blasted its way into Dieuze despite fierce enemy resistance.

Having talked with Gates recently and heard him say "We are the guys they call on when somebody is needed to strong-arm the Jerries," I was not surprised.

Colored Men Command Tanks

The tank destroyers have colored company commanders, including Capt. James Carr, 624 Gresham Place, Northwest, Washington; Beauregard King, Birmingham, Ala.; Robert Finley, Detroit, and First Lt. Charles Thomas, Detroit.

Among staff officers are Capt. Thomas Campbell, Tuskegee, battalion surgeon; Capt. Harvey Johnson, Atlanta, chaplain; First Lt. Robert Willims, 1909 Fourth

12-2-44

Cigarettes for 2 Weeks

...dy is thankful for the cig-
...shortage. It is now the sec-
...eek since the troops in Paris
...received any and most of
...like me, are forced to go
...t. Yesterday a Frenchman
...me two from his last pack.
...dy can explain why the cig-
...rations have stopped com-
...with production at home
...than ever.
...e are no cigars or pipe to-
...either.

...Stowe, ...arriving in ...casts.

...My table ...plained, the ...

...ping up Metz and getting plenty of action.

...Tank destroyers are with the 9th Division which is now mop-

...Northwest, Washington, re-connaissance.

...street, Northwest, Washington, replenty turkey for all Americans on the continent.

...Well in advance a refrigerator ship loaded with Thanksgiving birds was undoaded and distribution was made to some units a week ago. My own dinner was there was no holiday for troop complete with dressing and cran-

...on front-line duty, but those i...

Fighting Negro Depot Units Killed And Were Killed In Battle Against Japs On Saipan

Amsterdam News

U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Amsterdam-News and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association.
(Copyright—Reproduction prohibited)

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN

PACIFIC BASE HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR —By Courier—On July 10, 1914, organized resistance ceased on Saipan and the American flag fluttered over the enemy bastion. American troops had won the decision of a great battle-rier—On July 10, 1940, organized field. Another step had been taken toward the coast of China and the prize of Japan proper. 10-21-44

News stories poured into Pacific Fleet headquarters of the intensity of the struggle and sacrifice. One concerned the combat mission of several units of Negro marines. Depot units (quartermasters), they took up the cudgel during moments when potential enemy breakthroughs seemed inevitable. They fought, killed and were killed. Although casualties were incredibly light, those who did fall fell as fighting troops of America's prized branch of the service.

Were Part of "D-DAY"

These Negro troops were a part of the D-Day assault force and were commissioned to handle material. However, due to capable enemy counter-attacks, it became the essential mission of all troops to help push back the onrushing Japanese infantry. Day after day, machine guns and mortars laid fire into the crevasses and caves of the rotten coral. It was primitive warfare. Men fought through the caves, over maggoty dead, each foot of ground heatedly contested. 10-21-44

Some of those Marines have returned to Pearl Harbor. They tell the story of their participation in the campaign. And it is not so much the tale of superhuman endurance and ability as of men sent to do one job and who stayed on to do several—and did them very well.

Snipers in Caves

Today, it is said, that snipers still dwell in the caves of Marpi Point, the north tip of the Island. Infantry continues to completely stamp out the remanants of defeated garrison. And in the town of Garapan where once lived 10,000 "there is nothing left but the white corners of the blown-to-bits buildings. Stairways stand without buildings, leading a short distance into the air. The Catholic church is nicked with bullets and the front steeple was blown away by a shell. The rich altar carvings and mosaics are scratched and chipped."

Their mission completed, most of the marines have withdrawn. It has not been revealed to this correspondent whether or not elements were used in the Palau operations, but we learned that "Negro troops were there and are thought to be still there." 10-21-44

Largest Supply Depot

Since Pearl Harbor is one of America's largest supply depots in the Pacific, serving the domain ruled by Admiral Chester Nimitz, much of the work here has to do with supplies. In a tour of the immediate area, we found Negro troops (including marines) doing this type of work. Ordnance units servicing heavy field pieces and light artillery. The salvage and repair of shoes and clothing, building crates for ammuntion, handling a multitude of machinery. Here the earth is covered with aircraft, lumber, gasoline—days and nights are filled with the multiple singing of engines of heavy machinery, as was expertly put by one observer.

A marine officer commented that his men are doing the mission they have been trained to perform. But in addition, he added that "it is also our task to see that these marines in addition to bringing their best into the Corps, will get the maximum out of the training. We are going to stick by them. Those who want the training in industrial arts, we are going to see that they get it. They've go a life ahead, a life in which to help rebuild the world on democratic lines!" 10-21-44

Another Marine Group

Somewhere in the Central Pacific there is another group of colored marines—defense units. At one time they were bivouacked in the Ellice Islands, approximately 1,000 miles east of the Solomons group. An anti-aircraft force, they stood radar watches, and manned the automatic weapons. The enemy did not penetrate our areas of security, thus these troops saw very little, if any action.

It is thought in some quarters that they were sent into the Ellice group to become climatized to the weather and jungle conditions of the South Pacific. On the other hand, since the enemy's aircraft has been appreciably reduced to a fraction of its former strength, maybe there is little need for defensive strategy, as it were, but the stressing of offensive. The war is moving into the inner circle at an accelerated pace, and the distances between islands are of such great length, the enemy seldom penetrates our less favored reas. 10-21-44

Representatives

Representatives of this group are now at a rear base receiving specialized training in air craft detection. They are Sgt. Cyrus J. Hanna, Philadelphia; S-Sgt. John H. Boxill, New York City; S-Sgt. Chas. G. Guillebeaux, Evanston, Illinois; S-Sgt. Odell Crenshaw, Dallas, Texas; Cpl. Frank A. Carroncejie, New York City; S-Sgt. William E. Johnson, Des Moines, Iowa; T-Sgt. John D. Lewis, Raleigh, N. Carolina, and S-Sgt. Elmo Wade, Jr., of Detroit.

Three men have returned to the mainland for the Corps V-12 courses. The letter is preparatory training for officer candidates. They are Sgt. Herbert L. Brewer, San Antonia, Texas; Cpl. Clinton Branch, Philadelphia; and First Sgt. Chas. C. Johnson, of Des Moines, Iowa. 10-21-44

Men In Hawaii

The depot units in Hawaii are from various sections of America. Most of the men are in the age group between 18 and 23. Among them are Cpl. Wm. H. Bell, Gadsen, Ala.; Pvt. Oscar Brown, Chicago; Pvt. Willie Dix, Jr., Louisville, Ky.; Pfc. Charlie Coles, Radford, Va.; Sgts. Earnest Cower and Eugene Cox, New York City; Pfc. Chester Givens, Detroit; Cpl. Nathaniel Harvey, St. Louis; Cpl. Raymond Hobson, Lynchburg, Va.; Pfc. Lloyd Hogan, St. Paul; Sgt. Joseph Jacques, Chicago; Pfc. Richard Martin, Boston; Pfc. Alonzo Mays, Isabelle, Pa.; Cpl. Tin Newborn, Newton, Kan.; Pfc. Earl Miller, Baltimore; Pvt. James B. Warren, Louisville, Ky.; Pfc. LaLois Bennett, Jamaica, L. I.

Lt. Col. Phelan, Personable, But Daring Leader

Journal & Guide Norfolk Va. 11-18-44

By JOHN ROVER JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
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FIFTH ARMY, Italy — Forceful and aggressive is Lieutenant Colonel John J. Phelan, a regimental executive officer of the 92nd divisin, who is the son of John J. Phelan, chairman of the New York State Boxing Commission.

Although his duties hold him principally at headquarters, it is not unusual for Lt. Col. Phelan to work with troops in the front lines—personally directing operations and at times leading the men in attacks on stubborn krauts in the Gothic line.

On October 17 Lt. Col. Phelan marched at the head of 92nd troops in an assault on a mountain position. It was a successful operation with very light casualties, thanks to his leadership.

He is what the troopers call a "soldier's soldier," as tough as they come and as personable as any. His clever sense of humor has eased battle pressure on hard-pressed troopers on many occasions.

Lt. Col. Phelan is a West Point graduate and was an outstanding athlete in college. He was with the 92nd Division during early training days in the United States, but another infantry outfit asked for his services and the transfer was ordered.

He fought on the Anzio Beachhead and later on up coasta Italy in the Fifth Army's triumphant drive to the Arno. He was wounded in fighting aroun Pisa. 11-18-44

It was while he was recovering in the hospital that a commanding officer of fighting elements of the 92nd asked for his services as regimental executive officer.

Japs Return Fire As 24th Advances In Bougainville

Amsterdam News—New York N. Y. 5-13-44

Infantrymen Cross Mavavia River Without Loss; Hot Steel Severs an Enraged Enemy

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(NNPA U. S. War Correspondent)
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BOUGAINVILLE—(By Courier)—Again elements of the 24th Infantry crossed the Mavavia river, this time to stay. Supporting tanks and flame throwers, the infantrymen hunted out the enemy, bayonetting, lobbing grenades—a decisive decision was carved without the loss of a single man. Partly used as protection for lumbering tanks, our units thwarted enemy attempts to annihilate the monsters. Other troops spread fanlike combed the area, grenading emplacements, shooting stragglers.

The new beach action was considered by military officials as "highly successful" which not only secured the area around the Mavavia, but pushed the enemy beyond the Moy river, several miles east of the perimeter. However to the 24th Infantry it was more than a military operation,—a chance was presented to avenge the death of six men killed in action four days ago. Their feeling was exhibited by one soldier who with an automatic rifle riddled a charging Jap. The hot steel not only severed an enraged enemy, but set off his grenades blowing what remained into little pieces.

LCTs struggling under their immense load of tanks and men pushed hard, momentum carrying them several yards upon the beach. As the ramp was lowered—attack, attack without mercy. Troops scattered, running almost parallel with the ground. Jap return fire was spasmodic and inundated by the clamor and air-slicing noises of our shells and small arm fire. Flame throwers moved ahead scorching the earth, leaving denuded sprigs, camouflaged pill boxes, rifle pits with brush coverings. 5-13-44

The operation was scheduled for dawn. Clinging mist enveloped the entire beachline. The sun peeked over the Pacific, disappeared, leaving a still greyness — calm, misty. Soon the low mumble of exploding mortars. Hunks of dirt clouded the air as projectile after projectile tore into the enemy bivouac area. Immediately artillery opened—37 mm. cannons, 155 mms., 75 mms., 50 cal. machine guns. The beach ripened for plucking by the infantry.

Attack Without Mercy

Each offensive was an epitomy of coordination. Tanks pushed ahead at great speed, infantry followed, more Negro troops securing each foot of ground gained. What few of the enemy who refused to die in their holes, died in befuddled attempts to escape deadly fire by mad flights down the beach. In less than four hours 500 yards had been gained, the Moy River being less than fifty yards. More troops were pouring into the area—fresh troops, litter bearers, communication men, combat engineers, souvenir seekers. Above circled two observation planes. Off shore lay the LCTs, small crash barges, and a corvette. Means of escape for the enemy were nil. Awful stench of burned bodies permeated the air. It was becoming very difficult to keep up with the tanks—now having a field day.

Pace Kept Up

Until dusk this pace kept up. No prisoners were taken. Japs perished in their emplacements. One clutched onto a package of American cigarettes. At this writing enemy dead had not been counted—and they were still being killed. We have not suffered a fatal casualty. Shrapnel had wounded an officer and an enlisted man—superficial wounds, nothing serious. 5-13-44

Near the Mavavia River mouth lies one of our dead—killed four days before. The body had washed ashore, evidence of a grim encounter. Today all was victory and our troops had dug into the newly-won territory before total blackness settled over the area. Soon the beach wallowed in silence.

Negro air troops drop supplies over jungle

Pittsburgh Courier 11-27-44

WASHINGTON—A battalion of Negro troops in the Burma-India Theater is known officially and was trained as a Quartermaster Truck Battalion, but its vehicles are big Army planes, and its cargoes, kicked overboard or dropped by parachute over remote jungle areas, run into hundreds of thousands of tons monthly.

The supplies delivered include a variety of items including the dropping of such 75mm howitzers and TNT to eggs delicate materials as highly sensitive wet gun-cotton and such delicacies as live ducks and chickens. The battalion arrived in India late in 1943 and began delivery of supplies by air after receiving only 10 days of instruction. It had to improvise most of its own methods of storage and safe delivery, as well as to American jungle, as well as to American

and Chinese troops helping to clear the area of Japanese.

Special packaging and packing methods were worked out—often by the trial-and-error method. For example, it was found that 55-gallon drums of oil and gasoline could best be delivered by lashing sacks of rice husks to the drums, to serve as bumpers, and using two or three chutes to drop them.

As combat activities increased, so did the necessity to care for wounded personnel. The medical corps found that additional supplies were needed at places inaccessible by motor transport. The battalion has dropped packed medical supplies in glass and similar fragile containers, bulky operating tables, lights and generators, as well as special rations and blood plasma, for the use of medics far up in the forward areas.

Fresh eggs were prepared for air-dropping by packing them in cases with cushions of rice hulls between the individual eggs for shock absorbers. Ammunition of many sizes has been dropped, and two-wheeled ammunition carts, too bulky and heavy to load and drop through the plane door by the kickout method, have been sawed into convenient sections, drilled and fitted with bolts and braces for quick reassembly, and dropped in section.

Some of the other types of supplies packed and dropped—in addition to clothing, ammunition and rations — are blankets, tentage, field ranges, rifles, machineguns, motors, typewriters, U. S. mail, fresh vegetables and meats, as well as tank and truck parts, radios and radio parts. The battalion's base has become virtually a sub-depot for all types of Army supplies.

Martin To Search For Him

American Negro Fighter Compared To Livingstone

By FLETCHER MARTIN
War Correspondent in Pacific

ON AN ISLAND NORTH-EAST OF LEYTE.—(By Cable)—Fighting with the fierceness of an enraged animal is an American Negro leader of a Filipino guerilla band.

This man is one of the big stories of the Pacific war. His deeds and those of his ragged men have spread among American troops like wildfire. The exact whereabouts of the giant Negro is a military secret, but this correspondent has been granted permission to find and join him.

My search should be well worth while because what Livinstone meant to the natives of Africa, this Negro means to the people of these islands. As the news of Livingstone was spread around the world, so should the deeds of this man be known.

He is worth walking across a continent to find and every attempt will be made to find him.

Negroes Fighters For Free French

Colonials Throughout All French Sections Fight Beside Others

By NANCY CUNARD

LONDON (ANP) — Negroes from France's African colonies have been met with here, there and everywhere in the great liberating wave that has set France on her feet again.

There is a fine shot in the film that several camermen of resistance made on the spot during the six-day rising in Paris. An African, in the uniform of the French Forces of the Interior, is seen grasping a German prisoner firmly by the arm. The street-fighting was very violent in places. Another shot taken, with tanks blazing, grenades being flung and snipers shooting from roof-tops, is of another Negro, a grenade-thrower in France's Army of Liberation, being hurried off badly wounded.

Various war correspondents have come across Senegalese and other African soldiers from Normandy to Paris. One reporter tells of the 120 Senegalese just freed from a German prison camp outside Rennes in Brittanny after four years of captivity. He saw a few of these: "Down the road, round a sullen corps of German prisoners, leading the column and bringing up the rear, erect and military, strode some Senegalese. They appeared formidable rather than joyous and carried their German weapons and wore their uniforms as neatly and proudly as if on parade."

Fighting side by side with the Americans were the Fighting French Forces under their Cross of Lorraine, said another correspondent. This was the famous Second French Armored Division of Gen. LeClerc. Among the French came Senegalese and Moroccans who wear their red fezzes and turbans into battle. Eleven days later another reporter described this same division triumphantly entering Paris. Armored cars, Senegalese and French troops advanced up the Champs Elysees, only just cleared of enemy forces. The people of Paris sang, danced and shouted with joy, embracing every soldier they could get at.

George Slocombe, one of the British ace-reporters, landed in France with the first French fighting troops to return. They were entirely American-equipped, "American even to the proportion of colored soldiers in their ranks." He saw a colored U. S. soldier trying to talk English to a French African in American uniform become more and more puzzled at not being understood.

Nazi Wonders Avoid Battle

3 Groups Seen on Mission over Reich

NO HITS SCORED

Historic Flight Led by Washingtonian

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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FIFTEENTH AAF BASE IN ITALY (By Cable) — Pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group had their first encounter with German jet-propelled fighter aircraft Saturday, but no victories were scored, for the Nazi pilots offered little resistance.

The encounter came during the group's mission of providing penetration escort for 15th Army Air Force Liberators and Flying Forttresses which attacked military objectives in Germany.

D.C. Capt. Leads Flight

Flight leader on the mission was Capt. Andrew D. Turner, 25, of 1000 Westford Place, Northeast, commander of one of the group's squadrons. The group is under the command of Maj. George S. Roberts during the absence on leave to the States of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

Several of the ME-262 jet-propelled planes were first sighted and encountered by Turner and his flyers near Munich, Germany. One lone ME-262 made a pass on one of the P-51 Mustangs in Turner's formation, then darted away without scoring a hit or being hit.

Thirteen Others Seen

Later, near the 15th AAF bombers' targets in the Regensburg, Germany, area, five ME-262's tried an attack on the P-51 formation but were quickly driven off. Several of the group's pilots fired bursts at the Nazi jet planes but no visible hits were claimed.

Another section of the formation later saw eight ME-262's in the same area, but the Nazi planes made no attack on the Mustangs or the bombers under their protection and in turn were not bothered.

No other German planes were encountered during the mission on which the bombers struck at important German targets through heavy clouds.

Effectiveness Questioned

The effectiveness of the Nazi jet-propelled fighter planes against top-notch Allied fighter planes is still undetermined. It is conceded that the jet-propelled job is speedier and able to strike and move out from its target more quickly.

This greater speed, however, is believed to make for a proportionate amount of less accurate shooting by rocket pilots.

One air authority, an official in the Allied high command, said recently that the enemy jet-propelled planes and the present Allied fighter aircraft are not suited for combat against each other, and that their encounters would be a question of one's striking at the target and the other's striking his.

These latest German fighter planes are, nevertheless, appearing in increasing numbers on this front.

Drive Through Fire And Hell Against Seigfried Defenses

WITH THE THIRD U. S. ARMY IN THE METZ AREA —Spearheading a task drive of the 26th "Yankee" Division which jumped off November 8, the all-Negro 761st tank battalion now in action with the U. S. Army captured four important towns, secured two bridge crossings and successfully battered its way through the strongly defended Forest de Bride, the War Department announced.

The Negro tankmen were committed to action following the 26th Division's capture of Metz, which never before fell to direct assault in modern times. They lunged into the battle with such ferocity and courage that Captain Irvin McHenry of Leavenworth, Kansas, received the nickname of "The Bronze Devil," and Staff Sergeant Reuben Rivers of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, received the Silver Star for routing nearly 300 Germans. A dozen members of the medical detachment were cited for heroism under fire.

A captured German officer, after having had a taste of the Negro tankmen and their work, said: "So far as fighting is concerned, I have never before seen such bravery except once before, and that was on the Russian front." It came when a German rocket gun knocked out a tank of the Negro unit. The crew dismounted, brought out the .50 calibre and .30 calibre machine-guns, crawled under their tanks for protection, and continued to blast away at the enemy.

All units gave a good account of themselves. Company C knocked out approximately 18 enemy anti-tank guns, Company B knocked out ten, and Lieutenant Gates' assault platoon knocked out six German armored vehicles and two pill-boxes.

After passing Morville, which they had practically destroyed, the columns moved on to Hamport, four miles farther east, where units of Companies B and C reached the town.

First To Enter Town

Meanwhile, Company A, commanded by Captain Dave Williams, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, entered the action and helped to obliterate and capture Chateau-Salins, the first major town east of Nancy. Following this, Company A also moved to Hamport. It was during these engagements that Staff Sergeant Rivers began to earn his spurs for in almost every instance his tank was the first to enter a town and he was always in the thickest of the fight.

A platoon of Company D, commanded by First Lieutenant Richard W. English of New Orleans, Louisiana, a former teacher at the Hoffman School there, moved up and took the town of Saliva single-handed, with no infantry units along. Sergeant Creecy, who displayed heroism on several different occasions under fire, was a member of this platoon.

After the juncture at Hamport, Companies B and C pulled back for a brief rest, maintenance and

Following this action, it re- Company B then again. the 104th Infantry and pushed forward to Lidrequin, a town approximately twelve miles beyond the initial point of action. All these events transpired during a period of 72 supremacy until the rest of the world takes it from him."

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

"WE ARE PROUD THAT YOU ARE FIGHTING FOR US."—Queen Elizabeth talks with 2nd Lieut. James G. Bowman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Bowman, of 6520 Evans Avenue, Chicago, as she visited in an American hospital somewhere in England. "All of you are so very brave and we are so proud that you are fighting for us," she said. Lieut. Bowman, member of an Engineer Service Regiment, was wounded near Valognes, France.—(U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

Work Of Negro Engineers Hailed As 'Secret Weapon'

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

WITH U. S. SUPPLY FORCES IN BELGIUM — (S N S) — The work and skill of the 375th Engineer General Service Regiment was one of the American "secret weapons" behind the armored sweep across France which sent the Nazis reeling back to the borders of the "Fatherland."

The headlines were full of news of General Patton's armored forces which rushed dramatically across France and Belgium to the borders of Germany, but the story behind those headlines was one of the Army Service Forces which brought supplies to the Army in a campaign just as dramatic and rapid as that of General Patton's tanks.

BUILT RAILWAYS

When American forces broke thru at St. Lo and started the big push which was to carry them all the way to Germany, supply lines jumped from 50 to 60 miles in length to two, three and four hundred miles.

The haul was too long for trucks. French railways had to be put into operation to keep ammunition, food, arms and clothing flowing to the advancing fighting men.

As the Germans retreated they dynamited remaining railway bridges and placed demolitions along rail lines and beside switches. Some of the bridges and yards already had been destroyed behind the Nazis lines by the Allied Air Force. All had to be repaired or entirely rebuilt before American supply trains could pass.

When this Negro engineer regiment landed on a Normandy beach six days after the invasion, they were assigned the task of repairing roadways and bridges over which GI trucks were carrying supplies to the forces fighting along the beachhead perimeter.

REPAIRED TRESTLES

With the break-through at St. Lo, supply officers called this regiment to follow immediately behind the advancing First Army and repair the rail lines and trestles.

Time, as well as the Nazis, was the enemy. To defeat it these men living in pup tents and foxholes, worked day and night to get the trains running.

First major task assigned the regiment was the repair and rebuilding of 700 feet of bombed-out rail lines, numerous dynamited switches and a bridge. A mile-long train, loaded with more ammunition and gasoline to keep the Nazis running, was already feeling its way down the Cherbourg peninsula. The bridge and railyard must be ready to handle it when it arrived.

MEN COMMENDED

The men of the 375th took only two days and nights to complete the task, and received the commendation of Brigadier General Ewart G. Plank, commanding the Advance Section, Communication Zone, for their unusual performance.

During this period the men were never bivouacked in one location more than a week. Then they packed up their tents and move ahead behind the advancing army.

When rail lines were opened the regiment was assigned to a new task. Now platoons of men go to the front line in Germany and transport captured engineer equipment and materials to a warehouse near a city in Belgium. Here the lumber, hardware, glass, building materials, and electrical appliances are sorted, classified and stored for re-issue to American troops.

"The harder we work and the faster supplies get to the Army, the quicker we're going to get home," said Sergeant Harold B. Smith, 1463 E. 58th Street, Los Angeles. "We know we have to go home by way of Berlin and we want to get started."

Negro Drivers Rush Bridges For Crossing Of The Rhine By Allies

Age — New York, N. Y.

SOMEWHERE NEAR THE GERMAN BORDER — Having swept down from a Normandy beachhead all the way across France to territory which still smells of the enemy, Negro drivers of a Quartermaster Truck Company, operating over the now famous "Red Ball Highway," have delivered a Bailey bridge large enough to span the Rhine, the War Department reported Monday.

After delivering the bridge, the veteran invasion drivers left the Red Ball route and returned to the beachhead by way of Paris, with every town turning itself into a welcoming committee as the U. S. vehicles rolled through. It was "Bon Jour" from the Marne to the Channel.

The smiling soldiers gave away much of their precious rations to French urchins and pretty lasses who lined the streets, waving to them and throwing kisses.

This was one of the regular trips of this unit in its work on the newly inaugurated "Red Ball Line", over which many Negro and white trucking companies operate round-the-clock. This route is the outgrowth of the swift pace set by the First and Third Armies in their drives toward German territory, and became necessary in order to maintain the lengthening supply line now stretching more than 300 miles from the beaches and the great port of Cherbourg. It is a super-highway, with one way traffic on a road over which nothing but "Red Ball"

ctled by the group commander.

In its functioning on the new "Red Ball Highway" the unit had made two trips since the route was begun a week ago, and totalled, approximately one thousand miles of hauling in those two trips.

The outfit arrived in England in February, 1944, following its activation and basic training at Camp McClain, Mississippi, and came to France in June.

10-14-44

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First Sergeants Hold Conference At Depot In England

Guardian — Boston, Mass. 12-16-44

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

First Sergeants of a U. S. Quartermaster depot in England pictured at daily conference. Left to right: Master Sgt. Fred W. Klotz, Philadelphia; First Sergeants Emery L. Hopkins, Detroit; Walter G. Atwood, Madison, Wis.; James C. Drumm, Lancaster, Pa.; John J. Devancy, Harrisburg, Pa.; Leonard J. Preston, Baldwin, L. I., N. Y.; Walter S. Roseboro, Winston-Salem, N. C.; William O. McKee, Jr., Stamford, Conn.; Will A. Hassed, Lusk, Wyo.; Captain Woodrow S. Giordano, Vineland N. J., and Staff Sgt. George L. Howard, Salisbury, N. C. (Signal Corps Photo from BPR.)

GIs IN A SIGNAL CONSTRUCTION company in Cherbourg, France, test a cable preparatory to splicing it. They are, left to right: Tech. 3rd Grade Jesse C. Brookins, 25, of Oklahoma City, Okla.; Tech. Sgt. Joseph W. Danforth, 25, of Minneapolis, Minn., and Tech. Sgt. Winston R. McLemore, 25, of Little Rock, Ark. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo).

93rd Unit Cited For Service In Building Canada-Alaska Highway

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.

FORT LEWIS, Wash.—There was plenty of spit and polish for the 93rd general service engineer regiment recently, when its members, dressed in their finest, stepped out smartly on the Fort Lewis Army Service Forces Training Center parade ground in cadence to martial airs, and were honored with a presentation from the War Department of their own unit battle streamers.

Maj. Gen. Joseph D. Patch, commander of Fort Lewis made the presentation. He was assisted by Col. Frank S. Besson, engineer commander, Colonel Charles F. Baish, commanding the 12th group and the 93rd regimental commander, Col. Walter W. Hodge.

The famed Negro regiment, now stationed at Fort Lewis, was cited along with 16 other units in War Department general orders for meritorious conduct in the construction of the Canadian-Alaskan military highway during the period from March to October in 1942.

GENERAL CARRIES STREAMERS

General Patch personally carried the streamers to the regiment's color standards and attached them.

"I have knowledge of your fine record in Alaska," he said to the soldiers lined up in formation before him, "and you have made a fine record here with us. Good work. Keep it up," he concluded.

The order, published by the War Department and circulated throughout the Army, states the Alaskan project had to be completed "with all speed within the physical capacity of the troops." The route selected for the highway lay across "vast areas of almost impenetrable wilderness vaguely mapped and but little known."

HARDSHIPS ENDURED

A suggestion of the hardships endured by members of the regiment in carrying out their assigned job is contained in the regimental historical annals. Men lived in tents. The temperature was usually around 60 degrees below zero. Tents had to be chopped up from the frozen ground with hand axes when moved.

Some of the areas through which the road was to go had never been traversed except by dog sled or on foot. The engineers were forced to overcome great difficulties imposed by mountainous terrain, deep muskeg, torrential streams, heavy forests—and always bad weather.

The War Department citation concludes by declaring that "remarkable engineering ability, unsurpassed devotion to duty," ingenious improvisation, and enabled the units to complete their mission in one short working season, and "thereby opened a supply road to Alaska that is of inestimable strategic value to the war effort of their country."

Before the battle streamers were presented, Colonel Besson awarded Good Conduct Ribbons to 108 men of the regiment, and congratulated each personally on winning the government honor.

After the streamer presentation, the entire regiment passed in review before General Patch, his staff, and other high-ranking Fort Lewis officers. Music for the occasion was provided by the 32nd Army Service Forces band.

ACTIVATED 1941

The "Ninety-third" was activated at Camp Livingston, La., in February of 1941. Selected Negro troops were picked from inductees and volunteers from the southern states. The unit, originally an engineer battalion, completed basic training and participated in the Louisiana-Texas maneuvers.

The battalion moved to Camp Claiborne, La., and was assigned to assist with the construction of the Camp Claiborne-Camp Polk railroad. On April 6, 1942, the outfit was redesignated as the 93rd general service engineer regiment, received overseas orders and by the end of the month had arrived in Skagway, Alaska. Work on the highway started immediately after arrival.

The regiment set a record of building a strip of road 69 miles long in one month and 12 days, or slightly more than a mile and a half a day. After four months about 240 miles of highway across some of the worst country in Alaska had been completed.

Brig. Gen. Clarence L. Sturdevant, assistant chief of engineers in Alaska said it was "the best section of road on the Alaskan highway."

The Aleutian Islands were the next stop on their trip tick-

et. Here, members of the regiment tackled even more difficult construction projects under equally trying conditions.

Early last summer the crack outfit returned to the United States, and is now undergoing additional training designed to further its usefulness. It awaits America's call to any part of the world.

47m-1944

They're Not Americans; Photo Fooled You

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. July 29, 1944
Foreign Service
7-29-44

These are Dutchmen from Surinam (Dutch New Guinea), en route to fight the Japs. Note the cigar. Regulations permit the Dutch troops to smoke on duty.

"372nd" ON MANY BATTLEFRONTS BUT REGIMENT STILL TORRID TOPIC

Guardian — Boston, Mass.

JIM CROW SYSTEM ALL WRONG, REMEDY NEEDED FOR POST WAR ARMY

12-16-44

The Status of the 372nd Infantry Regiment, recently transferred to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, is gaining more and more comment which has lately been snow-balling into giant proportions. Ever since the once famous "Red Hand" battle-decorated regiment was reorganized at Fort Dix, March 10, 1941, nearly four years ago, the subject of the 372nd has been a red-hot topic that is positively futile to suppress.

REPLACEMENT POOL

If this were a case of saving some mother's boy from the hell and hate of battle, this reporter might ignore entirely whether the 372nd remained at home for the duration or not. But although the 372nd "in name" has been nearly four years in this country, our 372nd officers and men have been rationed out to help organize and strengthen many outfits that have been fighting on the battlefields for months. This is verified by a recently publicized ANP report stating that on April 1944 the 372nd was transferred from Fort Dix to Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky, where it began serving as a "replacement pool for combat troops". Actually then, the 372nd has already assigned possibly thousands of men to other outfits. It is very doubtful if the outfit is the same trigger trained, polished regiment that we in Boston gloried in, a few years ago. Just why the 372nd had to sacrifice so much of its hard earned achievement in officers and men is a sad question indeed to those who worked and sacrificed to create the regiment. To see these hard, painful gains lavishly assigned to other outfits is not an easy pill to swallow.

12-16-44

PRIDE OF BOSTON

The people of Boston have already felt that they owned the most choice interest in the 372nd simply because the nucleous of the entire regiment appeared to be centered in famous Old Company L and later the smooth efficiently drilled Third Battalion and Band. Of course the records show that both Washington, D. C., and Ohio share in the early growth and development of the 372nd as well as New England during the first world war. This has not been an exclusive .Boston local enterprise even though the local outfit has been the best and unquestionably provided the best commissioned and non commissioned officers and men. For some reason certain weeklies have played down this fact about our New England sepia soldiers and played up less qualified boys living in their surrounding towns. At the outbreak of the present war there wer eonly two 372nd regiments; the Third of Massachusetts and the Second from Ohio. These two outfits had to pool their talents to build up the rest of the regiment. And the commander today is Colonel Edward O "Ned" Gourdin of Boston.

12-16-44

LOSING IDENTITY?

If the people of Boston have particular pride in the 372nd as a fighting outfit having its own historic traditions, I can see why they hav eevery right to be disturbed over any threat of the 372nd losing its own particular men of achievement and identity to other outfits. Of course, if the 372nd is to be a "training school" for replacements on the order of a sepia West Point, the people are entitled to know more about it and it would appear that this national guard outfit (remember) should be classified as "regular army," along wih the 24th and 25th. But to those of us who have always been led to believe that the 372nd was a national guard infantry combat regiment the present situation is most puzzling to say the least. Every Bay State Colored military unit, from the Fighting Fifty-Fourth to Old Company L has been a great combat team.

12-16-44

LEAVE OLD OUTFIT

There are about 800,000 Colored troops in the U .S. Army of which more than half are serving overseas at this time. This is a large percentage of our manpower in action compared to many other races and the figures seem to show that the colored lads in uniform are doing their full share, with more and more adding to the total rapidly. Many of these men now fighting overseas are former 372nd men and reports indicate they are suffering casualties, which is to be expected, with other outfits. True, war plays no favorites but it is fair enough to ask why men trained and long steeped in the traditions of a famous combat infantry shouldn't much prefer to remain and take their risks and contribute their honors with their "old outfit". In the case of draftees men have little choice; but the 372nd, like other famous outfits has long been an enlisted man's pride of volunteers.

12-16-44

"CROW" MUST GO

Colored people have seen famous colored combat units "changed" and even broken in the past and this subject, therefore, is nothing new to the general public. Since it can be directly attributed to Jim Crow policy which has long restricted the number of colored combat units (making it always necessary to "borrow" from the few that do exist) this problem will never be solved until present policies are eliminated. No other reasons can disguise this fact. If we are going to have jim crow (and we're not) we should have had two or three colored divisions before the war and kept each combat unit intact under high ranking colored officers and men from top to bottom. The hypocrisy of it is that such a system never truly did exist—and never will. What we need now, and in the postwar military set-up is a complete elimination of this jim crow evil and create a system wherein brothers in Democracy can fight and share their commands side by side. Is not this the Democracy we are fighting for? Let us face the facts.

12-16-44

Negroes Hunt Nazi Snipers

Amsterdam News — New York, N. Y.
6-17-44

Our Boys Are Integrated On French Beaches; Gain Glory

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, Allied Expeditionary Forces, London—American Negro troops under the command of Capt. Samuel S. Broussard, of Breauxbridge, La., were active in the advance units of the expeditionary forces in France over the weekend, and have pushed forward to continue mopping-up operations in several towns. American troops have driven more than 18 miles inland from the

invasion beaches of France and have undergone vigorous training in the assault troops as well as those now are believed to be participating in the battle areas. common action batteries of Befors and anti-aircraft Germans are being machine guns, are laying smoke screens to cover the advancing been none too de- fighters and are laying field wire where Negroes are vital messages through. has filtered It was reported that elements of censorship to reveal the Allied Expeditionary Force had

been deployed throughout a typical 300 mile area contiguous to the French coast which was to be the point of initial contact. Negro soldiers, it was said, had already established a new system of telephone exchanges and lines were set up in this area. In one section alone, they laid down three new landing fields and extended seven more for the air force.

6-17-44

The French Cherbourg peninsula line was cracking wide open at its center, reports from the front declared Monday night and it appeared that Nazi defenses at Caen hinge of the line to the east, were in danger of collapsing. American troops Monday had by-passed Montebourg, which is 14 miles southeast of Cherbourg, and were hammering their way up the peninsula toward the great French port. Montebourg was still holding out.

In Thick of Battle

Meanwhile, in the thick of the fighting Negro quartermaster, air force ground crews, service troops and some anti-aircraft units were said to be operating under severe shelling of American positions by the retreating Nazis. In the mopping up operations in small French villages and towns, Negro soldiers were said to be particularly effective in ferreting out German snipers.

When H-Hour arrived June 6, airborne troops were flown over the English channel and a heavy bombardment by naval guns was laid down to knock out enemy installations. Gradually heavier weapons were brought in by Negro quartermaster outfits and service troops, after Rangers and Commandos began going ashore from landing barges. Engineers went in almost simultaneously to start cleaning up the mess.

6-17-44

Supplies in larger quantities are pouring into the battle zone and Negro soldiers, operating Bulldozers, were reported "moving in and out like ants" as they cleared beaches and surrounding areas of debris and other obstacles.

Gallant American Leads Filipinos Against Japanese

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

12-6-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the ATLANTA DAILY WORLD and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)
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LEYTE BEACH, PHILIPPINES — By Courier — On Samar island, northeast of Leyte, fighting with the fierceness of an enraged animal is Capt. Frank Merith, American Negro leader of a Filipino guerrilla band. Capt. Merith is one of the big stores of the war. His deeds and those of his ragged men have spread among American troops like wild fire.

Exact whereabouts of the giant Negro is still secret military information, but this correspondent is pushing off in search of him. It is a search well worthwhile, because what Livingston meant to the natives of Africa, surely Merith means the same to the people of the Southern Philippines. And as news of Livingston spread around the world, so should the deeds of this Negro be made known.

FIGHT WITH KNIVES

The guerrillas on Samar continue to fight the enemy. Armed with bolos, knives, even sticks — these natives, many clad in rags, ferociously defend the homeland. Tales of superhuman courage and endurance have reached us here.

For instance, the total population of the important town of Basey and surrounding villages numbered 30,000 before enemy occupation. When the enemy arrived most of these people fled to the hills. There they fought the enemy for over a year.

While women and children foraged for food — fruits, coconuts, and edible pith which grows in the heart of coconut trees — all able-bodied men fought. It has been a hard fight and continues to be. The equipment.

12-6-44

TAKE JAP RIFLES

Few rifles were taken from the Japs. And American planes dropped some ammunition. American submarines smuggled equipment in. However, because of the intenseness of the operations, all has been too little.

The enemy reached a maximum of ruthlessness on Samar. The town was stripped bare of its meager resources.

Perhaps the heaviest penalty of all was that the Japs took away the food. The population suffered miserably from malnutrition. Only since American troops entered have food and medical supplies begun to pour in. Five doctors and one dentist are presently at work patching up the ills of the populact. Sores, blisters, malarial cases, pneumonia — these are only a few of the items which harass the population.

MERITH LEADERS

Captain Merith, it was told the writer, was chosen as one of the leaders. Under the Negro and others, their valor reaches daily news heights.

The story goes that Capt. Merith has been in the Philippines for many years, making his home on Samar. He married a native woman and owned property. The enemy caught him as well as the others. The Negro was attached to General MacArthur's command.

Every three out of five Filipinos on Leyte know or knows of Captain Merith. And many have said, "Ah, he is a good man — our friend. And he is a very good fighter, too."

Captain Merith is the story. He is worth walking a continent to find. Every attempt will be made to find him.

12-6-44

92nd Div. Soldier Kills 15 Nazis in Day; 10 Decorated

Afro-American

Balt. Md.

11-18-44

By ART CARTER
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION (By Cable) — Killing fifteen Germans in one day was the feat accomplished by Pfc. Ollie V. Ammons of Lonoke, Ark., who was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action Friday as 92nd Division soldiers received two silver stars and eight bronze stars.

During hot action near Seravezza on October12, Ammons used his Browning automatic rifle to infiict heavy casualties upon enemy forces. Defying six counter-attacks by the enemy, he stood his ground until the last man was behind him as our forces withdrew to a better position, killing nine Germans. Earlier in the day he had plucked off six enemy soldiers while holding a mountain sector against advancing enemy forces.

Another Gets Silver Star

The other Silver Star award went to a first lieutenant who bravely led his platoon to accomplish a mission in spite of wounds received in battle. He continued his leadership for three hours though wounded, refusing to leave his men for medical aid until so ordered by the company commander. The latter award was made posthumously.

Bronze stars for meritorious service in combat were awarded to Capt. Clarence Brown, Jr., of Philadelphia; S/Sgt. Mandy James, Newport News, Va.; Cpl. Richard A. Warr, Memphis; Pvt. Matthew Ragland, Buffalo, N.Y.; Cpl. Carroll James and three white officers, Capt. Elmere F. Reedy, Woodstock, Va.; and First Lieuts. Jessea Wooten and Josepha Corsaro.

Captain Brown's citation and award was based on the October 12 action when he masterly led his company through a difficult night advance, notwithstanding repeated enemy counter-thrusts. Throughout the night, heavy machine-gun, mortar and rifle fire harrassed the company, but in the morning it reached its objective and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

Sergeant James defied machine-gun fire to rescue a wounded officer, dragging the injured man to a place of safety, while Corporal Warr and Private Ragland were cited for advancing under fire to rescue a wounded comrade, going first on the back of a tank, then crawling through a tunnel and finally crawling thirty yards over exposed terrain to reach the wounded soldier.

Corporal James was awarded the bronze star for work with Lieutenant Carsaro who convinced seven enemy soldiers that it was best to surrender after going through exposed territory to talk with them.

HEADLINES Footlights

By FREDI WASHINGTON

THE DAY THE ENTIRE WORLD waited for for more than two years arrived suddenly and swiftly and now it is seven days past D-Day. The day that brought a nation which is primarily interested in making money, to its knees and the realization that it matters not what their military strength is or will be, an invasion of a continent cannot be successful without the help and guidance of the invincible power of God.

Peoples Voice 6-17-44

NEGROES IN FIRST LANDINGS

This day, the greatest in the history of the world for all freedom-loving people, we have been privileged to live through bloody though it be. The inventions of modern science, mainly the radio, brought into our homes the happenings of the first landing of our troops and equipment on the beaches of France. Among these fighting men were Negroes who came from every civilian profession including the theatre. They were not on that beachhead in the capacities which we would like to see them in, but by God, they were and are there equally brave and efficient as any man in the invasion. They too are giving their blood in order that men who have been reduced to slavery, might be free.

Those Negroes who are attached to the Medical Corps are not concerned immediately with killing but the saving of lives. What a great source of satisfaction it must be to them when they are able to get their wounded to shelter and medical care in time to save their lives. Perhaps there is no glory or medals to be derived from their operations but their heroism is mute testimony to their beliefs in the ideals of democracy.

D-DAY DOUBLE MEANING FOR NEGROES

To Negroes on the battlefronts in France or a defense factory at home, D-Day has a double significance. It means also the liberation of Negroes wherever they might be who live under home-grown systems of fascism and tyranny.

These are a few of the reasons why every Negro church in the country held special prayer services on D-Day—the sale of War Bonds took a decided spurt upwards in Negro communities and Negro artists got out on street corners to sell bonds. Almost simultaneously with an announcement on the radio that Great Britain had put her secret weapon, the Hamel Car (the largest glider in the world) into operation landing tanks and troops in France, the regular Sunday program, "New World A'Coming" was dedicating its full half hour to D-Day and what it means to the Negro. This program which is sponsored by The City-Wide Citizen's Committee of Harlem, brought to the microphone Dr. Channing Tobias, secretary for the National YMCA; Walter White, executive secretary for the NAACP who recently returned from the battlefronts; Dr. Shelton Bishop, pastor of St. Phillips Episcopal Church, and Marian Anderson. The Hall Johnson choir sang spirituals which aptly told of the woes, struggles and hopes of the Negro.

The program was timely, fitting and carried the kind of impact that should make those of us who are different, aware of the fact that the winning of this campaign is twice as important to us as to the whites. And to those whites who are determined to keep the Negro in the place he has designed for him, it should have served to make them re-evaluate the meaning of the word democracy.

D-Day was but the beginning of a long hard bloody battle which will bring sorrow, suffering and strife to the entire world. Our men are in that fight. Some will return whole, some wounded and others not at all. That is the price of war. These facts we must face but in facing them we should ever keep in mind that a one day prayer system is of no interest to the Divine Maker nor will good intentions without material action give to those boys fighting, the moral assistance or the equipment to win this war that is needed.

Instead, prayer must be changed from lip service to right, charitable and just thoughts and deeds and our intention to buy those stamps and bonds put into weekly action. It is unfortunate that we have to fight a war and to lose our loved ones but the job has to be done and the sooner every man, woman and child realize it takes a constant concentration in time, energy and money to finish it, the sooner will all the Hitler's be dethroned and we can get on with our "New World" where all men will have freedom of life and opportunity.

The theatre managers of Harlem's movie houses combined their resources to get the 5th War Bond Drive under way in this community last Friday with a rally and show at Dewey Square. A bandstand was built and bond and salvage booths manned by ladies of AWVS took care of sales and collection of waste paper.

Bill Robinson, the king of benefits arrived in New York in time to give his assistance to raising our quota of sales, and was on hand to not only conduct a jitterbug contest between the tiny tots and juniors but to buy $75 worth of stamps as prizes to the winners. Tiny Bradshaw brought his entire band out to furnish the music. Willie Bryant acted as m.c. Vivian Smith played some tempting boogie-woogie which had the spectators jumping and Warren Evans sang a'la Frank Sinatra. Bud Harris helped to handle the crowds until the Army arrived for their demonstration.

LIFE

YANKS IN ENGLAND
It took Mrs. Hopper a long time.

PERSONNEL
Time—Chicago, Ill.
10-30-44

Report on the G.I.

Few weeks before Invasion Day, the south England village of Chandler's Ford awoke one morning to find it had become a concentration point for U.S. troops. None watched them more appraisingly than a British soldier's wife, Mrs. Joan Hopper, who had previously found that Americans seemed "just like us" (TIME, *July 31*). *After they had left for France she wrote this report:*

One night we were disturbed by the din of wheels and tracks for hours, and next morning we saw we were "invaded" by the American Army.

After then, we never knew when the roads would be empty or full. Some [troops] stayed twelve hours, others two weeks, others three days; we just didn't know. The first crowd was a shock. They were untidy, insolent; their "pin-ups," which they plastered all over their lorries and guns, were pretty hot, and the remarks painted underneath, and the names of lorries, gave offense. We thought "So this is the American Army."

The next batch was duly snubbed, poor fellows, and although they were well-behaved we refused to thaw. The third batch was a fine example of military efficiency and good behavior, and they soon won our friendship. Their lorries, equipment, uniforms were spotless; they nailed tins to every post and tree for the rubbish, dug pits to burn it, swept the roads to keep them neat, were courteous and never rowdy or rude.

The Welcome Guests. From then on they all the batches who came were decent, and enjoyed having them around and felt very sorry they couldn't accept the hospitality of our homes, as the majority were ordered to stand by their equipment.

Outdoor Housekeeping. We saw washing on little lines strung up anywhere, on the wire fence, between two bumpers, two branches, across the pavement. During the briefest days they wore trunks of the briefest style, looked very healthy and brown, and they really behaved like boys, playing ball, wrestling, and all sorts of games, and how they loved harmonicas, banjos and guitars.

My most embarrassing moment, when I was walking along a houseless stretch, was to spot a soldier on the top of a lorry

colored troops. What we had heard of them had not been favorable, but although we had hundreds in the area at odd times, and although I see them every day out here, I have never heard of any unpleasant incidents. They seem to get quite a lot of fun out of life without annoyance to anyone. They're very well-behaved, polite and quiet, in fact, good Americans.

When your men are back home once more, I do hope they'll remember us kindly. We're a conventional little island, slow to accept changes, slow to make friends. It's taken us a long time to appreciate and like the Yanks, and it's taken the war to bring about that change.

10-30-44

A Special Word. May I just add a special word of praise in favor of your

Reporter On Foray Counts 25 Dead Japanese

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. 4-29-44 Foreign Service 47th Div

By FLETCHER MARTIN
(NNPA War Correspondent) ..

BOUGAINVILLE — (Via Wireless from South Pacific) —I have just spent a night with the forward echelon of a detachment of the 93rd Division—and I have felt the hot breath of death close at hand.

I listened as men cursed and prayed . . . I saw five tight-lipped men who had suffered the night through in silence, their clothes saturated by caked blood.

I counted 25 dead Japanese soldiers . . . grim toll exacted by the detachment in its push across the Torokina river in hot pursuit of fleeing enemy forces.

LED BY DARING D. C. BOY 4-29-44 ..

The group, led by 1st Lt. Conway Jones of Washington, D. C., moved into position atop a jungle crag several thousand feet ahead of the main contingent.

During the inky blackness of night in the jungles . . . with pelting rains adding to the dismal gloom . . . the enemy attacked with knives, hand grenades and rifle fire. In the sinister darkness on the suicide mission, their blood-chilling and bestial yells, plus exploding "fire-crackers," rent the air—given double exposure by rebounding echoes.

WE FLIRT WITH DEATH

Your correspondent, a member of Lieutenant Jones' party, felt death's hot breath very close. Only those officers and men who stare death in the face know their feeling when life depends on quick thinking and the mercy of God Almighty. 4-29-44

Our troops fought with viciousness and valor, meeting steel with steel. Jones' party, with heavy packs — accompanied by Medical Captain Dunbar Gibson of St. Louis, Mo.; Lts. Paul Taylor of San Mateo, Calif., and Claude Jones of Wichita Falls, Texas, as well as litter bearers—moved cautiously along the crooked trail flanked by Kunai grass, clinging underbrush and tousled trees, and our men waded through swift yellow streams.

Winding up hills, the party often cleared the trail as noises indicated enemy troops. The foliage was so dense one could not see five yards. Spasmodic firing would have revealed our positions.

UNBURIED BODIES

Once while crossing the plateau we noticed unburied bodies of enemy soldiers, their arms outspread. Lieutenant Jones led the silent column, alerting when necessary against possible ambush. With their temperature boiling over under the mental pressure, the men sweated profusely.

After four hours, we reached the desired position. Fiji scouts, occupying the bivouac, pushed ahead, leaving as their handiwork nine dead enemy bodies.

New Zealanders had warned Lieutenant Jones to expect attack in this region surrounded by Japanese, when the night is blackest and the rain is hardest. But the defense perimeter was secured as dusk fell like a pall and rain started. Shelter cover was spread over foxholes and the men bedded down after a quick "nature shower." 4-29-44

GRUESOME EXPERIENCE

Captain Gibson made hot cocoa from the stream below, but it tasted awful even after the water was chlorinated. Darkness hit suddenly at 6:30 o'clock in the evening with the only sounds coming from insects and the soft rain patter.

Five of us, including Lieutenant Jones, had herded into a dugout. Each man was given a two hour watch through the night. After a half hour, a machine gun blast was heard, followed by womanlike, unearthly yells. Two grenades exploded. Another grenade was heard, this time exploding near our foxhole, a former Japanese command post.

Lieutenant Jones, in a coated voice, whispered, "That was my man yelling. He's hurt."

"You can't get to him," Gibson warned, "You can't go out there. You'd be shot before taking five steps." 4-29-44

Outside, it was total darkness. To move around meant sudden death, even from our own men. Somebody breathed, "This looks like it." Another swore, "The devils will never take me alive."

COMMOTION BREAKS OUT

A grenade exploded, ripping our shelter in half. A voice called out, "They're jumping in holes—there he goes—stop him." Another grenade burst. Lieutenant Jones, breathing fast, said, "My rifle's choked, Claude, let me have your trench knife."

A machine gun blast burst out. Gibson pulled the handle on his rifle as we huddled close together, awaiting a possible charge. There was sudden quiet after three hours, but intermittent fire. The insects continued their chorus. Frogs croaked and lightning bugs resembled searchlight batteries.

PRAYER IN ORDER

There were groans and, this time, Gibson said prayerfully, "I can't get to them, God keep them until morning." Somebody moved through the brush. Fire started again and Jones warned, "It's better to lie on the flat of the back, then when you look over the rim of the foxhole any approaching figure is silhouetted against the sky." 4-29-44

A Japanese .25 caliber rifle sang out. Taylor, breathing loud in a corner, said, "Somewhere out there, people are singing, laughing and dancing." There was silence again and Jones, lying next to your correspondent, said, "There is something moving in front of us." It proved to be palm leaves swaying, looking like giant waving arms. Gibson snorted on being punched softly and said, "Sorry, I'm not asleep," and added, I saw my wife."

Somebody fired a machine gun. Breath for us came hard and heavy. Claude Jones said he had to go to the latrine. But that was impossible, so a ration can was passed from man to man.

Gibson's stomach growled. It sounded like a lion roaring. He grabbed his stomach, keeping it quiet, because we did not know who was moving about. The noise was so bad sleep was difficult.

FIVE CASUALTIES

There was more rifle fire and dawn finally came. When we heard our own mortar barrage from within the perimeter it sounded like jingle bells on Christmas morning. A soldier crawled toward the foxhole, telling Captain Gibson, "You'd better come fast. Five men have been hurt—two cut." 4-29-44

We crawled over, finding tight-lipped men suffering in silence. They had lain wounded all night, their clothes saturated by caked blood. After an examination, Dr. Gibson said that all would live as their ailments were mostly flesh wounds.

The number of enemy attacking was undetermined, but 25 were found dead.

92nd Wins Praise For Success At Lucca

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va. 9-23-44

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY — via wireless — (DELAYED)—Fighting way about 2 miles inland over rough mountain trails, after crossing the Arno River, units of the 92nd division blasted their way into the walled city of Lucca in a drive which won for them the praise of the top officers of this theatre.

At Vorno, in the valley south of Lucca, the 92nd met stiff resistance from the Germans who threw everything, including machine guns, mortars, and heaviest artillery at the advancing infantrymen. The Buffaloes had to attack towards Lucca in the face of a blistering fire.

JORDAN IN DANGER AGAIN 9-23-44

This correspondent, who was in Vorno with these units, was pinned down by heavy enemy artillery fire for four days, but finally managed to get out by leaving with a motor supply convoy on the night of September 5. We used a back road without lights and even then ran into heavy artillery barrages which were intended to render the road impassable. But it was necessary for this writer to take this dangerous trip in order to get out of the lines so that this dispatch could be filed.

The Germans were fighting desperately to hold the gun positions commanding the Lucca area. Ambulances and medics worked heroically under constant, deliberate fire to tend the wounded.

EROIC FEATS

The Negro troops performed many feats of heroism that would have probably been regarded as sensational in other branches of the Army but which were all in a day's work for the infantry.

Natives in the towns which the Buffaloes have liberated instantly cheer these troops despite the German propaganda that Negro troops would murder children and the aged and would rape women. I saw men and women weep for joy as these troops entered their towns driving out the brutal Nazis. Natives threw flowers and gave these men wine and fruit. They were all very cordial to the 92nd troopers. 9-23-44

AIDED BY PARTISANS

Italian Partisans have given valuable aid and information to the 92nd as these men battled northward. These victories by the Negro infantrymen have had a vital influence on the strategy of the Fifth Army by pushing the Germans out of eight towns on the march to Lucca.

A prisoner, captured by the 92nd, gave the Fifth Army high command valuable information affecting the entire front.

NO LONGER GREEN

In a statement to this reporter, the commanding officer of the 92nd said: "These men are no longer green troops. They are now battle-hardened fighters equal to any in the world."

The unit's first battle casualty was a popular sergeant who was killed on August 24. His death stunned and angered the combat troops and they are now fighting harder because of the inspiration they get from the death of their beloved buddy.

Among the company commanders who led the men in the battle for Lucca are: Lt. Donald L. Counts, St. Louis; Captain Charles F. Gandy, Washington; Lt. James F. Murray, Steubensville, Ohio, and Lt. Raymond H. Montgomery, of Washington. The last named is the commanding officer of a heavy weapons unit. 9-23-44

Meanwhile to the west, other units of the 92nd moved up from the Arno to a hill above Pisa where they contacted units of the Japanese-American infantry division. In still another sector, a combat team column smashed straight forward driving the Germans back into the Gothic Line where the Nazis are fighting a desperate but a hopeless battle.

The company commanders who had charge of the units which advanced on the hill over Pisa were: Lt. Jesse E. Jarman, Indianapolis, Ind.; Captain Clarence H. Brown, Philadelphia; and Captain Julian Miles, of New York City.

"ANZIO EXPRESS"

Everywhere it is the same story. The troops are having to advance under heavy artillery fire while supplies are moved in quietly at night because the roads are heavily shelled. 9-20-44

The Germans have moved in their famous "Anzio Express" gun. This gun became famous during the Anzio beachhead operation because of its size and its range. It is one of the largest artillery weapons ever used.

GERMANS STIFFEN

Lt. Reuben Horner, of Tucson, Arizona, a platoon leader, broke the tension recently with a subtly humorous crack. He said: "The Germans may be hopelessly trapped in Italy and may be fighting a losing battle, but somebody ought to tell them so. Those we meet are fighting harder than ever." 9-23-44

That aptly sums up the situation. Our troops are advancing but every yard of this advance is made in the face of withering fire.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This dispatch was filed by Mr. Jordan some time ago but was delayed because it was lost somewhere between the censor's office and the RCA at AFHQ PRO in Italy.)

92ND DIVISION DRIVE TAKES 2 MOUNTAIN TOPS

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 10-14-44

All-Negro Outfit Pushes On Toward Big Italy Naval Base

ROME—Driving through rain and deep mud, Negro troops of the 92nd Division advancing along the western end of the Italian front which has been widened to 12 miles as the Americans in the 5th Army's drive on Bologna, 12 miles from their front lines. 10-14-44

In spite of the stiffened German resistance all along the front, the captured two mountain tops of Mount Canala fell before the withering fire power of the Negro soldiers of the 92nd are forging re-Sunday, making the first sig-infantrymen, who are now men-nificant gains in the lentlessly ahead in their sector, push on Bologna. cing the La Spezia naval base 20 miles away.

The twin peaks of Mount Costa and Mount Canala fell before the withering fire power of the Negro infantrymen, who are now men-lentlessly ahead in their sector, cing the La Spezia naval base 20 miles away.

Troops of the 92nd Division are making their gains through the dreaded rains.

47m-1944

Versatile Marksman Bags Two Japanese

Daily Worker - N.Y. - 11-13-44

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 12.—Pvt. Luther J. McNair's regular infantry job was in a 60-mm mortar squad of the 93rd Infantry Division.

But the two Japanese he bagged on Bougainville were killed with other weapons, the Browning automatic and M-1 Garand rifles.

"Most every man in my outfit could handle all the Infantry weapons," he said in an interview at Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, released today by the War Department. "For months before we went overseas, we had been through intensive maneuvers, and we were well trained and tough."

The 26-year-old doughboy, whose home is in Los Angeles, joined the 93rd, a Negro division, after completing his basic training at the Infantry Replacement Training Center, Camp Wheeler, in the spring of 1943.

"We were ready when we went overseas," he said, "and we didn't waste much time going into action. The division split up after we landed in Guadalcanal last February, and my regiment was fighting on Bougainville within a month.

"That first battle, for Hill 260, was some fight, too. Our first job was to push across a river where the Japs were firing at us from concealed and dug-in positions about 50 yards from our bank.

"That was where I got to kill my first Jap. We had come up to the river late one afternoon and this sniper kept firing at us all night long, giving us the very devil. I finally located him the next morning and let go a BAR burst into the tree he was firing from. His body hung from the tree the rest of the day.

"The other Nip I got was several days later when we were advancing. I was carrying my M-1 and saw him using a telephone in a hole about 35 yards ahead. It would have been hard to miss him, and I didn't."

Pvt. McNair got through those weeks on the front line without a scratch, he said, but he wasn't so fortunate when he went back to the rear for a rest.

"I was standing about 25 yards from a bulldozer just as it scraped across a land mine or an unexploded shell," he related. "The blast knocked me about 10 feet. That was the last of May, and I've been hospitalized since then."

Pvt. LUTHER J. MacNAIR

NEGRO UNIT PROUD OF GAINS IN ITALY

Times—New York N.Y.
11-1-44

But Men of the 92d Division Object to Special Attention Because of Race

By MILTON BRACKER

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Foreign Service

WITH A REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM of the United States Ninety-second Division on the Italian front, Oct. 30 (Delayed)—The progress and development of the first Negro combat unit to meet the Germans in the European theatre has been "normal and progressively satisfactory," their commanding general said yesterday.

Aware of the great interest in their work and its extreme importance in the future Negro share in American military history, the men who form the fighting vanguard of the Ninety-second Division have been in the front line for as many as sixty-eight days and have kept their advance at least up to the pace of more experienced divisions in the more active sector around Bologna. 11-1-44

The Negro outfit has killed Germans—one man is up for citation for having killed thirteen with his damaged carbine—and has had its losses.

Object to Special Attention

Negro GI's and officers—the former predominantly from Southern States—deplore accounts that play up their achievements along lines which they feel point more to color than to the accomplishment itself and this fact is extremely important in any presentation of the present role of the outfit.

The situation in which the Negro soldier here finds himself thus grows out of a situation that applies to all minority groups. The men want to do well as a matter of group pride and at the same time they do not want to be singled out for attention that they feel is based more on their color than on their work. 11-1-44

Japanese-American members of the celebrated 100th Battalion, which is no longer in Italy, objected to special publicity on awards and citations on the grounds that it overemphasized the "hyphenated" quality of their Americanism. Negro officers say they want above all to be regarded as American fighting men. Yet they admit their men want to do particularly well as a matter of race pride.

The overall principle of race relaions, established by Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond of Luray, Va., who brought the Ninety-second Division overseas, was that the development of the new infantry outfit was a military and not a sociological problem. This approach was bound to cut corners, but one result has been that Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of the Fifth Army, feels that there is no problem of race relations within his forces.

White Officers Are in Issue

This combat team has a white colonel and lieutenant colonel and although there are many Negro company officers, captains and lieutenants, none ranks white junior officers. Moreover all current officer replacements are white. The colonel, who is a native of Connecticut but has lived long in Virginia, does not foresee the time when his outfit will include Negro junior officers outranking white junior officers. 11-1-44

In rear areas certain considerations have arisen out of race, which the division first encountered in training at home. Negro GI's are not permitted to carry knives of any sort except the regular issue knife or bayonet, which is not concealed and is as much a part of front line equipment as rifles or grenades.

Then the military police problem has been solved by having one white and one Negro MP patrol border areas together. The basic principle is that the white man handles white offenders and the Negro handles Negroes. All Negro MP's are more than six feet tall. They do not carry pistols but use a short club.

There is no official segregation in forward or rear areas at messes or latrines or in sleeping accommodations although every Negro in the dvsion, having trained in at lease one Southern State, has had his share of it in the Army.

At the officers' mess here there is only one table. But at divisional headquarters, the night I messed there, Negro officers went to one table. 11-1-44

The divisional general reiterated that his outfit was administered on "military rather than racial lines" and added: "I don't try to choose an officer's friends for him."

Some white officers said some Negro infantrymen tended to "panic" more easily than whites and that the superstition and ignorance of some Southern boys could not be ignored. But more responsible officers said the greatest problem of Negro combat troops was inexperience against a foe as tough as the Germans.

ling about this
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eld and we are
the next one.
ud, Mother?

learned of the death of his brother in Normandy soon after the invasion.

Both brothers were leaders in their union. They stood for everything wholesome and progressive, and were Communists.

"Dear Friends," he wrote, "you guys who worked and fought side by side with Bill, my brother, and with myself:

"Perhaps you were informed before I was about his death, yet I feel it my duty to let you know that my brother and friend, and your friend and brother, too has fallen in battle.

"For some years prior to the war a group of us in the union were able to recognize the growing menace of fascism. We studied its every shape and tried to warn others, but were often looked upon as crackpots or even worse. Among those who saw the light and pitched in to help us fight for democracy was my brother Bill. 10-16-44

"Because of previous experience in army life, he and I felt we could do more for American

ith my Italian
l friends among
you could see
eating spaghetti
aking wine with
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dance—it is a
nd. A friend of
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r ever rode one.
ad it up to 80
ry. The boy has
verybody, Hello,
all, Your loving

gating the blood plasma.

"I could go on forever telling a
wonderful meeting on the battlefield
Future meetings are to be held ar
going over to their tents for the
Doesn't it make you feel proud, M

"I am coming along fine with m
and have made some very swell frien
the good people here. I wish you
me sitting down at the table eating
with the whole family and drinking
them—it is consumed like water h
Next Sunday I am going to a danc
festival, and they insist I attend. A
mine has an English motorcycle, and
day yesterday, the first time I ever
I am crazy about it, and had it
miles, but Mamma, do not worry. Th
already sold the bike. Tell everybo
and that I am thinking of you all, Y
son,

"P.S.—Did they, or didn't they
have a Race Riot in Boston?"

10-16-44

A MEMBER of a New York tr
sends us a letter from a fellow-member

"BROTHER.

they, recently

Red Cross and their former policy about segre

Change the World

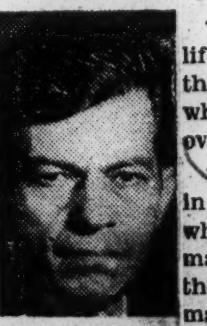
White and Negro GIs Talk Things Over in Italy

By Mike Gold

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

A NEGRO soldier from Boston whose mother is a reader of this column recently wrote her from Italy, where he has seen some heavy fighting and she sends the letter on. 10-16-44

The boy's letter contains an interesting flash of some spontaneous attemps by white soldiers to break down the Jimcrow evil.



"I really have good news to disclose to you this time," he writes. "We are affiliated with some white troops here, and they have shown a bit of true interest in us. Last night we had an interesting meeting between our boys and theirs. It was a great success; and maybe the first of its kind in the history of the armed forces.

"The meeting was sponsored by a white boy from the west, who is champion of minority groups, especially ours. He is an active trade unionist, also, I assume, a Communist. I was appointed chairman of the meeting by our C.O.

"This white soldier gave a good talk on the life of George Washington Carver. I gave them the history of our regiment, and just what our boys were doing for Uncle Sam all over the world. 10-16-44

"We discussed our problem in the States, in the Army, and what we expect will happen when we get back home. There are a great many southern whites in the outfit, but even their first Sergeant, who hails from Texas, made a very fine speech. Our lieutenant was present, and gave an excellent speech on the

democracy in the army than in defense work. So when war broke out we signed up, leaving behind our wives and children. As you know, it was not done on the spur of impulse, but after careful thought and discussion.

"Bill's letters to me showed he knew the score. His desire to help exterminate fascism and all its beasts caused him to select a branch of the service that was exceedingly dangerous. He proved his merit there by being promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

"According to the reports Bill was killed in the first week of July, which means he got to doing some of the work he longed for so much—the extermination of Nazis. Now we are short a good soldier in our ranks. It is our job to learn and study harder to recognize evil and in recognizing to stamp it out. Tough days are still ahead. We are traitors if we ever grew complacent before the evil of fascism. Best of everything to all of you. Your friend and Fellow Fighter, David."

Attitude of Australian Press to Soldiers Changing

Call — Kansas City, Mo
The Call Kansas City Mo.

By FLETCHER MARTIN
NNPA War Correspondent

GENERAL MAC ARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS—(Delayed)—The attitude of elements of the Australian press toward American Negro soldiers has changed greatly during the last four months, however periodically it blows cold, and cutting statements disparage them in banner lines. Especially has this been true with the nationally read weekly "Truth." At times the latter publication has reached heights gained by former Governor Leigret last December when he issued for world publication foundationless charges against Negro troops stationed in New Caledonia.

7-28-44

In southern Australia Truth's former crusade against Negro soldiers caused army officials to openly protest. Military records substantiated army claims that charges made were out of proportion to actual misconduct. Truth's trend of thought was similar to that held by Ex-Gov. Leigret, "It is unsafe for our women to walk the streets alone."

From their section some Australians have chosen to believe Truth's charges, while others, including the majority of newspapers, have cried out in protest against the treatment of Negroes here.

Soldiers Are Human

Dr. C. V. Pilcher, co-adjutor bishop of Sydney, in addressing an international women's day committee, was quoted as saying, "We have a duty to treat the colored soldier as a human being with brains, character and personality the same as our own."

In continuing, he pointed out that he had been told that colored servicemen were better behaved than white, but mistakes made by them were publicized and played up by certain people. The bishop meant that when the word "Negro" appeared in papers owned by these "certain" people, it connoted something evil thriving on rape and bloodshed. If such attacks through the press had continued, it no doubt would have resulted in total embarrassment for all concerned. Although the American army has no jurisdiction over the civilian Australian press stories, it seems logical that it could not stand idly by and watch a portion of our forces here persecuted. Truth's treatment of Negro news is the exception rather than the role of Australian newspapers.

The Call Kansas City Mo

Friendship Developed

At this writing, it alone speaks out periodically, but its occasions are widening. To counteract such propaganda, other papers have printed stories on Paul Robeson and complimentary phases of Negro life in America. Daily Telegraph's correspondent in America cabled the following lead from New York on Independence day:

"In the state of Georgia Negroes tried to exercise their constitutional right to vote in the Democratic primary elections. They were refused — because their skin is black."

7-28-44

Generally the Negro is treated fair in parts of Australia. In many instances the Aussie has gone far afield to be nice to our troops. Friendships have developed and will go far in making these two Allied nations remember pleasant hours together while fighting in a common cause. And the conduct of Negro troops has done more good in cementing these friendships than any statements by Truth in what looks like an attempt to imperil them.

From all indications there it is only a small element of the population believing the published false indictments. At Sydney university this writer heard students voice opinions and attack elements attempting disunity. Several days later they visited the Negro Red Cross club and promised to continue doing so. And the conduct of our troops was above reproach during those few hours as young Australians got to know young Negroes who were lone for interesting friends. who were not afraid that they would draw a razor on the slightest provocation.

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
10-20-44

BAPTISMAL SERVICE IN THE SOUTH SEAS.— A mountain pool on a remote Pacific Island serves as a baptismal fount for servicemen, some about to undergo their baptism of fire against the Japs. Here, Chaplain Harold G. Sanders baptizes Coast Guardsman Farley Arches of Los Angeles. Approximtely 30 servicemen are baptized each Sunday in this picturesque setting while voices of the base choir add impressiveness to the service. Chaplain Sanders was formerly pastor of the Norwood Baptist church, Birmingham, Ala. In Los Angeles, Coast Guardsman Arches' home is at 1624 N. Serrano St.—Coast Guard photo, from OWI.

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
10-20-44

Want Combat Duty, Negroes Cry in Vain

Most of Them Still Toting Bales and Resentment Grows

By Roi Ottley
Staff Correspondent

PM Exclusive

PARIS, Nov. 13.—Despite neatly-handled ballyhoo, the Negro soldier in France still is doing little else than most Negroes do in civilian life—they are heavin' bales and totin' bags.

Until an anti-tank unit arrived in France recently, not one Negro division had had actual physical contact with the enemy. Most observers here feel that this is no accident. The almost exclusive use of Negroes as service troops is an open scandal in this theater of operations.

This situation has caused resentments among Negroes. It has caused tempers to mount among white troops.

The Negro is in a dilemma not of his own making.

Issue Is Dodged

In recent days *Stars and Stripes*, the GI newspaper here, has been receiving letters from white soldiers complaining that Negroes are being "overplayed" in the news. They contend that Negroes are behind the lines and therefore not exposed to danger. Gen. Eisenhower's praise of the Red Ball Express, the supply line which contains more than 70 per cent Negro personnel, swelled the numbers of protesting letters.

Negro soldiers anticipated this attitude from certain white GIs. Moreover, they feel that on their return home this charge will be thrown in their face and reduce their chances of sharing the social benefits to come with victory.

No member of the High Command will comment on this situation. Nor will they explain why Negroes have been concentrated in the service divisions regardless of their ability and qualifications to do other tasks. The issue has been dodged repeatedly at press conferences.

Some observers here feel that the encomiums of praise Negro service divisions have been receiving, is an attempt by the High Command to allay criticism at home and to improve the morale of Negro troops here.

Wants Combat

Everywhere I've gone in England and France, Negro soldiers have asked me, "Have you seen any Negroes fighting up front?" They avidly read the Negro newspapers for information about the Negro aviators fighting in Italy. They have been buoyed up a little by the recent recruiting of a Negro paratroop unit. This, they feel, will give them an opportunity to come to grips with the enemy.

"I want combat duty," Lt. Ben Johnson, former Columbia University track star, told me in forceful language. He is in a trucking unit, attached to the Red Ball Express, which was one of those anti-aircraft divisions converted into a service unit. His attitude is typical of the Negro soldier here.

"Psychologically," he said, "I do not feel in a strong position to demand better treatment after the war, because I'm not up there trading punches with Jerry.

"I guess certain officers fear the Negro may become cocky after the war.

"The men who oppose Negroes doing combat duty, know that when a white man and a Negro are in the same foxhole day in and day out, it breaks down barriers. And they don't want that to happen."

"There still are officers," he continued, "who believe that the Negro can't be made into a first-class soldier. They don't even give him a chance.

14 POINTS ON NEGRO TROOPS ABROAD GIVEN WAR DEPT. BY WHITER

Report to Washington Lists Recommendations as Result of Fifteen Weeks Observation Overeas

Washington—Fourteen recommendations, ranging from lectures to American white soldiers to a special Board of Review for courts-martial cases, were made by Walter White in a report to the War Department, it was revealed here last week.

The report was based upon White's 15-week, 20-000-mile tour of military installations in the European Theatre of Operations, in North Africa, Italy and the Middle East as an accredited foreign correspondent for the New York Post newspaper. The fourteen points included:

Off Limits—That General Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" to towns and pubs (taverns) be enforced in all areas. Negro soldiers were found to resent bitterly the limits orders, or orders setting "odd" and "even" nights for white and colored troops to visit towns and places of amusement. White observed that some commanding officers who took a positive stand for fairness had very little trouble in their localities.

Courts Martial—A special board of review of courts-martial cases was recommended by White who said "great unhappiness" has resulted among Negro soldiers "because of their belief that they are punished more quickly and more severely than white soldiers." After citing a number of cases detailed to him by Negro prisoners with whom he was permitted to talk freely, White urged that the special board of review include an eminent Negro lawyer, who would be brought in to serve with appropriate rank.

Combat Troops—The department is urged to send Negro combat troops to England. White said stories were being circulated that there are no Negro combat troops in England because "Negroes are afraid to fight." White termed as "unfortunate" the fact that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only Negro service troops had been sent to the European theatre. "The Negro troops in the ETO," said his report, "have little or none of the excitement of war necessary to raise the spirits and to give a sense of participation to men engaged in waging war."

Also recommended was that Negro medium bomber crews be sent to England "to fly in non-segregated units," and that Negro service troops now stationed there be given refresher courses in the use of combat weapons, as "many of these troops will closely follow the assault waves of invasion, will be under fire, and need to be made competent in the use of weapons."

Supporting his recommendation for more combat troops, White cited the improved atmosphere in the Mediterranean as a result of the exploits of the 99th Pursuit Squadron. He recommended that Negro and white fighter squadrons function in the same group; and he also urged reconsideration of the conversion of the 2nd Calvary division into service troops.

In connection with the moral value of the presence of Negro combat troops, White also urged that more Negro officers above the rank of captain be sent to England.

Anti-Negro Rumors—Some Negro soldiers abroad have taken the spreading of vicious and fantastic rumors about Negroes as a joke, but some have resented these stories deeply, said White, in recommending that G-2 (Army Intelligence) try to track down and scotch morale-sapping stories.

White reported less anti-Negro propaganda in the Mediterranean than in England, but suggested that Army Intelligence run down the people who were issuing leaflets, placards and other material seeking to poison Italians against Negroes. Upon inquiry one such placard was found to have been issued by a non-existent organization and signed by a fictitious person.

Military Police—White found the same complaint abroad on Military Police that has been made in some parts of America, namely that white MPs are armed, but Negro MPs are not. He recommended that no MPs be armed except when guarding payrolls.

Paternalism— Paternalistic attitudes on the part of white officers is resented, White reported, saying that both well-educated and less-educated Negroes resent being treated as "boys." Abandonment of the idea that southern white officers are best for Negro troops because they "understand" Negroes was urged by White, who, however, said many fair and decent in their teratment white officers from the South are of Negroes, while there is no guarantee that a man will be free from prejudice just because he happens to be from the North.

Lectures—Lectures to American white troops aboard ships as they near England on the difference between the British and American attitudes toward color, together with lectures to British troops by competent Americans on America and the true place of the Negro as a citizen of his country would be helpful, White declared.

A connection between the venereal disease rate among colored troops and the attitude which has barred them from normal association with respectable families was seen by White, who quoted a soldier as saying they were more and more restricted to women picked up in pubs. White suggested that a Negro physician be attached to the office of the Chief Surgeon.

More Negro actors and singers were recommended for the entertainment of both white and Negro troops.

Red Cross—After praising the American Red Cross for doing "in many respects a superlative job," White deplored the "white" and Negro" Red Cross clubs located in many areas as not only introducing segregation to the British, but denying white and Negro soldiers the opportunity to know each other better. He cited the non-segregated pattern of one club as a model for the Red Cross everywhere.

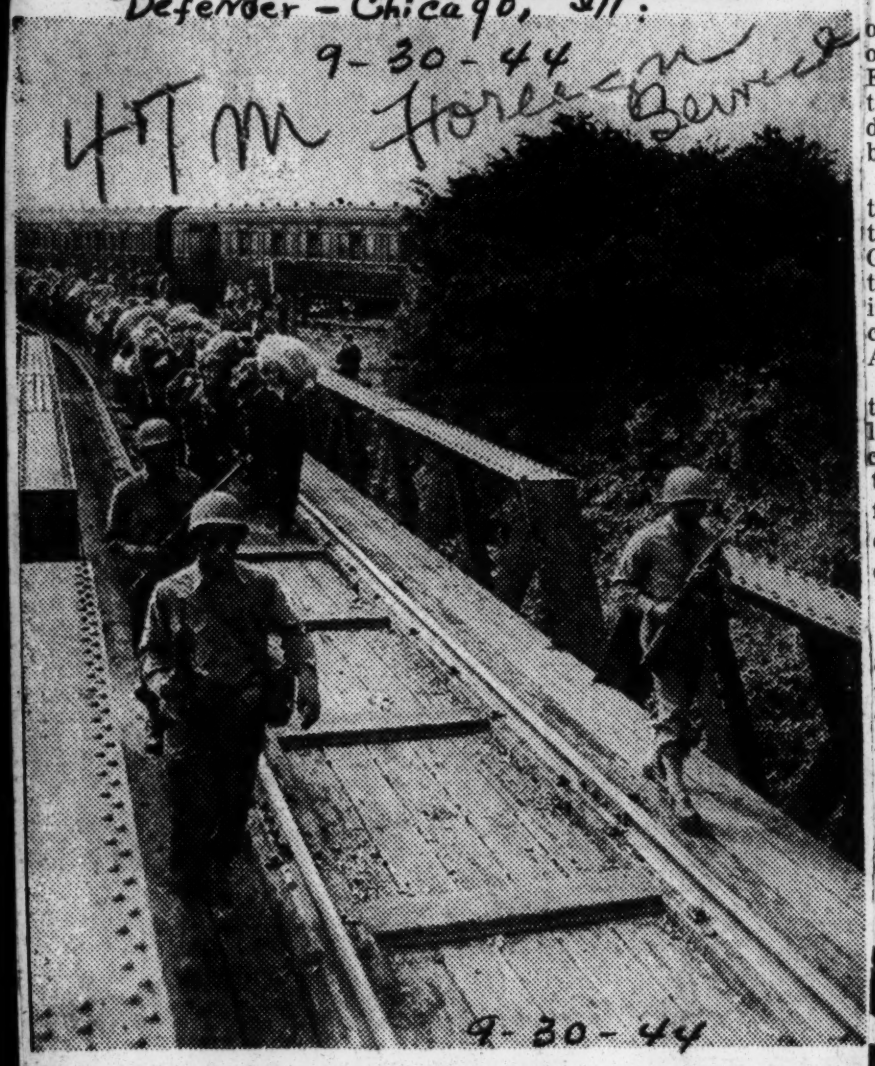
Censorship—More news and more sympathetic handling of news dealing with Negro troops by the censors would be very helpful, said White, as it would give Negro civilians a better picture of the contribution of their men to the war.

Lagging Behind—White's concluding recommendation was a suggestion that the War department policy on race "lags behind that of much of the personnel of the Army." He said an advanced position would meet opposition, but would be approved by "a much larger percentage . . . than the War department appears to believe possible."

"The time and field are ripe for progress. Continuance of segregation and discrimination is in part responsible for a less determined spirit ahead before this war is won. Vision to see the situation as it is in the Army than is necessary to meet the very crucial days which and courage to surmount difficul-

OUT OF WAR FOR GOOD

Defender - Chicago, Ill:
9-30-44
4th Motor Service



9-30-44

Under the watchful eyes of Negro soldiers, German prisoners of war file across a trestle en route to a PW camp somewhere in England.

How 24th Infantry Has Spent 2 Yrs. in S. Pacific

Afro American - Baltimore, md.
6-3-44

Men Performed Non-Combatant Tasks over Year; Now Fighting Japs on Bougainville

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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GUADALCANAL. — The 24th Infantry Regiment came overseas to fight two years ago and it is the enemy's fault that elements of the regiment have only recently gotten down to the business for which they were trained.

When the 24th landed in 1942 on Efate or Sandwich Island in the New Hebrides group, it had only a small settlement of about 500 British, French, Chinese, Australians and natives, and one road, a fourth-class trail to a native mission.

6-3-44

Worst Job on Island

It was the soldiers' job to clear camp sites, build airports, set up defense positions, and establish communications relay stations.

During the time they were being introduced to South Pacific island life, there were six days when there was a food shortage, many days of sleeping on muddy, lizard and insect-infested ground, and many days when there was not even good drinking water.

By far the most harrowing job of the island defense, however, was the establishment of communications lines between the scattered battalions, a maze of jungle outposts, and regimental headquarters. This task fell to the unit's thirty-man signal communications section.

6-3-44

On Island 14 Months

In June, 1942, the heavy weapons company was placed in charge of the prisoner of war camp on Espiritu Santos, another island in the New Hebrides, where it underwent Jap bombardment once but there were no casualties.

After fourteen months of maintaining almost a constant alert, the regiment was shifted to Guadalcanal where it went on with the non-combatant tasks assigned it until a portion of the unit was called to action on the Empress Augusta Bay beachhead.

On Bougainville, the last and the largest of the Solomons Islands, the 24th became the first colored combat troops to contact the enemy in the Pacific war. Its first patrol engaged in a firing encounter with Japs and came off on the winning end of a 1-0 score.

Anxious to Get Home

Other portions of the regiment are still carrying on their important behind-the-lines functions. There are some men in the unit who are anxious to get into action, but bulk of the men said, as did one sergeant:

6-3-44

"We're kinda tired and would like more than anything else to go home, but if we are called on to go up and clean up the Japs we can and we will do it."

Harlem Hell Fighters Have Gained Respect

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
10-14-44

Correspondent Martin Writes Of Solved Problems

BY FLETCHER P. MARTIN
War Correspondent of the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA

PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR — (By Courier) — Honolulu, a symphony of races, creeds, colours To these islands, over a period of years, have come Occidentals, Orientals, and natives from the South Seas. All to mingle with native Hawaiians. A melting pot of multi-coloured peoples living amidst the grandeur that is the Territory of Hawaii. Then came deep tanned Negro troops from America to complete the tapestry of color. Fine, sturdy men — representative of all black men who have fought in America's wars. And America was at war again.

10-14-44

Harlem Hell Fighters they called themselves. Armed to the hilt with anti-aircraft field pieces, they arrived in early 1942. The embers of enemy treachery were still smoldering when these inheritors of the famed records made by the enviable "Black Regiment," the 15th New York Infantry during the last war arrived. A regiment which survived air-bursting German artillery for 190 days — and not a foot of ground was lost; not a man captured. They were there when the Germans were stopped cold on the Marne in the summer of 1918.

For reasons, perhaps only known to the American military, these troops were incorporated into the French Army, as regular American troops. The story is still told of the Meuse-Argonne operation in which the city of Sechault was captured in one of the bloodiest street fights in the war. Every man in the regiment was awarded the Croix de Guerre, one of France's ranking citations.

10-14-44

READY TO FIGHT

At this hour, the reorganized unit ~~under Lt. Col. Wilmer P. Lucas~~, of Brooklyn, New York, is ready to push forward again — to fight for the rights to live as equals to any man, anywhere. And as former commander, Col. Chauncey M. Hooper, said, "Every man in the regiment is eager to match the record made by the same unit during the last war."

Their tactical mission at this highly strategic command is the guarding of Pearl Harbor. An imporant cog in the Oahu anti-aircraft defenses, this regiment of more than 1500 Ngero officers and men help guard the harbor from mountain recesses. The first colored combat unit to reach Pearl Harbor following December 7, a prodigious amount of work has been expended by the New York outfit. But first they had to sell themselves to the local population An endeavor not familiar in many fields of military operations.

CREATE SOCIAL PROBLEM

The Hawaiians looked on them in courteous silence. They created a social problem -- not to their liking. But circumstances being as they were, the problem was inevitable. They were strangers to the natives, but not so to many who had migrated here from the mainland rather than the native population.

10-14-44

The problem was not as intense as in some sections of the world But, as was aforementioned, there were certain barriers to be swept away. Music helped do the job There was a satisfying rhythm these men had brought down from New York. The Hawaiians liked its sweetness, its tempo, its melody. There was a common bond — if not in language, not in customs — in music.

10-14-44

The doors were partially opened, as least enough to get one foot in. That was the first step. Courtesy—the kind that only a Negro knows—did much. He was courteous on the trams, in the streets, his clothes were immaculate, he made an excellent appearance. He was every inch the soldier. The people noticed, and what was once courteous silence leaped into cordiality.

TROOPS AT GUNS

Amidst the fields of swaying sugar cane, our troops are on their guns. A glance only will not reveal these men. Hawaiians work silently in the fields. But on close scrutiny the ugly, business-like muzzles of anti-aircraft can be seen. And on the slightest provocation baleful, orange flames will send shells hurtling skyward.

10-14-44

What of future operations out of American waters — out where enemy inner defenses begin? Lt. Faulkner Watts, one of the battery commanders summed it up:

"We would like to see some action I can imagine all fighting units do. We would hate to go home without having fired at one enemy plane. But they tell us we are a part of the island defenses, an important part. It has been over two years now, and perhaps the chances of combat fade. But then you can never tell. As God, the American Army works in mysterious ways. You can never tell."

10-14-44

The spirit has dampened somewhat, but not to the extent that this unit can't take care of themselves in a tactical situation. Perhaps few coloured units have the type of personnel which make up the anti-aircraft group.

Big Johnny Woodruff, great half-miler from Pittsburgh University, is here. Now Captain Woodruff, battery commander. And there are numerable other athletes. But perhaps better known than the runners, baseballers, and other athletic greats, is the array of known musicians. Cpl. Otis Johnson (Louis Armstrong); Pvt. Robert Ashton, Dick Thompson (Benny Carter); Sgt. Ben Richardson (Blanche Calloway); shy Reuben Reeves, formerly with Cab Calloway.

The unit is kept up to date on the Pacific situation. Orientation officer, Capt. David A. Lane, of Louisville, Kentucky, has been sent here by the War Department especially to keep the unit tactfully informed on current developments. The man have recognized the former West Virginia State College and Louisville Municipal College dean as a scholar, his opinions carry ewight.

10-14-44

All in all, this New York unit, thoroughly schooled in the art of modern warfare, readied for the "fighting" phase of war, is carrying through its mission.

Colored and White GI's in Same Outfit in France

Disposition of Personal Effects Entrusted to Men Who Live and Work Harmoniously

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE—(ANP)—Belying the contention that colored and white soldiers cannot associate amicably is a "quartermaster effects company," which is composed approximately of an even number of soldiers of both races who work and live together harmoniously here.

I recently visited the "Silhouette," a little cabaret in Paris, where I met Pvts. Ed Warner of East Chicago, Ind., and Conway Butler from New Orleans, members of the outfit, who said they were treated "swell."

Warner interjected: "We could not expect anything better. I am the driver for our commanding officer, Maj. McCormick, and I can truthfully say that he makes no distinction in the company."

Florida Major a Liberal

I visited the company the next day and met Maj. F. R. McCormick from Florida, who said that his primary function was the efficient execution of his task, and secondly, the welfare and happiness of each man in his company.

The officers, all of whom are white, expressed pleasure in their association with this mixed team. Lt. Thomas F. Flannery of Springfield, Mass., is in charge of the colored soldiers.

"We exercise justice in small things, and would avoid all cause of offense, not by seeking merely to please all, but to give all their due," said Capt. Joseph Minotti of New York.

Capt. Henry Beck of Wisconsin said that there is always an amicable adjustment of disputes if there are any. At lunch the men ate and sat together, full of geniality, humor, conversation and cheerfulness.

Disposes of All Personal Effects

This organization is charged with the responsibility of receiving and storing. In addition, it must make proper disposition of personal effects of all U.S. personnel and people subject to military law in the ETO.

When a soldier is ill in the the hospital and becomes well again the executive department of the hospital communicates with the effects office and the personal belongings of the soldier are returned to him.

If he dies, his effects are sent to Kansas City to be handed over to his next-of-kin. Similarly, they handle the belongings of those missing or prisoners of war.

No Priority for Generals

All effects are handled in the same manner whether they be those of a general or a private. Any military information as well as anything that would mar the memory of the soldier is extricated.

The colored soldiers are the guards. A brigadier general once visited the warehouse and was not properly identified and he was refused admission by the colored guard.

Colored members of the unit include:

Sgt. A. G. Newton, Manhattan, Kan., who is in charge of the colored soldiers; Sgt. Marvin A. Wortham, Cpl. Charles Albertson, Philadelphia; Cpl. W. Earl Grimes, Detroit; Cpl. Robert Jones, Palm Beach, Fla.; Cpl. Numa Barnabe, Opelousas, La.; Pfcs. A. Richie Carter, Houston; Clarence Dominguez, New Orleans; Robert Franklin, Arizona; James Hennings, St. Louis; F. Julius Lissimore, Valdosta, Ga.; Ike Perry, Atlanta; W. John Robertson, Cleveland; A. Joseph Willis, Atlanta, and Robert Winter, Jacksonville, Fla.

MOST FROM THE SOUTH

Pvts. Frank Collier, Houston; Trellie Culbreath, Monroe, Ga.; Robert L. Giddings, Houston; N. Ambrose Johnson, West Virginia; Walter Latham, Kingston, N.C.; Joseph Lebo, Nantucket, Mass.;

James Maxwell, Savannah; William McCall, North Carolina; A. Arthur Nash, Hope, Ark.; Brazee Robinson, Miami; L. Hubert Sanders, St. Petersburg, Fla., and William Wilkerson, Chicago.

Large Complimen t Of Negro Officers Commands Truckers

Men Hauling Explosives Are Constant Targets Of Snipers

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR
(ANP War Correspondent)

WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN FRANCE — (ANP) — I was amazed when I visited a mobile aviation QM. battalion somewhere in France and discovered that there were 23 Negro officers including six captains in the company. It is the largest compliment of Negro officers I have seen on the western front.

Col. Ellis Anderson, Houlton, Me., is the commanding officer. He started with the company when it was activated in March of 1940 at Fort Bragg. Possessed of a knowledge of human nature, Col. Anderson boasts about the good conduct of his men even from the days of Fort Bragg.

When the company was in America, Col. Anderson's wife gave birth to a baby girl and the men of the company made her an honorary buck private, as well as presented her with a sterling cup which was engraved "To Anne Dee from a Truck Co."

Capt. B. Taylor of Hartford, Conn., is the executive officer and second in command. A colored officer, Capt. Taylor deals with matters of the highest importance and his administration involves every exercise of authority that affects the whole battalion. Other high ranking colored officers are Cap. Robert E. Randolph from Albany, N. Y., battalion adjutant; Captain Randolph S. Wright, battalion staff officer and Capt. Kenneth E. Small, Boston, battalion motor officer.

As a part of the Ninth Air Force Service command, the battalion has traveled two and a half million miles on the Red Ball highway. Their convay is a matter of great consequence and air force chiefs plan their operations according to what the trucks are hauling. The importance of their tasks may be summed up in the words of the commander of a medium bomber group. "We might as well have no planes if the trucks do not operate."

Assigned the job of hauling deadly explosives from the beaches to the front line, the men work under terrific pressure. The officers and men of the battalion exercise the utmost care and attenion with their vehicles and as a result they have had the lowest deadline of any similar organization in the Ninth Air Force service.

One platoon of a convoy that was sent to Germany to deliver some very urgent ordnance supplies was the targets of Nazi snipers when they were returning from their mission. They report that the snipers were cunningly concealed. Fortunately, there were no casualties. However, the men were very frightened. Not because they were afraid of the Germans, but because it was dark and they were unable to trace where the shots came from. They have been extremely anxious to return to Germany again just simply to get an opportunity to bag some snipers.

The first company in the battalion is commanded by Capt. George Evans from Middlesburg, Va. Other officers include Edwin Jones of New York City, executive officer and Lt. Freeman W. Martin, Memphis, motor officer. Capt. Charles E. Jones, Los Angeles, commands the second company. Officers serving under him are: Lt. James A. Wright, St. Louis, executive officer; Lt. Pierce M. Thompson, Atlanta, intelligence officer; 2nd Lt. James R. Skaggs, St. Louis, supply officer and Lt. Booker T. Young, also of St. Louis, motor officer.

The third company is under the command of Capt. Mathew Slamon of New Orleans. Lt. Darwin E. Smith, a Virginian, is executive officer; Willie B. Macon of Arkansas, motor officer, and Lt. Lilburn B. Pappy, a Floridian, supply officer.

Lt. Fred McLaurin, of South Carolina, commands the fourth company. His assistants are Lt. Robert Davis, Washington, D. C., executive officer; Lt. William Fitzgerald, Washington, motor officer; 2nd Lt. Robert M. Ateman, Chicago, supply officer and 2nd Lt. Leslie C. Mayo, St. Antonio, Tex., intelligence officer.

Negro Troops Skip Meals To Get at Nazis

By Franklin Banker

With American Troops in Germany, Nov. 25 (AP).—Gunners of the 707th Field Artillery Battalion, who lay claim to being the first Negro soldiers fighting on German soil, are so busy shelling the enemy these days they eat only two meals a day.

It's breakfast at 8:30 a. m. and supper at 4 p. m., and they don't even miss the noon-day meal, not when they can fire seven rounds from their 4.5inch guns in 37 seconds as one battery reported doing today.

Moving 600 miles from the vicinity of Cherbourg to Germany in four days, the battalion got its first taste of combat three weeks ago. Since then they have been bombed, strafed and shelled, but this only intensified their desire to give the Germans more than they received.

Their eagerness is typified by T/5 Kermit Warren, Kilgore, Tex., who left a telephone switchboard because "there wasn't much excitement there" and helped lay telephone wire alongside frontline infantry.

Gray-haired Tech. Sergt. Carlton Godon, New Yok City, is another. Godon, who won't disclose his age, is so old he had to argue to get permission to come overseas.

"These boys have been doing an outstanding job and we intend to become the hardest and fastest shooting outfit in the whole Army," said Lieut. Col. L. G. Witmer, Lake City, Iowa, battalion commander.

All battalion officers are white except Lieut. James H. Robinson, jr., whose father is dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, Ohio.

Bombarded With Propaganda

92nd Unit Takes Strategic Mountains In North Italy

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
10-14-44

By OLLIE HARRINGTON, Courier War Correspondent

WITH THE 92nd DIVISON IN ITALY—Elements of the 92nd Division, clawing deeper into Nazi mountain positions, have taken two important positions, Mt. Costa and Mt. Canala, the loftiest positions yet secured in this sector. The grim, hard-slugging Negro infantrymen, battling against increased Nazi resistance in the race of rain, fog, freezing cold and occasional snow flurries, dislodged the Nazis from the two points which, because of their extreme height—Mt. Costa, 9,796 feet, and Mt. Canala, 9,596 feet—command important positions.

IN COASTAL AREA

The mountains captured are located in the coastal area of the Fifth Army front some nine miles north of the bomb-twisted Via Reggio and three miles in from the Ligurian Sea coast. Other elements of the Fifth Army, pressing forward toward the vitally important city of Bologna, have executed a surprise left wheel to widen to 20 miles their advance front south of that objective. 10-14-44

No indication is given in the official reports as to whether the surprise move trapped any sizeable Nazi forces, though it seems highly probable. This move was correctly analyzed in previous dispatches to The Pittsburgh Courier, in which the importance of the 92nd combat team's pinning down of Nazi forces was emphasized.

BITTER FIGHTING CONTINUES

Fighting in the mountains continues to be bitter, with the Germans taking full advantage of the terrain, and the hated "88" shells continuing to pour mercilessly into the division's sector, along with heavy machine-gun fire. The Germans are using mines extensively, causing considerable casualties.

A significant development is the Nazi use of propaganda leaflets shot into the division loaded in artillery shells. One of these leaflets shows a huge photograph, evidently taken from Life magazine, showing a Negro being pursued by men with clubs and lead pipes during the infamous Detroit riots of last year. Others show lynchings.

NAZI LEAFLETS ARE INEFFECTIVE 10-14-44

Most of the leaflets have printed matter on the back expressly addressed to the Negro troops. It would be foolhardy to completely discount the effect of these leaflets, although there is no evident change in the hard-fighting qualities of the Negro infantrymen.

I saw one platoon leader, his heel blown off by a mine, reading one of the leaflets while waiting for medical aid. I asked him what he thought about it. "Damned good propaganda," he said. "All of the men know that it is true as hell, and that sort of makes it tough. But there's not a man in the outfit who is damn fool enough to think those over there love us either."

Earle E. Pruitt Gets Relief Post Overseas

Courier Journal — Louisville, Ky.
10-11-44

Notice of appointment as administrative assistant in the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration for European duty has been received by Earle E. Pruitt, manager of Beecher Terrace housing project for Negroes, and one of the first Negroes to be so appointed, it was learned yesterday.

Pruitt, who is the oldest housing manager in Kentucky in point of service, has been granted a 2-year leave of absence by the Louisville Municipal Housing Administration to take the position. He will report at Washington October 16 for training and inoculations for overseas service.

Pruitt Is Well Known.

Pruitt, who has served on numerous civic and related committees during the past several years, is nationally known in housing circles for his management activities first at College Court here and later at the 800-odd-unit Beecher Terrace.

Pruitt is a native of Louisville, a graduate of Simmons University, and took special work at Louisville Municipal College. He also studied housing in New York at the Dunbar Apartments project, for which study he was granted a leave of absence from his job in the Home Owners Loan Corporation here. He was appointed manager of College Court in 1937, and of Beecher Terrace in 1940. 10-11-44

Is Boy Scout Leader.

He served as chairman of the Negro Division of the War Fund during the past several campaigns, is a member of the Mayor's Interracial Committee and chairman of the Negro War Housing Committee.

He is a member of Negro health organizations here, the Urban League's board of directors, the Negro committee of the Family Service Organization and of the board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He served as senior warden of the Negro Air Raid Warden organization. He is a member of Broadway Temple Steward Board and of the board of the Colored Division of the Boy Scouts of America.

EARLE E. PRUITT. 10-11-44

92nd Captures Town in Italy

Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

Unit Overcomes Odds to Occupy Lucco

CARTER WATCHES D.C. Man Made Capt. by Gen. Clark's Order

9-16-44

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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FIFTH ARMY FRONTLINE IN ITALY (By Cable) — The battle of Vorno Valley, just another step in the Allied advance along the Fifth Army front, will live long in the memory of soldiers of the 92nd Division combat team.

This was the first big battle for these tan Yanks and they won against unseen odds — artillery fire and hidden machine guns protected by steel, hills and the mountain shrubbery.

Some of their blood was spilled in the valley — blood of young men who had just begun to live—but they gained their objective, occupation of the town of Lucco, and are pushing the desperate Germans back into Northern Italy where the retreating enemy hopes to make a stand at the much-publicized Gothic Line.

Watched Battle 7 Hours

I watched the Vorno Valley battle for seven hours, three of which I spent pinned down by Jerry machine-gun fire in a dirty, smelly ditch with a patrol led by Capt. Charles F. Gandy.

All odds were with the enemy, who had excellent observation from a mountain top and menaced the only road from our position to town with dreaded 88MM shells. 9-16-44

Now that it is over and Lucco, an ancient walled city, has been brought under Allied control with the aid of partisan support, I know the valor of this combat team's soldiers can never be questioned.

Races Mingled

They fought for every inch of ground to complete the mission — fighting side by side with other units of all races.

Resistance by the Germans at this point was mainly rear-guard fighting, characterized by effective machine-gun and artillery attacks. Thus the advance was marked by the most hazardous type of fighting, forcing the tan doughboys to scrap for every yard, dig in at night and charge again at dawn.

At one time artillery fire was so terrifying that the commanding colonel screamed, "If they knock out that 88 I will give them my bear ration for the next six weeks." He had reference to Allied artillery that supported the attack. 9-16-44

Welcome Worth Ordeal

The breakthrough came early September 5, with patrols from Captain Gandy's company first to enter the city.

Pfc. Jeremiah Cannon, of Oberlin, Ohio, who brought back three prisoners, said a bridge was blown out when we reached it, but we walked across the canal. The reception given us was worth it. Women and men screamed 'liberators' and gave us everything they had."

Pvt. Don Hill, Columbus, Ga., added, "Girls ran up, kissed me and put flowers in my hand." Both are members of a platoon commanded by Lt. Millard Sullivan, whose forces entered from another point shortly after the initial entrance by Captain Gandy's group.

Captain Gandy, who is 24 and lives at 423 Hobart Street, Northwest, Washington, asserted: "I have a damn good company. They are smarter than they were twelve days ago, when they crossed the Arno River."

Promoted by Gen. Clark

Gandy was promoted to captain only a few days before by a field order. Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, who learned during a review of 92nd Division elements that he had been a lieutenant fourteen months, pinned the double bars on him, declaring "You are promoted to captain under my orders."

Other elements of the combat team fought their way on both sides of the town and were smashing hard against the enemy's desperate rear-guard resistance.

In those dark hours which preceded the breakthrough, every supporting unit — service troops, heavy weapons company, and medics — gave unified support. Scores of soldiers displayed courage beyond the call of duty.

Units Commended

Second Lieutenant Sullivan, company commander, was highly commended for his direction of artillery fire from an observation post that was constantly under enemy shellfire. 9-16-44

Second Lieut. William Colvin, Cincinnati, directed supply convoys, while the mortar company led by First Lieut. Raymond A. Montgomery, Washington, was instrumental in silencing several menacing machine-guns.

The communications crew under First Lieut. Harold Jenkins, McKeesport, Pa., kept lines open. His crew includes: S/Sgt. Clarise Walls, Birmingham; Sgt. George Thompson, Dallas, Texas; T/5 James Varnado, McComb, Miss.; and Pfc. John P. Varnarsdale, Camden, Miss.

Among other soldiers I met during the hot 72-hour period I stayed with this battalion, commanded by Capt. Herscheld Price, white, all doing some important job to keep the battle going and doing it under fire, included: 9-16-44

Sgt. Harold Clemons, 56 W. 127th Street, NYC; Pfc. Harold L. Carr, Montclair, N.J.; Pvt. Daniel Cumber, 1253 N. Fifty-seventh Street, Philadelphia; Sgt. James Scott, 1735 E. Preston Street, Baltimore; Pvt. Thomas Hughes, Philadelphia; First Sgt. Jack A. Ellis, Dayton, Ohio; Pvt. James Threat, Richmond, who went on a one-man patrol to get food for a forward patrol of his company.

Knife-Waving Negroes Rout Scared Nazis

PM — New York, N.Y.
8-2-44

Krauts 'Run Like Hell' as U S. Drivers Launch Own Attack

By HENRY T. GORRELL
United Press Correspondent

WITH U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE, Aug. 2.—U. S. Negro truck drivers, wielding jungle knives, charged into the fighting line yesterday and started carving up the Germans with enthusiasm and inspiring efficiency in a savage melee north of Percy.

For three days crack German armored and infantry forces had been trying vainly to wedge into our lines and split our front. Attacks and counterattacks became steadily fiercer.

The Germans were trying to hold Percy and Tessy-sur-Vire.

They were fighting with no holds barred, and even their company clerks and cooks were thrown into the line.

The Negro truck drivers heard what was going on and they went into action.

"We didn't tell them to fight," a colonel said. "They just found the Germans were close up and they started in. Their very appearance scared the daylights out of the Germans. Now when the Krauts see one of them they run like hell."

The Negroes went charging into the hedgerows, looking for Germans, in the manner of the famous French Senegalese and Goon units of Tunisian fame. 8-2-44

Their favorite weapon is a strictly personal one—the jungle knife.

It has a startlingly big blade, like a giant butcher's knife.

"You know, boss, these here Heinies is scared of us," one of the boys said to the colonel.

"If they knew how scared you were of them they probably wouldn't act that way," the colonel kidded.

"Aain't it the truth!" the Negro said.

But if they were frightened they certainly did not show it and it didn't interfere with their carving.

The fighting around here has been wild, with Germans and Americans getting mixed up at night and finding it out at dawn.

Each night infantry commando units go out to wreck German tanks with sticky bombs and to kill German troops silently by strangling them with piano wire.

These units are specially equipped and they wear the commando stocking cap.

Eight men are picked from each infantry company. They are trained as cut-throats. They have special passes which when they are not in action get them anywhere, and they do no fatigue or kitchen police. They do their stuff at night—keeping the Germans stirred up by attacking command posts and, by throwing grenades and shooting their guns, leading the enemy to believe that a big attack is on.

One of the units is commanded by Capt. Howard C. Brazzard, Tucson, Ariz. 8-2-44

His men attacked a German tank with bazookas the other night and bayonetted its crew as they emerged.

"My only regret is that most of the Germans were dead before we could question them," Brazzard said.

Negro Soldiers Operate Postoffice In Normandy

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Mississipian Finds Mail Aids Morale Of Men

8-2-44

BY RUDOLPH DUNBAR

(Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

WITH THE ALLIED ARMY IN FRANCE — (ANP) — CABLE—An all-Colored army postal unit, under the direction of Lt. T. R. Barnes, is operating somewhere in France with skill and efficiency.

S. Sgt. Henry O. Preston, Vicksburg, Miss., is second in command. He said that in this outfit, where personnel has to do all types of work that is carried on in a post office, he finds that more experience is gained in a year than could possibly have been obtained in 10 years in civilian life. All the men have worked in various branches of the postal service in America.

Efficient mail service builds up the morale of soldiers, Sgt. Preston declared, and added that in the army mail comes first then food and lastly money.

Working hours for these army postal employees begins at 2 a. m. and continues until the work is completed. They are all keen and enthusiastic and realize that their job is highly important. 8-2-44

I can personally endorse the moral effect letters have upon the individual soldier. Recently, I was in the supply office of a certain battalion. The mail clerk appeaed on the scene quite mysteriously and began distribution of the mail. It was the signal to cease work and one soldier dropped everything out of his hands took his hat off and exclaimed, "I shall now commune with the spirit.'

Uncanny Fire Of Negro Fighters Pays Dividends

World — Memphis, Tenn.
8-22-44

BY RUDOLPH DUNBAR
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

WITH THE ALLIED ARMY IN FRANCE—(ANP)—Early this morning (Tuesday) I went to the fire direction center to find out what success the battalion had in their previous day's hunting. The hunting was good and they have excelled beyond all expections. Here is an account of their kill for Saturday, August. 12.

THREE DIRECT HITS

An enemy gun position inside a concrete emplacement received a direct hit. A special mission came from corps command to destroy a concrete wall which was holding up the infantry which had to pass through for an important operation. Ten rounds were fired and direct hits completely destroyed the wall. The firing was done by one of the crack batteries of the battalion. 8-22-44

Pfc. Othalia Thompkins, Fort Worth, Tex., computed for Battery B based on an enemy battery of three guns destroyed the guns. Eight rounds were fired on an enemy emplacement located on an island. Direct hits destroyed the guns. Computer for this battery at the time of firing was Pfc. Fletcher Morgan, Bay City, Tex.

The most important traget was a position held by the enemy. Five rounds were fired by C. Battery and the fifth round landed in the center of it. Then, the enemy waved a white flag and after talking over terms of surrender decided to keep on fighting. On the morning of Aug. 13, headquarters instructed the battalion to resume firing on the position in order to force a surrender or neutralization. The money stubbornly held out and would not surrender. The battery continued its mission of destruction with relentless intensity until 8:55 a. m. of Aug. 13. Computer for the firing was Cpl. John Smith, Baltimore, who told me that the men had a strenuous and exacting time the last few days in executing their mission. Their duty, he said, called for mental brilliance and devotion. Capt. Walter M. Jefford, Philadelphia, is a gunnery officer and is in charge of the fire direction center plans and training of the battalion. He praised the work of the gun crew. "Two years of hard work in America are now paying dividends," he said.

8-22-44

WORK PAYS DIVIDENDS

In the fire direction center I met the chief computer, Henry L. Smith, Baltimore, who told me that the men had a strenuous and exacting time the last few days in executing their mission. Their duty, he said, called for mental brilliance and devotion. Capt. Walter M. Jefford, Philadelphia, is a gunnery officer and is in charge of the fire direction center plans and training of the battalion. He praised the work of the gun crew. "Two years of hard work in America are now paying dividends," he said.

8-22-44

FORTIFICATIONS DESTROYED

On Aug. 12 strong enemy fortifications on Isle de Cezembre were destroyed. The same day Battery A fired 14 rounds to destroy a particular concentration of German 16 inch gun. There were a gun. There were also anti-aircraft guns in a nest of anti-aircraft guns in the northwest St. Malo at the northwest seaboard section near Togo Bay. Five rounds per gun section were fired near Togo Bay. Five to destroy these targets Saturday at 5:45 p. m.

The previous day I was in the section were fired town with Carlton Moss, New York L. Alverson, New York City. The City, and his party. We were told telephone operator was Cpl. Robert to leave town immediately because of snipers. St. Malo just fallen

Writers Cover New Invasion From Ringside Seat In C-47

I Informer — Houston, Texas.

8-26-44

By JOHN JORDAN

With Airborne Troops Over Southern France Beachhead On D-Day.—From a ringside seat in a C-47 Dakota towing glider troops to point miles inland, The Guide correspondent witnessed the unfolding of initial phases of the streamlined invasion pattern.

The entire operation, Nice to Marseille, was on such a gigan-

Extra!

(Two Negro war correspondents, Ollie Harrington, of the Pittsburgh Courier, and John Jordan, of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, were included among the American reporters representing the Combined United States Press during the August 15 invasion of Southern France. Then dispatches were filed through the Office of War Information Press Pool on August 16.)

tic scale that it was impossible for any one correspondent to grasp its magnitude. The best seat in the house for this billion-dollar show was a box in the first balcony of a C-47.

8-26-44

After an uneventful three-hour trip overseas from an Italian base, we saw the first invasion action as sleek warships, churning unmolested about the coastline below, hurled rounds of heavy shells upon inland German positions in the Cannes area.

I saw naval craft laying smoke screen about certain sections of the coast. Several fires were raging along the rocky coast and in towns several miles inland.

German opposition in this area was very light. There were occasional explosions from heavy Nazi artillery, but great Allied air forces had done a swell job of knocking out the guns earlier.

The coastal strip two miles inland was dotted with thousands of parachutes left abondoned on the green fields and vales by paratroops who landed at dawn.

Inland about 10 miles our great air train ran into medium flak. One C-47 was almost knocked out by a close burst, but recovered, suffering nothing more than dirty face. Other flak bursts were wide.

Gliders Litter Field

Abondoned gliders littered the fields below, evidence of earlier waves. Soon came our H-hour when the air armanda was to release its glider load on the target. When the gliders cut loose there was slight upward jump of the planes, then I saw the gliders turn and head gracefully earthward. Soon the fields were so cluttered with gliders that I wondered if others could possibly land. The bouncy motorless craft already seemed moving over one another.

The troops, mostly veterans of previous invasions, poured from the landed gliders and, in a matter of minutes, the Germans had another tough fighting unit to contend with. Americans appeared to run into little or no opposition.

As our plane circled over the invasion area, I could see no hand-to-hand fighting. Camouflaged troops moved easily to objectives. Over our formation, trouble-hunting fighter planes streaked across the skies. There was no room for Nazi planes, for Allies filled the air.

8-26-44

Invasion operation seemed so simple. First, air bombardment, then naval bombardment, then landings, then paratroops, then gliders, all smooth as velvet. But behind this easy execution that unfolded below and around us were months of careful planning.

This correspondent was thrilled and excited in the realization that a hallowed page in French history was being staged below as gallant French troops, veterans of other campaigns, fought their way inland. These were French that never ceased the fight for freedom. Now with strong Allies, they were moving in for liberation and another showdown with Hitler.

To the crew of my plane this was just another operation. The radio operator, using a parachute as a pillow, was asleep on a row of seats. I asked another crewman why he was not wearing a flak suit. He answered, "Too hot!" Another grumbled because he would not be able to keep a date in Italy that night.

8-26-44

Softened by the greatest blast of

Mob Moved Out

From our altitude, the French countryside looked peaceful and serene and like New England countryside. The only difference was that thousands of parachutes littered the meadows. The plowed fields below presented a quiet holiday pattern and the only element missing in this nostalgic rural scene was the absence of grazing livestock. I didn't find this surprising however, considering the fact that the master race mob moved out.

8-26-44

One of my most pleasant aspects of the invasion was the crew of the C-47 in which we rode. They were without exception the swellest bunch of guys I've ever yet shackled up with. The pilot, Lt. Roger Coleson of Fairbault, Minn., and co-pilot, Lt. Gene Feckler, St. Louis, are both, despite their extreme youth, veterans of the troop carrier trade. The navigator, Lt. Alex M. Pakowitz of Brooklyn, N. Y., slept most of the time on what he called the milk run.

There was nothing heroic about any of them, yet all carried Distinguished Flying Crosses with Oak Leaf Clusters buried away somewhere in their barracks bags. After much coaxing, I discovered that they had gotten them for a job in Burma supporting the legendary General Wingate's Army on the Imphal drive with Col. Corkin, the Flip Corkin of Terry and the Pirates.

9-26-44

These fellows had only gripe. They knew Joe Louis was somewhere around but some general had decided to pull this invasion before they had a chance to see the champ go through his paces.

STEWART ENTERS CITY WITH BOYS; SEES NAZIS FALL

Informer — Houston, Texas

8-26-44

By OLLIE STEWART

FRENCH CHANNEL PORT — I have today, August 15, seen history being made. I entered St. Malo while the city was half in the hands of the Americans and the other half in the Germans.

In a jeep, driven by Cpl. Melvin Lockwood, 5422 Summer street, Philadelphia, Joe Thomas, 78 Barclay street, Newark, N. J., and I entered a smoking town, while a white infantry was mopping up the last Nazi defenders. With the snipers taking final potshots at us, we reached colored artillery positions on a hill as thirty-five Germans were being herded out of a building, less than a hundred yards away.

Military police patrols lined up a group of dirty, wounded Nazis and searched each of them as they emptied their pockets. There was one officer captured.

Close to German dugouts, American machine guns were chattering and spitting lead at a small pocket of Germans still holding out. The Germans returned the compliment from a smoking building.

8-26-44

French Yell

We ducked into a dugout with a group of excited French men and women, shaking their fists at some Germans and yelling, "You dirty boches." One woman had a bottle of cider, which she shared with us. This one time, colored troops helped make possible the capture of an important city and actually entered with the first arrivals.

From the hilltop, I could see dirty, white flags still dangling from a strongpoint just captured, as we sat beside guns which had pummled Hitler's crack soldiers. Prisoners were dazed and shaken from incessant pounding of artillery divebombers. Dugouts were littered with grenades, ammunition, shattered guns and stale bread, too hard to chew; however, the concrete walls were too thick for anything to penetrate, but the big guns of the flame throwers.

French civilians, half naked, were begging for food and clothing everytime we stopped. Our men were sleepy from a night's fighting. One of them said, "I could lie down on a live German and sleep."

Later I talked to some prisoners who had almost nothing to eat. They said that the Germans pulled 88 guns by hand and used horses and wagons instead of trucks for transport.

8-26-44

Talked to, S. Sgt. George Bouttee, New Orleans; Cpl. John Galloway, Johnson City, Tenn.; Pfc. Arthur Glover, Winterpark, Fla.; Pfc. Obediah Wright, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Sgt. Dennis Haslar, Knoxville, Tenn.; Cpl. William Duneen, Shelbyville, Ky.; S. Sgt. Leonard Holmes, Warm Springs, Fla.; and Sgt. Jesse Wells, 129 Hill street, Baltimore, Md.

Quartermasters In Key Spot Near German Border

Iowa Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa

With the First U. S. Army, Bel- as A. Collins of Marion, Indiana, the

Nurses Board, St. Louis.

officer. Among the men who keep the outfit working are:

Staff Sergeant William Smith, St. Louis, Missouri; Corporals John R. Morris, St. Louis, Mo., and Morris White, Brooklyn, New York, who is doubling as company clerk and news correspondent; Privates First Class Wallace Carter, Magnolia, Mississippi; Privates Vinson L. Stimson, Hartford, Connecticut and Philip Woodson, New York City.

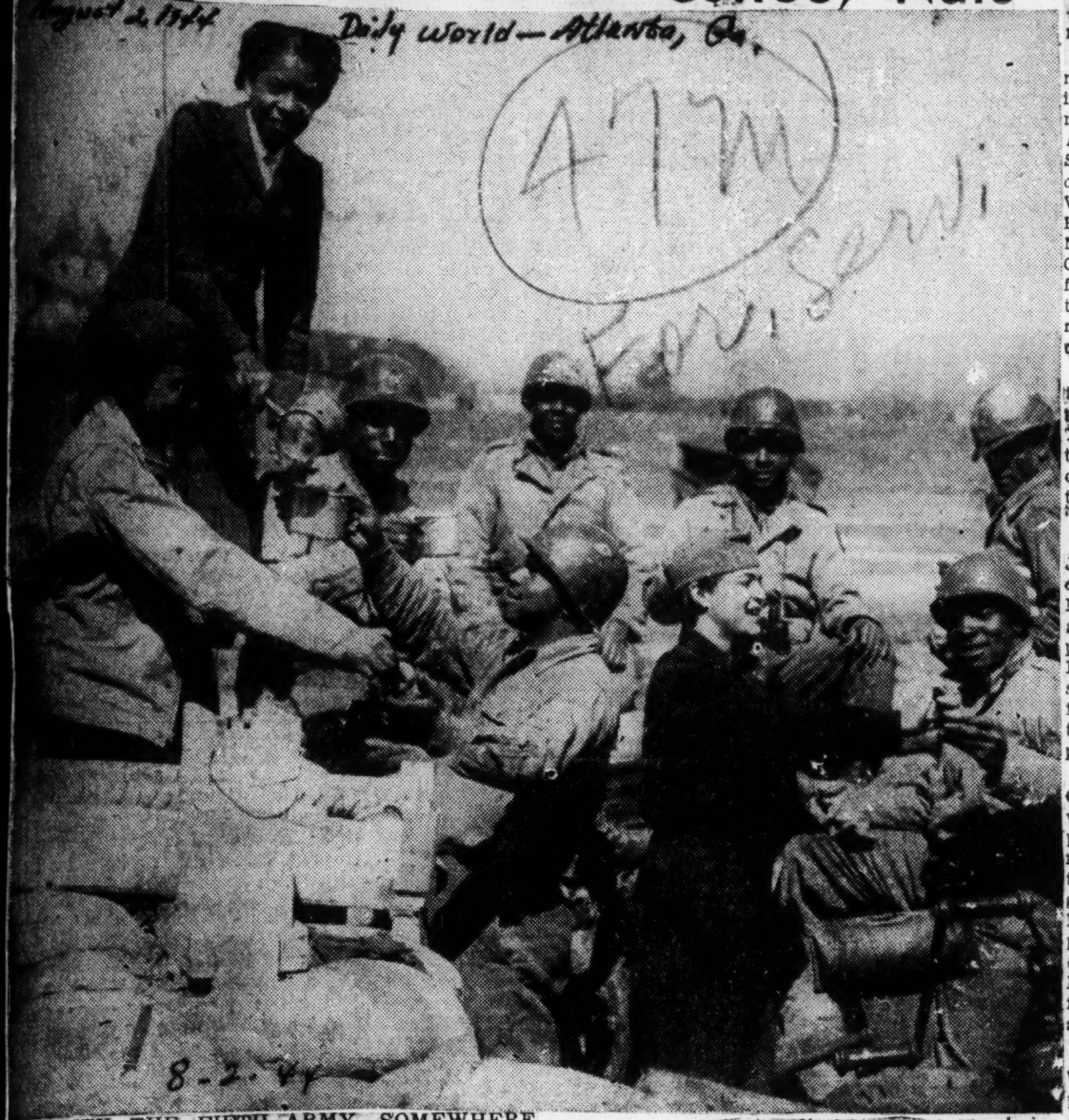
gium—Not too many miles from the fact that the responsibility of the German border the First Army has load in the Army rests with the a great signal depot, in a key spot is sponsible non-commissioned officers, a quartermaster service company. The and told the top-kick, "We've found men from this company came that the companies that are up on the in Normandy on "D plus 7" and have little things are up on the big things." been holding down this front line The signal depot is a key repair service spot for Lieutenant General shop and maintenance plant for high-Hodge's First Army since that time by the First Army, and all the servmoving when the First Army moved icing, as well as the depot mess, is The unit was visited last week by handled by this outfit. Captain Edward J. Gillett is the commanding Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, ranking Negro officer of the Army who stressed to First Sergeant Thom- Mary Porter Scott, of the Municipal

47m-1944

Foreign Service

Clubmobile Girls Serve Coffee, 'Nuts

August 2, 1944 Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.



WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—American Red Cross clubmobile girls serve hot coffee and doughnuts to troops manning ant-aircraft guns. (ANP)

Artillerymen Pound Super Race Theory

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.

7-22-44

A. U. S. ARTILLERY COMMAND POST, FRANCE—Showing contempt for "master race" divisions facing them, U. S. Negro artillerymen, firing 155-mm howitzers, are blasting German installations and troop concentrations, pounding to pieces the Nazi theory of "inferior" and "superior" races.

First Negro combat artillery team to fight in this sector, this outfit is the howitzer member of a four-unit group that includes a battalion of 105s and two of 155-mm Long Toms.

They make music horrible to enemy ears, but to U. S. doughboys of the infantry division being directly supported by their fire it is the sweetest song this side. 7-22-44

A few weeks ago these were the kids who enlivened English villages when they "swung" cadence drill on training hikes to the tune of "Whatcha Know Joe?" Now, when these cannoneers join in a group "serenade" the rhythm is not as regular, but Yanks in observation posts on the line report that the Jerries are dancing to it. Results: shattered thanks, wrecked 88s, smashed fortifications, dead Nazis.

"It's a hell of a different tune," observed Technician Fifth Grade Joe Hodge, a survey section man from Detroit, "and we know those Germans up there don't like it a bit."

The battalion's uniqueness far transcends the fact that its a Negro cobat unit. Its firing record, accuracy and output are acclaimed from corps artillery headquarters to the foxhole—pitted ridges of Hill 122 where muddy infantrymen fight. 7-22-44

A little later the guns spoke their mathematics—plotting and computing—precedes the sending of fire directions to the individual batteries. Armed with this data, computers Staff Sergeant Lawrence E. Innis of New York City; Private Van Q. White, of East Orange, New Jersey; Private Otis B. Walker, of Passaic, New Jersey, and Technician Fifth Grade Charles A. Peterson, of Plainfield, New Jersey, went to work with their graphical firing tables (slide rules to non-artillery folk) and quickly made their calculations.

A litle later the guns spoke their thunderous language, but the Germans miles away caught its meaning. The end of the mission came when the number one man of the 10-man crew pulled the lanyard and the battery computer at battalion called out "Charlie on the way."! 7-22-44

Soon it all comes down to where 12 Joes in the unit, known as number one men, pull down and out on their lanyards, sending the projectiles screaming through space. Very important Joes, these number one men. By yanking on their cords, primers set off the powder charges which forces the shells on the long trip to the target. They receive the biggest part of the concussion.

To number one man Private First Class Arthur Broadnax, of Autaugaville, Alabama, went the honor of pulling the lanyard for the first round fired by Negro Artillery against the Nazis. Number one men seldom go beyond private first class, but look upon their jobs with immense pride. One number one man in Baker Battery, Private First Class Robert Lee, from Montgomery, Alabama, refused a chance to become a gunner and go up in rank. 7-22-44

"I want to pull that lanyard and watch the shells go off," was his explanation. Other lanyard-pullers in the outfit: Private Horace Jacob, of Kaplan, Louisiana, Private T. J. Deramus, of Montgomery, Alabama; Private Grady Clay, of Tatum, Texas; Private Eddie J. Lynn, of Edwards, Massachusetts; Private First Class Tom Thomas, of Stamford, Connecticut; Private First Class Willie Cannon, of Columbus, Georgia; Private First Class Adam Tinnell, of Waxahachie, Texas; Private First Class John Trinr , of Bateford, Mississippi; Private First Class Jim Leatherwood, of Tupelo, Mississippi; and Private First Class John Battle, of Wadley, Alabama.

New Engineer Battalion

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Blazes Trail

In Operation Only 3 Months, Already Setting A Record

7-22-44

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE PRES HEADQUARTERS, (AN P)—An engineer construction battalion, one of the first Negro units of its kind to be organized and activated overseas, is now operating every type of construction project in Italy. In operation only three months, the men of this outfit are already maintaining over 150 miles of highway.

This unit, unique in that it has combined a company of Negro combat engineers with three companies of colored cavalry, claims that its men possess more non-commissioned ratings than any other engineer outfit in Italy. All but a very few of the troops are skilled specialists and over 90 percent of them have been trained in construction work in the Army.

OPERATE ROCK QUARRIES

In order to keep vital war traffic rolling forward over Italian roads the men of this unit are operating three rock quarries, utilizing salvaged Italian rock crushing equipment as well as the finest machines America can build. 7-22-44

A daily training schedule has been issued by Maj. Gen. Arthur B. Wilson, comamnder of the peninsular base section which includes everything from road marches to rifle drill on the range. In addition to their field training these men attend classes in road construction, iron working and all types of general and field maintenance work.

Every type of heavy construction machine is standard equipment for this outfit. The men, most of whom had no previous skilled trade, are being taught how to operate everything from giant cranes to bulldozers and road-graders.

REPAIR STEEL MILL

Repairing a bombed out Italian steel mill was one of their first jobs. The men picked for the project were given special demonstrations on steel construction safety before they mounted the 50 foot plant walls to rebuild the roof. Although this type of work calls for highly skilled mechanics, the job was completed ahead of schedule without the loss of one man through serious accident.

"This outfit does anything and everything," said M/Sgt. Lawrence M. Carter, battalion sergeant major and veteran of 30 years in the Army. "It just goes to show you that the cavalry can do anything," he said.

Sgt. Carter, who is 51 years old and the husband of Mrs. Anna Carter, 11 Arsenal Hill, Leavenworth, Kan., has been in the Philippines," Sgt. Carter said, "and the last war and never have I out the area. Each company is seen an outfit as versatile as self sustaining, being equipped this one. with all the necessary machin- 7-22-44 ery and technicians to perform men of the battalion the distinction of having any job given them.

"I saw seven years duty in their own 1,000 man camp ed athletic fields for their own ing area. They have construct- several outdoor thea- while bivouaced in a neighbor- IN THE PHILIPPINES

Roi Ottley Sees Negro Troops in Action in Normandy

PM—New York, N.Y.

By Roi Ottley
Staff Correspondent

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE, July 31.—Had American supply lines broken down in the first assault here following the infiltration of paratroopers and strong armed attacks along the beachheads, in all likelihood the U. S. forces would have been thrown back into the Channel.

I have just completed a tour of the front. It is apparent now, though only admitted recently, that such a situation faced the American High Command. Today the sheer weight of supplies and men is breaking the back of German defenses and perhaps has staved off serious counterattacks. 7-31-44

Ottley

The task of keeping an avalanche of food, ammunition and troops moving steadily toward the front is mainly the job of Negro troops. They would be last to acknowledge the importance of their contribution. They insist others are doing more, but their officers warmly praise their heroic performance under enemy fire.

They are particularly proud of Negro Pvts. Bernard Henderson of New York City and Percy Cox of Petersburg, Va., who are slated for awards for valor.

Sent Up Balloons

While working at Valognes, they saw a German scouting party of 15 men creeping stealthily up a hill. Henderson and Cox sprang on them with their poised automatics. The Germans surrendered without firing a shot. 7-31-44

In the early days of the invasion Negro battalions moved on to the beachheads alongside the assault troops to send up balloon barrages. It was the success of this operation that kept the German planes at great heights and prevented them from dive-bombing and strafing our forces on the beachhead.

The American sector is subject to day and night attacks by air and shell fire. The men here say it is almost inaccurate to talk of front and rear under these conditions. Only tactically is there a front line. Once the American troops had landed, Negro amphibious craft units, the "ducks," brought in supplies and more men from ships anchored in the Channel, often within range of blasting German guns.

They rolled the supplies to dumps ashore. Many a life was lost when these ambivalent autos struck mines laid by the Germans. From these supply dumps on land, Negro motor transport units loaded their two-ton trucks and moved the supplies and men further toward the front. 7-31-44

Many Occupations

Traveling in their wake, the roar of bombs and guns, the swirls of blinding dust, the utter devatation, even the concern with self-preservation is apt to distract attention from the miracle of army organization being efficiently carried out by Negro units.

Significantly enough, Negro troops are engaged in a variety of occupations, many unknown to the average Negro in civilian life. Along the route to the front Negro Signal Corps men are seen astride telephone poles, easy targets for the German snipers. Nevertheless they are erecting and repairing communication lines destroyed by the retreating Germans.

The back-breaking, unsung jobs necessary to waging successful war are being done cheerfully by Negroes. They are repairing roads, constructing buildings, laying railroads ties, salvaging, and even breaking stone in quarries for road building and repair. Two Negro units only are in actual combat. One is an anti-aircraft outfit and the other an artillery formation.

Artillery is definitely one of the skilled jobs of war in which Negroes are making a creditable showing. Artillery played an important role in the successful offensive at St. Lo. I visited the Negro troops and officers at their bivouacs, some in apple orchards. 7-31-44

Spic and Span

The areas were spic and span, their tents neatly put up and covered with green parachute cloth, their foxholes dug deep and carefully boarded at the sides. Some had pinup girls on the rude walls. This was a luxury few had. The men took pride in their personal appearance and in their mess quarters. Cleanliness was easily evident everywhere I went.

I found the morale high. Officers corroborated this finding. The reason for this excellent morale, Negroes explained, is the noticeable change in the attitude of white officers toward Negro troops. A contributing factor is the exceptionally cordial welcome of the French people. No one here apparently can afford the luxury of Jim Crow, though the American Red Cross is now preparing to open quarters for Negro soldiers.

The Negro soldier feels appreciated by his white comrades. The white boys, one enlisted man told me, see us working hard and better understand our need to each other—that if we don't pull together we die. 7-31-44

There are about 30 Negro commissioned officers in France with the highest rank a major. Everywhere I went I asked the Negro troops what most they wanted the folks back home to know. The answer was the same everywhere:

"We want to see the end of Jim Crow in America and equal treatment for everyone."

Eisenhower Praises 2 Negro Army Units

PM—New York, N.Y.

Balloon Battalion and Truck Company Win Commendation

7-31-44

By Marshall Yarrow
Reuters Correspondent

ADVANCE COMMAND POST, SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, July 31.—Two Negro units in the U. S. forces have received special commendation by Gen. Eisenhower for meritorious services in the invasion of France.

The letters sent by the supreme commander follow:

"To the commanding officer, officers and men of an anti-aircraft balloon battalion:

"Your battalion landed in France on June 6, 1944, under artillery, machine-gun and rifle fire. Despite the losses sustained, the battalion carried out its mission with courage and determination, and proved an important element of the air defense team. The cheerfulness and devotion to duty of officers and men have been commented on by the personnel of other units.

"This report is most gratifying to me. I commend you and the officers and men of your battalion for your fine effort which has merited the praise of all who have observed it."

The second letter was addressed to QM Truck Co. A and said:

"You landed under enemy machine-gun and artillery fire which caused losses in men and equipment. Nevertheless, you salvaged most of your equipment at once, and within three days 90 per cent of your vehicles were operating on a 24-hour basis, a scale which was maintained for five weeks. During this time you continued the delivery of essential supplies. 7-31-44

"I want you to know that I appreciate your splendid work. Your accomplishments are a source of gratification to me."

Praise from Eisenhower, and from their white buddies, too, comes to the Negro troops who are doing a bangup job in France. Here are some of them—a platoon surrounding a farm house as they prepare to eliminate an enemy sniper.
Signal Corps Photo

Retreating Germans dynamited the span and dig in on the western bank of the river, from where they continued ambush operations.

British Capture Forli in Italy, Negro Troops Take 3 Villages

ROME, Nov. 10 (AP)—British troops of the Eighth Army cap-

47m-1944

Foreign

Race Lines Cracked At Iran's Camp Stalingrad

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
10-21-44

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
(NNPA War Correspondent)

CAMP STALINGRAD, KAZVIN, Iran—Nestled deep in the bosom of the Elburz mountains in northeastern Iran lies Camp Stalingrad, so named in honor of the famous Russian city of the same name. It is the last American occupied outpost situated on the vital supply route to Russia.

Men of the Red Army take over at this point and continue to roll the supplies on through to the Soviet front.

Here, I found one of the smartest, soldiering colored units in the Persian Gulf Command, the 435th Engineer Dump Truck company. It is the only Negro complement on the post and comprises approximately ten per cent of the garrison's strength.

Working side by side daily with the sturdy sons and daughters of the USSR, and in mutual harmony, these tan GIs most of whom hail from New York, New Jersey, Massachusettes (with replacements from the southern and midwestern states) are also turning in a diplomatic chore, worthy of State Department approval by their good conduct and cooperative attitude extended to soldiers of the Red Army. GI ambassadors they are.

Long lines of loaded truck convoys roll in 24 hours a day to both Russian dumps. Both trucks and supplies must be checked before being allowed to proceed farther north. The 435th handles most of this work. 10-21-44

Said alert, coffee-colored First Sergeant Derrick G. Hamilton, ex-athlete from Plainfield, N. J.: "It has been easy to handle the men of our company because they not only realize that the Russians can and will do a good job at the front if they can get the supplies, but also the harmonious relationship maintained between our men and the Russians and the white American troops both at work and on the post has helped immeasurably. We have encountered less discrimination and segregation here than back home in the States."

Echoing sentiments along the same vein were Supply Sergeant Clifford B. Cole, slim, goateed GI from New York City, and Cpl. Herbert D. Henry, the company clerk with the basso-profundo voice, also from New York City, who remarked, "The men don't mind putting out when they know and can see that it is appreciated. We have one of the best company commanders in Capt. Andy Skocynski, of Chicago that troops could wish for. He soldiers with us as does Lt.-Col. Gruneck, the post commander. 10-21-44

"We use the same PX, sif anywhere in the enlisted men's section at the theatre, have the same transportation facilities to town, and enjoy the same privileges at the service men's club as the white GIs. Occasionally in town a white soldier thiinks he is in Dixie and gets out of line, bue he receives little support in his argument from others, including the Iranians and the Russians. We haven't had much trouble on that score."

Designs Mural For U. S. Army Hospital At Australian Base

Age — New York, N.Y.
4-22-44

SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA—A large mural on the wall of an American Red Cross recreation hall attached to a U. S. army hospital is winning many critical plaudits for First Sergeant Elwood Dean, of 109 Belgrove drive, Kearny, N. J., who previously did lettering for R. J. Goerke Co., a Newark, N. J. department store.

The project was started three weeks ago when Vera Hoover, American Red Cross recreation worker from Nashville, Tenn., told a few of the boys that she'd like a decoration to fill in the blank walls. Sergeant Dean, who is a patient at the hospital, suggested a mural and volunteered to execute it.

Within three weeks time, painting only in the evenings, Sergeant Dean completed a 50-foot action-loaded western mural that covers one end of the hall and provides a colorful background for the "wild west" atmosphere the Red Cross has created in the building.

4-22-44

Before starting work, Sergeant Dean made small sketches to scale. He was loath to start on the actual mural because the Red Cross hall is always jammed with patients. "But the boys were really very considerate," he said, "they didn't ask many questions, and I soon got used to working with pingpong balls flying around the rooms and a jam session going on in the corner."

Sergeat Dean is a graduate of the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts and hopes to make portrait-painting his career. This mural in his first artistic attempt since going on overseas service.

CARLTON MOSS BACK IN STATES

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
10-21-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Negroes in the American Expeditionary forces are primarily concerned about a job and making up for "lost" time after the war, Carlton Moss, author and playwright just returned from overseas, told reporters last Wednesday.

Moss wrote the script and narrated the documentary film, "The Negro Soldier," which was produced by the War department under the direction of Hollywood's Frank Capra. Accompanied by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis and Maj. Homer B. Roberts, public relations officer, Moss spent three months abroad shooting more than 100,000 feet of film for a follow-up film. The party visited England, France, Italy and North Africa.

"These boys want to know whether they're going to get jobs when this thing is over," Moss said. "Most of them have learned new skills, have thrown off the old timidity, and are looking for their share in the peace."

He said too that they are learning languages and winning friends. They have found that no race is "naturally" submissive, a thinking that had been dinned into their heads in America.

Moss cited narrow brushes with death which he and the party encountered, told of the job the boys are doing to hasten the fall of Germany, and related several amusing experiences. 10-21-44

He brought back nearly 100,000 feet of film showing Negro and white soldiers in action together, and in almost every military occupation. Another 12,000 in technicolor was taken of the 332nd fighter group, now in Italy.

(The Chicago Defender does not vouch for the authenticity or truthfulness of letters printed in this column, nor do letters contained here express opinions or views of the Defender. All letters must be signed with name and address of writer. Confine them to 300 words.)

Filipino Lauds Negro Soldier

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Some time ago while still in training back in the states, I read in Life Magazine and in other fine American journals of the shocking attitude and disgraceful treatment accorded colored soldiers in some parts of the United States. Recently I read it in the Yank, the army weekly and noted with gratification the noble reaction of white soldiers regarding the injustice done to colored American boys in Uncle Sam's army. 10-21-44

I read your fine paper while I was still back in Chicago working in the post office, and I had nothing but respect and admiration for your fine work in trying to promote goodwill and understanding among all races, and your valiant fight against the vicious monster—race prejudice.

As an American soldier, as a son of the brown race, as a firm believer in democracy and equal justice to all I've taken this opportunity to voice through your courageous paper my feelings and those of other Filipinos.

Here in New Guinea as in other war fronts all over the world thousands of colored American youths are sweating and bleeding to help win the war. Many have already given their last full measure of devotion to the country of their birth. I have seen tireless colored boys toiling from morn till dusk, many times through the night, driving trucks laden with vital war supplies, keeping the roads and runways open and safe, building bridges across streams so the big guns and tanks could pass through, clearing jungles and swamps for new soldiers from the states to camp in. 10-21-44

These colored doughboys are as fine as any in the American Expeditionary Forces. They are as patriotic as anyone. They are as capable for the greatest sacrifices as the white boys from the North or South. They would stand and fight to the last, a hopeless and forlorn struggle for the Stars and Stripes as did the Filipino and American heroes in the battlefields of Bataan.

Then why should their brothers back in the United States, who are wearing the same uniform and in the service of the same country as the white servicemen, be treated so differently and shamefully? They are human beings with souls as all the rest—they are men with feelings, too! Why?—Cpl. Luis H. Carbonell, Somewhere in New Guinea.

D-Day Mistake

News Age Herald Magazine
A True Story by TOM TREANOR Section
Birmingham, Ala.

Tom Treanor, who was wounded in an accident near the front. — The Editors

from France by War Correspondent

10-1-44

SAID Pvt. Eric T. Davis, Negro soldier of Uvalada, Ga., "It's the darnedest mistake I ever heard tell of."

He wasn't angry, but he wasn't pleased either.

Pvt. Walter Pearson, also colored, of Shreveport, La., declared, "No sir, we didn't know nothing. We was in England, and we didn't have no officer. Just had a sergeant. He told us to drive our trucks on the beach. But he didn't tell us to get off. So we sat in the trucks, and these Negro truck drivers made pretty soon they closed the ramps, and off we go to France. We didn't know until we got here that we wasn't supposed to go."

Pvt. Randolph Dillon, of Gary, Ind., declared, "No nothing. We was but I wanna go back. We got more unity when we are with our own outfit."

"Now that you're in France," I asked, "are you glad you came, or do you want to go back?"

"Glad we came, all right," said Pvt. Randolph Dillon, of Gary, Ind., "but I wanna go back. We got more unity when we are with our own outfit."

"I took down a JU-88," he said. Up spoke Pvt. Dillon. "I saw the tracers go into it. He took it down all right."

So now they want more action. And they want more guns on their trucks.

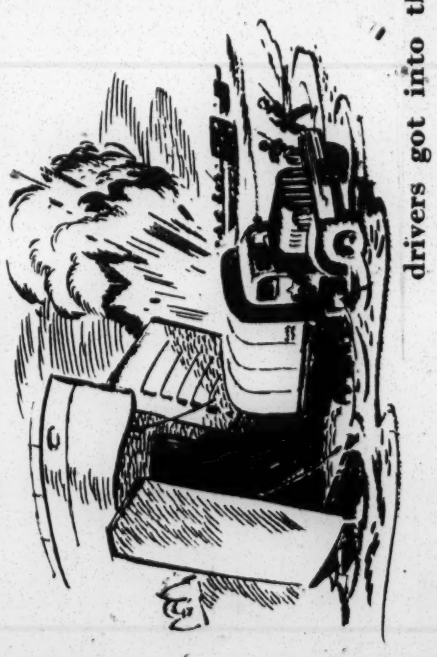
"We only got one little old machine gun on each truck," said Pvt. Theodore Fry, of Dayton, Ohio.

"We'll get you more," said Lieut. Harry Huftlas, a white officer from South St. Paul, Minn. His trucking unit badly needed these boys. "We'll get you just as many guns as the regular trucks have."

"First plane we shot at we was happy," said Pvt. Pearson. "But we found out?" they tell me it was a wrong one."

"You mean it was —"

"Yes sir, one of ours," interrupted enemy fire. According to their ac-



Without a Tag
10-1-44
He Moved — Fast!

THE men feel well seasoned to

drivers got into the invasion . . . by error!

10-1-44

"YOU know how we

asked Pvt. Davis. "The whizzing around, and I

How a unit of truck This article is one of the last sent

counts they alighted at one of the hottest moments on D-Day.

"Lookit," said Pvt. Hamlin Kizsee, of Norfolk, Va., as if to prove it. "Here's three bullet holes in my truck!"

"Where were you when they came in?" I asked.

"When the first one came in," he said, "I was in the cab. When the next two came in I was in a hole." 10-1-44

At this point Pvt. Pearson returned to the subject of the Sergeant who had ordered them on the landing craft and hadn't ordered them off.

"He was gassed," he said. "He was gassed in the hold of the ship before we sailed. That's maybe why he didn't tell us to get off."

"What gassed him?" I asked.

"Some drums in the hold," he said.

"Was it ammonia in the drums?"

Gas Attack

"No SIR, it wasn't no ammonia," said Pvt. Kizsee. "He was just gassed, that's all."

"Was it aviation gasoline?"

"Wasn't no aviation gasoline," said Pvt. Wilce Chapman, of Hiwannee, Miss. 10-1-44

The unit held a brief conference and then came up with the verdict that the substance in the drums which had gassed their sergeant was 190 proof alcohol. They had to carry him off the landing craft to a hospital. In his condition as a casualty, he had been unable to inform the unit that it should leave the invasion of France to others.

White Lists Points on Negro Troops Abroad

Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Wash. 5-24-44

Report to Washington Lists Recommendations as Result of 15 Week's Observation Overseas.

WASHINGTON — Fourteen recommendations, ranging from lectures to American white soldiers to a special Board of Review for courtsmartial cases, were made by Walter White in a report to the War Department, it was revealed here last week.

The report was based upon White's 15-week, 20,000-mile tour of military installations in the European theatre of operations, in North Africa, Italy and the Middle East as an accredited foreign correspondent for the New York Post newspaper. The 14 points included:

OFF LIMITS — That General Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" of towns and pubs (taverns) be enforced in all areas. Negro soldiers were found to resent bitterly the off limits orders or orders setting "odd" and "even" nights for white and colored troops to visit towns and places of amusement. White observed that some commanding officers took a positive stand for fairness and had very little trouble in their localities. 5-24-44

COURTS MARTIAL — A special board of review of courts-martial cases was recommended by White who said that "great unhappiness" has resulted among Negro soldiers "because of their belief that they are punished more quickly and more severely than white soldiers." After citing a number of cases detailed to him by Negro prisoners with whom he was permitted to talk freely, White urged that the special board of review include an eminent Negro lawyer, who would be brought in to serve with appropriate rank. 5-24-44

COMBAT TROOPS — The department is urged to send Negro combat troops to Englasd. White said stories were being circulated that there are no Negro combat troops in England because "Negroes are afraid to fight." He termed as "unfortunate" the fact that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only Negro service troops had been sent to the European theatre. "The Negro troops in the ETO," said his report, "have little or none of the exciteement of war necessary to raise the spirits and to give a sense of participation to men engaged in waging war." 5-24-44

Also recommended was that Negro medium bomber crews be sent to England to "fly in non-segregated units," and that Negro service troops now stationed therein be given refresher courses in the use of combat weapons, "as many of these troops will closely follow the assault waves of invasion, will be under fire, and need to be made competent in the use of weapons."

Supporting his recommendation for more combat troops, he cited the improved atmosphere in the Mediterraseas as a result of the exploits of the 99th Pursuit Squadron. He recommended that Negro and white fighter squadross function in the same group; and he also urged reconsideration of the conversion of the 2nd Cavalry Division into service troops.

In connectios with the moral value of the presence of Negro combat troops, White also urged that more Negro officers above the rank of captain be sent to England. 5-24-44

ANTI-NEGRO RUMORS — Some Negro soldiers abroad have taken the spreading of vicious and fantastic rumors about Negroes as a joke, but some have resented the stories deeply, said White, in recommesding that G-2 (Army Intelligence) try to track down and scotch moral-sapping stories.

White reported less anti-Negro propaganda in the Mediterranean than in England, but suggested that Army Intelligence run down the people who were issuing leaflets, placards and other material seeking to poison Italians against Negroes. Upon inquiry one such placard was found to have been issued by a non-existant organization and signed by a fictitious person. 5-24-44

MILITARY POLICE — White found the same complaint abroad on Military Police that has been made in some parts of America, namely that white MP's are armed, but Negro MP's are not. He recommended that no MP's be armed except when guarding payrolls.

PATERNALISM — Paternalistic attitudes on the part of white officers is resented, White reported, saying that both well-educated and less-educated Negroes resent being treated as "boys." Abandonment of the idea that southern white officers are best for Negro troops because they "understand" Negroes, was urged by White, who, however, said many white officers from the South are fair and decent in their treatment of Negroes, while there is no guarantee that a man will be free from predudice just because he happens to be from the North. 5-24-44

LECTURES — Lectures to American white troops aboard ships as they near England on the difference between the British and American attitudes toward color, together with lectures to British troops by competent Americans on America and the true place of the Negro as a citizen of his country would be helpful, White declared.

A connection between the venereal disease rate among colored troops and the attitude which has barred them from normal association with respectible families was seen by White, who quoted a soldier as saying they were more and more restricted to women picked up in pubs. White suggested that a Negro physicias be attached to the office of Chief Surgeon. 5-24-44

More Negro actors and singers were recommended for the entertainment of both white and Negro troops.

RED CROSS — After praising the Red Cross for doing "in many respects a scperlative job," he deplored the white and Negro Red Cross clubs located in many areas as sot only introducing segregation to the British, but denying white and Negro American soldiers the opportunity to know each other better. He cited the non-segregation pattern of one club as a model for the Red Cross everywhere.

CENSORSHIP — More news and more sympathetic handling of news dealing with Negro troops by the censors would be very helpful, said White, as it would give Negro civilians a better picture of the contribution of their men to the war. 5-24-44

LAGGING BEHIND — White's concluding recommendation was a suggestion that the War Department policy on race "lags behind that of much of the personnel of the Army." He said an advanced position would meet opposition but would be approved by a "much larger percentage . . than the War Department appears to believe possible."

"The time and field are ripe for progress. Continuance of segregation and discrimination is in part responsible for a less determined spirit in the Army thas is necessary to meet the very crucial days which lie ahead before the war is won. Vision to see the situation as it is and courage to surmount difficulties and opposition in the implementation of that vision are greatly to be urged upon the War Department asd Navy Department, and upon all others charged with the prosecution of the war."

Martin Reveals Negro Units Are Facing The Enemy

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.
1-18-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

GUADALCANAL—(By Cable) — An advanced echelon of Negro troops has arrived in Bougainville, Army sources revealed this week. A returning correspondent revealed the presence of Negro troops already on the last enemy stronghold in the solomons.

The possession of Bougainville becomes more necessary since American landings on New Britain. Allied forces pushing up from the Solomons can hasten the inevitable ground assault on the powerful base of Rabaul.

AIR BASE SECURITY UNIT

The Negro contingent is an air base security unit heavily armed. It is believed they will be used to make secure the vital and strategic allied air strip next Empress Augusta Bay.

Fresh Negro Marines landed at Guadalcanal recently and have already pushed into the Russell Island to reinforce Negro troops stationed there. Semi-official reports revealed that a large defense unit of Marines will soon be stationed in the Pacific. It is thought that these Negro troops may be used in any landing and assault.

The use of Negroes as assault troops is yet to be experienced in the South Pacific although several combat units have been in the perimeter of combat. It is still a gross question mark whether they will be used, but the trend points that they may shortly be put into action. 1-18-44

ACTION AT A MINIMUM

At present, except for patrol classes and air strikes, action here is at a minimum as each side marshalls its forces for what promises to be a bitter struggle.

Bougainville stands as the bottleneck and must be taken at all costs. On Guadalcanal where thousands of Negro troops are stationed life is only disturbed by the periodical rains. These troops are winning no battle glory as far as the world is concerned, but they still remain in the connecting line and a vital link between the supplies and men at the front.

Local Negroes Undergo Raids In Manning Isle

News- Birmingham, Ala.
3-2-44

The following story, distributed by The Associated Press, was written by Sgt. John R. Hurley, formerly of New York City, and Hollywood, Calif., a Marine Corps combat correspondent.

* * *

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC— (Delayed) —Negro marines, 17 from Birmingham, Ala., are undergoing almost constant air attacks as they help man this island, a key supply base for American forces fighting the Japanese.

The Negroes, trained at Camp Lejeune, New River, N. C., received their baptism of fire at Guadalcanal, where ships they were aboard were raided by Jap planes.

From Guadalcanal, they moved forward into more active combat zones. Japanese bombers made regular nightly runs over the areas but the marines grew accustomed to the air raids.

Trained as infantrymen with some later specializing in anti-aircraft artillery, other special weapons and tanks, they are nearly all volunteers. Retaining marked good humor and spirits under the trying conditions imposed by remoteness and tropics, they work hard at their assigned duties, taking the good with the bad.

The former cooks and clerks, mechanics and drivers, carpenters and farmers are from Alabama, Mississippi, New York, Michigan, Florida, Tennessee, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Illinois, Arkansas, Virginia and California. They average about 20 years of age.

* * *

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., is the best represented with 17 men from that town. From Birmingnam are Corp. Jesse L. Craig, of 2935 Fourth Avenue, South; Pfc. Jesse Williams, 518 38th Street (airfield); Pvt. Nathaniel Booker, 2221 11th Avenue, South; Pvt. Riley Wilkins, 3342 31st Place, North; Pvt. Clarence J. Collins, 203 North 22nd Street; Pvt. Walter C. B. Bolden, Jr., 400 Ninth Court, South; Pvt. Milton A. Williams, 528 Dawson Avenue (Powderly); Corp. Frank W. Ishman, 120 33rd Street, North; Pvt. Willie Moore, 1417 17th Street, South; Pvt. Jesse Riddle, 961 First Street, North; Pvt. Robert Ward, 1017 23rd Street, North; Pfc. Simpson Norris, 912 Avenue "G" (Pratt City); Pvt Kit Bibbs, 515 11th Court, East; Pvt. Elijah Durden, 721 24th Street, North; Pvt. Melvin G. Cooper, 1629 Ninth Avenue, North; Pvt. Earl L. Davis, 911 First Avenue, and Pvt. George C. Matthews, 5 First Avenue, Southwest. 3-2-44

* * *

POCKET - SIZE GRAMMARS HELP THE MARINES eliminate the language problem in their trade with natives. They vent their souvenior craze by dickering with the natives, later sending home grass skirts, sea shells, war clubs and canes, and other curios. The natives take money first, then cigarets, tobacco, pipes, soap, junk jewelry, etc. The visionary brought along ample supplies of the latter from dime stores.

At night, when air raid sirens are not blowing, can be heard the moan of spirituals such as "Join the Band," "Bread of Heaven" and "Father Prepare Me," mingled with livelier modern tunes.

Negro Troops Rip Bougainville Foe

Daily Worker- New York, N.Y.
3-19-44

GUADALCANAL, March 16 (UP) —The 24th U. S. Army Regiment of Negroes, under command of a white officer, moved into Japanese-held territory on Bougainville Island Sunday and bested the enemy at jungle fighting.

The 24th was the first Negro combat unit to go into action in the South Pacific, and to Sgt. Alonzo Douglas went the distinction of probably being the first Negro to kill a Japanese in this war.

The Negroes, commanded by Lt. Col. Julian C. Hearne, completed a difficult mission on a battle-torn front where the Japanese were in the throes of suicidal attempts to take back the U. S. beachhead at Empress Augusta Bay. 3-17-44

A combat patrol was the first to draw blood. It filtered several thousand yards into Japanese-held territory beyond the U. S. perimeter, then worked its way out of a Japanese ambush and made its way back to the U. S. lines.

24th Infantry Unit On Tactical Duty On Bougainville

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.
2-23-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

SOUTH PACIFIC ADVANCED POST—(By Cable)—Two Negro mess attendants manned machine guns and aided in downing six Japanese planes during recent landings on Gree Island.

Leaving their regular duties when 15 Japanese dive bombers attacked the Allied convoy, Coast Guardsmen Presty McCrary, of Detroit, Michigan, and Jack Price, of Wetempka, Ala., reserve gunners, ran onto the reck of their ship and fired continuously during an intense rain. Hard-fighting marines watched as the men kept bullets flying in the face of sudden death.

Ray Fitzpatrick, Marine reporter, wrote a special story on the deed.

Guns from the flotilla drove the Japanese higher. Six planes were shot down.

Also with this announcement came information that a unit of the 24th infantry regiment is now on tactical reconnaissance duty on Bougainville. It is the first ground unit to see such service and is entitled to a battle star. Landings put the Allies within 120 miles of Rabaul and Kavieng, Japanese bastions. 2-23-44

News of the Negro coast guard in the South Pacific is the first knowledge of such in this area. Indications point towards Negroes in combat in the near future.

The heat in this area is 128 degrees. Seasoned troops expect rotation.

WATCH JAP STRATEGY BY THE S. N. S.

Secretary of the Navy Knox said Tuesday that developments in the Pacific point to a Japanese attempt to repeat the sea strategy that won the Russo-Japanese war and the American Navy hopes they'll try it. Nipponese naval strategy of 1904-05 consisted of a sneak attack at Port Arthur, much like Pearl Harbor, followed by evasion of full-scale action for a time until the Russian fleet had been lured far from the bases then an all-out attack. Up to now, the Japanese have evaded meeting the American Navy full strength.

Allied headquarters at Naples said their forces were on the alert for a third German thrust at Anzio. Fighting on a comparatively small scale took place Tuesday. The Allies plan to hold the beachhead at every cost. 2-23-44

American bombers from Italy struck with record strength Tuesday at the Messerschmitt airplane factories at Regensburg, Germany, while other powerful United States forces from Britain dealt devastating blows elsewhere in the Reich in the first such synchronized assault from two directions.

In Moscow, Premier Marshal Joseph Stalin announced that Krivol Rog, the Ukraine city of mines which the Germans had defeated with frantic zeal in four months of bitter fighting, fell to the storming Ukrainian forces of General Malinovsky. The announcement came only a few hours after the Germans announced they had evacuated the city, whose ores were a major military prize.

The 24th Infantry

Daily Worker- New York, N.Y.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT has apparently modified what looked like a no-fight policy for Negro troops. Jolted by avalanches of protests, the War Department now announces that the 24th Infantry is fighting—and fighting well—in Japanese-held territory on Bougainville Island. 3-18-44

It is unfortunate that the Negro people

When will our government learn that the Negro people, who realize that they have everything to lose by a fascist victory, are determined to do their part as equals—both fighting their own government for the right to fight the enemy. But that is what happened with respect to the 24th. The Negro people only recently demanded of Secretary of War Stimson why the old and valorous 24th Infantry, in the South Seas for 21 months, was employed as a stevedore outfit.

in the military and the home sectors—in this anti-fascist war?

The 24th, combining the 38th and 41st infantry regiments, was formed by act of Congress in 1869. During 75 years it has maintained an enviable reputation. The 24th Infantry, with other Negro troops, sang "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," in the Spanish-American War, as they charged up San Juan Hill to the rescue of Col. Theodore Roosevelt. The 24th supplied sterling officer material to Negro outfits in the first World War. 3-18-44

The 24th, however, is not the only Negro unit with a brilliant record and a burning desire to use its training. All troops trained for combat desire combat. That desire, today, is the more passionate among Negro troops. Why? Because they feel they are fighting a war to liberate their people. We hope the War Department, interested as it is in maintaining civilian as well as soldier morale, will heed this simple fact.

Bishop Tells How Negro Troops Fed Yanks Along Italian Front

News-Birmingham, Ala
2-17-44

Negro soldiers were responsible for the serving of a Thanksgiving dinner to every American on the Italian front regardless of where he happened to be.

The way the Negro troops carried the turkey and fixings by truck over perilous roads to every sector of the bloody front and made their way to trenches and foxholes was described in an interview Wednesday by Bishop J. A. Gregg, of the A. M. E. Church, of Chicago, who was commissioned by President Roosevelt to visit Negro soldiers on the various battlefronts.

The Negro bishop, who represented the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches on the tour, mentioned this as one of the many deeds performed by Negro soldiers. He made particular mention of the splendid engineering work they are performing and told of the roads, runways and bridges they have built.

* * *

BISHOP GREGG RETURNED THIS WEEK from a visit to England, Italy, North Africa and Burma. It was his second battle tour within a few months. He left on this one last November and in July he visited the Pacific area.

He received permission from the War Department to stop over in Birmingham for a council meeting of A. M. E. bishops before reporting in Washington. He will be joined here before going to Washington by Maj. John A. DeVeaux, highest ranking Negro chaplain in the United States Army, who accompanied Bishop Gregg on his tour. 2-17-44

Bishop Gregg met all top-flight generals with the exception of Gen. Eisenhower, whom he missed by two days in Italy. He was in close contact with Gen. Clark in Italy and Gen. MacArthur invited the bishop to stay at his headquarters at Port Moresby.

He crossed the Owen Stanley mountain range in New Guinea and was eight miles from Buna when the battle to eject the Japs was raging there and when the Japs held Lae.

* * *

BISHOP GREGG TOLD OF ADDRESSING Negro soldiers within the sound of gunfire and while planes were being shot down. He described hospitals he visited where he brought his message of good cheer to white and Negro soldiers. He spoke to as many as nine groups of Negro soldiers in one day.

Caution was necessary in what he had to say, Bishop Gregg pointed out, because he has not yet reported to the War Department. His last trip covered 15,216 miles and the Fraternal Council of Negro churches which he represented is made up of 40,000 churches and 6,000,000 members. Among other accomplishments of Negro soldiers of which Bishop Gregg said he is proud is the work they have done on the Alcan Highway from Canada to Alaska. Bishop Gregg is the guest here of Bishop Ward D. Nichols, chancellor of Payne University for Negroes in Woodlawn. He expects to be here the remainder of this week.

U. S. Negro Troops Crack Bougainville Foe; Some From Harlem in Spirited Action

Times-New York, N.Y. 3-17-44

By FRANK L. KLUCKHOHN

By Cable to THE N

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, March 16—For the first time in this area organized Negro combatant troops have been in action. Led by Second Lieut. Henry J. McAllister of Hamburg, N. Y., they took the offensive against Japanese who had infiltrated American lines at Empress Augusta Bay, on Bougainville Island, drove the Japanese back, infiltrated their lines and generally caused a sensation.

Tonight as this is written one battalion of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, officered by whites but with all the rest of the organization Negroes, is holding an active segment in the Bougainville line.

There has been a little Anzio show at Bougainville, where desperate Japanese on the isolated island tried in numbers to drive off the Americans. They actually, it is now revealed, broke our lines in places by their suicidal attacks and, as is generally known, put the airstrips under fire. Then troops of the Thirty-seventh American Division aided by tanks and flamethrowers drove them back. Now we have taken the offensive again, and at this point a combat patrol of the Twenty-fourth Infantry went into action. 3-17-44

They infiltrated several thousand yards within the Japanese lines, killed some of the enemy, threw others off balance and evaded a Japanese ambush attempt in returning to their own lines. In other words, these lads, some of them from Harlem, out-fought the Japanese in their chosen medium—the jungles.

The first Japanese to be killed by an American Negro was bagged by Technical Sgt. Alonzo Douglas, 21, of Chicago. Sergeant Douglas, who has had four years in the army, commented, "I want to get more Japs."

Sergeant Douglas also remarked, "I was a little nervous at first, but it was all right as soon as you got out a ways."

"We are going to get some more action soon, aren't we, Lieutenant?" one soldier asked.

"You said it, son," answered Lieutenant McAllister.

Three patrols were sent out, according to Major Carey Meredith of Shreveport, La., but only one saw action. When Japanese fire pinned them down as they were returning to our lines the American's returned the fire steadily, and the Japanese fled.

To those of us among the correspondents who have seen American Negro soldiers working nights to build new airfields, chanting as they worked, and who have watched them uncomplaining load ships and do "heavy" work at Tunisian airfields within range of planes, there was something good in knowing that some of them were in action at last, and it was better to know that they had done superbly in their first test. 3-17-44

An entire Negro division is now in the South Pacific. The regiment of those elements in action is commanded by Lieut. Col. Julian C. Hearne of Wheeling, W. Va. It has had long training in jungle fighting.

Southwest Pacific Warriors Operate Dump In Solomons

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
2-15-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN

(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA

ADVANCED SOUTH PACIFIC BASE — (Via Airmail) — When 2,000 pounds of hurtling missles of steel and powder smash enemy installations on Bouganville, it is a safe wager that these flying fragmentations of death were handled by a Negro ordance unit. It is safe to add that when Mitchells and Liberators, pregnant with blockbusters, hover above Rabaul, strong brown hands are they which shoved the bombs through the bomb bays before the ships took flight.

Somewhere in the bosom of the Solomons, hidden from the bespectacled eyes of enemy reconnissance, is a potent and formidable ammunition area, acres long, acres wide. Guarding and handling each fuse, each bomb, is a unit of Negro specialists in ordnance. The exact amount of destruction there is confidential information, but confidentially, there is enough to blow the citizens of Tokyo to the land of their beloved ancestors.

UNIT HANDLES EVERY POUND

This colored unit receives, issues, stores, and ships every pound of this deadly power. Cherished records show that in a daily routin these men have handled 16 tons of small ammunition, per man, per eight-hour shift. They work around the clock.

Landing in an advanced Solomons base in September, 1943, after two months in Noumea, New Caledonia, they have since operated the dump in this area for the 13th Air Force.

When talking with checkers and loaders one finds that these men know their job. They know of the potential danger. They know its importance. The average citizen might find it difficult to distinguish between demolition and incendiary bombs; armor piercing and general purpose blockbusters. Not only does this unit know, but they also know the component parts of each, and reasons why they are so constructed and designed. 2-15-44

Commanding is Capt. Frank G. Dudley, veteran soldier of Montesta, Virginia. The ranking noncommissioned officer is youthful looking, grey-haired, I World War veteran Sgt. Albert L. Hypps, of Washington, D. C. Sgt. Hypps first enlisted in 1917, served 18 months in France. Enlisted for the second time in September 1942. In

in the pursuit of allied aims in the Pacific. But its mission is an essential part of what gains are made here. When Bougainville and Rabaul feel the earth tremor; these men are unquestionably guilty of having a hand in it.

One important item of major interest explained by Sgt. Hypps and the commanding officer—Ninety-eight per cent of the unit are to receive shortly Good Conduct medals awarded by the Army. The largest percentage in the South Pacific. 2-15-44

Sergeant Japan, and parts of Russia, as a Master and athlete specializing in Sergeant baseball and track. Detroit, soldier an

IMPORTANCE

Little technical information can given about this outfit because confidential nature of the and of its potent importance

Another veteran, and famed tour the Philippines. China work and

47m-1944

Foreign Service

No Story Book Heroes Here; Just Plain Tired Men . . .

Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va.

"Small Talk" Of Fighting Men"

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Journal and Guide and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)
(Copyrighted. Reproduction Expressly Forbidden.)
1-15-44

SOMEWHERE AT SEA, SOUTH PACIFIC—(Via Air Mail, Delayed)—This is the first of several articles written while enroute to Guadalcanal. They deal mainly with "small talk" of men who are headed for the forward areas of this command. Huddled in the ward rooms, on the weather decks, in the mess of this ship, their conversations were unperfumed. They represented a cross-section of Americans at war, and the kind kind of talking they were doing is seldom seen in print. No story book heroes here, just plain tired soldiers.

For instance, the wives of four officers were expecting, several men had not seen a woman in months, one Marine had seen seven friends killed at Bougainville, another was refused a second helping of chicken at dinner, three Naval officers were going home. A Negro warrant officer repeatedly talked about a WAC, Captain Francis whom he had met in Arizona and who was expected to be made major soon. This small talk, sometimes humorous, sometimes serious, represented some of the thoughts of men who might never pass this way again.

"Keep your head out of the way, and if you have to run, run like hell," yelled Bill Shrout to me as the boarding craft shoved off. We had been talking about bombings. 1-15-44

The Life Magazine photographer knew what he was speaking, having had some very narrow escapes at Guadalcanal and Bougainville. There were lines on his face and his voice had a nervous pitch. His eyes danced as he spoke. Consistent bombings can get the best of most of them. Bill threw up a hand as the craft shoved out into the water.

The sun was hot and the blue waters glistened and played around the craft sometimes splashing over the top-side. Lined with troops, the craft inched farther and farther away from the shore.

Left behind was one of the few bases in the South Pacific where a little civilization abounded. It was a relief from the jungles, sweating men, damn insects, and hot drinking water. There was beer, civilians, and a dance band. We were leaving these things behind and going back into the bush—maybe for months.

Mr. Bassett has already left the dock in a jeep worn thin around the edges. The Naval public relations officer looked too tall to ride comfortably in the mechanical puddle-jumper which had Press scrawled on its hind seat.

"I didn't think you were going to make it," he had said as I hustled my gear out of the command car onto the dock. "What happened?"

I didn't answer the question because it was the second time he had asked the same in three days. The first was when I was late for an interview with Admiral Halsey and kept the commander waiting for 15 minutes.

"Yon can't keep a man like the Admiral waiting," Jim Bassett had said. We just managed to get an interview between important conferences. "Come on, we still might be able to make it. If we do, don't make it too long." 1-15-44

The frazzle-edged jeep refused to budge. We "ran" the four blocks to headquarters. A sentry ~~inspected the identity cards~~ hurriedly and pointed up the stairs. Commander Harold Stassen stood waiting. I could readily tell that the former governor of Minnesota wasn't at all pleased that we had kept the Admiral waiting.

Little butterflies tickled the bottom innersole of my stomach. Here the Admiral with pressing matters of the war on his mind had agreed to see me, the first interview granted by him in months,—a fine kettle of fish to be in.

"MAKE IT SHORT"

As we were shown into the inner sactum, Jim Bassett whispered, "Make it short." It had to be short, only four minutes remained.

I remembered these things as the press chief drove off from the dock. I also remembered Lt. Col. Leslie Shope, Army press chief of the South Pacific Command who constantly had a cigar jammed between his teeth. He had made the 3 days on the island very enjoyable for me. 1-15-44

He exclaimed the day I arrived from the South Pacific, "Hell, we knew you were coming, but hell, they didn't let us know when. Draw up a chair." It was raining outside which fact added to the comfort of his office.

"The first thing you want is a place to stay. Well, let's see. What colored outfits do we have here?" He consulted a list, and then the telephone directory. "Here we are, the very place," he announced as he took the phone off of the hook.

"Hello Kroencke (Lt. Col. Edward J. Kroenche, Chief chaplain), Shope talking. Will you call up Chaplain Middleton and arrange with him for Martin to have a comfortable place to stay. Yeah, he's the correspondent and just arrived." Hell, excuse me chaplain, he has to have some place now. Good quarters, remember. Call me back," and with that the colonel hung up.

GET THINGS DONE

This man impressed me. Not so much because he wore the silver leaves, but he seemed like a man who could get things done without countless yards of red tape. Leaning back in his chair, leisurely puffing a cigar, he talked of days past, of world economy, of many things. As he talked, he nervously fingered the cigar and stared out the window at the driving rain.

A New Yorker, and this island was so far away from the glamour of Manhattan. Here there were ox carts, bare footed people, grinding Army trucks. Civilization, but not of the New York variety.

"We'll fix you up. Lot of colored outfits here. Tell you what, after you get settled, come down tomorrow and we'll map out an itinary. Lot of colored troops over here. Glad you came over to see them," said the colonel as he abruptly reverted back to the point of why I had come over.

"Here's your car to take you out to camp. By the way, do you like Rye?" he asked. Greedily did I answer in the affirmative. I had never tasted it in my life. But it must taste better than the medic's, alcohol or the juices of canned fruits mixed with coconut milk after it has set 4 days.

GRAVE YARD 1-15-44

The car waited until the chaplain had called back. We started on what was to be a long trip. Enroute we passed a grave yard. The driver called it the "Truck Drivers' Cemetery." Many of these buried there were truck drivers who had crashed over the steep hills of the island.

The flag fluttered over the white stones. The road seemed slippery than any I had traveled. Large drops of rain washed our face. The windshield wipers seemed wholly inadequate as the curves came faster. 1-15-44

These scenes flashed back as the craft loaded with soldiers pushed further out into the bay. The troops were made up of soldiers, sailors, and marines, Negroes and whites, Americans, Filipinos, and New Zealanders, Jews and Gentiles. Some sitting on packs staring into the water, some leaning against the rail staring into the water, others just staring. All sweating under the broiling sun.

As we pushed past one ship someone yelled, "Any you guys from Brooklyn?" It brought a laugh, and then silence again. Soldiers can wear the emptiest expressions when headed for the fighting zones.

SEE THE DEAD

Most of them look downward, others can look one another dead in the eye without saying anything. Once and awhile a guy would start to whistle a tune, one with no beginning, no end,—just a middle floating in the air. He would stop as abruptly as he started.

We pulled up alongside our ship. Somebody yelled, "Get your shopping done early, 10 days before Christmas." Pleasant thought. We boarded.

OUR BOYS OVERSEAS

SPEAKING at the dedication of a service flag in Crispus Attucks High School, Indianapolis, on Friday, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, whom the War Department trots around everp time it wants to make Negroes forget the inequalities they suffer in the armed forces, gave forth with the type of speech that Negroes would rather not hear because they get mad all over again after they have had time to get the full impact of its importance. 1-29-44

Age - New York N.Y.

General Davis spoke of the glorious exploits of Negro soldiers in all the overseas war theatres, but with few exceptions the exploits were of soldiers who were in units which dig ditches, build roads, act as stevedores, or truck drivers.

We should like to quote a few of the General's remarks:

"Last August 31—and no later figures have been announced — 153,800 colored soldiers were serving overseas, which represents more than one quarter of the total number of colored soldiers in the army. On that same date, the War Department announced that the total number of colored persons in the army was 582,861.

"Of this colored personnel, 57,323 were in the infantry, 58,328 in the coast and field artillery, 92,171 were in the engineers, 9,750 were in the cavalry. The remaining 360,000 were in the other arms and services — army air forces, chemical warfare service, quartermaster corps, armored command, which is tanks, tank-destroyer command and medical corps.

"I mention these figures, because I believe that on such an occasion as this it is fitting to examine the great contribution which colored people are making to the powerful army we have created to meet the challenge of the Nazi and the Jap.

"Over in New Guinea last spring, Brigadier General Hanford C. MacNider paraded the troops on the occasion of the first anniversary of the landing of American soldiers on that embattled island. A colored general service engineer regiment which had seen service under fire had the distinction of leading the parade, because it had been the first American unit to arrive in the spring of 1942.

"Speaking to the assembled officers, noncoms and enlisted men of the unit, General MacNider said, and I quote, 'Fellow soldiers, a year ago today when you stepped ashore as the first American troop unit in New Guinea thus you've helped make possible the destruction of the convoy in the Bismarck sea. You've been making history. You've had a part in the building and upkeep of all our air fields, and we've taken at the Japs. You've built the roads and the mains which bring us water you were making it ever since. You've contributed your share to every crack and the lines which give us our light and

power. Some of you have been to war with the tanks." 1-29-44

"And then General MacNider," continued General Davis, "gave these men his highest praise. He said, 'You're one of the workingest outfits in this man's army. All of us over here are proud of you. All Americans will be proud of you when your record gets into the histories."

General Davis continued giving exploits of other soldiers but his speech does little to increase the morale of the Negro when the bare fact is that Negroes are still consigned mainly to labor battalions although they've got fancy names for them. And while the white soldiers are commended for actual heroism in combat, the Negro soldiers get their praise only because they helped unload ships, build roads and dig ditches.

There are some who subscribe to the theory that they would just as soon see our Negro boys not in actual combat because there is less chance of their being killed. At least in combat they would be regarded as men, not as servants or common laborers. At least in combat they would be able to prove their ability as fighters — something which many white soldiers doubt because they've seen Negro soldiers just doing the laboring work.

Laboring work in the army has to be done. It is important. But not all the laboring work has to be done by Negroes. And Negroes appreciate General Davis the less when he attempts to glorify laboring work without at the same time being able to tell of the Negro's participation in other phases of the army.

1-29-44

Rumors are rife now that another Negro colonel will shortly be promoted to the rank of brigadier general just before election time as one of the strategies of trying to keep the fast-straying Negro vote away from the Republican party. We should like to see more Negroes attain higher rank. Nearly all the high ranking generals in the army today were just colonels four years ago when Davis was made a brigadier general. Today after nearly four years Davis still holds the same rank. Because we feel that he has disappointed the race, perhaps we shall feel glad that he didn't advance any higher. Perhaps it would have been just as well if he had gone into civilian life when he was retired on reaching the age limit instead of being continued in active service only as a sop to Negroes.

1-29-44

The Saga Of 44 Men With A Job To Do

Communications....

Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Virginia

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN 2-12-'44
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Journal and Guide and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)
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GUADALCANAL—(Via Air Mail)—An amazing example of the intracacies of wire and wireless communications used by the infantry is shown in the work shop and area of the colored infantry force stationed on this island. A network of wire is strung over the entire area, a central communications switchboard is buried far below the ground's surface, operators keep constant vigil. Radio antennas tower skyward. If this base were alerted on a moment's notice, orders could flash over the wires with the speed of lightning to every unit.

Six types of radios are kept in top condition. These include giant sending and receiving sets for communication between command posts; walkie-talkies and hand sets for ground reconnaissance; and special built radios for mobile units.

For confidential code messages are precision instruments for coding and deciphering. Mobile and foot messengers are in training. The latter used when jungle terrain does not permit mobile travel. In sending Morse code, technicians have attained the incredible speed of 25 words per minute—sending and receiving. For practice current news is decoded daily as it speeds in over the wireless.

MARTIN

BASE UNDER CONSTANT INVASION THREAT

Since July, 1943, the unit's major task has been training more and more operators. For 16 months prior to that time the technicians were in the field on the New Hebrides stringing wire to connect all units on the island. During those days the base was under constant invasion threats and units were isolated by mountains and thick foliage. Sections of dense underbrush were unexplored.

Friendly natives, to be used as guides, refused to penetrate the inner jungles claiming ferocious head-hunters were hidden in the bosom of the inland. In spite of these handicaps on the offset, more than 35 miles of line were strung even while the enemy warned by radio to vacate or die. The tale of that heroic feat is told later in this story.

Presently on Guadalcanal there is no acute emergency. The island serves primarily as an air base and supply depot. The colored infantry is used in conjunction with the latter in the loading and unloading of cargo vessels.

SKELETON TACTICAL FORCE MAINTAINED

The need for an infantry communication setup is not as urgent as it was months ago. Only a skeleton tactical force is maintained. However, the training of technicians continue. The school graduates an avreage of 25 officers and enlisted men every three months.

Heading the department is First Lt. Martin J. Connely, the infantry's communication officer. A New Yorker, he is the only white officer in the unit. Second in command is Warrant Officer Willie C. Jones, of Birmingham, Ala., who has been in the Army four years and enlisted at the suggestion of an uncle "who just talked me in."

An elongated youth of 26, he has had 11 years of practical experience in his native Birmingham where he operated a repair shop and spent nights sending and receiving messages on his "Ham" set. Coming into the Army on a special assignment, he was promoted to his present rank in Feb. 1943.

THIRD IN COMMAND EX-TUSKEGEE STUDENT

A curly-headed master sergeant from Cleveland, Otis T. Pinkard, is third in command. A former student at Tuskegee where he studied plumbing, Sgt. Pinkard was employed there by the United States Veterans Administration at the time of his induction. Making an excellent score on the code of aptitude test, he was sent to Fort Benning, Ga., and graduated from the infantry school of communications.

Forty-one men make up the unit and they are responsible for the big job on New Hebrides. Bill and Sgt. Pinkard told the story that seemed incredible, however, they showed written documents to substantiate their claim of the soldiers' superhuman endurance during a rainy season on the Pacific island south of the Solomons.

In May, 1942, there were no military installations on the New Hebrides. There was a township (Espiritos Santos), not unlike Noumea, New Caledonia. But inland was the damp insect-infested jungles. The infantry landed 3 days before the Battle of the Coral Sea, so the enemy was almost in the perimeter of allied defenses. The natives told tales of head hunters and wild bulls.

The mountains ranged from five to seven thousand feet. Small allied units were scattered around the coast to thwart any invasion attempt. Such units had to be connected via wire communications. Such was the condition when the mission was undertaken.

MOUNTAINS PROVE AN ORDEAL

Wire parties, consisting of eight men to each party, were formed. Half of the group was to work a stretch of 26 miles through the jungles, the other to string wire over Mounts MacDonald and Erskine which covered 15 miles to mountanious terrain and the potential dangers as cited by natives. The long stretch was not too difficult, but the mountains proved an ordeal.

Canned rations, water, ammunition, tents, tools, and spools of wire were trucked to the foot of the incline, or approximately five miles. The wire was strung enroute. The first problem was encountered at the base of the mountain. The wire was too heavy to carry by hand. There was no path for vehicles. But pack horses could make it. Horses were borrowed from the local government. Five mares were procured and the party started up. Several men were sent ahead to scout.

One more fell and broke her leg. She was shot. Two days climbing brought them to the crest. Packs were unloaded and a spike camp made. One man cooked, two walked patrols, five strung wire. The rain lashed unrelentingly, the horses refused to work. They were driven back to the local government.

The job was progressing too slow for authorities. Aircraft was then employed to drop the spools of wire. With a compass, a crude map, the men pushed deeper into the hinterlands. The work schedule remained the same—one cooked, two patrolled, five strung.

BARBECUED PORK AND CANNED HASH

The food was getting low. The main camp was too far away to return for provisions. A party of three was sent out to bring in some meat. They had seen the reported cows and wild boars. After several hours they returned with two boars, badly shot up, and left a dead cow several miles from camp. Barbecued pork, canned hash, and dried biscuits were eaten. Streams of clear, fresh water were plentiful.

From dawn till dusk the wire was strung. After weeks of trudging through the mud, climbing trees, wearing wet clothes, the party working up from the other side was met. As Mr. Jones explained it, tired men met and almost wept. The fears of unexplored jungles and the dizzy heights of the mountains had been overcome and conquered. Alone they had done the job. Soon the wire was singing with messages. All allied units on the island were connected. Forty-four men, 43 Negroes, one white had put it through.

On Guadalcanal they await a new assignment. In the interim there are freighters to be unloaded. Most of these men are from Southern states and worked as farmers in civilian life. Several spoke to this correspondent about returning to the land, to Mississippi, Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana. And like the land they're quiet, very unassuming, very much soldiers.

NINE STATES INCLUDED IN UNIT'S PERSONNEL

The unit includes: Private Ellis Bradford, Chicago; Private Everett Alexander, Decatur, Ill.; Private Willie N. Warren, Clinton, N. C.; Private George Crenshaw, Wewoka, Okla.; Private Robert L. Taylor, Baltimore, Md.

ALABAMA: Corporal Shedrick Bell, Montgomery; Private First Class Willie J. Cooper, Opelika; Private First Class Armstead, Jackson; Private First Class William Love, Greensboro; Private Samuel Adams, Linden.

LOUISIANA: Sergeant Willie A. Johnson, Opelousas; Corporals Clarence C. Bourgeois and John D. Chisholm, New Orleans; Sergeant J. P. Mays, Lake Providence; Sergeant Roland Melton, Coverton; Sergeant Paddio Czemie, Lake Charles; Corporal Charlie Lewis, Farriday; Private First Class Erby Magee, Coverton; Private Victor Warner, Schriever.

GEORGIA WELL REPRESENTED

Georgia sends Sergeant Curtis A Hadley, Albany; Private Dillwood Bengmon, Savannah; Private Dudley Drane, Atlanta; Private First Class Johnny Y. richard, Atlanta; Corporal Charlie T. Taylor, Roseville.

MISSISSIPPI: Sergeant Earl Nash, Macon; Corporal Robert L. Evans, Newton; Private First Class Douglas Blanks, Meridian; Private Lionel Hollaway, Jackson; Sergeant Henry Thomas, Jackson; Private First Class Y. C. Carothers, Prairie; Staff Sergeant Robert D. Lilly, Crystal Springs; Corporal John D. Monroe, Woodville.

TENNESSEE: Sergeant Thomas M. Swift Pulaski; Private Audrey Croom, Humboldt; Private Albert Perry, Memphis.

Negro Engineers

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Build China Road

2-15-44

CHICAGO — (A N P) — How American Negro engineer troops are completing a spectacular motor road which will ultimately link India and China for the first time in history is told by Edgar Snow, foreign correspondent famed for his book, "Red Star Over China," in an article "Road to Tokio" which appears in the February issue of Negro Digest published here.

Despite the handicap of working with wet feet (the troops are without rubber boots) and of malaria and the wilderness and a steady three months diet of corned beef and rice, the morale of the colored troops was praised by every officer in the outfit, Snow reports.

"Maj. Gen. Raymond A. Wheeler, chief engineer here, himself said they were as good as any engineering troops he ever had on a job, and Wheeler has had plenty. One of the stories that spread through Assam deals with the legendary strength of the Negro troops, and tells how an American watched four underfed Indian coolies trying to move a huge log from one side of the road to another. "Presently he interrupted their struggle, pushed them aside, lifted the log over his shoulders and tossed it over their heads. Then he grinned and said: "Rest yourselves, brothers, you just did four days' work."

Negro M.P.'s patrol London for 1st time

Tribune 12-25 Kansas City, Kans.

The British news agency, Reuters, declared from London last week that Negro U. S. Military Police went on duty in London for the first time June 26.

"It is understood that American headquarters here do not allow Negro policemen to patrol in pairs," the news agency commented. "Hence in the West End white and Negro M.P.'s were seen out on patrol together. 7-10-44

"These Negro policemen are all men with unusually high educational qualifications. Many of them are university graduates," the agency commented further.

Negro Troops In Burma Supply Air Transport Forces

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga

4-12-44

SOMEWHERE IN INDIA — (SNS) — At an airbase in Assam, far in the rear of the Burma border, Negro troops of a quartermaster truck unit are preparing a breakfast of fresh eggs for other American troops isolated in the jungles of Burma.

A soldier carefully places about 200 eggs in an Indian-made basket, separating each egg from others with a layer of rice husks. A topcall is put on the basket and the carton is provided with a fourteen-foot parachute.

In a few hours these eggs will be parachuting down to earth, after being dropped from a plane which has swooped low over the jungle clearing where men eagerly await each item of supply as it is dropped.

NOT ONE LOST

Eggs are the most breakable item which is air-dropped regularly, but the unit which does the packing has yet to receive a complaint of damaged cargo.

Beyond the lines of ground communication in Burma are American and Chinese soldiers who depend almost entirely upon air-dropped supplies to keep them alive, fighting and working. The only method of ground supply is by native porters, who carry loads on their heads in limited amounts over tortuous jungle trails.

Back of every man who flies a plane or kicks out the supplies on an air-dropping mission are several others to whom fall the important job of getting the supplies ready for delivery. There is a great deal more to the process than merely throwing a lot of rations on a plane and kicking them off when the plane arrives over the desired rendezvous area. Food, munitions, fuel and other necessities of modern warfare must be skillfully packed so that they can withstand the impact in landing. 7-12-44

DROP GASOLINE

Dropping high octane gasoline calls for three parachutes, which are attached to one side of a barrel, and a large sack of rice husks which is secured to the other side. The use of three prachutes and the extra rice husk cushion reduces the chance of fire when the highly volatile fuel hits the ground.

All packing for air dropping is done at the air base by the same quartermaster truck unit which packs the eggs. Supplies ranging from small arms ammunition and artillery pieces to milk and live pigs are packed by the outfit for air delivery.

The men are hard pressed to keep up with with the planes which constantly shuttle back and forth from the air base to the troop areas. But the supplies are always ready, and no sooner does a plane come in from a mission than a truck backs up to its open door with more supplies for the jungle fighters.

Troops In Italy Want Race Girls

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.

4-15-44

By JAMES A. SANDERS
(ANP Foreign Corespondent)

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY — (ANP) — Since coming to the Mediterranean theater of operations seven months ago, the Negro troops stationed in this section have not seen a girl of their own race. In addition to mail from home, that is their biggest desire.

There are American girls here, however, hundreds of them, nurses and WACs. Some of them are pretty swell, but many of these wonder why they can't have some of their own nurses and WACs. Don't get me wrong. There's no sentimental angle involved. Most of them have someone, a wife or a sweetheart, that they are carrying on for, but all want someone they can "talk" to; someone to whom they can carry their troubles; someone who will understand.

The papers tell them that in England, the South Pacific and in West Africa colored WACs are the chief morale boosters. They know what Evelyn Vaughn in North Africa meant to them . . . she and a couple of others from Casablanca to Oran to Algiers. They want them here.

S.C. Chaplain First Negro Officer To Die In Pacific

Defender-Chicago, Ill.

1-8-44

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

AT AN ADVANCE BASE SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—In the base chapel, a thatched shed with rough benches hewn from tropical trees and a crude but impressive altar, funeral services were conducted last week for 1st Sgt. Joseph A. Taylor, of Abbeville, S. C., chaplain for an anti-aircraft gun unit here.

Chaplain Taylor, who died after a month's illness on Saturday, Dec. 18, at a military hospital here, was the first Negro chaplain and first Negro officer to die in this theatre. The services, brief and simple, were conducted by Chaplains Jesse Moses, George Berkheimer, John E. Bowers and Robert E. Hansen.

In attendance were 18 chaplains of all faiths from organizations in the area, Lt. Henry K. Roscoe of Delaware, commander of the outfit to which the chaplain was attached, a score of his fellow officers and several hundred enlisted men from a number of organizations.

Playing a portable foot-powered organ for the services was Lt. Laverne Weigkelt, a nurse from Morris, Ill., and the enlisted men's choir which Chaplain Taylor helped develop, sang effectively "There Is Rest for the Weary," "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" and "Shine on Me," favorites of the deceased.

Following the service which did not exceed 30 minutes, a cortege of 16 army vehicles accompanied the hearse over a rough 20-mile route cleared of traffic by military police to a military cemetery where interment occurred at points along the road which parallels the shoreline. The procession passed details of soldiers engaged at various tasks, who upon recognizing the string of vehicles as a funeral procession stopped work and doffed their hats in tribute to an unknown fellow soldier. 1-8-44

Battered and bullet-ridden Japanese barges, grim reminders of the Japanese attempt to land troops here more than a year ago, dotted the rocky coast as silent monuments to men, who like the chaplain gave their last measure of devotion to their country and their flag.

A native of a section of Abbeville called Taylortown, where he was born July 7, 1906, Chaplain Taylor is survived by his widow, Lucia A. Taylor, a schoolteacher at Gastonia, N. C., and a six-year-old son, Joseph Jr.

He was educated at Johnson C. Smith university and Oberlin Theological Seminary and at the time of his entrance into the army on June 27, 1942, was pastoring a Presbyterian church in Washington, D. C.

Chaplain Taylor began his military pastorate with the 378th engineer battalion at Camp Shelby, Miss., and was later transferred to the anti-aircraft organization with which he was serving at the time of his death. 1-8-44

Although no official announcement has been made, it is expected that either Chaplain Paul Kidd of Kansas City, Kans., or Chaplain Walter A. Miller of Chicago, both of whom are unassigned, will be assigned to the vacancy.

NEGRO SOLDIERS BRAVE HARDSHIPS IN INDIA BUILDING "ROAD TO TOKIO"

Washington Tenn.

1-7-44

By Evelio Grillo
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN INDIA, Dec. 23 (ANP)—They're building a road out India way, a good road, a road which, to all appearances, will be a vital factor in the final conquest of Japan. Eventually, according to official releases, this road will join the old Burma road to become an important artery of supply for war-

ROAD TO TOKYO"

starved China. Before that junction is made, territory now occupied by the Japanese must be traversed by the "buildingest" engineers ever to set foot in this country.

Take out your map of India, Glance towards the northeastern section and look for the name ASSAM. The territory surrounding the Assam-Burma border has become familiar country to thousands of Brown American soldiers. By far the greater number located in this general vicinity is engaged in the construction of this "Road to Tokyo" as the route was dubbed by the first contingent of troops to begin work.

The allegations of TIME magazine (Oct. 11) to the contrary notwithstanding, it was not the engineer unit that had built airbases in Canada which played the role of advance party on this great project. In December, 1942, when work was begun on this Assam-Burma route, the first two units assigned to the project arrived. They were Negro engineers and they "sweated it out," to use army parlance, along with Chinese and Indian engineer troops until March, when other troops assigned to the project began to arrive. At this writing, approximately three fourths of the troops engaged in the actual construction of the road are Negroes. Far out in front, on the coveted "point" of the road is the present advanced contingent, a group out of a famed colored unit formerly stationed in Florida. They are now in such an inaccessible section of country that almost all of their supplies are dropped to them by air. They are performing more than creditably, as they have during the entire year, and are inspiring the admiration of all as they cut their way relentlessly towards Japanese-controlled territory.

Building a road, on the surface, appears to be a prosaic task devoid as it is of the glamour and violent drama that are part fo combat assignments. But though this has not been the super-human achievement which correspondents strive to make of every accomplishment of soldiers overseas, it has been no simple road building job. It has called for the application of liberal doses of very human skills and capabilities backed by persistence and guts.

The route over which the road winds itself goes over some of the most difficult terrain imaginable. The country is all mountainous, and it receives, according to some authorities, the heaviest rainfall in the world. Added to this, during the early days of the task, were the difficulties imposed by shortages of supplies and equipment here at "the end of the line," legistically speaking. This has been no glamour-boy job, and it has certainly not been a push over. 1-7-44

Building this road has meant, literally, the leveling of mountains, the moving of millions of tons of earth. It has meant sloshing around in veritable seas of mud for weeks on end, weeks during which it was all but impossible to remain dry over half a day at the time. It has meant groping around in ever-present clouds of dust during the dry spells. It has meant steaming in the humid monsoon heat and baking under a merciless tropical sun. It has meant a ceaseless and often unsuccessful struggle to avoid contracting one of the numerous tropical diseases which plague us here—malaria, dongue, dystentery, and the dreaded black water fever, among others.

It has meant the pulling of minor miracles by maintenance crews in order to keep the heavy equipment in operation in a situation where it has been difficult and often impossible to procure replacements for outworn parts. It has meant a consistent struggle against rain-swollen streams to get necessary bridges built and to keep these completed from being washed away. It has meant almost forgetting, for weeks, that such a word as recreation existed. It has meant contending continually with landslides, cave-ins, and washouts. Take it from the men who have worked on it for a year, this road has been no push-over.

Nor has this gigantic project been carried out without its toll of heroes, unsung and undecorated though they be.

There was Pfc. Herbert I. Simms, from Wilson, N. C., who lost his life, though not his fight to keep a bridge from being washed away, when he slipped into the swirling waters of a swollen mountain stream while attempting to clear away the debris which was threatening to undermine one of the piers of the bridge. And Albert Allen, technician fifth grade, from New York City, who unmindful of personal danger, attempted to rescue Simms, but succeeded only in sharing his fate. There are those lik eSgt. John P. Powell of Washington ,D. C., who have succumbed to the ravages of one or several of the tropical diseases against which precaution must be taken continually by every soldier in this theatre. Many others, not known personally to the writer, have paid the extreme price in the service of their country, as this road has inched along. 1-7-44

All the heroes, moreover, have not been those who are no longer with us, but who, rather, are now enjoying their pride in assignments brilliantly carried out. We refer to men like Sgt. Sandolph Hill, from Hickory, Miss., and Sgt. Quincy Bordeaux, from Norristown, Pa., who have performed so remarkably with the dozers that they have become known throughout this area. In like manner, Cpl. Sterling Hathcock, Dayton O., made his mark. "Stumpy" as his buddies call him, operated the leading dozer on the road for three months and early earned the reputation of an operator "who could put a dozer where a dozer just cloudn't be put."

Then there is M. Sgt. William Wright, of Washington, N. C., (class of '41, N. C. A. and T.) who for months was the enlisted man supervising the actual cutting of the road, or T. Sgts. Edward F. Clark, from New York City (class of '40, Columbia U.) who has done the greater part of the surveying required at this base. Sgt. Clark is perhaps the most widely known and respected non-com on the road. His reputation as a thorough and skilled surveyor is such that requests for his service are often received from higher headquarters. He is at present engaged in the task of supervisiting the mapping of the completed road.

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Find Heroes Among Colored Soldiers In Indian Jungles

Courier-Courts 3-26-44

WITH THE U. S. ARMY IN NORTH BURMA—(ANP)—Life in this theatre of war has produced its heroes in the same dramatic style as on other battle fronts and in this regard the colored soldiers who are stationed here are proceeding to conquer the jungle while fighting the Japanese in a spirit that is characterized by determination and laughter, reports A. T. Steele, a white war correspondent, this week. Out of their experiences, which are constantly flirting with death, heroes are born along with two Chinese fighters Steele found one, Ray Smith, Lex-Dragging the weight of his we ington, Ky., among the many whouniform, Sgt. Madison Carey, o have the daily task of courting North Chicago, who was travelling death. Assigned as operator of on a second boat, leaped into th one of the flat-bottomed boats that rapids to rescue a third Chinese. ply the forest-lined rivers of north- TWO LOSE LIVES 3-26-44 ern Burma, Smith's task is to safe- ly deliver men, supplies and wound- as a reminder of a second escap ed Chinese to their respective des- from death when his boat was ma tinations. chine-gunned from the river bank

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"Smith has been in Burma less than three months, but he has already cheated death twice and is credited with saving the lives of two Chinese soldiers." Steele re vealed. "He is a member of a Ne gro pontoon outfit with which this writer lived and traveled for three days early this week. His comrades, Negroes from every section of the United States, think Smith deserves some kind of special recognition, though Smith himself says it is all a lot of fuss about nothing."

According to the story, Smith was one of nine occupants of a small flat-bottomed boat that found dered in a northern Burmese river, Three colored soldiers drowned

by Japanese soldiers. The encoun ter cost the life of a colored en listed man and a white officer.

Bernie Durant, Sumter, S. C. however, does not like the jungle because he is an extremely big man, 6 feet, 3 inches tall and wears 11½ shoes.

"This is a small man's game," Bernie told Steele. "What chance have I got? Every time I take a step with my No. 11½'s everybody around knows I'm coming."

When the boys saw their first Japanese prisoner they were surprised that so much danger could be wrapped in such a small package. "Gosh, is that all we are fight-ing?" they asked. "Why, he's only a midget."

Sergeant Goes 68 Hours Without Sleep For 168

Artillerymen Have Record Of "Probables" 6-9-44

THE INVASION FORCES than the AAA crews going through LAND—(ANP)—Back in their practice paces, getting when the German Luft- signals from control points as to the skies over Britain range and spot locations. The ch to itself, a nightly colored unit has a record of ques- back on the world's largest tion marks, meaning that they firmed kills. Are they on the job? Well S-Sgt. A. J. MacGill, of Pine Bluff, Ark., went for 168 supply sergeant, straight hours without sleep recently in the performance of his duty.

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Sergeant Goes Memphis, Tenn. 4-26-44

For 168 Hours Without Sleep

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93rd Forward Elements Find No Paradise While Moving Up Toward Japan

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga
7-1-44

Correspondent Martin Tells Of 'Hell' On Island

Soldiers Find Many Problems In Tropical Areas

By FLETCHER MARTIN
(U. S. War Correspondent for Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)
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(By Courier)—Forward elements of the 93rd division which have reached this point did not find a Pacific paradise as it appeared offshore. On the contrary, it is a muddy coral dot lost in the vast Bismarck Sea, and inhabited by ferocious hogs and chickens, a thousands species of centipedes and taranulas, multi-colored mosquitoes, coconut palms, giant banyan trees, and grinning natives.

After disembarking our troops took positions atop an overhanging craggy wall. Deep waters far below constantly hammer coral reef—creating sounds like rolling thunder. Never have waters been so blue, days so bright, nights so dark. To the Southeast the rugged mountains of northern Bougainville push out of the sea. To the west enemy-held Rabaul and New Britain less than 150 miles away.

ROUGH LIVING

At the present it is rought living. Mud ankle deep carries the odor of sour dough. Grunting, tail wagging hogs convoy the bivouac. And the many varmins writhing up from the ground lends more horror to the already horrible surroundings. 7-1-44

Veterans of the Bougainville campaign are making the place as habitable as is humanly possible. And it is the same ageless story of man's grim struggle against nature. Because of the mud, tents are floored with coarse sand, lumber being scarce. What lumber is available is used chiefly to construct kitchens and latrines. Food must be kept off the wet ground, what with hogs, chickens, and rains wanting to destroy it before we can consume it.

Drinking water is also a problem. Despite being near oceans, drinking water is rationed—two quarts per day, per man. It is greedily hoarded for bath taking—saving a little at a time. Baths don't come often. The sea is pregnant with sharp coral rock, starfish, and sharks which discourage bathing in the warm waters.

At the present our site resembles what the old West must have been like in the pioneer days. Camp fires dot the area—trash burning. Kitchen crews opening canned hash, canned beans, canned biscuits, canned milk, even canned bacon. While one soldier washes a week's dirty clothes in his helmet, another washes his lousy body. Everybody is doing something, and few things are easy.

SENTRIES ON ROADS

Grim-looking sentries are posted at every road intersection. They look none too pleasant, maybe this caused by the blistering sun, or the shape of things here. Every few hours armed guards leave the area to take positions on the airstrip. Night and morning the monstrous trucks roll.

All in all its rough, but that was expected. From here on on it is going to be even tougher. Men are warned of this fact daily. From what shapes up here the trend points to serious days for the division. Terrain gets no better as we move forward toward the equator, and westward toward Jap bastions. And the enemy is expected to be even tougher as we near his inner perimeter.

An intensive training program is to be inaugurated. Bougainville glories are past history. Despite initial victories expected mistakes were made—and proved costly. Experiences proved in most instances that the enemy is capable, and fights hard, 7 and 1 only superior trained troops will subdue him.

Physically, the division elements here are in good condition. Morale is good, spirit high. Despite these jungle surroundings the boys can still laugh—enjoying a good joke about letters failing to arrive, repetition of the daily menu, or the presence of beer when things like nails, lumber, and mosquitoe netting are needed.

Officer Says He's Really Got Guts

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.
6-11-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent

BOUGAINVILLE—(By Courier)—When Big George said a man has got guts, you can bet your bottom dollar on it. And Big George said Pvt.. Bett. Pierce of New York Alabama, has got more guts, per square inch, than any he's ever seen. It takes the best in a man to ride a Browning automatic rifle and stick to his gun as the enemy lets loose with a light machine gun at him.

Big George is really Capt. Geo. Hunter, company commander, 24th Infantry. Pierce is an expert automatic rifleman. Together they make a small army. And when the going is pretty tough, they are more than likely together. Like the time when part of Big George's people were pinned down after a fire fight east of the Mavavia river. The Japs were operating three heavy and seven light machine guns. Capt. Hunter's men couldn't advance—couldnt' retreat. The situation looked pretty grave as the enemy continually showed he was not a novice with the machine gun. Big George had lost 3 men.

TAKES PIERCE 6-11-44

Back on our side of the river Capt. Hunter mumbled that he "was going after those men. With a few tanks to draw their fire, we can make it." Pierce had already got his long, blue steel Browning Evidently he knew he was going to be called. The rescue squad was composed of riflemen, medics, litter bearers, Pierce and Big George.

When the LCTs hit the beach the tanks rumbled off firing with the 75mms. The infantry right behind. Pierce, a 23-year-old farmer, two other enlisted men, and Capt. Hunter started down the beach at a fast trot. Machine gun bullets pinged off the tanks. Soon they were off the beach and in the bowels of the jungles. Fire was continuous. From the LCT we could no longer see the action as bullets forced us to take over.

TELLS REST OF STORY

"We spotted several of our men who had dug in. I called out but evidently they didn't know who I was. I guess so many things were going on at once, it was hard to tell head from tails. We eased up a little closer."

Capt. Hunter said they began receiving gun fire. He told Private Pierce,

"You going to have to take that guy with the gun out. First draw his fire away from us, then let him have it."

He said Pierce answered, "Got you, sir." The gunner crawled up behind a stump, turned the bill of his cap around until it rode his neck and let go. The enemy swung his fire in the direction of the automatic rifle and starting showering them over Pierce. In the meantime Big George help get the casualties out.

RUNS INTERFERENCE

Later while consuming a can of C-rations Big George told the rest of the story: 6-11-44

"But you should have seen Pvt. Pierce. Lying behind that log, he would peek up every once and awhile to get his aim, then let go again. Not only did he draw their fire but darn if he didn't knock the machine gun out," Capt. Hunter said, "Some of the best shooting I've ever seen."

Pvt. Pierce figured he must have thrown fifty rounds into the pit. Big George said the Alabaman always runs the interference, and that is the job that calls for guts "especially when its fourth down and you got to win."

Eisenhower Lauds Force Of Negroes For Invasion Work

Age. Herald—Birmingham, Ala.

ADVANCED COMMAND POST, SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, July 30—(AP)—Negro troops of an anti-aircraft balloon battery and a quartermaster truck company Sunday drew official commendation from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower for their work in Normandy since D-Day. 7-31-44

"Your battalion landed in France, June 6 under artillery, machine-gun and rifle fire," Eisenhower said in a citation to the anti-aircraft troops.

"Despite the losses sustained, the battalion carried out its mission with courage and determination and proved an important element of the air defense team. The cheerfulness and devotion of its officers and men have been commented on by personnel of other units. This report is most gratifying to me. I commend you and the officers and men of your battalion for your fine efforts which have merited the praise of all who have observed it."

Eisenhower spoke to the quartermaster company of its landings against intense enemy opposition, and said:

"Nevertheless, you salvaged most of your equipment at once and within three days 90 per cent of your vehicles were operating on a 24-hour basis, a scale which was maintained for five weeks. I want you to know that I appreciate your splendid work. Your accomplishments are a source of gratification to me and to your Army commander."

7-31-44

Colored Unit Is Backbone of Attack on Japs at Bougainville

Afro-American—Baltimore, Md.

2-19-44

Ordnance Men Guard, Handle All Ammunition in the Solomons; 98 P.C. to Get Conduct Medals

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
NPA Pool Correspondent

ADVANCE SOUTH PACIFIC BASE — (Via Airmail)—When 2000 pounds of hurtling missiles of steel and powder smash enemy installations on Bougainville it is a safe wager that these flying fragments of death were handled by a colored ordnance unit.

It is safe to add that when Mitchells and Liberators, pregnant with block-busters, hover above Rabaul, strong brown hands are they which shoved the bombs up through the bomb bays before the ships took flight.

Somewhere in the bosom of the Solomons, hidden from the bespectacled eyes of enemy reconnaissance, is a potent and formidable ammunition area, acres long, acres wide. Guarding and handling each fuse, each bomb, is a unit of colored specialists in ordnance.

The exact amount of destruction there is confidential information, but confidentially, there is enough to blow the citizens of Tokyo to the land of their beloved ancestors.

Men Work Around the Clock

This colored unit receives, issues, stores and ships every pound of this deadly power. Cherished records show that in a daily routine these men have handled 10 tons of small ammunition, per man, per eight-hour shift. They work around the clock.

Landing in an advanced Solomons base in September, 1943, after two months in Noumea, New Caledonia, they have since operated the dump in this area for the 13th Air Force.

When talking with checkers and loaders, one finds that these men know their job. They know of the potential danger. They know its importance.

Know Their Ammunition

The average citizen might find it difficult to distinguish between demolition and incendiary bombs; armor piercing and general purpose blockbusters. Not only do the men in this unit know them, they know also the component parts of each, and reasons why they are so constructed and designed.

Commanding is Capt. Frank G. Dudley, veteran soldier of Moneta, Va. The ranking non-commissioned officer is youthful-looking, grey-haired, World War I veteran Sgt. Albert L. Hypps, of Washington, D.C., who first enlisted in 1917, served 18 months in France.

He enlisted the second time in September, 1942. In between those years he was an advertising agency executive in New York and Washington. The reason he gave for volunteering again at the age of 46 was simply stated:

The War Struck Him

"The war struck me. I will do all I can as long as I can be useful."

Another veteran and famed Army athlete is M-Sgt. Lockhart H. Barnett, of Detroit, now chief clerk of the depot office, who has spent 25 years in Army service stationed with the 10th Cavalry, 25th Infantry, and 3 ordnance units.

2-19-44

After attending A. and T. College of Greensboro, N.C., he joined the service and toured the Philippines, China, Japan, and parts of Russia as a soldier and athlete, specializing in boxing, baseball and track.

Little technical information can be given about this outfit because of the confidential nature of the work and of its potent importance in the pursuit of Allied aims in the Pacific. But its mission is an essential part of what gains are made here.

When Bougainville and Rabaul feel the earth tremble, these men are unquestionably guilty of having a hand in it.

98% to Get Conduct Medals

According to Sgt. Hypps and the commanding officer, 98 per cent of the unit are to receive shortly Good Conduct Medals awarded by the Army. This is the largest percentage in the South Pacific.

Making up the unit are:

Pvts. William Stephens and Courtney P. Wells, Pfc. Lewis E. Pollard and Pvt. Melvin Reid, NYC; Sgts. Thomas Black, Walter F. Medlock, James B. Banks, Tony Ward, Otis Bannister and Pvt. Eugene Millender, Detroit; Sgt. John H. Scott, St. Louis; Sgt. Dave Beverly, Pvts. Morriss E. Cavin and Walter Jackson, Chicago; Sgt. Clinton T. Ware, Pvts. Easten M. Bradley, Elijah Montgomery, Harold Foster; Pfcs. Floyd Williams, Samuel Martin, Washington, D.C.; Sgts. Charles E. Jones, Charles E. Waters, Cpl. Rommelle Robinson; Pfcs. Robert H. Black, Julian O. Braxton; Pvts. Bennie Carr, Norman Young, William T. Wheatley, Milton A. Barnes, Baltimore.

2-19-44

VIRGINIANS IN GROUP

Cpl. Fred J. Youngblood, Sgts. John Fulton, James Thompson, William Thompson, James Terry; T-5 Charles L. Blair, Pvt. DeMorse Gray, Pfc. Arthur Bolds, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pfc. Thomas E. Moore, Sgt. Ulysses Hardy, Sgt. Roland Shambry, T-5 James Harris, Pfc. Thomas Holloway, Pfc. Frank J. Harris, Pfc. Melvin Perkins, Pvt. Arthur W. Spellman, Pfc. Stephen A. Clemons, Pfc. Willie Mapson, Jr., Norfolk, Va.; Sgt. A. T. Harrison, Pvt. Virgil C. Evans, Pfc. James L. Gray, Newport News, Va.; S-Sgt. Earl T. Collins, Sgt. Goldie J. Rodgers, Pfc. Dan Willie, Pfc. Clarence Jackson, New Orleans, La.;

PHILLY BOYS IN UNIT

Cpl. Andrew S. Corbin, Pvt. Paul T. Marshall, Pfc. Sam Wise, Pvt. Alvin Robinson, T-4 Samuel Webb, Cpl. Robert R. Thornton, Pvt. William D. Craig, Pvt. Alfred Bradley, Pvt. Robert L. Gravely, Cpl. Thomas R. Bailey, Sgt. John A. Harper, Pvt. Leroy Hooks, T-5 Robert Landis, Cpl. Ulysses Brown, Cpl. William Penn, Sgt. Wilson Giles, Sgt. William Dixon, Pfc. Andrew O. Barbour, T-5 Willie G. Holmes, all of Philadelphia;

Pvt. Luther E. Carey, Marlin, Tex.; Pfc. Ben Lewis, Pvt. Willie Cowans, both of Birmingham, Ala.; Pvt. Leroy Rowe, Cpl. Wilmer H. Mills, Atlantic City, N.J.; T-5 James E. Morgan, Raleigh, N.C.; Pfc. Freddie Bailey, Sgt. Cleveland Johnson, Charleston, W.Va.; S-Sgt. Earl T. Collins, Pfc. Clarence Jackson, New Orleans, La.; Pvt. George Brown, Pvt. Charles Brown, Pvt. Francis Lambert, Pvt. Leobard Wiggins, Pfc. Lloyd G. Ferrell, Pvt. Terrel Frierson, Wilmington, Del.; and Pvt. Lewis J. Ford, Hartford, Conn.

Invasion Memo From Norfolkian

Barrage Balloon Unit Only Negro Combat Outfit There

Journal + Guide—Norfolk, Va.

7-22-44

By FIRST SGT.
JAMES HUGO MADISON
Exclusive to Journal and Guide

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE—(By Mail)—Every night Jerry visits the invasion coast of France. He comes to bomb or strafe the beach, but he keeps a respectable distance above the lethal cables held erect along the shore line by barrage balloons. Not since the first night has he been able to drop to strafing altitude and that was before balloons were present in sufficient numbers.

Dug into the ground at the base of each one of those many cables is a crew of the only assault balloon battalion to take part in the American effort against the hostile shore. It is this crew's job to keep that balloon flying in the hours of darkness — and these men have proved their ability to do that job well.

7-22-44

ONLY NEGRO UNIT THERE

These men in the foxholes along the beach have other claims to distinction. They formed the only Negro combat unit in the American assault forces in this greatest epoch in the history of the world.

They started coming ashore on D-Day in small groups. They came in more than 150 different assault crafts—small combat teams working on their own and not a single large unit. Some died, along with other Americans, in their attempt to get ashore. Some never saw the shore, and others gave their lives doing their jobs on the beachhead.

WHAT THEIR JOB IS

Since the first gory hours when the long-planned invasion seemed domed to failure, these men have been performing their mission. They keep the front door to the front lines open. Through this front door must come food, ammunition, and tons of other necessities for the men in the front lines. Through it also come the wounded, and the prisoners of war.

A balloon barrage is not a secret weapon. Actually, the more the enemy knows about it the better a barrage balloon performs. If the enemy stays above the barrage, knowing the danger of flying through a "picket fence" of lethal cables, then the barrage has performed its mission just as effectively as if it had destroyed some Jerry planes.

7-22-44

EFFECTIVE DEFENSE

Now and then a Jerry pilot takes his chances. In the early morning of June 16 one pilot came down to strafe. Before he could get his guns going, he hooked a wing on a flying cable. He realized his error too late, and headed out to sea in an apparent effort to avoid other cables in front of him.

His whole plane was visible for an instant when the bomb on the cable crashed against his wing. Then the plane disappeared in the turbulent waters of the English channel.

NO EASY JOB

But the daily duties of the men at the base of these cables are not always spectacular. There is hard work to be done every day, and every night. The work must be done if the mission is to be performed. Crews go to the beach to get their balloons from landing barges. They must be "walked" inland to the place they are to be flown.

7-22-44

If there is a wind, they surge and tear at their mooring, and the three men who hang on to the strop that keeps them captive have a desperate wrestle to hold them. Usually their hands are torn and bleeding when they reach their destination.

EVER-DANGEROUS SNIPERS

They must get over such obstructions as telephone and electric lines. They must walk along dusty roads crowded with vehicles of war. They must pick their way gingerly through mine fields, where only a narrow path has been marked. During the early days they had to go armed, for snipers were busy behind the hedge rows.

Once the balloon is in place the nightly job of "paying it out" to operational heights takes all their strength and "know how." This task begins when friendly planes go back to England—after it is too dark to see.

Then, after Jerry scoots for home in the early dawn, before our planes return, the job of bringing the balloon to its mooring begins. More than an hour of work on the winch is needed. Inch by inch, the balloon is brought down, the lethal devices removed, and put in readiness for the next night's operation.

7-22-44

TENSE NIGHTS

During the night there is the tenseness in waiting for the

WORK RECOGNIZED

home are the They know the boys up front have it even worse than they do, and they are determined to see that food and medical supplies in the front line will not be short because the men are not. The crews at the bottom of the They know that flying cable have failed. It one bright spot. Letters from home are not conducive to personal cleanliness. Food comes in the GI pack. It can be made more palatable when heated, but too often it is not possible to have a fire.

7-22-44

LETTERS WELCOMED

There is no place to go at night but to their foxholes; no extras except the issue of cigarettes which are appreciated. Even a little money to spend, and every night their best is not enough. then

General Praises His Infantrymen

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

4-29-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN

(Representing the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

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BOUGAINVILLE — (By Courier) — Blunt and wizened Major General Oscar W. Grisworld, commander of Bougainville operations, was direct as he outlined the present campaign—and the part Negro units are to play. In one of his seldom-granted interviews, the veteran jungle fighter underscored each word with pause, and outlined action which he hopes to be the strategy for contemplated days to come.

No soldier in the U. S. Army has a firmer belief in the ability of his troops than Oscar Griswold. A devout member of the infantry, he said:

"Fourteen times they hit our line: fourteen times, they were slaughtered. Our ability to withstand their efforts have been proved. In no campaign in the South Pacific has the enemy felt more fire power . . . There is no substitute anywhere for infantry and these men shall continually push back and defeat a stubborn enemy."

INFANTRY HOLDS 4-29-44

Concerning the last month's activities which saw the enemy again try to shift through the line while his artillery pumped shells over the human wall of defense: and which introduced into World War II the Negro infantrymen, Griswold expressed admiration over an effort which not only thwarted the famed Jap (6) division, but sent thousands of the enemy scurrying back over the mountainous-like ridges.

Visibly, he showed satisfaction over the work of untried Negro troops; "They have made an excellent start in jungle warfare. Although they have not been in wholesale combat like Guadalcanal or New Georgia campaign," they have with merit accomplished missions assigned them . . . Whatever experiences they realize here will fit them for the difficult days to come. It is the experience they vitally need. Jungle war is unlike any we have heretofore fought."

Griswold is familiar with Negro troops, having once served with the 24th infantry at Fort Benning, Ga. In fact, he commanded the unit which saw action here for the first time on March 8 — the first in the world. The General recalled many who served under him in the early 30's. He remarked:

THEY'RE STILL HIS 4-29-44

"I feel they're still my troops. I think they deserve the honor of being the first. My chief of Staff (Brigadier General Arnold) has served with the units from Fort Huachuca and boosts them highly. They're all excellent troops, but I just have a soft spot in my heart for the 24th. We know they will (both units) acomplish their missions with honor."

In warning against any sentiment other than that of doing the job, Griswold explained that Americans have been killed thus far, and we can expect them to be killed in the future. That is part of the price paid. We are fighting a capable enemy who often charges in the face of overwhelming fire—trampling over his dead. To win, these men must be killed without any thoughts other than the business of killing. We must kill, and kill again, again and again.

However the commander, as has been shown in past records, does not intend foolishly of uselessly sacrificing American troops, but he realizes there will be casualties. The responsibility of sending men to their death is a grave one. From conversation one realizes that gray-haired Oscar Griswold will do all that is humanely possible to save his men.

For Negroes: 4-29-44

"They will continue patrolling . . . reconnoitering and engaging enemy. They now occupy positions outside perimeter which are of great military value" — The 24th infantry was ordered to hold its position 'at all cost.' "Out there they will get the training." He added as to the military significance of the mission — the perimeter will be partially protected by these outposts and the immediate region scoured for miles for any semblance of Japanese troops.

Bee—Chicago, Ill.
2-20-44

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

SETS RECORD IN MARKSMANSHIP—Private Emmett O. Smith, of Montgomery, Alabama, is shown in the kneeling position with his M-1 (Garand) rifle, the weapon with which he broke all marksmanship records at the Fort McClennan (Alabama) Infantry Replacement Training Center. He scored 206 out of a possible 210 on the rifle range, after only seven weeks of basic training. (Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.) 2-20-44

MAJOR BLASTS STIMSON SLUR

Bee—Chicago, Ill.
3-19-44

Revelation that the 184th Field Artillery regiment formerly the old Illinois Eighth regiment, had the highest I. Q. rating of any army units known to the officers of the Fifth Infantry division come this week from Maj. Ovid E. Harris, former battalion commander, in a letter repudiating Sec. of War Henry L. Stimson's charge that "many Negro units have been unable to master efficiently the techniques of modern weapons," of which the 184th was one of the units mentioned in the charge.

Maj. Harris, now on the inactive list, sent his letter to the President and Sec. Stimson.

"It is both amazing and shocking to find your signature placed over so gross a misstatement of fact," Maj. Harris said to Stimson.

As a battalion commander of the 184th Field artillery regiment for three years, Maj. Harris said that every test given in handling weapons was passed with credit by his men. The test teams of the Fifth Infantry division gave "superior," "excellent" and "very satisfactory" ratings following a combat test. All of this went to naught, however, to Gen. Courtland Parker. 3-19-44

"Unlaced Shoes" Rate Efficiency

"Despite all that has been said to the contrary, your regiment is not ready for combat," Gen. Parker declared. "You can march, you can implace your weapons, and you have demonstrated your ability to fire; but until your housekeeping improves I'll never certify you for combat. Why, just this morning I made an inspection of your barracks and found a pair of unlaced shoes under one of the beds. That is poor leadership."

"More than 300 of the enlisted men were college trained, but as replacements came the I. Q. rating was lowered," the major revealed. "Of the first group received, 40 could not read nor write. Then we were called upon to furnish a cadre of 300 men for a quartermaster unit. Instead of allowing us to keep our best material for the artillery requirements, the selection was made from personnel cards and our men with the highest I. Q. were transferred." 3-17-44

"Our communications were rated 'superior,'" Maj. Harris pointed out. "We were credited with peculiar adaptability for motor marches and our fire direction centers became quiz centers for all visiting artillery personnel. In the fall of 1941 the 1st battalion went to Camp McCoy, under my command, for firing tests. Its scores for the G.H.Q. tests 1 and 11, have not been equaled. Col. Lewing of the second army conducted the test. Four official commendations resulted. Then came the usual reward—350 men were transferred as cadre. Replacements were received. Our task started over again." 3-19-44

Hits Dixie Mistreatment

The 184th was gradually broken up and reorganized into the 930th and 931st field artillery battalions which the war secretary disclosed will be converted into combat engineer units. "Certain other existing Negro field artillery units are being converted to heavier artillery, but the 930th and 931st 155-mm. howitzer battalions have not been selected for conversion to heavier artillery or

Soldiers Prove Superior In Chemical Warfare Training

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga 2-5-44

Negroes Can Resist Heat More Than Any Others

CAMP SIBERT, Ala.—(ANP)—The army's test given trainees in chemical warfare here recently reveals that colored soldiers can resist heat better than white soldiers when both donned the air-proof suit worn by members of the contamination squads, and are stated as the best chemical warfare soldiers.

Made of alligator cloth, these suits are designed to protect the body from all types of gas, while the wearer works to remove the deadly vapor from any object that must be used, such as large and small arms, planes, cars and trucks, after it has been sprayed by enemy planes. 2-5-44

The demonstration squad suit is airtight, and after several tests it was found that whereas a white soldier, in summer heat, can remain in it only about 15 minutes, a colored fighter can wear it for 35 minutes. A great number of colored have been assigned to the decontamination squad as a result of the findings. 49m

Colored trainees at this 35,000-acre chemical warfare training ground have been praised for their outstanding work, and are considered to be generally superior in performance to their fellow white soldiers in this branch of the service.

Infantry Unit Has Served Long And Well There

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 1-13-44

Command's New Year Greetings Are Significant

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily WORLD And NNPA)

A SOUTH PACIFIC BASE—(Via Airmail)—New Year greetings held an added significance for the veteran 24th Infantry this year. In the greetings of Commander Julian G. Hearne, Jr. (Lt. Col), there was a hint that relief might be in store soon. In greeting his unit Col. Hearne said:

"In wishing you a 'Happy New Year'—as I do sincerely—let me say that I do not know what may be in store for the unit, and any prediction I would make would only be speculation. But I can tell you this: General Harmon has said, in a letter to all units, that he has in mind those organizations which have been longest in the tropics, and that as soon as the situation permits he will carefully consider the matter of relieving units.

"Of course, many factors are involved which are beyond General Harmon's control, but you may rest assured that he has our welfare at heart, and will give us a break just as soon as he can do so—although that time may yet be several months in the future. Meantime, we shall continue to accept whatever may be in store for us, in keeping with the high tradition of our unit. 1-13-44

INCREDIBLE CHRISTMAS

Christmas morning was incredible. The sun pushed up out of the ocean and giant golden rays searched the sky. Hazy grey mist crawled slowly from the blue waters onto our camp site. Beauty spread all around.

The towering palms were like oversized Christmas trees. And soldiers throaty voices sang, 'Silent Night, Holy Night' in soft hushed voices. The band played in the background. The Church-Call sounded while it was yet dark. Candles on the altar flickered, but braved the cool ocean breeze. Chaplains Norman Long (Oberlin, Ohio) and Gil Lloyd (Chicago) conducted the service. Men took Sacrament. 1-13-44

Lt. Col. Hearne sopke to the men in these somber words:

"It would be a misnomer to refer to the period December 25-January 1 as the 'holiday season,' for our duties will continue unbated. That, however, is as it should be. The Christmas season, of all seasons, is one of 'peace on earth, good will toward men,' and there can be but little of that until our task is finished and the enemy is crushed. We are doing our share towards bringing about the final day of victory when the full measure of 'peace on earth, good will toward men' will again be a reality in our world.

"So let us realize the true meaning of Christmas, and pause on that day long enough to promise our God and ourselves that we shall not fail him in our efforts."

XMAS RECEIVED

The number of Christmas presents received from home was enormous. Chief Warrant Officer Rufus Williams, veteran soldier from Columbus, Georgia, expressed the sentiment of the entire force when he said, after spreading his gifts on the little bunk, "My wife, my wife, my darling wife."

The Christmas feast, and it was a feast, was all that could be asked. Turkey and elaborate accessories—cakes and spices—pastries and candies—cigars and cold beer. To end the joyous day a new motion picture was shown. It was a night without rain, the stars were low, and far out to sea we could see the dimly lighted ships in the night. Christmas away from home had come and gone.

Negroes Set High Mark In Cavalry Training

Post-Washington, D.C. 1-9-44

Wichita, Kans.—Within cannon range of the geographical range of the United States, at Fort Riley Replacement Training Center, Kans. instructors with white saddle blankets are putting horse-mounted Negro troops through basic training.

The Negro cavalry—as distinguished from mechanized cavalry—is making good in a grueling training program. At this center the morale of the Negroes was particularly high while Joe Louis was present.

Now that he is on tour teaching boxing in Army camps, his big reddish-black dog, Butch, is a constant reminder of the prowess of his master.

There is a great deal to "take" in horse-cavalry training. On his third day in camp the Negro recruit rides out for fatiguing drills. None is easy, but one of the hardest is riding with the feet out of the stirrups, reins resting on the saddlehorn while arms and legs perform lengthy limbering-up exercises. This is a mere prelude to reinless and stirrupless walking, trotting and galloping on command. The recruit is thankful that the training program calls for only 45 minutes of this a day. 1-9-44

During his first weeks in camp the rookie develops a great love for his mount. He is indebted to his horse for simplifying things. Long used to moving in circles and to the orders, the animal changes pace with military precision. The rider soon learns that he can depend upon that and realizes fully the meaning of the old saw: "Heads come double in the cavalry."

Plenty of Horses

The Army has plenty of horses arriving in a steady stream from remount centers. Most of them are 2-year-olds, stocky, strong, of many breeds and partially trained. Young, agile, well-set Negroes, arriving from all corners of America, are assigned these mounts, each trooper usually keeping the same mount during his period of training. Horse cavalry, described to me by my guide as "glorified infantry," is glorified only in the sense that it can negotiate difficult terrain and arrive faster at the combat area than can foot soldiers. Once arrived, the troopers dismount and fight on foot.

After riding at various paces is mastered, courses in use of weapons, close-order drill, road marches, obstacle courses and use of maps and compass follows. The Negro rookie rides and marches, studies, stands guard, does kitchen police and everything else required willingly and with a smile, while he is becoming master of the "military seat"—the way of sitting on a horse in military fashion. Two styles are taught at Riley, one called the "Riley Seat," the other the "Chamberlin," the last named for Brig. Gen. Harry Chamberlin, world-famous horseman and former commanding officer of the CRTC at Fort Riley.

It is a mighty tricky thing to master and uncommonly easy to forget, but the Negro strives for it and masters it and near the end of his training rides with fine military bearing.

Next Come 'Problems'

Eventually he comes to the morning when he faces what the Army, with easy terminology, calls "problems." On horse or afoot—for he has also been put through the regular infantry drill—in squads or alone, he works out as many military problems as Riley's undergrowth-tangled stream beds, open plains and precipitous hills can pose. 1-9-44

The men say the problems are unpredictably intricate and that there is only one certain thing about them.. They are endless.

Toward the end of this training the Negro faces highly specialized missions within definite land limits that bring into use all he has learned in classroom and drill area. But he gets them. He is now assured master of all but the most unruly horses and toughest problems. With the inevitable cheerfulness of his race, he comes through smiling and digs into his final assignments.

Cavalry groups, in various stages of training, offer a spectacular sight when they are out doing their stuff over Riley's 22,000 acres. The rifle ranges are tame compared to pistol-charging horse cavalry, squads taking obstacle courses, racing from point to point, swimming rivers and taking targets at the gallop.

Horse Is Nonchalant

Negroes who enter training handicaped by being horse or gun shy stick it out. One trooper, remembering his rookie nervousness, said "Oh, yes, I fell off and I was thrown off and I was dragged as much as 20 yards before I learned the howness. Of course, I was scared. But I kept thinking of Brig. Gen. George Davis and some of the captains and those colored boys down South learning to fly, and I just naturally stuck her through." 1-9-44

Innumerable lump-swallowings take place at the top of the slides—long, steep, smooth down grades upon which a horse must make a constant double brake of his hind legs. The beast is the only nonchalant party the first time the rookie takes a slide.

CREATE THIRD ALL-NEGRO FIRE FIGHTING UNIT

Chicago, Ill. 6-17-44

An all-Negro personnel was created at a third fire company yesterday. Fire Commissioner Michael J. Corrigan replaced the white firemen at hook and ladder company 11, at 9 E. 36th st., with 15 Negroes from engine companies 16 and 19, which have all-Negro complements. Two white officers, Capt. William Street and Lt. William Draper, remain at company 11. The commissioner's orders were effective yesterday.

Commissioner Corrigan also promoted Gerald Tyrell from lieutenant at engine company 27 to captain at engine company 128, and promoted George F. Hengels from fireman at engine company 44 to lieu-

20 Negro Leaders Honor Hero Dead; Pledge War Aid

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
5-30-44

Twenty nationally known Negro leaders pledged support to America's Commander-in-Chief and paid tribute to the honored dead colored warriors and other fallen heroes of the war in a Memorial Day statement last night.

The statement, signed by Mary McLeod Bethune, of the National Council of Negro Women; A. Clayton Powell, Jr., of the People's Committee; Paul Robeson; Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union; Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., New York City Councilman, and others, announced that:

". . . We pledge our utmost support for the wise and courageous leadership of our Commander-in-Chief in his efforts to defend, strengthen and extend the area of democracy throughout the world."

HAIL FALLEN HEROES

Hailing the fallen heroes of the war, the statement said in part:

"We honor Dorie Miller, Robert Brooks and the countless other Negro soldiers, sailors and airmen who have died in this struggle of all progressive mankind against the scourge of fascist barbarism.

"We honor the millions of fallen sons and daughters of our valiant Allies—Britain, the Soviet Union, China and all the others including those Africans, Indians and other colonial peoples who have died for the making of a free world.

"We rededicate ourselves to the cause for which they have died—to wipe every vestige of fascism from the face of the earth, to build a truly enduring peace of universal security and freedom. . . .

". . . These are the tributes of the entire Negro people."

The signers include: 5-30-44

Dr. Richard A. Billings, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity; **Charlotte Hawkins Brown**, Palmer Memorial Institute; **Dorothy Hobday Bryant**, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses; **Lester Granger**, Executive Secretary National Urban League; **Dr. Gordon B. Hancock**, Virginia Union University; **Theodore A. Jackson**, Eastern Regional Director, Joint Council of Dining Car Porters; **Eugene Kinckle Jones**, General Secretary, National Urban League; **Belford W. Lawson**, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; **Dr. Rayford Logan**, General President Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; **Louis E. Martin**, Michigan Chronicle; **Dr. Leon A. Ransom**, Howard University; **Mabel K. Staupers**, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses; **Shelton Tappes**, United Automobile Workers; **Dr. Channing H. Tobias**; **Max Yergan**, Council on African Affairs, National Negro Congress.

664,066 NEGROES SERVE WITH ARMY

Age-Herald - Birmingham, Ala.

WASHINGTON—The number of Negroes serving in the Army was 664,066 as of Feb. 29, 1944, an increase of 81,205 over the Aug. 31, 1943, total of 582,861, the War Department reported.

There were 77,335 Negroes assigned to the air corps and an increase of 593 commissioned officers, the report revealed. Of the increase noted in the six-month period, the greatest change ocurred in the number of Negroes serving overseas. 6-3-44

A partial breakdown follows: Infantry, 44,022; coast and field artillery, 50,955; cavalry, 9,043; engineers, 106,514; air forces, 77,335; all others, 376,197; total, 664,066.

Commissioned officers, 4,979, including dental corps officers, 77; nurses, 219; other medical corps officers, 467; chaplains, 205.

Serving overseas, 284,664.

4 Officers and Sergeant In One Negro Family

Courier-Journal - Louisville, Ky.
6-11-44

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Camp Breckinridge, Ky., June 10.—In a feat probably unparalleled, five brothers from a Negro family have risen through the same regiment—the 372d Infantry—to gain four commissions and one sergeantcy.

Three of the five brothers, all of whom enlisted when the 372d was a National Guard regiment in Massachusetts, remain with the unit at its new location here. Another is an instructor at Camp Butner, N. C. The fifth is overseas. They are the Phillips brothers of Medford, Mass.

At one time all five brothers not only were serving with the 372d Infantry Regiment, but all five were in Company K. The 372d served at Fort Devens, Mass.; Fort Dix, N. J.; New York City and engaged in New England maneuvers before arriving at Camp Breckinridge several weeks ago.

The three Phillipses at Camp Breckinridge are 1st Lt. William H. Phillips, 33; 2d Lt. Richard K. Phillips, 28, and Technical Sgt. Raymond L. Phillips, 31.

The other brothers are 1st Lt. Ernest Phillips, 38, and 2d Lt. Cecil F. Phillips, 25. The younger brother has left a Pacific port for overseas service. Lt. Ernest Phillips is with the Engineers Corps at Camp Butner. 6-11-44

Their father, Raymond L. Phillips, who died twenty-one years ago, was a Spanish-American War veteran. Grandfather William H. Phillips fought in the Civil War.

Mrs. Hannah J. Phillips, the mother, resides at West Medford, Mass.

Soldier Makes Cross Continent Flying Trip

Memphis World - Memphis, Tenn.
6-6-44

A soldier, who spent 14 months overseas, arrayed against the Japanese invaders of American territory in the Pacific, and who is now stationed at Camp McCain, Miss., to assist in the training of other men for overseas duties, was a stop-over visitor in the city last week-end.

He is Sgt. E. Maurice Sanders member of a chemical unit in the United States Army.

Sergeant Sanders who is on an extended furlough, flew over Memphis enroute to New York on May 22nd. He returned here by plane, and last Saturday was awaiting a seat to continue his flying trip to the other side of the continent, where he will visit friends in Los Angeles, Calif.

The sergeant is a former well known athlete and graduate of Wiley College. His home in in Houston, Texas. He is a former schoolmate of Messrs Benjamin Bell and Charles Thomas of Memphis. He has been in the Army three years. 6-6-44

Before his induction he worked as chemist at the Carbon and Carbide Chemical Corporation in Texas City, Texas, the world's largest oil seaport. He described his duties in the army as largely connected with his chemical training, as he was attached to an outfit whose job was to attend to the chemical purity of the soldiers' drinking water and to be prepared to take care of repelling and retaliating against any gas attacks the Japs might decide to unleash.

He described as his most interesting overseas experience, the manner in which the Negro soldiers of his organization won the goodwill of the Hawaiian and New Caledonian natives, after the natives had formed a dislike of Negro American soldiers based on previous erroneous reports given them by white Americans.

He was high in his praise of a Hawaiian woman USO directress, one "Miss Hopi," who was especially useful in helping the Negro soldiers in their job of adjustment to their environment. He also credited Lt. John Woodruff, former Olympic running champion, and a trained sociologist, with helping in this problem of adjustment. Lieutenant Wodruff was a member of the 369th Coast Artillery at the time he (the sergeant) was serving overseas. 6-6-44

The sergeant also mentioned the formation of a Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter, called the Henry O. Flipper Post, in honor of the first Negro graduate of West Point Military Academy in this country. 6-6-44

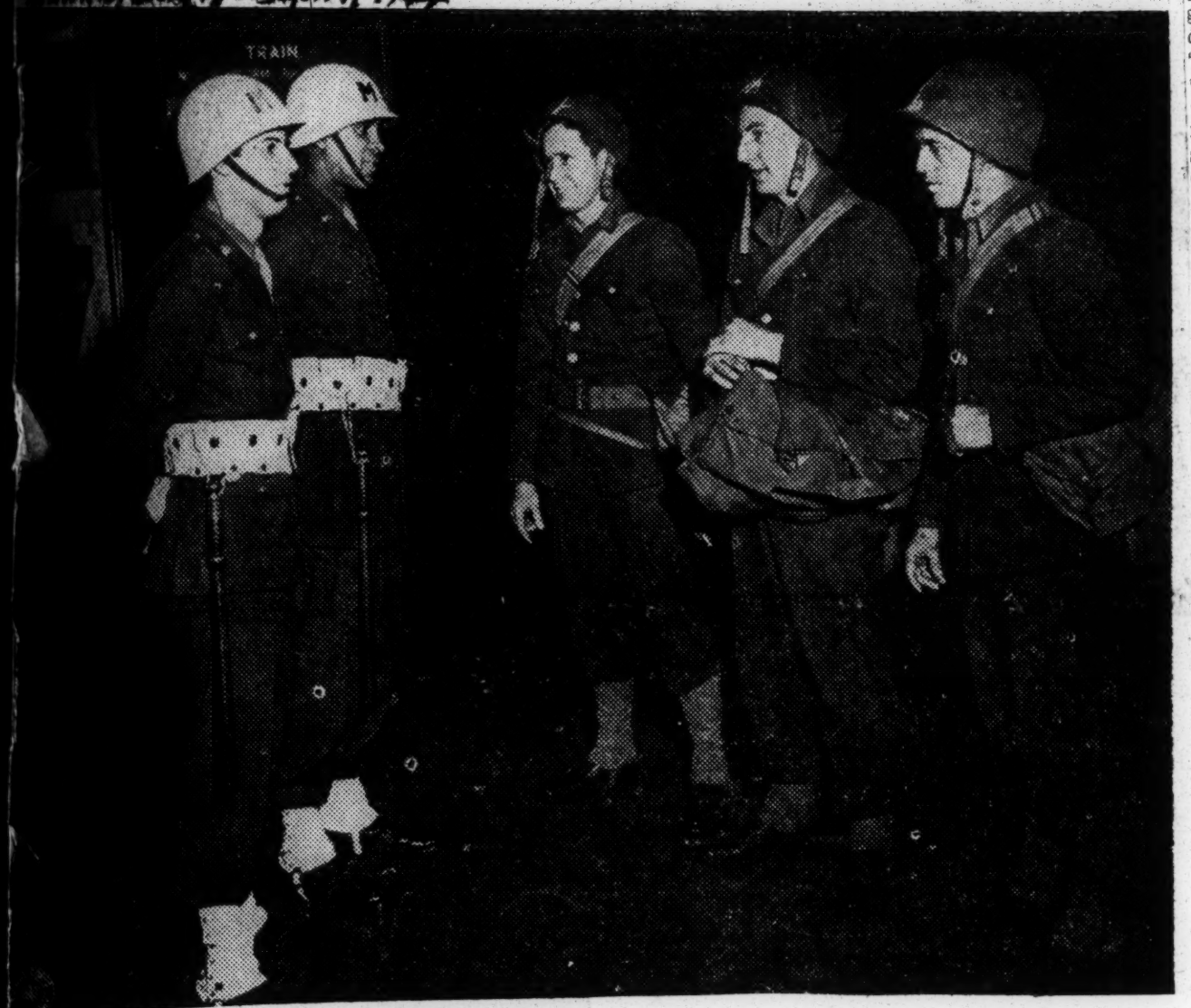
Sergeant Sanders is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He arrived in Memphis Saturday monring and left Sunday.

47m-1944

Military Police

Negro, White MP's Patrol In London

Daily Worker
Phila. Issue of - Sept. 7, 1944



Shown here at one of the largest railway stations in Londons are two soldiers of a U. S. Military Police Detachment assigned to duty in the London area. They are pictured here giving information to three GIs. MPs shown here are Private Paul H. Burdge, (left) Plymouth, Ohio, and Private Hugo V. Talliaferro, 1517 Q Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

NEGRO MP UNIT PATROLS ENGLISH, INVASION PORT

Daily World - Memphis, Tenn. Sept. 1, 1944

Unit Serves To Promote Good Race Relations

HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATRE OF OPERATIONS — A Negro special Military Police Detachment, attached to the office of the Provost Marshal of a United States Army Transportation Corps port, is serving to promote good relations between Allied servicemen, the War Department reported Saturday.

Employing both foot and motor patrols, the Military Police maintain order at this vital invasion springboard and serve as guides to visiting soldiers and sailors. They work in conjunction with British Military Police and shore patrols covering strategic streets and areas frequented by military personnel.

Assigning and supervising these patrols is the duty of First Sergeant Paul Robinson, 32, of 8 Indian Lane, Stamford, Connecticut. "The liaison character of our work," said Sergeant Robinson, "is very important. It serves as a direct link in cementing already strong Anglo-American ties. Generally speaking the Yanks and the British make fast friends. Behavior on both sides is excellent."

Members of the unit include:

Arizona: Phoenix — Cpl. Zabedee Fuller, 20, of 1111 East Lincoln street, son of Mrs. Mamie Fuller.

Georgia: Atlanta — Pvt. Tinnie Perkins, 21, of 25-C Memorial Dr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Perkins; Quitman—Pfc. Daughty H. Corker, 20, of 915 East Forsyth street, son of Mrs. Harvellon Batchelor.

Kentucky: Louisville—Pfc. Richard Edmonds, 30, of 623 South 18th street, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Edmonds, General Delivery, Allen Springs, Ky.

Mississippi: Bolden — Pvt. William Polk, 24, Route 1, Box 2, husband of Mrs. Lily Polk, Pocahontac, Miss.

North Carolina: Elm City—Pvt. John C. Daughtry, 20, Route 3, Box 7, husband of Mrs. Gladys Lee Daughtry.

47m-1944

92nd Infantry Division

Negro Soldiers Make Grand Showing in Battle

The Sinker New York Evening 9-3-44

American Negro troops are crack combat units.

By EUGENE GORDON

The 92nd Infantry Division of the United States Army went into battle this week as part of the Fifth Army. Dispatches said it was the first Negro ground troops to see action in Italy. Negro troops have fought in the South Pacific ever since our landing there. They were, in the first days, chiefly engineers, or service troops, trained in combat.

9-3-44

Later Negro arrivals were members of the famous 24th Infantry which, itself, may have been a part of the 93rd Division. For security reasons we cannot—and need not—be exact on this point.

ON BOUGAINVILLE

It is a fact, however, that the first Negro combat division to see action in World War II belonged to the 93rd Division, on Bougainville, facing the Japanese.

Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark's address to men who joined his Fifth Army this week was both a gracious gesture and a pep talk. There is nothing in army regulations requiring a commanding general to welcome newcomers with speeches. What he said is, therefore, indicated their commander-in-chief's present attitude toward Negro troops.

Negroes are now in every branch of the armed services, including the Marines. There are scores of field officers, including a brigadier general. There are, for the first time Negro officers in the U. S. Navy.

"Take this opportunity, as I know you will, to cover yourselves with glory," General Clark is quoted as telling the Negro troops.

Russell Hill, the Herald Tribune correspondent reporting the speech added that the men "will be watched critically by those who are skeptical about the fighting ability of Negro units."

FIGHTING ABILITY 9-3-44

There is probably no informed person still "skeptical" about the fighting ability of Negro troops. This same 92nd Division—alongs with the provisional 93rd Division—proved in World War I that, despite all handicaps, it was an outfit of first-class soldiers.

Reports from fighting fronts in World War II, when they tell of Negroes in combat, do so chiefly because these men have distinguished themselves. That has been true of Negroes on Bougainville and of Negroes on the landing beaches of France. It has been particularly true of members of the 99th Fighter Squadron.

47m-1944

93rd Division

LETTERS

PM-New York, N.Y. 4-17-44

From the Editor

Negro Soldiers

We made an especial point to get and print the stories on Negroes of the 93d Division in combat in the Pacific (*page* 10) because there is so much misinformation going around right now on the status of Negro troops in the war.

Anyone who receives much soldier mail from Negroes has had reports about reassignments of colored fighting troops of one kind or another to service and work assignments. Such reassignments have led to a rather widespread belief that all Negro troops have been ordered kept out of action and assigned to work details.

That isn't true. What is true, apparently, its that recently there have been troops, both white and colored, transferred to combat outfits to service duty, but the fighting of the 93d Division is the best evidence that Negro troops are not going to be kept out of action.

What happened is that someone called the shot wrong early in the war on the number of service troops that would be required to supply the fighting armies. As near I can find, estimates on the number of service troops required were based on the proportion found to work out best in the last war. Insufficient allowance was made apparently for the increase in fire power of the new division. That requires more service troops to provide the additional ammunition and supplies. Further, the mobility of troops today has been stepped up over the last war, and the service problem increases astronomically with the increase in mobility.

The results have been that in recent months it was discovered that more service outfits were needed and other troops were reassigned to this work to meet the need. Many of the troops, so reassigned, have been Negro outfits, but not all of them by a whole lot. 4-17-44

Incidentally, the ultimate responsibility for using, or not using, Negro troops in combat is in the hands of the commanding general in the different theaters of war. If Gen. Eisenhower will call for Negro troops to go into fighting action, they will fight in Italy and Europe. If he doesn't, they will not. The decision on actual use of troops in the war theaters is in the hands of the commanding generals in the field, and not the War Dept.

That is not to say that the War Dept. record on handling of the Negro problem is good, for it isn't. Except for officers' training schools, where white and Negro students live and work very successfully without a color line, the Army is on a Jim Crow basis.

Most inexcusable of all, the Department has so far refused to sanction even an experimental mixed outfit, made up of white and Negro soldiers who volunteered to serve together to prove that soldiers can fight and perform better on a basis of democratic equality. 4-17-44

To get back to the 93d Division, the soldiers of that outfit have proved that you can't measure the quality of Americans by the color of their skin. It is time that all of us learned that same lesson at home.

—John P. Lewis.

93D NEGRO DIVISION FIGHTS JAPS BEYOND BOUGAINVILLE LINES

Tribune-Chicago, Ill.

BOUGAINVILLE, April 15 [Delayed]—(AP).—Elements of the 93d Negro division are still in contact with the enemy several miles east of the American beachhead perimeter at Empress Augusta bay on Bougainville, Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon's headquarters reported today. 4-17-44

Twelve torpedo planes and 10 dive bombers raided Japanese supply caves near the Saua river and Japanese artillery continued the early morning shelling of the Torokina fighter strip and the Piva bomber strip. Minor damage was reported before the enemy guns came under the fire of a counter battery.

Allied patrols reported finding additional Japanese dead beyond the beachhead perimeter.

Bags First Jap For 93rd

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

WITH THE AMERICAN DIVISION AT BOUGAINVLLE— Photo shows Maj. Gen. Oscar W. Griswold of Elko, Nevada, commanding general of Allied troops on Bougainville Island, congratulating Pvt. James H. O'Banner, young Negro infantryman, Sidon, Miss. O'Banner bagged the first Jap to be killed by a Negro soldier at Bougainville. He is with the elements of the 93d Negro Division, attached to the veteran American Division

(U. S. Army Signal Corps)

NEGROES ON BOUGAINVILLE

Their commander is proud of them.

Says General Lehman: "They have the same courage, the same fear and fighting spunk as any other soldiers. They are quick to learn and eager to perform. They can give & take, and they are about the best disciplined men in the Army."

Major General Raymond G. Lehman, of Sleepy Eye, Minn., commander of the 93rd, who has been a Regular Army officer since 1917 and commands Negro troops because he likes to lead them. 5-20-44

OPERATIONS

Time-Chicago, Illinois

"Tan Yanks"

May 29, 1944.

In the Bougainville jungles white and colored troops live together in soldierly understanding, TIME Correspondent Robert Martin reported last week. Units of the 93rd Division, first all-Negro infantry division to be sent overseas in this war, had fought and acquitted themselves with honor.

For the Negro troops, acceptance by their white comrades-in-arms was something to shout about. There had been gibes when units of the 93rd landed on Bougainville, on the heels of the Americal Division. The Americal knew by then what jungle fighting was like. They doubted that the "Tan Yanks" would stand up under the jungle's strange and silent horrors.

The tight-lipped Negroes had moved in. Among their units was the old 24th Regiment, which had supported Teddy Roosevelt in 1898 in the Rough Riders' charge up San Juan Hill. Two-thirds of their officers were Negroes, 90% of them college graduates. The enlisted men were boys who had lived in Harlem tenements, plowed Georgia farms, carted crates in San Francisco. Time-Chicago Ill. 5-20-44

With Prayer. It was animal-like warfare on Bougainville. The Negroes did not like it, any more than white men did. Sometimes their officers had to tongue-lash them into action. But unseasoned white troops had also gone through that first paralyzing terror of jungle combat.

Private James O'Banner, a mild-mannered youngster from Memphis, Tenn., was the first man to get a Nip. His carbine snap shot stirred up a hornet's nest. A dozen Negroes were slain, 25 were wounded. But 30 Japanese were dead before the melee was over. 5-20-44

The men of the 93rd learned fast. They were resourceful. Corporal Lemon Hicks of Silver City, Miss. and four buddies got lost behind enemy lines. When they blundered into a command post they picked off one Jap, melted back into the thick and steaming underbrush. They ran into a Jap minefield and methodically picked their way through it. They located their own lines by the sound of distant artillery, finally crossed safely back. Said Lemon: "All of us prayed."

One unit, moving out along the muddy Laruma River, fought it out with Japs for two days, destroyed five of their pillboxes, crossed the river with fixed bayonets and put their disorganized enemies to rout.

With Flame. Their artillerymen learned to "walk" shells toward distant objectives. Their fire was so accurate that Jap prisoners thought U.S. troops had installed listening posts deep in the jungles to tip off Japanese movements.

Fighting alongside white units, the Negro doughboys helped extend outposts across the Saua River. With bazookas, flame-throwers and Browning automatic fire they beat off frontal attacks by day, creeping infiltration by night, until the Bougainville base was finally secured.

By last week they were either veterans or casualties of the jungle war and white

47m-1944

15 Nurses in S.W. Pacific Send Holiday Greetings Home

Afro-American-Baltimore, Md.
1-1-44

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA—(Via Air Mail)—Nurses recently arrived in Australia from the States have some messages they want transmitted to friends back home.

In a four-hour session each of the fifteen members of the female contingent of the non-white hospital unit poured out her heart and a lot of her private life to this correspondent. Harlem and Lincoln Hospitals in New York claim the major portion of the group as daughters and they were lavish in their praise for the various forms of entertainment available in Gotham. There is nothing for them to do here but go "window wishing."

Duties Light

In the staging area where they are now quartered their duties are light, consisting of tours at KP or at "gardening"—which is the Nurses Corps way of speaking of "policing up" the camp area. Several have done stretches of guard duty.

Lieut. Elnora Jones, Rahway, N.J., is the sole member of the group trained at Baltimore's Provident Hospital. For ten years, from 1932 to 1942, she worked as general duty nurse at Seaview Hospital, Staten Island, N.Y.

She sends greetings to Miss Anita Keller, 812 Fremont Avenue, Baltimore, and to the Ponders, Wilsons and Fishers of Rahway.

Lieut. Inez E. Holmes, Norfolk, is a graduate of the Piedmont Training School at Burkeville, Va., which is an affiliate of St. Philip Hospital at Richmond. She worked briefly at Seaview Hospital, joined the army in June, 1941, and saw service at Fort Bragg, N.C., before going to Fort Huachuca.

Greetings to Brooklynites

She says hello to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Green, Mr. and Mrs. James Bonner, Brooklynites; Mrs. L. D. Mitchell, superintendent of nurses at Seaview; here parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Holmes; and a sister, Miss Eula Holmes, who is a teacher at Norfolk's Small Public School. 1-1-44

Another sister, Mrs. Vivian Holmes, 5328 Race Street, Philly; the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Williams of Raleigh, N.C., and Mrs. Mollie B. Cook of Halifax, are others to whom she sends word she is safe and happy.

Lieut. Albert L. Smith, Kansas City, Mo., who did nurse training at General Hospital No. 2 in Kaycee, worked at Wheatley Provident Hospital for awhile, then returned to her alma mater as resident superintendent of nurses before joining the army in October, 1942. Her greetings go to Mrs. Katie Barnett, 1701 S. Thirty-fifth Street, Kansas City, Kans., and to her brother, Everett Lewis, who is a trumpeter in Count Basie's orchestra.

Kisses to Husband

Lieut. Elena Townsend, Glen Cove, L.I., N.Y., graduate of Harlem Hospital School of Nursing in 1942 and employee of the emergency receiving section prior to joining the army in November, 1942, sends "love and kisses" to her husband, Lieut. James Gleason of the 93rd Division, and greetings to Miss Marion Ray of North Philadelphia. 1-1-44

First Lieut. Birdie Brown, New York, sends regards to members of Abyssinian Baptist Church and the word that "much has already been shown to prove that we CAN live together and work together."

Other members of the group who send greetings to friends and family are Lieuts. Louise Miller, Atlanta; Thelma L. Fisher, Boston; Beulah L. Baldwin, Cleveland; Dorothy O. Branker, Nashville; Joan Louise Hamilton, Kansas City, Mo.; Bessie Parker Evans, St. Louis; and Geneva Culpepper of Alabama.

Members of the 93rd Division and staff attaches of the Fort Huachuca Station Hospital hold high priority in the "hello back there" greetings of these newcomers to the Land Down Under.

LT. SUSAN FREEMAN

Nurses

Group of 30 Under Lt. Susan Freeman, Back from Liberia

Afro-American-Baltimore, Md.
1-22-44

Surgeon-General's Office Says Reassignment Purely Routine; Major John West Also Back in U.S.

WASHINGTON.

Thirty nurses, members of a contingent on duty in Liberia, have been returned to the United States for reassignment, it was learned last week.

The group was under the command of First Lieut. Susan E. Freeman of Hartford, Conn. Some of them have been assigned to Camp Livingston, La., some to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and still others, it is reported, have been assigned to a unit which may soon be sent overseas.

Also back in the States is Major John West of Washington, who headed a unit of medical officers in Liberia.

Nothing "Sinister"

The Surgeon-General's office had no comment upon the reassignment, other than to deny that there was anything "sinister" about the change. An effort is made, it was stated, to rotate nurses periodically. 1-22-44

Many of the members of the unit, it is reported, contracted malaria in Liberia and none had had any leave since the unit landed overseas. Another unit was last reported in the South Pacific.

There was no official indication as to whether the unit would be replaced. It is believed that the shifting battlefronts may mean that no replacements will be sent

The Liberian contingent included, in addition to Lt. Freeman: 1-22-44

Lts. Thelma H. Calloway, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Chrystalee Maxwell and Clara A. Henry, Los Angeles; Sarah F. Thomas, Marion, Ala.; Bela M. Long and Alberta L. Holt, Chicago; Wineas A. M. Hibbler, Vallejo, Calif.; Gertrude M. Ivy and Maria W. B. August, both of Atlanta.

Lts. Pharfeania F. Jones, Tampa, Fla.; Ruby Gill, Beaumont, Tex.; Mattie L. Aikens, Macon, Ga.; Susan F. Harris, Rochester, Pa.; Hallie M. Brown, Charlotte, N.C.; Jewell E. Patterson, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Louise M. Jacobs, New York; Sammie M. Rice, Florence, S.C.; Esther B. Stewart, Princeton, Ind.; Margaret R. Kendrick and Alma H. Favors, Athens, Ga.;

Lts. Idell E. Webb, Kansas City, Kans.; Fatima D. Smith, Hazlehurst, Miss.; Norma L. Greene, Elkins, W.Va.; Phloy G. Frierson, Rayford, N.J.; Rosemary Vincent, Detroit; Eva C. Bogess, Waco, Tex.; Ellen Robinson, Hackensack, N.J.; Daryle E. Foster, Bedford, Pa., and Leola M. Green, Houston, Tex.

Army Lifts Its Ban On Negro Nurses

PM-New York, N.Y.
7-12-44

Faced With Desperate Shortage, It Changes Its Jim Crow Policy

PM Exclusive

The U. S. Army, faced with a desperate need for nurses and growing public impatience at its refusal to make fullest use of the nurses available, has abandoned its traditional Jim Crow policy in limiting Negro enlstments.

The new policy is that the Army will accept and commission qualified nurses "without restriction."

It already has been put into effect. A check of several Negro nurse groups revealed that most of the members entered military service more than a week ago.

The reversal of policy is a victory for the National Assn. of Colored Graduate Nurses and those organizations which supported the Association in its campaign to have race restrictons lfted.

Association Notified

Announcement of the new policy was contained in a telegram from Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, to Mrs. Mabel Staupers, executive secretary of the Assn. of Colored Nurses. The telegram said:

"Negro nurses will be accepted without regard to any quota. They will be used both in this country and abroad. They should apply for commissions in the regular manner."

For the past two years the Army has refused to take Negro nurses because their use was restricted to Negro hospitals at four Army stations and the 220 Negro nurses in the Nurse Corps were sufficient to handle those four hospitals.

"Negro nurses will now be recruited and used without restriction and without quota," Mrs. Staupers said. 7-12-44

"Our organization is urging all qualified nurses to apply for admission to the Army Nurse Corps. They should apply through their local Red Chross chapter. There are 800 in the New York area ready to go.

Progressive Step

"This policy change is a significant and progressive step in race relations. It shows that the War Dept. will respond to public pressure and demands. We wish to acknowledge the help of all the organizations which have assisted us, especially the National Nursing Council for War Services. Your paper, PM, has been a valuable factor also."

The Procurement and Assignment Service for Nurses of the War Manpower Commission lists nurses in essential and less essential work. It urges qualified persons engaged in less essential duties to join the Nurse Corps. Mrs. Staupers said that close co-operation between the Procurement and Assignment Committe in each community would be highly important in making the new policy effective. She explained that these committees could either

NO NEGRO NURSE QUOTA

7-13-44

Army Denies Any Limitation and Asks Them to Apply

Times-New York, N.Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, July 12 — The War Department denied today that there had been a quota for white and Negro nurses in the Army. It stated its position following an announcement by Mrs. Mabel Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, of a policy under which Negro nurses would be accepted in the Army without regard to quota. 7-13-44

easier to aid, were barred by their color.

encourage or discourage joining the Nurse Corps.

The Jim Crow policy on nurses was changed by the Army after repeated and insistent appeals for white nurses. Five thousand nurses had failed to fill quotas. They said, after the meeting, that it "was simply heartbreaking" that the end of the year to hear the pleas for help and to realize they, who were ready and

Bid to Nurses

Qualified nurses can make application for commissions in the Army Nurse Corps through the Red Cross. In New York application should be made to Miss Eleanor Lee, Director of the Recruitment Center, 139 E. 36th St., MUrray Hill 4-4455, Ext. 260. Nurses who pass the required tests are commissioned as second lieutenants and draw $1800 a year in addition to uniforms and

Their Return from Liberia Said to Be "Routine"

These thirty U.S. Army nurses have been sent home from Liberia, where they have been stationed. According to the Surgeon-General's office the transfer is purely routine.

'ANGELS OF MERCY' . . . DRILL IN TEXAS

It's not all hospital work for Army nurses. Here, "Angels of Mercy" at Fort Clark, Brackettville, Texas, are shown going through a drill routine. First Lt. Josie M. Glenn, principal chief nurse, is at extreme right. She is a native of Winnsboro, S. C.

Other nurses, left to right, 2nd Lts. Lucille R. Guilford, Kansas City, Mo.; Ruth Smith, Steubenville, Ohio; Prinzola McFarland, Silsbee, Texas; Goldie M. Quinerly, Norfolk, Va.; Anne L. Jackson, Houston, Texas; Inez F. Howard, West Cape May, N. J.; Bertie M. Long, Weldon, N. C.; Theresa V. James, Minneapolis, Minn.; Annie B. Jackson, Whitethorne, Va.; Carolina Schenck, Uniontown, Pa.; Alice M. McCoy, Millington, N. J.; Jane E. Pate, Christianburg, Va.; Laura Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.; Nannye R. Hatton, La Grange, Ga.; Mary J. Culver, Cheyney, Pa., and Syble A. Lewis, Brooklyn, N. Y.—U.S. Army Signal Corps photo.

Negro Nurse Center Opened. 7-16-43 Courier-Journal-Louisville, Ky.

Washington, July 15 (AP)—The first basic training center for Army Negro nurses has been established at Fort Huachuca in Arizona, the War Department said today. A medical training center for Negro Wacs also has been established at Huachuca.

Our Nurses in Australia

Recently arrived in Australia are these nurses, members of a unit which will eventually be assigned to hospitals in the Southwest Pacific Dressed for a shopping trip to town are, left to right, 2nd Lieuts. Geneva H. Culpepper of Wadley, Ala., Marjorie S. Mayers of New York City and Thelma L. Fisher of Roxbury, Mass.

Nearly 2,000 Negro Women Enrolled In Nurse Cadet Corps

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Great impetus to Negro nursing education are studying in 20 all-Negro schools; the rest are enrolled in schools having botoh Negro and white students. Almost 2,000 young Negro women have joined the Nurse Cadet Corps. They represent all but about 600 of the total number enrolled in all schools of nursing admitting Negroes.

At the end of one year of the Cadet Corps under the Public Health Service recognizing the medical need among Negroes, it was reported here at headquarters that 33 schools of nursing out of a possible 55 which admit Negro students have qualified under the Federal program which was begun in 1943 when the Bolton bill creating the Nurse Corps was enacted.

Five collegiate schools are now

Five Army Nurses At Utah Hospital

World—Memphis, Tenn.
7-14-44

OGDEN, UTAH—Five Negro Army nurses now are on duty in the Quartering Area Hospital at the Utah Army Service Forces Depot, the War Department reported today. They were ordered here from Station Hospital No. 1 at Fort Huachuca, Arizona where they were stationed for several months.

First Lieutenant Agnes B. Glass, Chief Nurse, of Meredian, Mississippi, received her training at St. Mary's Infirmary, St. Louis, Missouri, where she subsequently served a year. She is a post graduate student of Washington University in St. Louis and has pursued studies in ward management and administration.

For five years prior to her enlistement in the service in September, 1942, Lieutentant Glass practiced nursing at the Homer G. Phillips Memorial Hospital in St. Louis. She acted in the capacity of chief nurse in surgery at Fort Huachuca, and received her promotion in September, 1943. Her ambition is to go overseas where she feels she is needed most. 7-14-44

Second Lieutentant Velma M. Brown, of 1717 Euclid, N. W., Washington, D. C., is a graduate of the Homer G. Phillips Memorial Hospital and served as general duty nurse after graduation. She received her commission in the Army Nurse Corps in July, 1942.

Second Lieutentant Marjorie E. Clark, of 1147 Prospect Avenue, the Bronx New York, graduated from the Harlem School of Nursing in New York City, where she continued working as a general nurse prior to entering the Army in October, 1942.

A graduate of the Freedman's Hospital Training School for Nurses, Washington, D. C. Second Lieutenant Bessie O. Hart of 240 Adams Street, Steelton Pennsylvania, spent one and one half years at West Virginia State College at Institute, prior to her enlistment in the Army in September, 1942.

Sees Policy Change

Times—New York, N.Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, July 13—In response to a press conference question of lifting of quotas on Negro nurses, Robert P. Patterson, Acting Secretary of War, said today that in May the Army Nurse Corps quota had been increased to 50,000 from 40,000, that there never had been any distinction made as to Negroes or any other group within the Corps, and that if any individual were professionally and physically qualified she was eligible for a commission. 7-14-44

This was later interpreted by Truman Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, to mean a change in policy in that "nurses would be accepted without regard to race or creed."

Mr. Gibson said the Negro nurses had previously been recruited only for four Army hospitals serving large numbers of Negro troops, which had "in effect imposed a ceiling on them, so that no Negro nurses had been recruited for four years as these hospitals already had their required number."

The Army policy thus worked out as a disadvantage to the Negro nurse, he said.

He listed the hospitals were Negro nurses had been serving as follows: Fort Huachuca (Ariz.) Hospital; a separate ward in Fort Bragg Hospital, South Carolina; a separate ward in the Livingston (La.) Army Hospital; and the all-Negro Tuskegee Hospital. A fifth, at Fort Clark, Tex., was closed when all its troops went overseas.

The civilian aide further stated that Negro troops were serving in all overseas theatres of war, and with the great flow of nurses overseas it would seem likely that some of the Negro nurses would go. However, he said that exigencies of war were such that Negro nurses would not necessarily be assigned to Negro troops, but would give their services on a basis of need, just as white and Negro soldiers alike came into the war-zone hospitals on the basis of need.

Questions on assignment of Negro nurses were answered by the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army with the following statement: 7-14-44

"There is need for a substantial number of additional nurses, including Negroes. Both white and Negro nurses are being procured at this time. They will be assigned to positions they are best fitted to fill and where the maximum benefits can be secured from their services."

ARMY TO INCREASE ITS NEGRO NURSES

Patterson Says No Distinction Has Been Made—Aide

She's Supervisor

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga. 7-13-44

CAPTAIN MARY L. PETTY

Army Nurse Corps, of Chicago, will supervise training at the first basic training center for Negro nurses recently established at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. The initial class will have an enrollment of 135 nurses, all of whom were recently commissioned second lieutenants (Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps)

Hats Off!

PM—New York, N.Y.

7-23-44

Hats off today to the Negro nurses who have succeeded in their fight to get the Army to end its quota system of admitting them into the Army's nursing corps. As a result of their pressure, backed by civilian protest, they are now being admitted to the service on the same basis as other nurses. One of them, shown above, is Bertha Rushing, 28, *of Salisbury, N. C., a 2d Lt., among the first to get into the service since the change of policy. For four of the six years she has been a nurse, she was located at Sea View Hospital, Staten Island, and she also spent one year at Kate Betting Reynolds Memorial Hospital Winston Salem, N. C.*

The Nurse Policy

The decision of the War Department to abandon its Jim Crow policy of accepting only white nurses does not indicate that the department has taken a change of heart toward Negro nurses. It simply means that the need for nurses is so great and the available white nurses so few, they are forced to accept Negro nurses or stand accused of neglecting our war wounded. Tribune—Washington, D.C.

Other recognition will come to us as the war progresses and the available white manpower dwindles. 7-22-44

There has never been a war yet that didn't net some good to Negroes. World War I ended too soon or we, as a race, would have advanced farther along the road of equality. If the war continues for another year or so, there can be no doubt that it will result in unparalleled advancement for the Negro.

We are in the Navy for the first time because we were *needed*, not *wanted*. We are in the Air Corps for the same reason and yet, again, we are found among the paratroopers.

The war has practically shattered the employment policies of our Government agencies, and Negroes are to be found in practically every Government unit including those which formerly boasted they would never hire Negroes. 7-22-44

Government cafeterias once open to white only, now have to feed Negroes on equal basis with whites if the Government wants Negro workers to remain here. Signs, "For Negro Women" and "For White Women" which is pre-war days distinguished white toilets from Negro toilets are no longer on display; white women now have learned that they will have to use Government toilets behind Negro women or wait until they get home. They usually prefer the former because they can't wait.

We have come a long way since Pearl Harbor, and every day we see signs pointing toward other achievements.

And so, while we rejoice that some event brought about our end to Jim Crow in the Army Nurses Corps, we cannot attribute it to any religious or conversion on the part of Mr. Stimson and Company. It was plainly a war necessity. Sooner or later the necessities of war are going to cause other avenues to be opened to Negroes.

While the authorized strength Army Negro nurses has of the Army Nurse Corps was been established portions. Under the new policy lished at Fort Huachuca, the War Department Col. Median O. Bousfield, Ariz., as of February 29, there were under the commonly 219 colored nurses enrolled Chicago, head of the Station Hospital at the Fort. 7-22-44

First Negro Army Nurse Center Opened

Basic Training To Be Given At Fort Huachuca Hospital

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 7-22-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Following the removal of restrictions on the enrollment of colored nurses in the Army Nurse Corps, Medical training for Negro nurses has been established at Fort Huachuca, the War Department announced Saturday at Huachuca. announced that the first basic training center for NURSES ENROLLED

End of Army Nurse Quota Praised

People's Voice — New York, N. Y.

LT. ANNIE E. PHILLIPS of the Army Nurse Corps, which now includes 225 Negro nurses, dresses a wound for Pfc. Michael P. Brigida at Station Hospital, Camp Livingston, La. According to the War Dept. the quota of nurses now required is 50,000, and Negro nurses will not necessarily be assigned to Negro troops, but where needed. Hitherto, the nurses have served in only five hospitals in this country, mainly working with Negro troops. In New York, until the recent order, there had been practically no appointments during the last two years, though the recruitment office stated that 169 had applied in that period.

PROSPECTIVE ARMY NURSES are (l to r) Thelma O. Lambert of Plainfield, New Jersey, Julia L. Kelly of Philadelphia, Penna., and Julia Cobb of New Orleans, Louisiana, now working in Harlem Hospital. All three had made applications to the Army about two years ago but only recently received notices to report for preliminary examinations, since the institution of the new Army policy. These young women are glad to take advantage of Army's recent announcement of accepting qualified nurses without color restrictions —but they will be happier still, they say, "when all barriers in the armed services are abolished and when the Navy accepts Negro nurses also."

AT LONG LAST

NEWS from Washington last week was to the effect that the War Department has rescinded its ban on the general admission of Negro nurses in the Army Nurses Corps and that hereafter the quota system would be abolished and Negro nurses accepted without restrictions.

That is good news, but it is mighty late coming. Late because ever since Pearl Harbor, the plea has come out from Washington that more nurses are needed to care for the sick and wounded men in the armed forces. There has been a serious shortage of nurses, and yet hundreds of Negro nurses have been compelled to sit on the side-lines and not contribute directly to the war effort because of the color of their skin.

Wounded and sick men draw no color line. They know that death draws no color line. They know, too, that all they are concerned with is getting the proper treatment so that they can get well again. They do not care who helps them so long as they get well.

That is apparently what the War Department is just finding out. That is the reason why, at long last, it has abolished the quota system for Negro nurses in the Army Nurses Corps. We hope that is the reason. We should not like to believe that it is just another political move because a national election will be held this year.

Negro Nurses Urged To Seek Commission

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Negro nurses are ready to proceed to the theatre of war. At least 63 are under orders now and additional units have been requested from the same theatre of war. There is plenty of room for additional nurses who are registered graduates and who can meet the rigorous physical test.

There has been considerable lassitude on the part of Negro nurses, it was learned, in volunteering for army duty. Understandably this was due in part to the feeling that the army, while pleading for white nurses, was not opening the door to Negro nurses.

7-22-44

The doors are now open and qualified, physically fit Negro nurses are being urged to apply for commissions as second lieutenants. Many new advantages are guaranteed those who are commissioned now. Out of whatever number of colored nurses who have applied there are only 150 now on file who meet the qualifications. The demand is expected to be so great that "there will be no trouble in assigning all available applicants." It takes a considerable period of time however to clear nurses from their civil positions through the War Manpower commission, which must agree to their transfer.

The change of policy in opening opportunity to colored nurses must be credited to the unremitting fight which the National Nursing council, the National Association of Colored Graduate nurses and Congressman Frances P. Bolton of Cleveland have waged. Quietly and without recrimination they have brought effective pressures to bear. Mrs. Bolton, author of the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps bill, points to the fact that in the future as the cadets graduate a plentiful supply of nurses will be available for army, veteran hospital and other emergency duties, but urges that every qualified, capable, physically able young nurse place her application on file now.

Nurses Get Full Military Status

World — Memphis, Tenn.
7-4-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Negro nurses coming into the army nurse corps now will enjoy the advantage of full military status for the first time since the corps was founded in 1901 by an act of congress. Until recently there had been only 211 colored army nurses. Change in policy has removed the ceiling on such enlistments.

By the terms of an executive order signed by President Roosevelt, the entire personnel of the army nurse corps has been moved with the same pay and prerogatives as other officers. Heretofore the corps has been but an auxiliary such as was the old WAACS.

Commissions in their present grades are being issued to all members of the army nurse corps

NEGRO NURSE UNIT LANDS IN ENGLAND

7-22-44

The four Alabama nurses are 2nd Lt. B. M. Harris, Birmingham 2nd Lt. Laura Colquitt, Birmingham; 2nd Lt. Sarah F. Thomas Marion, and 2nd Lt. Margaret L Lipscomb, Salem.

The first contingent of Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps to be assigned to the European theater of operations has arrived in England for active nursing duty in that theater, and the unit includes four Alabamians, the War Department has announced at Washington.

The unit, composed of 63 nurses selected from various Army hospitals in the United States, was

Day with Harlem Cadet Nurses Reveals Study, Work and Play

Afro-American Balt. Md. 8-27-44

NEW YORK CITY.—Three girls in starched blue-and-white uniforms with insignia on their sleeves, and wearing clean white aprons—these are typical cadet nurses, students in training at the Harlem Hospital, 136th street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.

Enthusiastic and quietly earnest in turn, Armentha Elliott, of Dallas, Texas; Charmaine Young, of New Castle, Pa., and Priscilla Carter, of New York City, outlined the routine of a cadet nurse's day and discussed their plans for the future.

Miss Elliott, 20, explained that their day started at 6:30 o'clock, "but it's about 7 by the time I'm buttoned into my uniform." Chapel and breakfast, then on duty and to classes.

"Of course, the subjects differ in each class program," Miss Carter, 25, added. The only senior of the three, the white cap she wore was rounded, while those of Miss Elliott and Miss Young, both freshmen, were pointed.

Capped After Six Months

For a definite number or weeks, depending on school requirements, the freshmen send the major portion of their day in classes. Their very limited duties on the wards are closely supervised. At the end of a six-month period, freshmen at the Harlem Hospital are presented with their caps, and they officially go "on duty."

"We really feel as if we are a part of the hospital then, as we are actually filling a nurse's place," Miss Young, 19, said.

"On duty" means that the cadet nurses are assigned to the wards to care for patients under supervision, to the operating room and to the diet kitchen.

"After studying diet therapy," Miss Elliott explained, "we went right into the diet kitchen to plan menus and weigh food for the patients."

Ward duty seemed particularly fascinating to each of these future nurses.

"Having first learned the underlying causes of disease in class, it is interesting to watch the progress of a patient with whom you work," Miss Elliott said.

Leisure time for these hard-working nurses-to-be comes at the end of the day. From 4:30 in the afternoon until 7 is letter-writing time for some, while for others, it is time enough for a set of tennis.

"We have a recreation room here in the hospital," Miss Carter said, "with a phonograph, table tennis table and a handball court, among other things, to enjoy and to keep us fit."

First Negro Nurses Land At War Front In Scotland

N.Y., N.Y. Amsterdam News

Under the leadership of Capt. Mary Petty, of Chicago, sixty-three Negro nurses have arrived at a port west of Scotland. They were met on their arrival by Gen. Benjamin O. Davis. 8-26-44

This marks the first contingent of Negro nurses to be assigned to a European theater, although a similar group of nurses served for many months in Liberia

8-26-44

CAPT. MARY PETTY
In Battle Dress

Helmeted, and in full battle dress the newly arrived nurses were welcomed as they marched from the transport. All of them received their Army training in the station hospital at Fort Huachuca, where Capt. Petty was chief nurse.

The one New Yorker in the group is Second Lt. Lydia Pinckett of 205 W. 112th St., a former nurse at Harlem Hospital here

Capt. Petty is a graduate of Freedman's Hospital in Washington and had served a term at Harlem Hospitl before taking up her duties with the armed forces.

General Davis was flown to Scotland to greet the nurses following his tour of inspection of Negro units in Normandy.—C.

Negro Nurses

Serve Nazi Prisoners While Our GI's Suffer

Call—Kansas City, Mo. 10-20-44

Communication received by The Call this week revealed the startling information that 63 of our army nurses, one from Kansas City, are stationed in England administering to prisoners of war while our boys in France have to be content with the nursing by male ward attendants.

Following is the communication received:

Dear Mr. Franklin:

"I am one of the 63 nurses who arrived in England some time ago. I came over here as a volunteer to give aid to the wounded soldiers

At present we are not nursing our boys and I do not think we are doing anything to aid the war effort. The patients that we are nursing would not be of any service to Americans in general if they were well. We are nursing prisoners of war.

I received a letter recently from one of the medical officers somewhere in France. He had heard that we were nursing prisoners in England while our boys over there are suffering from the lack of attention. He stated that he had only the ward men to do the nursing care. 10-20-44

I might be wrong in writing this letter but I do feel that you and others should know what we are doing over here.

Our captain and chief nurse who came over with us from the States is the assistant to another captain nurse at this hospital. She is doing the type of work that a second lieutenant would do ordinarily. To think that she was chief nurse in the States for two years or more and then comes to England and has to act as assistant to a person with the same rank as hers.

We are really isolated. We 63 are the only colored on the post. We have heard that we are the only group of colored nurses to arrive in this theater of war. The eyes of England are upon us. It is up to us to make our race feel proud of us. How can we make our race feel proud of us when we are taking care of prisoners of war?

It hurts us to think that our boys in France are suffering from lack of care while are are over here serving our enemies."

Sincerely, 10-20-44

A Nurse, Who once Lived in Kansas City.

Admit Our Nurses Treat Nazi PW's

Afro American
Baltimore, Md
12-16-44

WASHINGTON

An admission that colored American nurses sent to the European theatre of operations are assigned to treat German prisoners of war came from Under-Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson at his press conference Thursday.

In what appeared to be an effort to justify the practice, he pointed out, however, that more white than colored nurses are so assigned. "There is no discrimination at all in the jobs to which white and colored nurses are assigned," he declared.

Secrecy Veil Lifted

Only last month the War Department disclaimed knowledge of reports that the entire contingent of sixty-three colored nurses recently sent to England had been given PW camp assignments while American soldiers in France lacked proper attention.

Colored nurses in the European theater of operations were assigned to one station hospital, Mr. Patterson explained, and later that hospital was converted to the exclusive care of German prisoners of war. 12-16-44

"There are others also assigned to that job," he said. "There are more white nurses than colored nurses caring for German prisoners of war."

"Grave" Shortage Admitted

At the same time, Major Gen. Norman T. Kirk, surgeon general of the Army, disclosed that the present shortage of Army nurses is grave, placing the figure of needed additions at 10,000.

Accepting an oil portrait of an Army nurse painted by a soldier in an effort to promote nursing recruiting, General Kirk said that the 40,000 civilian registered nurses in the united States are eligible for service in the Army Nurse Corps may have been "lulled by the false impression that the war in Europe is practically over. 12-16-44

Casualty Lists Cited

"Let me say that if they will examine the casualty lists now being released they will realize that there is a lot of fighting and dying going on in Europe right now," General Kirk stated.

"We are getting calls for more nurses from the European theater of operations far in advance of scheduled shipments."

Registered nurses under 45 years of age should apply to the Surgeon General, United States Army, or to any Red Cross Procurement office.

Nurse Recruiting Hampered by J.C.

AFro-American
12-30-44 Balt., Md

CHICAGO. (ANP)—Compliance with Dixie's code of racial segregation was revealed last week to be a factor that is blocking the War Department's urgent call for 10,000 Army nurses.

The failure of colored nurses to respond whole-heartedly was attributed to the Army's insistence on isolating them in keeping with Southern race tradition.

While there was no reported complaint about discrimination, men in and out of the service are reported to have made bitter objections against their wives, sisters and sweethearts enlisting in the Army Nurse Corps only to face racial segregation along with the general hardships of the battlefield. 12-30-44

Class of 14 Opposed

"While all fourteen graduates of my class are eligible for the Army nurse service, they are not available," said Miss Belva L. Overton of Provident Hospital. "Most of them are not interested in joining the Army Nurse Corps."

Another outstanding nurse recalled frankly the Army's attitude about colored nurses in the early stages of the war. "Colored nures wanted to join the nurse corps then," she said, "but were restricted by quota barriers. We resigned ourselves painfully to these barriers with the feeling that we would not impose our services upon the Army."

Handicap Admitted

Outstanding white nurses in this area are aware of this underlying sentiment, but admit they are in no position to break the Army's racial codes.

"We have been told the same thing by colored recruits," said Mrs. Emily Brannon, white head of the Red Cross nurse recruiting division. "Racial segregation is an additional handicap they must face."

Mrs. Brannon agreed with Miss Katherine M. Holfeltz, white, of the First District Nurses' Association, that the public must be educated to the needs of the general welfare of the nation and should become more war conscious. Both agreed that racial prejudice paid very poor dividends.

To Ask Stimson Why Our Nurses Treating Nazis

Pittsburg—Philadelphia
12-11-44

WASHINGTON —(ANP)— Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson will be invited to explain this week why colored nurses who were sent abroad sometime ago to care for the sick and wounded American soldiers are instead treating German prisoners of war.

He will be called upon also to say whether or not there is not now an existing shortage of army nurses in the European Theatre of Operations, one which might well be met in part by the detailing of American nurses to the care of American soldiers first.

That there are Americans for whom these nurses could care is disclosed in a letter from one of the 63 nurses which were sent abroad after considerable fight on the part of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

Women Given High Praise By Commander

Atlanta Daily World
ATLANTA, GA.
12-2-44

Handle Cases Of General Nature In Great Britain

A UNITED STATES ARMY STATION HOSPITAL, ENGLAND—(SNS)—In the oldest hospital in the United Kingdom, commanded by Colonel John C. Clun of Yonkers, New York, the first Negro nurses to arrive in the European Theatre of Operations are now on duty, the War Department reported today.

On September 16, 1944, the 63 nurses reported at the 1700 bed hospital. Captain Mary L. Petty, the chief nurse from Chicago, Illinois, appointed 16 nurses to take charge of wards and assigned others to the operating room. With seven years nursing experience Captain Petty is being trained as surgical supervisor. At present she is serving as assistant chief nurse. 12-2-44

"The hospital has never been staffed by a more efficient group. Those girls are good housekeepers," said Colonel Clum. "We handle cases of general nature, none remaining here longer than eight weeks, and the patients are receiving as good care as that provided by any staff we have ever had," he added.

Other appointments by Captain Petty are: First Lieutenant Susan Harris, Rochester, Pennsylvania, medical supervisor; First Lieutenant Jessie Glenn, Columbia, South Carolina, night supervisor; operating-room nurses, Second Lieutenants Dorcas Taylor, Louise Manley, Zola Long, Thelma Caloway, Alice Ishmael, and Alma Favors; anaesthetist Ridgely; nurse in charge of wards, 2nd Lts. Lucy L. Akers, Anna L. Collins, Gussie A. Daniels, Phloy C. Frierson, Roby Gill, Magnolia L. Harris, A. M. Hibbler, Sarah E. Johnson, Theresa J. James, Roberta Johnson, Lizzie V. Moore, Lydia M. Pinkett, Catherine E. Randle, Estella L. Smith, and Aslan A. Shepard. 12-2-44

War Dep't Uninformed On Negro Nurse Story

New York Amsterdam News
11-18-44 N.Y.N.

WASHINGTON (ANP)—The War Department had no information regarding the report that the 63 Negro nurses recently sent to England had been assigned to the caring of German prisoners. As to the further report that American soldiers in France were not receiving adequate medical care, this too was denied.

Secretary Henry L. Stimson told his press conference last Thursday, in answer to previously submitted questions, that this information was lacking. He gave no indication that the subject might be pursued further, although in another quarter it was inferred that a full report is being sought.

Deny Report

In his denial of a shortage in France the secretary said that "according to the information which I got from the medical corps, there is no shortage of nurses on the European front."

On October 11 the War Department put out a release quoting Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, surgeon general of the army, as saying that there is a "critical shortage of nurses" in the army. The statement further pointed to the "disappointing response" to the call for 10,000 additional nurses which had already been made.

"Surely there are 10,000 graduate, registered nurses who are willing to join the army to help out in this emergency," Gen. Kirk said at the time.

The whole discussion has been provoked by a letter to the Kansas City Call last month written by one of the nurses in the group. Since then, however, an unquestioned

War Dep't Offers Denial

'No Knowledge' Of Negro Nurses Caring For Nazis

Pittsburgh Courier
11-18-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The War Department had no information regarding the report that the 63 Negro nurses recently sent to England had been assigned to the caring of German prisoners. As to the further report that American soldiers in France were not receiving adequate, medical care, this too was denied.

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Chicago Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Negro Nurses Tend Nazi War Prisoners In Britain

12-2-44

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND.—Some months have passed since I stood on deck in a warm June sun in an English port with Negro members of a medical unit moving silently but competently carrying stretcher loads of wounded Herrenvolk off jammed LSTs.

Waiting at the dock were ambulances driven by Negro drivers who also handled the Nazi "Master Race" with care.

Now with warm June days gone and wet, damp, cold English winter well underway, wounded, maimed and injured "Supermen" by a magnificent irony, having re-

12-2-44

lied on the ability and gentleness of Negro stretcher bearers, now turn to the wisdom, efficiency and decency of Negro nurses to nurse them back to health.

For here in a small town in England, concealed back of neat row houses, are numerous Nissen-hutted hospital wards where Negro nurses carefully, uncomplainingly and sincerely give their best

12-2-44

attention to their enemy—the hated "Master Race."

Upon my visit recently, I was surprised at the extreme caution taken to enshroud the nurses, their charges, and their duties from the eyes of others but having recently arrived from France, where everything inside an American uniform gets first call, I had forgotten certain rules with reference to prisoners of war that are strictly adhered to over here.

Under the rules of the Geneva Convention, prisoners of war "must at all times be humanely treated and protected, particularly against acts of violence, insults and the public curiosity."

Thus, information concerning how the "Supermen" convalesced remains a secret but the presence and sight of these comely brown girls warmed my heart so that I was certain that had I been ill their personal ministering to me would have set me on the road to recovery.

Long for Home

Like all Americans, GIs and officers, these 63 nurses aren't in love with Spamland and they, like their brothers now in France and here in Britain, get no joys out of the bleak winter days with nothing of the cheer that they experienced in the States.

"It's like this," put in pretty Louise Jacobs Manley, New York City and Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where her husband, Captain John Manley of the Army Medical corps, is stationed. "Most of us have served fifteen or more months, ten months in Africa, and then to Fort Huachuca and Camp Livingstone, La., and Fort Bragg, N. C., and and like all soldiers, we miss home.

"You see, some of us are married and well, it's only natural that we women would like to be with our husbands. But I suppose if the boys can take it, we have just got to see this war won and hope that V-day will be soon."

Comment on Nazis

Concerning her "Supermen" patients, Lieutenant Manley bristled at the questioning and stated quietly: "We are professional nurses and just as physicians, we are interested in saving the lives of all human beings."

I was moved and proud at the lieutenant's statement for here was an example of how our women are gallantly doing their bit here in Britain far away from home and fireside. I could not help but think of port units hauling, towing, toting, heaving and doing all the back-breaking labor on docks here in Britain and France, doing their bit to free human beings all over the world.

Captain Mary L. Petty is ranking officer of the group of nurses and comes from Chicago, Ill.

With a group of nurses and the captain, I walked one dark night through blacked out streets to the railway station, where they took their train back to the hospital.

Most From D. C.

Captain Petty has a brother in DuSable High school that she is maintaining in his education. She thinks that "her bit will help to prevent him going to war in a few short years."

10-2-44

Most of the nurses received their training in Freedman's hospital, Washington, D. C., but not all, for here again the old home town of Columbus, Ga., manages to have some alumni. Lieutenant Lizzie Moore graduated from the Columbus City hospital (Annex). Her home is LaGrange, Ga.

The nurses certainly have created some comment in all of the large neighboring towns and I had to admit that these smartly-tailored figures with regal bearing furnished some mightly shapely sights.

At one dance given by an American Red Cross club, Lieutenant L. Aikens, Worcester, Mass., had all the English girls fairly oozing with envy.

And now on Sunday afternoons, the women's lounge at the dormitory of these nurses has many gay young officers who come to pass the evenings away just as other officers came to visit the seventy nurses who were replaced by Captain Petty's group. Of those seventy nurses only one remains, Captain Frances Crouch, of North Carolina, the only non-Negro member of the nursing group.

And "Supermen" gain a new chance at life at the gentle hands of Negro nurses.

Daily Worker 12-29-44

LATEST NEGRO NURSE GRADUATES AT CAMP McCOY — The latest class of Negro nurses to complete their basic training center at Camp McCoy is shown at attention prepared for inspection. Negro nurses trained at McCoy are already serving overseas, station hospital officials revealed. The nurses are as follows: Front row (left to right) Lts. Thelma Gallman, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Rosetta Austin, Savannah, Ga.; Gladys Brown, Camden, N. J.; Rachel Green, Charleston, S. C.; Mary Burton, Petersburg, Va.; Ada Mack, Greenville, S. C.; and Virginia Mobley, Haverhill, Mass. Second row (left to right) Lts. Mary Rogers, Savannah, Ga.; Mildred Stokes, New Orleans, La.; Lydia Wiles, of New York; and Evelyn Decker, of Washingtonville, N.Y. — (ANP)

Our Nurses Now in Oldest U.S. Hospital in England

Afro-American Balto. Md.

12-2-44

A UNITED STATES ARMY STATION HOSPITAL, ENGLAND —In the oldest hospital in the United Kingdom, commanded by Col. John C. Clum of Yonkers, N.Y., the first colored nurses to arrive in the European Theater of Operations are now on duty, the War Department reported today.

On September 16, the sixty-three nurses reported at the 1700 bed hospital. Capt. Mary L. Petty, the chief nurse from Chicago, Ill., appointed 16 nurses to take charge of wards and assigned others to the operating room. With seven years nursing experience, Capt. Petty is being trained as surgical supervisor. At present she is serving as assistant chief nurse.

"The hospital has never been staffed by a more efficient group. These nurses are good housekeepers," said Col. Clum. "We handle cases of general nature, none remaining here longer than eight weeks, and the patients are receiving as good care as that provided by any staff we have ever had," he added.

Other appointments by Capt. Petty are:

First Lt. Susan Harris, Rochester, Pa., medical supervisor; First Lt. Jessie Glenn, Columbia, S.C., night supervisor; operating-room nurses, Second Lts. Dorcas Taylor, Louise Manley, Zola Long, Thelma Calloway, Alice Ishmael, and Alma Favors;

Anaesthetist, Second Lt. Marion Ridgely; nurses in charge of wards, Second Lts. Lucy L. Akers, Anna L. Collins, Gussie M. Daniels Phloy C. Frierson, Roby Gill, Magnolia L. Harris, A. M. Hibbler, Sarah E. Johnson, Theresa J. James, Roberta Johnson, Lizzie V. Moore, Lydia M. Pinkett, Catherine E. Randle, Estella L. Smith, and Aslan A. Shepard.

GLAD TO SEE YOU . . . NOW

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.

COMMANDS OVERSEAS NURSES

Defender - Chicago, Ill.

8-26-44

CAPTAIN MARY PETTY

First of her race to hold the captain's rank in the U. S. Army Nurse Corps and who is in command of the contingent of Negro nurses who arrived last week at a British port. Capt. Petty, who came to Chicago at an early age, graduated from Wendell Phillips high school in 1934, then went to Freedmen's hospital school of nursing, Washington, D. C.

First Nurses Arrive In Europe Area

Daily World - Atlanta

8-22-44

The first contingent of Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps to be assigned to the European Theater of Operations has arrived in England for active nursing duty in that theater, the War Department announced Monday.

Consisting of 63 nurses selected from various Army hospitals in the States, the unit came down the gangplank to be greeted by Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, America's ranking Negro officer, as they set foot on United Kingdom soil for the first time.

"During my long association with our Army," General Davis stated, I have seen a number of first. The first women Army nurses were introduced to post hospitals during my period of services. You are the first colored nurses to enter upon a tour of duty in this theater. The American people expect great things of you and I know you are going to live up to all the traditions of your profession and bring honor to the service."

8-22-44

TO RENDER SERVICE

Captain Mary L. Petty, of 5310 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, who heads the contingent, said "the foreign service at the brief ceremony that has come to my contingent has soil to render the greatest possible service to casualties in this theater and to do everything within their power to improve race relations."

A shy and unassuming young woman, Captain Petty has been an Army nurse for the past four years, serve as chief nurse at Station Hospital No. 1, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, now Army Service Forces Regional Hospital, Section One, where an average of 20,000 men have been in training constantly.

Fifteen members of the unit have had previous foreign duty. The largest percentage received their training at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D. C., and a number have been in the nursing profession for 12 years or more.

Second Lieutenant Anna Mae Jackson of Houston, Texas, graduate of Prairie View Hospital, Prairie View, Texas, gave up a job as head nurse of an eye, ear, nose and throat clinic at Houston Army service, because, she remarked, "care of the war sick and wounded seemed to me to be of greater importance at this time."

One team, Second Lieutenant Thelma Calloway of Brooklyn, New York, graduate of Lincoln Hospital in the Bronx, and Second Lieutenant Zola Lang, of Chicago, a Freedmen graduate, have been on identical assignments since joining the Army Nurse Corps two years ago. Both served in Africa.

8-22-44

Second Lieutenant Theresa V. James of Minneapolis, Minnesota, a graduate of the School of Nursing at the University of Minnesota, class of 1933, former pediatrics supervisor at the Homer G. Phillips Hospital at St. Louis, Missouri, joined the ANC three years ago and has been in administrative work.

The new unit of nurses will receive immediate assignment to active duty from Major General Paul R. Hawley, Chief Surgeon of the European Theater of Operations.

Colonel Ida W. Danielson, Chief Nurse of the theater. In addition to those named above, the roster, includes the following:

ALABAMA: Marion—2d Lieut. Sarah F. Thomas; Salem—2d Lieut. Alma H. Favors; Atlanta—2d Lieut. Alice C. Simpsons; Cordele—2d Lieut. Doretha Wadley; Lieut. Lizzie V. Moore; Orange—2d Lieut. M. L. Alkens; Macon—2d. Lieut. Magnolia L. Toccoa—2d. Lieut. F. A. Harris; Valdosta—2d. Lieut. Daniels.

NORTH CAROLINA: Charlotte Lieut. Aslan A. Shepard; Palestine Lieut. Hallie M Brown; Gas-2d Lieut. Lucille L. Scales. Lieut. Rubye E. Col- VIRGINIA: Norfolk—2d. Lieuts. Gwen-Goldie M. Quinerly and Ruth B. Shore—2d. McCoy; Portsmouth—2d. Lieuts. Green Vernice W. Kizer and Anna L. Raeford— Collins; Richmond—2d. Lieut. Julia E. James. TENNESSEE: Knoxville — 2d. Lieut. Lillie L. Emory.

8-22-44

Birmingham—2d. Lieuts. B. M. Harris and Margaret L. Lipscomb; Laura Colquitt.

ARKANSAS: Helena—2d. Lieut. Elizabeth L. Williams.

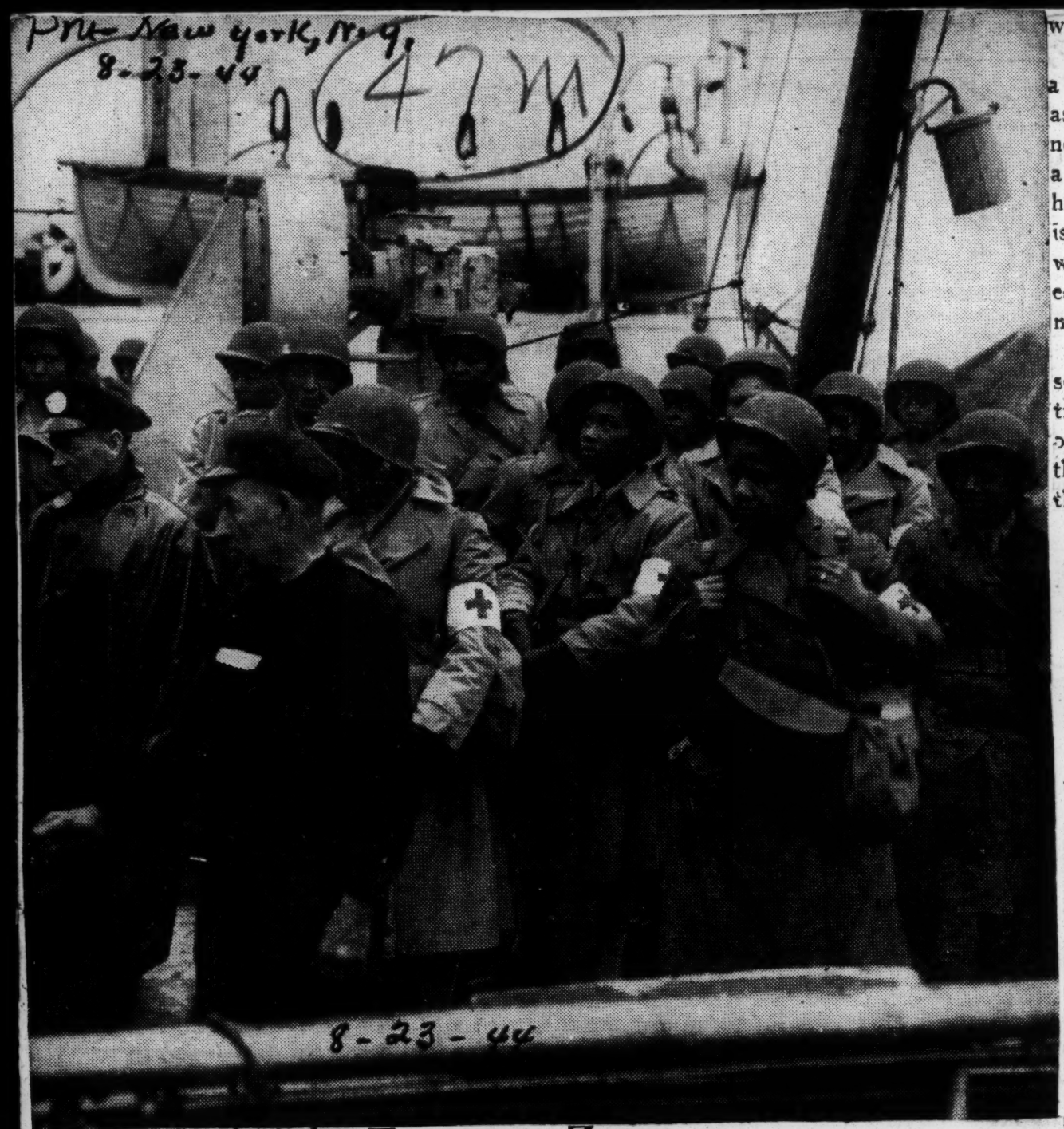
FLORIDA: Tampa—2d Lieut. P. F. Jones.

8-22-44

GEORGIA: Athens—2d Lieut. Lieut. Colonel Ida W. Danielson, Chief Nurse of the theater. In addition to those named above, the roster, includes the following:

ALABAMA: Marion—2d Lieut. Sarah F. Thomas; Salem—2d Lieut. Alma H. Favors; Atlanta—2d Lieut. Jesie M. Glenn; Florence—2d. Lieut. Alice C. Simpsons; Cordele—2d. Lieut. Sammie M. Rice; Greenville—2d Lieut. T. M. Sommers.

TEXAS: Appleby—2d. Lieut. Roberta Johnson; Beaumont—2d Lieut. R. Gill; Cleburne—2d. Lieut. Doris E. Heath; Galveston—1st Lieut. Aslan A. Shepard; Palestine Lieut. Lucille L. Scales. Norfolk—2d. Lieuts. Goldie M. Quinerly and Ruth B. Portsmouth—2d. Lieuts. Vernice W. Kizer and Anna L. Richmond—2d. Lieut. Julia E. James. TENNESSEE: Knoxville — 2d. Lieut. Lillie L. Emory.



PM—New York, N.Y. 8-23-44 947W

8-23-44

Nurses Arrive in European Zone

U. S. Army nurses line the rail of their vessel as it puts into port somewhere in the European Theater of Operations. They are waiting to disembark as the gangplank is lowered. (This picture is a hopeful indication that the Army's recently liberalized policy on accepting Negro nurses is being carried through effectively.) *Signal Corps Photo*

NEGRO NURSES ABROAD

DISPATCHES from London disclosed that 63 Negro trained nurses, led by Captain Mary Petty, of Chicago, have arrived at a west of Scotland port as the first contingent of Negro nurses to arrive in the European theatre of war. Age — New York, N.Y. 8-26-44

Although there are innumerable Negro doctors who have been serving Negro troops in France since D Day, it was not until the Army recently announced that it had abandoned the quota system for Negro nurses that applications of long standing were honored and enough Negro nurses accepted into the Army Nurse Corps to release these 63 Negro nurses from Fort Huachuca for duty overseas in the European war theatre.

One of the paradoxes — and there are many in connection with Negroes in the Armed Forces — has been the urgent need for nurses in the Army and the advertisement for them in newspapers and over the radio. And yet, despite this urgent need for nurses, there were thousands of Negro nurses denied the opportunity to even make application because there was a quota for them in the Army.

A wounded man, a dying man, doesn't care a tinker's dam who ministers to him, so long as he receives medical attention. There is not a single soldier who would refuse to have a Negro doctor or Negro nurse attend him if his life were hanging in the balance. There is no prejudice on the battle field. We have written time and again that bullets are not earmarked. They kill or wound all who might be in their path. 9-26-44

We hope that now that the first Negro nurses have been sent to the European war theatre, many more will be given the opportunity of being of service to humanity and practice the profession to which they have dedicated their lives.

ARMY LIFTS ITS QUOTA BAN ON RACE NURSES

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 7-15-44

Long Fight Against Color Bar Won By Women's Organizations

By RAMONA LOWE
(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK — The jim crow bars against Negro nurses in the armed forces received a smashing blow this week when an army memo ordered the lifting of the quota that has limited the admittance of Negro nurses into the Army Nurses Corps.

Mrs. Mable Staupers, head of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, who received official word from the War Department that Negro nurses would no longer be restricted hailed the announcement as a victory for the cooperative efforts of her association, Negro organizations like the NAACP, and the Negro press.

"There are now 220 Negro nurses in the Army," Mrs. Staupers said, "but now I am sure the majority of our nurses will offer their services. They have been reticent about applying because they resented the indignity of the quota placed upon us and I don't blame them, but now that that's lifted I know they will respond. 7-15-44

Cooperative Fight

"It is just as important to emphasiz that a significant victory like this is not won single handed. The National Association of Graduate Nurses spearheaded the fight for the end of discrimination against nurses in the Army, but fighting along with us has been the National Nursing Council for War Service, which is made up of all nursing agencies and which has taken a positive stand against jim crow in the Army Nurses Corps and which has made its position known to the War Department. It's cooperative effort that wins a fight like this."

Mrs. Staupers added that the unit of Army nurses originally sent to Liberia has been increased to 70 and is being reactivated for overseas duty. "It is expected that they will leave almost immediately," Mrs. Stupers said. 7-15-44

The Liberian unit was the first contingent of Negro Army nurses. There were 29 headed by First Lt. Susan E. Freeman of Stamford, Conn., who was the second Negro woman to enlist. They were sent to Africa in February, 1944.

"Those women have a good many stories to tell," Mrs. Staupers remarked, "that will be a blow to Hitler and fascism."

Back From South

Mrs. Staupers hardly had a chance to deposit her luggage from a ten-day trip South before reporters began ringing her doorbell Saturday morning to know about the War Department's change of policy.

The National Nursing Council was equally proud of the recognition at last that jim crow in nursing is defeating democracy. Mrs. Elmira B. Wichenden, executive secretary, speaking at the biennial nursing convention in Buffalo last month, said one of the Council's problems was getting "a square deal for the Negro nurse, both in civilian and military service."

Up to the present Negro nurses, with the exception of those who were sent to Liberia, have been confined to the Tuskegee Army Air Field and similar jim crow camps throughout the country.

Navy Ban Kept

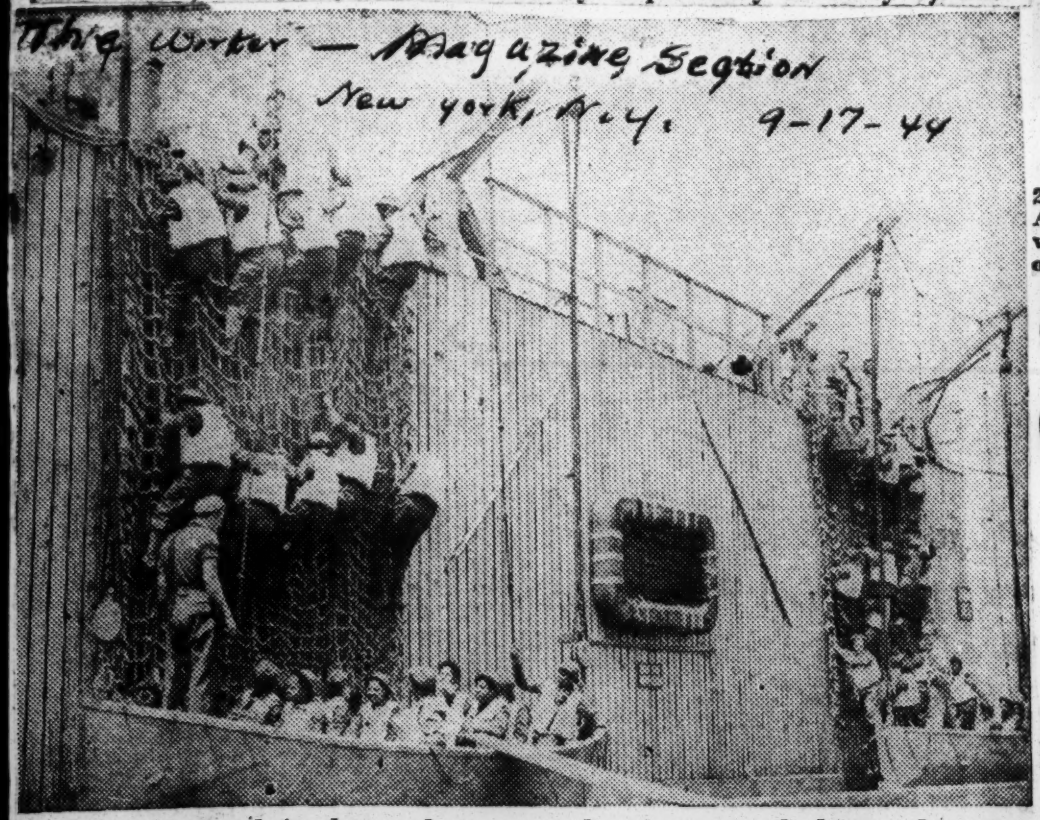
This new action is significant in view of the fact that Negro nurses are being trained together with whites at the larger hospitals in the North. It appears that a real "beachhead" has been driven into the pattern of segregation heretofore practiced by the Army. 7-15-44

It is fair inference that the Army Red Cross showed the Navy Nurse Corps intends to use the Negro nurses to be 1800 nurses behind its quota without regard to color in view of the latest report of the American the new order abolishing Negro quotas, and the announcement that they must be "white." set for July 1. Urgent appeals are being made for Navy nurses, but Negroes will be used both at home and abroad.

The Navy, however, despite its announced need, has not made any move in that direction yet. The last

Negro Worker Magazine Section — New York, N.Y.
9-17-44

Members of the first contingent of Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps are shown above as they arrived in England. Consisting of 63 nurses, the unit is commanded by Capt. Mary L. Petty of Chicago. Upper left shows the nurses drawing new clothing. In upper right, the nurses go through the ship abandoning drill prior to sailing for England.



ORIENT NEGRO NURSES IN ENGLAND

CONGRESSMAN FRANCES B. BOLTON of the 22d Ohio district, Cleveland, on her recent trip to American Army hospitals in France, spent some time with the Negro Nursing unit which is doing its orientation training at the 168th Station hospital in England. Mrs. Bolton was enthusiastic in her praise of the fortitude, ability and spirit of the colored nurses, the first to be prepared for the battle front. —ANP

Army to Stick to Separation of Negro's Blood and Nurses

Tribune — Washington, D.C.
4-15-44

A pronouncement that he knows no reason why any change should be made in the policy of labeling and separating the blood of Negroes for blood plasma banks and that the Army policy is not to mix colored and white nurses was made last week by Major General N. T. Kirk, Surgeon-General of the Army.

The statement was made during a press conference and the officer was reminded of the findings of scientists that there is no difference in the blood of Negroes and any other persons, to which he said: "There is no difference. I perfectly agree with you. But we might get in worse water than we are in now if we swap around too much."

Nurses? "If We Need Them"

Asked whether the Army plans to use more Negro nurses, and told that only 202 are reported in the service, he answered:

"If we need them." Up to now we have tried to use Negro nurses only where we have Negro troops. It has not been our policy to mix colored and white nurses throughout the Army."

This happened during the week which public announcement was made that Dr. Charles Drew, a Negro, had been awarded the Spingarn Medal by the NAACP for creating the blood plasma technique now saving thousands of lives on the world's battlefields.

CAPTAIN OF NURSES

Argus - St. Louis, Mo.

6-23-44

The outstanding and meritorious work of First Lieutenant Della H. Raney, Chief Nurse at the Tuskegee Army Air Field Station Hospital was rewarded by a recent promotion to the rank of Captain. She is the only Negro Capt. in the Army Nurse Corps assigned to duty with the Army Air Forces.

Capt. Raney, prior to her entrance into the Armed Forces, was operation supervisor at Lincoln Hospital, Durham, N. C. She left Durham in April, 1941, to report for duty as the first Negro in World War II. She was also the first Negro to be appointed Chief Nurse and the first to be promoted to First Lieutenant.

Army Opens Up To Nurses, Minus Quota

Informer - Houston, Texas

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) — Negro nurses may now enter the Army nurse corps without restrictions of quotas, without ceilings as to numbers, and with opportunity to serve both at home and abroad, the NNPA has learned this week from an authoritative Army source.

The order already has been sent out, and the new arrangement has gone into effect. 7-15-44

Credit for the change in Army policy in this regard is due largely to the Association of Negro Graduate Nurses and to the Negro press, both of which have been fighting since Pearl Harbor for the full and proper utilization of Negro nurses.

This new action is significant in view of the fact that at Camp Livingston Negro nurses are being trained together at the larger hospitals in the North. It appears that a real "beachhead" has been driven into the pattern of segregation heretofore practiced by the Army.

It is fair inference that the Army intends to use the Negro nurses without regard to color in view of what is happening at Livingstone, the New order abolishing Negro quotas, and the announcement that Negroes will be used both at home and abroad.

No More By Navy

The Navy, however, despite its announcement need, has not made any move in the direction yet. The latest report of the American Red Cross showed the Navy Nurse Corps to be 1800 nurses behind its quota set for July 1. Urgent appeals are being made for Navy nurses, but they must be "white." 7-15-44

Nurses must volunteer their services, and Mrs. Mable Staupers, head of the Association of Negro Graduate Nurses, has expressed the hope that there will be no lack of enlistments now that the doors have been pried open. Through her organization she is notifying all local war counsels of this latest move of the War Department.

Physical Therapy Aides

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

10-5-44

Left to right: Second Lieutenants Valjeanne Taylor, Atlanta, Georgia; Lilyanne Plummer, Washington, D. C., and Muriel Joy Davis, Evanston, Illinois, are the first civilian cadets to be graduated from the Ninth Service Command's School for Physical Therapy and Medical Technicians at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Upon completion of one year of training and practical work, they were commissioned on October 23 as second lieutenants, A. U. S., Medical Department. (Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.)

10-5-44

The opening of the doors broadens the opportunities available to cadet nurses, many of whom are training in hospitals throughout the country.

AMERICAN NURSES IN ENGLAND

Age - New York, N. Y.

10-14-44

Recent U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations Personal inspection of Army nurses is conducted regularly by staff officers at the Army Nurse Training Center in England. Above, an inspection is under way by Captain Mary L. Petty, of Chicago, at right, and First Lieutenant Mary F. Brucey, of Clyde, Ohio. Nurses stand at attention in front of their barracks. They are assigned to nursing duties with the U. S. Army's oldest established hospital in the United Kingdom. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

10-14-44

47m-1944

Post War

War Vets to Get $1,000 a Year For Schooling

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-5-44

Others Who Want to Buy Homes, Farms or Enter Business Can Get $2,000 Loans

WASHINGTON

Educational and economic benefits, as well as hospitalization, are provided for veterans of World War II in recently enacted Federal legislation known as the Service Men's Readjustment Act of 1944.

The benefits include:

1. Provisions for completing a general education interrupted by call to military service, or for vocational training;
2. Special consideration in obtaining employment, and readjustment payments for periods of unemployment;
3. Federal aid in acquiring a home, farm or business.

Greater Health Care

Established practices with regard to hospitalization are expanded and now include assurances for the provision and training in the use of artificial eyes, legs, arms, etc.

8-5-44

Benefits are available to men and women who have served ninety days in the armed forces between September 16, 1940, and the termination of the war and hold honorable discharges, or were discharged because of service-incurred injury or disability following any period of service.

The act provides a fund of $500,000,000 for construction of additional hospital facilities and authorizes use by, or transfer to, the Veterans' Administration of suitable Army and Navy hospitals after the war.

4 Years' Study Possible

The provision for resumption of interrupted general education is applicable to persons who were not over 25 years of age upon entering the service.

They may begin government-financed training, either in the form of continuation of an interrupted course of study or a refresher course, within two years after discharge, or after the end of the war, whichever is later.

Such training is limited to a maximum total of four years, depending upon length of service, and may not extend beyond seven years after the war is over.

May Select School

The veteran may select his own course of study and decide which of the government-approved institutions he wishes to attend, provided he meets the school's eligibility standards.

8-5-44

The Veterans' Administration will pay tuition, laboratory, library, health and other fees, and provide books, supplies and equipment, up to a maximum total cost of $500 a year; and in addition, will provide a subsistence allowance of $50 a month for veterans without dependents and $75 for those with dependents.

Similar assistance is provided for veterans taking vocational training, already assured in earlier legislation.

Job Search Eased

By way of assuring profitable employment, the act creates a Veterans' Placement Service Board, consisting of the administrator of veterans' affairs as chairman, the director of the National Selective Service System, and the administrator of the Federal Security Agency (or whoever heads the U.S. Employment Service), to cooperate with the USES.

Under this board, a veterans' employment representative will be assigned to each State, and one or more employees of each local USES office shall be given the primary function of carrying out the duties of the employment representative.

8-5-44

These duties will include supervision of the registration of veterans for suitable employment and placement therein, collection of information on available jobs, and promotion of employers' interest in hiring veterans.

$20 a Week for Jobless

Veterans unable to find work, if they report regularly at a public employment office according to regulations, will be eligible to receive a $20-a-week readjustment allowance for a maximum of fifty-two weeks within five years after termination of the war.

Periods of eligibility for such allowances are determined as follows: 24 weeks for the qualifying 90 days of military service and four weeks for each subsequent month of service, the total not to exceed 52 weeks.

These allowances are denied veterans who are unemployed as a result of dismissal for misconduct in the course of employment, voluntarily leaving suitable employment without good cause, refusal to accept suitable employment, or a work stoppage resulting from a labor dispute to which he, or a union to which he belongs, is a party.

8-5-44

Loans for Homes

The act provides for Federal guarantee of up to one-half of a loan for the purchase or construction of a home, the purchase of a farm or farm equipment, or the establishment of a business.

A $2,000 limit is set on the guaranteed portion of such loan and the interest thereon is limited to 4 per cent.

Non-Eligibles

Barred from all benefits under the act are conscientious objectors, deserters and any person whose discharge from the armed services is other than honorable, unless it is established that the person was insane when the offense responsible for his status was committed.

8-5-44

The War and Navy Departments are authorized to set up five-member boards of review which may modify discharges or dismissals except those based on sentences of a general court-martial. Requests for such reviews must be filed within fifteen years.

Cases of officers placed on inactive service for physical disability will be similarly reviewed by boards consisting of five commissioned officers, two of whom must be medical officers.

24th Patrol Adopts Commando Tactics To Raid Deep Inside Japanese Lines

Sergeant From Valdosta Leads Bold Attackers

Daily World

Four Japanese Fall Victims To Boys' Tommyguns

Atlanta, Ga

3-31-44

By FLETCHER MARTIN
War Correspondent for the Atlanta Daily Word and NNPA

BOUGAINVILLE, South Pacific — (By Cable) — Meeting the enemy for the first time in open fire fighting outside the perimeter, the 24th Infantry Patrols killed four, captured ammunition, and escaped in the wake of enemy machine gun fire back to their lines. Using Commando tactics the patrols struck lightening blows often getting close enough to touch the enemy.

One patrol returning after deep penetration in enemy territory spotted four Japs digging machine gun positions. The patrol opened fire with tommy guns and the enemy countered with machine gun fire. Our troops crawled closer to heir positions folowing this skirmish.

GEORGIAN LEADS

Sgt. Frederick Bell, Valdosta, Ga. leading the party, crowled within a few feet of the enemy, hurling grenades. The sergeant fired twice and two Japs fell as the patrol opened with automatic fire. Lightening Jap surprises were returned and the patrol stole back through the underbrush before the Japs could counter-attack again with Machine guns. 3-31-44

The second of our patrols, well outside the perimeter, challenged strange noises heard. The Japs answered with fire, and the patrol took cover, outflanked the enemy and poured in white heated automatic fire, as the Japs fled madly. Cpl. Sam Herron of Valdosta, Ga., standing behind his sub-machine gun, let loose and one Jap clutched as though for the sun and fell shrieking. Pfc. Willie Johnson, of St. Louis, crawling through thick underbrush, nearly bumped into Jap who was also crawling.

Both, o surprised each other, they withdrew without further ado. Third patrol submitted a negative report, having not encountered the enemy. All partols reported Japs speaking fluent English in efforts to lure them into traps. Our line her every letter. They want it to be a big wedding to be put in all the newspapers. At the party Major A. R. Traylor (Los Angeles) and Capt. C. R. Little (Washington, D. C.) Negro officers, gave toasts and ate sphagetti. Everybody felt good. 3-31-44

Somebody hummed "Here comes the bride" Raymond N. Knox beamed. S-Sgt. Emmanuel M. Burns (Shreveport, La.) sent for some more sphagetti. Outside the sun was scorching, but nobody minded much. Inside the wedding was being rehearsed. Raymond N. Knox didn't walk like a groom. Too ful of ice water and spnagetti. Lt H. B. Henderson (New York City) said he wasn't nervous enough.

At this writing some of the men have gone into the upper perimeter. Others are expecting to go home. Some coming, some going, never staying long enough to strike up a real friendship. But no one there will forget the party given for Howard's Miss Virginia Drew and Raymond N. Knox, even if we never meet again.

Enemy Leaves Dead And Dying On Beachhead

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

3-26-44

Infantry Refuses To Quit Muddy Tract Of Jungle

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(War Correspondent of the Atlanta Daily WORLD and NNPA)

BOUGAINVILLE—(By Cable)—Negro troops of the 24th Infantry, and the 54th Artillery, seasoned by preliminary skirmishes have coordinated effectively as the enemy forces have been routed in a vain attempt on beachhead. The infantry refuses to quit the muddy tract of the jungles, thwarting the enemy attack with blinding automatic fire, while the artillery thunders in background. The jungle stinks with a dead, musty odor as Jap bodies litter the boggy, bloody ground. Twice the enemy tried infiltration through our position, but both times they left their dead and dying. One Jaap surged through with his body riddled, but soon died. The enemy attacks in wave after wave but is killed. Entering the second week of action, there is quiet, but the enemy is thought licking his wounds. In the interim our troops have dug deeper into the line awaiting another desperate, though befuddled attack. 3-26-44

Since attack began March 8 there have been reported approximately 3,000 enemy losses, less than 300 losses for us. four of these being Negroes killed in action. Our last death came as a result of an ambush attack by a Jap sniper. Troops scoured the area aided by Fijians of the enemy force. Japs still number in the thousands, and the only handicap is the thickness of the jungle, which makes it difficult to use of grenades. Rains and degrading heat are also liabilities out here. The morale of our troops soars daily, despite the long hours of waiting in total darkness, and their fire and discipline has caused compliment from many.

One general remarked that considering two years in jungles at hard work men have taken to weapons like naturals and the entire base is mighty proud of the work of these warriors. Patrols continue to move in the bosom of the enemy positions not only reconnoitering but engaging the enemy whenever possible. The enemy refuses to accept the challenge and what few shots have been fired have been at Japs darting through bushes. The enemies camouflage themselves with bushes from their waists up and squat. However, shrewd eyes have caught the bushes while running.

News of the 25th Infantry in action has receded through the South Pacific. Major General Lehman, Commandant of the Negro Combat Force, visited the positions. Whether this is an indication that Negro reinforcements will be sent the Chief of Staff here. Gen. Arnold, refuses to be quoted but one official remarked, "never can tell." First blood has been drawn and the 24th Infantry is rocking in saddle with litttle thought of withdrawal. Their muddy tract has been enlarged considerably. The enemy bounced on, and bounced off—those who were not carried off. During one night, 1st Sgt. Arthur Jones of Detroit, was testing a telephone line to the front. A voice on the other end yelled "I have a grenade in my hand," and pulled pin "what you want?" The sergeant yelled, "My God, let it go." Three Japs were caught coming down the stream in a front position. 3-26-44

Periodically, machine guns spout, spraying the areas. Lying behind the pulsating monsters discouraging any advances are: Cpl. Joseph Luke, Atlanta, Ga.; Pvt. James Reynolds, Birmingham, Ala.; Pfc. Dave Yancy, Rossville, Tenn.; Pvt. John Henry, Pittsview, Ala.; and Pvt. Freeman Jones, Oakland, Ala. often the long toms bark and we now that our gunners of the 54th rtillery are called back to duty.

24th Ordered To Hold Hill At All Cost; Leave Perimeter

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

4-12-44

Martin Describes Goriness And Stench of Area

By FLETCHER MARTIN
(War Correspondent of the Atlanta Daily WORLD and NNPA)

BOUGAINVILLE — The indefatigable 24th Infantry veterans of patrol and frontline action ordered beyond the perimeter to occupy and "hold at all cost" X, a strategic outpost overlooking the American line.

No Sits in the Bougainville area and broken bodies line the terrain where troops are locked in bloody bayonet battles and litters the area. The knob has changed hands several times. Casualties are great. A command of the hill gives a command of surrounding valley and an observation outpost for our line.

Leaving bivouac in mechanized convoy, the 24th Infantry troops were arsenal firepower, as they marched from the permieter started the hazardous climb of the hill which stands like a menacing Gibraltar. The troops resembled small ants winding up the steep trail, silent and serious, dragging their guns behind them. Shell torn trees, gaping bomb craters, and broken bodies line the terrain where we reached the top. Barbed wire pill boxes, shattered trees—a symphony of destruction. Far below the tiny sparkled, winding of skulls. Burial details were cleanup. The former were with a 75-millimeter gun, wiped sweat from his grinning face and hell laughed, "I know it's hard but it's fair." 4-12-44

Dusk came fast. There was no water for washing after a day. Following supper blankets were

spread on the ground. We bedded down for the night. The first day out of the permieter safely passed the camp crew was silent. Long guards silhouetted against the sky as the moon passes over the crest. Each man knows the shell gulched know must be held at any cost and there men who first unloaded the ships, built the roads, strung wire, then patrolled the enemy territory, fought on the line and defeated the enemy at his own game in the dark jungles are ready to protect with their lives this plot of mud which would not bring a dollar an acre. 4-12-44

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Battle-Scared Veterans Hurl Back Jap Attack

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga
4-20-44

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The decision had been carved with bayonets on Hill X. The enemy had shown himself impresive and capable. Having been beaten down the rugged incline once, with heavy recuperative power he challenged again. The foliage was so thick that the battle became a man to man combat. Using bayonets and grenades the forces fought until power and stark determination overcame enemy fanaticism. The enemy fled leaving his dying and dead.

HOLD HILL X

While the enemy smarts in the valley, units of the indefatiguable 24th were ordered to quit the fighting front, and under command of the American division, mount Hill X and "hold it at all cost."

The long mechanized convoy left the bivouac area with seriousness written across each face. Heavily ladened with fire power, and dragging heavy guns behind them the sweating troops mounted the hill. the sun poured white heat from cottony skies. One soldier bursted out with song. Shell craters dotted boggy terrain. Blistered, blackened ammunition lay scattered. Trees were torn as if some giant hand had twisted and broken them. Here the enemy had chosen to advance and die before ordering retreat.

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ENEMY LURKS WITH GUNS

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If the enemy chooses for a third time to attack he must cross the Torokina and scale the hill from the north, or encircle the mountainous-like peak and attack from the west. Either way Hill X must be climbed and he who holds the crest has the advantage. Perhaps the enemy won't risk the exhaustion and inevitable knockout.

Preparing for any eventuality, men of the 24th infantry are not horsing around on the hill top. The first mission is to dig into the narsh terrain and set up positions. Machine gun, mortar, and heavy weapons emplacements. Along the supplies. They're tired and wet and hungry, but the job must be finished before dark, there are no lights. 4-20-44

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The first night passed without incident. Only the murmuring Torokina and humming insects attacked the stark silence. A gold-plated moon was up early. The silhouetted torn trees resembled halloween postcards. Once and a while we would hear artillery fire in the distance. The clowning 'banana' bears romped the area all night, dancing thru the brush. fighting, like huge cats. Darkness closed in at six thirty making the night a thousand hours long.

Dawn displaced darkness at six, and while the sun peeped over the gulchlined terrain the coffee pots boild. The day's work began early and the hill takes on a home-like atmosphere. The stench is becoming more bearable, and soon it too will pass away. 4-20-44

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Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
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BOUGAINVILLE — (Via Cable) —Elements of the 24th Infantry, medium tanks and Naval craft lying off-shore combined in smashing the Japanees enemy at the mouth of the Mavavia River. There was stubborn enemy resistance despite heavy fire concentration which turned the skirmish into a bloody fray with the dead of both forces scattered along the beach. Installations were destroyed beyond recognition as the dusk was ripped by flying tracers and the pinkest of smoke grenades.

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On the following ... raked ... tillery poured ... stronghold ... jungle foliage. ... hardest battle ... is awaiting ...

At Intervals, litter-bearers ... turned. All the Injured were ... aboard with the wounded ... cued, however, two litter-bearers ... dead. Three machineguns were ... killed in the task. One ... lenced by grenades, killing six ... by machinegun fire, his buddy ... the enemy. As night closed in, the ... fused to return without him. He ... tracers resembled sky rockets, the ... was kiled trying to pull the dead ... barrage deafening. Newnan and ... body away.

His party were brought aboard. We lost six men during the day, while the enemy dead numbered 15. Recipient of ... LITTER-BEARERS KILLED ... medal were C... After half an hour the tanks and ... not counting probables from tank ... Columbus, Ga. our sweating, hot-eyed troops re... fire. 4-25-44

24th Runs Into Jap Snipers; 3 Of Enemy Slain

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
5-4-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent

(Representing the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN BOUGAINVILLE—(By Courier)—The second day after occupying a new position southeast of the perimeter, the 24th Infantry ran face to face into its deadly enemy—Japanese snipers. And that night a new threat slipped across the horizon under the cover of darkness and floated near the Negro sector. It proved to be two Japanese barges easing thru the water. The infantry geared for action and letting loose both barrels at the enemy on land, or sea, killed 3 snipers and shelled the barges. The latter limped back beyond the horizon.

Enemy offensive or defensive action, was expected. The colored troops were given what was termed a "hot" sector to make secure. One of the flanks constituted the front. Off the beach to the south lie the field of battle cluttered with pill boxes, inky black lagoons, enemy bodies. In a possible attempt to protect its rear guard as the main body retreated eastward, enemy snipers infested the area.

ROUT ENEMY

In the push eastward American artillery, tanks, and naval guns had routed enemy forces which had for 18 months occupied positions along the beach, in the eastern vicinity of Empress Augusta Bay. Blistering fire power had bludgeoned the area from the Torokina eastward to the leveled native village of Mavavia. In between American forces had taken charge, including elements of the 24th infantry.

Soon enemy rifle fire was discerned, almost in the 24th vivouac area. It was later learned that enemy riflemen had hidden themselves in several towering coconut trees which remained unscathed from artillery barrages. Not only was the enemy provided with temporary protection—hidden by thick cluster of palm leaves — but he fed on the tree as well. Realizing the seriousness of this danger to our patrols as well as sector, heavily armed security forces went into the charred surrounding — a dank 'no man's land' to ferret out the danger. 5-4-44

A short, mustachio-wearing Mississippian Pfc. Bennie Will Cotton spotted a Jap as the enemy cut coconuts from his hiding place. Cotton, whose commanding officer termed him the best scout in the 24th, knelt—as if in prayer — pointed his rifle at the target 75 yards away. His running mate, Sgt. Ferdinand Dejean (New Orleans) watched the former squirrel hunter. Cotton squeezed the trigger slow-like. The rifle barked —the jay tumbled forty feet to the ground, shot near the heart.

Your correspondent remarked to Bennie Will that such shooting was reg'lar Kentucky mountain shooting.

"Might be, sir," Bennie observed, "but we call it Mississippi delta shooting."

JAPS ARE HEARD

Another security patrol had moved southward, was 75 yards from the sector when Japs were heard. The patrol was cautioned, then moved in quietly. Pvt. Herman Martin, of Meridian, Mississippi, got the first shot in. They had crawled within a few yards of the enemy. One was killed, the other, thought wounded, slipped through the jungles.

The same morning Martin killed another enemy soldier, thought to be the one injured. The 26-year-old soldier spotted the enemy as he attempted to hide in a smashed pill box. Martin saw that he was wounded and commanded come out " with your hands high." The Jap came out, and with hands high, but in one he held a grenade. His body was riddled. 5-4-44

The 24th infantry has learned much since that first day of jungle fighting. They now move with ease through jungular terrain, cautionsly yet confident, alert yet not over confident. And above all they maintain excellent fire discipline — all important as a capable enemy silently awaits each noise with grenade poised.

CAPTURE ARTILLERY

Penetrating beyond the lines one patrol drug in an enemy 75 mm. artillery piece, and spotted a 15 centimetre cannon, the latter being howitzer type comparable to our heavy 155 mm. Also found were an ammunition carrier and tractor. The enemy had fled leaving both weapons.

During the night as the moon swung over black jungles, sentry Pvt. Royal Dominick (New Orleans) spotted two log-like objects pulling in. He estimated their distance as 450 yards out and heading toward the area. He warned gun squad leader, Cpl. Sam Herron, Valdosta, Ga., who informed the command post. While watching the objects loom larger, 3 mm. artillery weapons opened up. Sgt. Hubert Baily of Oxford, Ala. said the 37 mm. registered 3 hits. From our vantage point we could see that the barges were not set afire, but limped back toward the horizon. 5-4-44

The night then became quiet again. The waves lashed unceasingly against the beach. Men returned to the holes. Behind us the jungles looked horrid as jaggered tree tops silhouetted against the moon. A bat screeched. Except for walking sentinels, the camp soon slept.

Troops Dream Of Combat While Loading Supplies

Courier-Pittsburg, Pa.
1-22-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN, Representing Combined Negro Press

ADVANCE PACIFIC BASE—(Via Airmail)—Off the sandy shores of a historic South Pacific beach which is prefaced by countless miles of Coral Sea, the crack 24th Infantry is stationed. Neatly tucked in the bosom of jungular terrain, this force, fully equipped, is prepared for any eventuality. Whether they will be flung against the enemy, only the military command knows. In the meantime the pushing of supplies to forward areas is their task.

Twenty-one months have slowly passed since this outfit embarked from California for the South Pacific. Twenty-one months without a letup. Under tropical conditions they soldier on the docks and in supply dumps. Despite this, they remain ready for combat, having in their possession full equipment for a full infantry unit. Time crawls, work is hard, but in the words of Lt. Col. Julian G. Hearne, Jr., commander from Wheeling, W. Va.:

"We feel that what we are doing is essential in this war effort. Our force is one prepared to do anything, whether at the front or behind the lines. Now we are behind the lines handling essential supplies. We are doing, and will continue to do a good job."

SCENE OF BATTLE

The camp is flanked on all sides by towering coconut palms. And on the North are miles of sandy beach. A beautiful site which does not show the wear and tear of battle. Yet only a few months ago here was fought one of the bloodiest of battles.

The climate is hot and sultry. Yet the health of these men is remarkably good. The food is good, and tents are spacious and clean.

Having felt the wage of aerial bombardments, preparedness is the by-word. During one such attack Pfc. Verna C. Neal, of Ruleville, Miss., crawled 250 yards in the face of hurtling death and aided in the evacuation of several wounded. Receiving injuries in this courageous undertaking, Private First Class Neal later received the Legion of Merit award and the Purple Heart.

These seasoned and well disciplined troops still fondle their weapons. An appreciable number of the non-commissioned officers are Regular Army. And the spirit of miiltary courtesy, carried out to the letter, leaves little to be desired. The men are influenced largely by such old Army regulars as F/Sgts. John J. Hansbury, of New Orleans' (20 years); Jacob Harrison, of Columbus, Ga., (26 years); Harry Relf, of Montgomery, Ala., (8 years); Robert Palmer of Phenix City, Ala., (14 years), and S/Sgt. Romalus Lewis, of New Orleans (16 years).

RANKING OFFICERS

Except for the chaplains, Captains Norman G. Long, of Oberlin, Ohio; Theodore H. Brooks. of San-

(Copyright—Reproduction Prohibited)

FORWARD AREA, SOUTH PACIFIC—(By Courier)—For six weeks this correspondent has lived with the colored 24th Infantry. Dispatches have been radioed; and sent by special courier. A partial history of their tenure, their mission as allied troops in the South Pacific. But six weeks, six months, are not long enough to learn and adequately tell the story. The tale of men who have not fought with weapons, but who have valiantly fought and conquered a strange and desolate surrounding.

Six years would be too short to live with men in a total emergency and adequately record their emotions, their wants, their fears —the unseen little cogs inside the wheel. Words too are inadequate to record back strains, the lashing of rain against the face, the

The Story Is Heard In The Song Of Men Who Lived It

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa.
5-4-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Journal and Guide and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)

H. Turner, Circleville; Pfc. Kenneth G. Black, Newark, and Pfc. Morris C. Courtman, Coatsville. 1-22-44

TEXAS: 1/Sgt. Joe McCoy, Houston; Pvt. Edward Hargraves, Fort Worth; Pvt. Joe Joshua, San Antonio, and T/4 Lee E. Keeton, Fairfield.

KENTUCKY: Pvt. Clifton C. Gay, of Lexington, and Sgt. Hugh S. Gregory of Greenville.

VIRGINIA: Pfc. Frank Brown, Jr., Norfolk; T/4 Willie Cosby, South Boston, and Pfc. Thomas G. Penn, Martinsville.

MARYLAND sends Baltimore's S/Sgt. Willie Berry, Pfc. Isaac Hall, of Cookesville.

From California hail Pfc. Isaac Williams, Sacramento; S/Sgt. J. G. Morgan, Fresno.

sound and feel of shoes in sloppy mud, the choking at embarkation, the sound of daily bugle calls.

Here, in the combat perimeter, I have heard the true story. Simple voices sang a simple song with the indescribable something that made clear the two-year stay in the Pacific. Maybe it was their lusty voices, yet they were untrained. Their lyrics too wholly lacked a skilled hand. Maybe the way they looked in mud-soiled dungarees. Maybe it was the rhythm characteristic of Negro music. Whatever it was the song bespoke and succeeded where the written word has failed.

THE COMPOSER

The composer, Pfc. Latree Forester (Jacksonville, Fla.) has skin like plush velvet and saucer eyes. As he sang his muscular frame was tense, the veins roped his thick neck. Using the tune of the spiritual "What A Time," Pfc. Forester had the rhythm the Golden Gate Quartet has popularized. Bass voices hummed in the background.

Permission was granted to use the lyrics in this story. They are as follows:

**"1942 the old 2-4 began to march, we
marched to the station and came
to a halt;
The first thing we did was to put
down our bags, the Captain and
the Colonel inspected our shoes;
The corporal and the privates said
that's bad news—Now what a time.**

**"We boarded the train and began to
ride,
Mother and father standing there
crying,
Lord have mercy on that child of
mine, now what a time.**

**"Now stop let me tell you what a
mighty sad day,
When the old 2-4 sailed away,
The old ship rocked from shore to
shore,
Privates running from door to door
Crying Lord have mercy, no place to
go.**

**"Late one night about half past nine,
The old 2-4 got trouble in mind
Soldiers walked from door to door
The Blume Fountaine began to blow
The time has come, won't be no
more.**

**"An American soldier was standing
at attention,
The old mess boy's name wasn't men-
tioned,
Out on deck the old boy lit,
Mounted him a gun and took his aim,
Shot a Japanese bomber and six more
planes.**

**"The 4th of May about half past ten,
The Blume Fountaine came cruising
in
The old 2-4 began to look around
Barges running from ship to shore
We cried out, 'hit land once more.'**

**"We went three long days with noth-
ing to eat
But cocoanuts, oranges, and
tangerines,
Officers and mess sergeants, trouble
in mind
'Soldiers it ain't no fault of mine.'**

**"We left from Vila one Sunday
morning
About the break of day
We were on our way to Undine Bay,
Boy what a time.**

**"In 1943 the old 2-4 thought she
was free
She received an order and began to
move,
Got on board about half past nine
The ship went rocking on down the
line.**

**"You know just how the 2-4 felt
Out on sea about a night and a day
Stopped at a place they called Santo
Praying to God it was Francisco.**

**"Stayed in the harbor about 19 days
Nothing to see but cocoanut trees,
Now the Pollark was a great big ship,
She turned around and began to sail
She stopped at a place didn't look
so well
Now let me tell you that was Guadal-
canal.**

**"Let me tell you something and it
aint' no lie,
The time we road the L. C. I.
We moved to ..... near .....
Over there where the Japs got
killed.**

**"Late one night about half-past nine
The Jap bombers began flyin'
They gave the alarm was behind
Everybody knew condition was red
Running in the tent and out of
door
Trying to find the old fox hole.**

**"I can't say when I'm coming home
Sometimes I feel so all alone
I work pretty hard from day till
night,
Then a letter comes and I feel all
right.
Dark days for me are still ahead
I feel like living, I wish I was dead,
Lord, Lord please help 2-4
And guide her safely home once
more."**

Arrived Before Victory In New Georgia

24th Infantry Was Ready To Fight Japs

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Journal and Guide and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)

(Copyright—Reproduction Prohibited)

FORWARD AREA, SOUTH PACIFIC—(By Courier)—One late afternoon in September of 1943 as artillery continually thundered in the . . . . region, a unit of the colored 24th Infantry received word that three stray armed Japanese were headed in their direction. Patrols were dispatched. Dusk found sic troops still stalking. Reaching the jungled edge of a stagnant pool, one soldier felt a hard body slink against his leg. Momentarily startled in the semi darkness, he turned and found himself looking into the "pulsating innards" of a 12-foot crocodile. He followed his first impulse.

When the unit moved up . . . a defense position guarding the airfield. Only one body was found on Sasavele, an infant washed ashore. they had been warned to expect anything.

In the rear the ashes of battle were in evidence. Dead American and enemy soldiers littered the airstrip area where the newly arrived Negro troops were bivouaced. Enemy stragglers cut off from the main body were found, some maimed beyond repair, others mentally helpless, few with fight left.

MARTIN

Tons of rations spoiled on the ground. Flour and uncanned perishables rotted under the lashing of unrelenting rain. To salvage foodstuff and protect it from the inclement weather dumps and shelters were needed. Men were chosen for the important mission—men able to fight as well as work. The 24th infantry moved in with 50 cal. machine guns, mortars, and 37 mm. artillery.

The unit landed on September 5, 1943. Already there were Army service troops, marine port and security units, and few heavy weapons. The 24th moved across the . . . . . lagon, a mile west . . . . . on an alligator shaped coral reef island . . . . . One unit remained. . . . .

For two weeks . . . . decomposed bodies were buried. American dead was handled by the grave registration unit, the 24th buried their share of Japanese. The bivouac areas stenched with the many dead because it had been

CARVED OUT CAMP

With ax and knife men literally and figuratively carved a camp out of the bush, coral, and swamps. Between air raids they chopped down trees, made drainages, built mess halls and command posts, patrolled the area, established armed beach defenses, and unloaded ships. At the end of the first 30 days they had completed the construction of five ration dumps and moved "off the grounds" over 2,000 tons of rations. Further, they were in a posiiton to handle 350 tons of rations every other day.

Today this supply port, under the 24th Infantry, is rated by Army officials fifth in efficiency among Allied military ports in the world. This was gained without the use of heavy lifting equipment. Cranes used to handle heavy ammunition are the only equipment, everything else moves by hand (trucks and barges are used for hauling).

GETS UNIT STAR

At one time during the fight . . . . it was thought that the infantry would become tactical and be used as reinforcement when our offense momentarily bogged, but the enemy was finally beaten back. However the unit has been awarded a star for the New Georgia campaign, having arrived six weeks before the campaign ended.

Commanded by West Pointer, Lt. Col. James B. Wells, veteran of South Pacific battles and recently given his present command, the unit was the first out of the 24th to push into the inner combat perimeter following the Coral Sea battle when the entire regiment was on the brink of attack.

This correspondent was told that during the action . . . Col. Wells commanding a battalion lost a number of men among whom were two officers he was fond of. The bodies were not found. The colonel worried. Weeks later a sweaty Negro noncom gave him two rusted dog (identification) tags. He had heard of the officer's grief and went hunting for the remains of the thought-dead soldiers.

"Thank you so much, you have closed the case," the colonel said gravely.

"You are welcome sir," the soldier replied.

Among those making up the unit are: Sgt. Herbert Roy, Columbus, Ga.; Sgt. Esau Williams, Houma, La.; Sgt. Charlie H. Hayden, Hogansville, Ga.; Sgt. Harold B. Bussey, College Park, Ga.; Sgt. Clifton H. Hawthorne, Atlanta, Ga.; Sgt. Dennis Lee, Bayou Goula, La.; Sgt. Thomas W. Miller, Louisville, Ky.; Sgt. William S. McGhee, Louisville, Ky.; Pfc. Alto L. Miller, Slocomb, Ala.; Pfc. Henry Boyd, Montgomery, Ala.; Pfc. Otis C. Toland, Atlanta, Ga.; Pfc. Davis Croom, Emelle, Ala.; Pvt. Ed Black, Sumner, Ga.; Pvt. Roger H. Moss, Louisville, Ky.; Pvt. Lafayette E. Oliver, Atlanta, Ga.; Pvt. William D. Wilson, Brooklyn.

Cpl. Claude Stevenson, Westwago, La.; Cpl. John L. Wilson, New York City; Cpl. Issac Carson, Demopolis, Ala.; Cpl. Gaston Nash, Pike Road, Ala.; Sgt. Antonine E. Pierce, Columbus, Ga.; Sgt. Tom Mayo Jr., Coosada, Ala.; Sgt. Angus Jones, Savannah, Ga.; Sgt. Willie F. Ryce, Moultrie, Ga.; Cpl. Dewitt Hudson, McNair, Miss.; Cpl. Bernie C. Lyle, Ford, Ky.; Cpl. Richard Clifton, Arnaudville, La.; Sgt. John Parker, Blue Ridge, Ga.; Sgt. Robert S. Patrick, Macon, Ga.; Sgt. Autley Turner, Jacksonville, Fla.; Pfc. Bennie Brewton, Eutaw, Ala.; Elroy Williams, Snow Hill, N. C.

Sgt. Leroy Polite, Savannah, Ga.; Sgt. Samuel Harris, Columbus, Ga.; Sgt. Freddie Keley, Columbus, Ga.; Sgt. Robert Small, Ft. Gaines, Ga.; Pfc. Roosevelt White, Salitpa, Ala.; Pfc. Leadell Boyd, Chicago, Pfc. John A. Pillard, Oakmont, Pa.; Pvt. John Smart, Goodman, Miss.; Pvt. Manuel Constance, Los Angeles; Pvt. B. Williams, Rockville, Conn.; Pvt. Clarence Farrow, Maline, Fla.; Sgt. Evans Roberts, New York City; Pfc. Harry A. White, New York City; Pfc. Willie T. Keyes, Sweeny, Texas; Cpl. Henry C. King, Adairville, Ky.

24TH CITED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE RECORD AND THRIFT

Unit Dubbed The "Depositingest" In Forward Area

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
3-4-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

FORWARD AREA, SOUTH PACIFIC—(By Courier) — In addition to being selected by an Army magazette for its weekly "Salute" for "outstanding record of service in this area," the 24th Infantry (the unit stationed here) was dubbed by base finance officers as the "depositingest," outfit on the island. The expressive title was foundationed on data showing that these Negro troops bank approximately 50 per cent of Army pay. In addition six out of every ten purchase war bonds monthly in denominations ranging from 25 to 100 dollars.

The high percentage of depositors is a regular "24th trait" but the bond drive was started Dec. 26 of last year. Ending the first month with 60.4 per cent buying, the trend as this dispatch is written indicates that that figure will be topped by February's report.

BIG POLICY CARRIERS

Another item of equal importance is that out of a total of over 800 men, nearly 97 per cent have $10,000 policies. Of the 17 men making up less than the 4 per cent needed for a perfect record, eleven have 5 thousand dollars policies, two have two thousand, and one soldier's policy is valued at 6 thousand dollars. The remaining 3 signed statements that there is no one at home to receive the benefit in the event of death.

The 'save now, spend later' philosophy did not happen by sheer accident. It was only adopted after the soldier was made to realize that a period akin to that which immediately followed the earth-shaking 1929 might dawn following the present conflict. Officers and non-coms daily preach to many men, who had not known a "living, wage" before, the foolhardiness of returning home without funds after years of soldiering in the "best paid" army in the world. Time was taken out each day to teach men individually and make them realize the importance of saving.

And none the less important was the hurtful experience of several men who learned that funds sent home had been squandered by the recipients. One soldier received a letter from "my girl friend" stating that the $1500 (cash) plus allotments he had sent her over a period of time were gone and she was now broke and "will you please send me some money."

Credit has been given Louisian an (Maj.) George Hilliard, executive officer, for the determined and unrelenting drive. Backed by company commanders and non-coms, he has been rugged in his approach, explaining in soldiery terms the vital need of such a procedure. His language, far from drawing room, was such that the soldiers understood. Not coercion but what he described as plain common sense. 3-4-44

As the personnel records were studied one example stood out. A corporal who draws $80.50 monthly out of which he pays 30 dollars in an allotment, $6.70 insurance, $18.75 for a war bond, has on deposit over $250. Another example, a sergeant has saved over $2500 during a period of 21 months. His pay is $97.50 monthly out of which come $28 allotment, $18.75 war bond, and $6.70 insurance.

$6751 IN DEPOSITS

The total monthly payroll for the unit is approximately $13,800 of which, the last report shows $1,139.50 goes for insurance $4,208 in allotments, $1701.25 in war bonds, leaving $6751.75. Of this amount $3305 was placed in soldier deposit. Money orders took one-third of that amount leaving actual balance of less than 2[illegible] per cent of total payroll.

Major Hilliard explained that men in this forward area have little to spend money for. It is the endeavor of the sponsorers of the savings campaign that the unit have less than 15 per cent, the other being in war bonds or soldier deposits. Of course the amount saved will fluctuate, being less when the unit is based where civilization abounds. That point is taken into consideration. 3-4-44

"The soldiers are going to have something. We don't intend to let the fascinations of strange taking rob them of a start after the war is over," the officer said.

After pay day the small orderly starts out with the soldier deposit slips and a bag of money. When the finance officer sees him he knows it's coming from the "depositingest" outfit on the island.

Negro Troops Now Veterans, Get New Task

PM-New York, N.Y.
4-17-44

Take Strategic Hill Where Dead Still Litter Ground

The story of our Negro troops' courage and skill in action hasn't been presented much to the American general public. This dispatch, second in a series, continues the story of the 24th Infantry Battalion and tells how these troops have been fighting in the Solomon Island jungles. The author of the eyewitness stories is war correspondent for the Negro Newspaper Publishers Assn.

By FLETCHER MARTIN

EYE WITNESS

After its initiation into jungle warfare on Mar. 11 and 12, the 24th Infantry Battalion's next assignment was to take and "hold at all cost" Hill X, strategic steeple-like outpost overlooking the American lines beyond the Bougainville perimeter in the northern Solomon Islands.

No site in the Bougainville sector had been as bloody as this lonely knob which had changed hands several times and where the dead still littered the ground.

The 24th left its bivouac in mechanized convoy, reached the base of the hill and began the hazardous climb. The troops looked like small ants winding up the steep trail, silent, serious, dragging their guns behind them.

War's Corpses

Around them were shell-torn trees, gaping bomb craters, war-smashed terrain. As they pulled through the hot, foul-smelling air they could see vultures crawling like flies over the corpses in shattered pillboxes. 4-17-44

We reached the top of the hill in an hour. Far below us the Torokina River sparkled around the hill of skulls. Burial and demolition squads were cleaning up the area, the former bringing in the bodies of Americans who had fallen on the hill.

We were immediately ordered to dig in to be ready for possible enemy attacks from across the river at nightfall. Our artillery barrage showed the direction of the enemy replacements, about two miles away. If the Japs attacked it would have to be uphill, giving us an advantage.

Lookouts Posted

Lookouts were posted in two great trees and maintained 24 hours a day.

After a dinner of cold C rations and hot water brought by natives, we resumed our work. The break for food and cigarettes took the seriousness out of the men and they even laughed.

Dusk came quickly. There was no water for washing, but we had supper and bedded down for the night. It was a quiet, moonless night—no firing, just shadows and the faint sound of the Torokina River far below. 4-17-44

The night seemed like something from Edgar Allen Poe.

(A following story will tell how mass enemy infantry, meeting mass Negro infantry, was completely routed.)

How Negro Troops Did 1st Jungle Combat Job

PM-New York, N.Y.
4-16-44

The story of our Negro troops' courage and skill in action hasn't been presented much to the American general public. This dispatch, first of a series, tells how they have been fighting in the Solomon Island

By FLETCHER MARTIN

On Mar. 11, U. S. Negro troops

Volunteers for Dangerous Mission

Entire Unit

got their first taste of combat in the south Pacific.

Moving from reserve positions into the forward wall of U. S. defenses of a strategic beachhead on Bougainville, in the northern Solomons, the 24th Infantry Battalion engaged the Japanese that night.

The troops, armed with Thompson machine guns and rifles, dug into the thick underbrush in the gap of a gulch flanked on both sides by units of the 37th Division. Enemy attempts to infiltrate through this gap were blocked, our troops refusing to give up a single inch of the boggy, smelly muck.

During the night when the Japanese opened up with mortar fire, four soldiers crept 75 yards through the jungle to rescue a wounded white soldier, carrying him 90 yards to a first aid station.

First Patrol Mission

A Japanese attempt to penetrate during the next night also was beaten off. It was on that night, too, that our troops were given the first mission of patrolling several thousand yards in the front main line. 4-16-44

The mission was explained as dangerous and meant a penetration of possible enemy positions, but not a soldier hesitated. While the men who were left stood by in groups and watched, the patrols marched off as if to the corner drug store. Miles of terrible terrain, infested with Japanese, lay ahead.

The first two patrols returned on schedule, but the third reported an engagement with the enemy. Wading a small creek, one of the patrol's scouts saw the enemy and shouted a warning before he was killed. The warning saved the patrol by giving it a chance to cover up under heavy enemy fire.

Calls for Help

The patrol sent a message back asking for help. Officers at the base immediately ordered an artillery bombardment of the Japanese while a white patrol headed out to reinforce the beleaguered unit.

Chow time, usually boisterous, was a quiet affair as the men at the base waited for news of the unit. Minutes passed like hours while the artillery pounded away. Finally a message came through: Patrols in contact. Your patrol returning to camp.

Dirty, sweating and grinning, the men came back to be greeted with watery eyes and hugs.

Next morning, when officers asked for volunteers to go back, the whole unit stepped forward and asked to be allowed to clean up the area.

Results of action: Deep penetration by three patrols into enemy territory: engaging enemy, killing one; three of our troops killed; one verbal commendation for bravery beyond line of duty.

Those first two days of fighting—first action for the 24th since San Juan Hill, of Spanish-American War fame—after 23 months of tactical position service in the South Pacific, brought out a grim determination in the men. Despite the newness of jungle fighting, they dug in like veterans and have hung tenaciously to their assigned sectors in the face of artillery, mortar and rifle fire.

After an examination following this first engagement, the medical officer said the troops' calm was startling. 4-16-44

I was present with members of the unit when we returned to pick up the man that had been killed in shouting a warning to his comrades. He had managed to get back on shore. Blood was still wet on the ground. That terrible something was written across each face as the men stood with bowed heads while the chaplain read the last rites.

(How the 24th Infantry now a unit of veterans, took a strategic hill will be told in a following story further depicting the fighting qualities of Negro troops in action.)

Shower Of Shells Greets Advance Of Race Outfits

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

No casualties Suffered As Assault Proceeds

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
(Representing the Atlanta Daily World and the NNPA)
(Copyright — Reproduction Prohibited)

4-1-44

ADVANCE BASE, South Pacific —(By Courier) — Two nights ago the enemy in pale-pink counter-attack put one of our batteries (Negro) out momentarily. An ammunition truck driven by Pvt. Augusta K. Brown, of Washington, D. C., was set afire by flying shrapnel. No casualties were suffered as our assault continued on enemy positions lined along the twisting ridge and gulch-lined front.

Baleful orange flashes cut the black atmosphere. Air bursting shells rent the night. By day the American land-based planes hammer the enemy. Bombs are discerned plummeting earthward and setting afire trees and underbrush.

ENGAGE ENEMY

The jungle-veteran colored 54th coast artillery (one unit) operating as field artillery under the immediate command of Maj. Raymond W. Ely of Ashland, Kansas, and general command of Brigadier L M. Kreber first engaged the enemy February 17. Thunderous barrages have been unrelenting. Reconnaissance show supply lines have been ruptured. Beach installations damaged. Bivouac areas turned into mass debris. 4-1-44

Only three casualties have resulted from enemy counters. Using the largest field artillery cannons, one gun was pocketed by Jap shell fire. The previous night flying shrapnel hit T-5 Thomas E. Jackson, Detroit; Pfc. Olenza Bell, Falkland, N. C.; and Pvt. Henry Tucker, of Leavenworth, Kansas. None of the injuries were considered serious. The big gun was back in commission after only a few minutes delay.

RESERVE POSITIONS

As a part of the base defense, Negro infantry troops (24th infantry unit) have taken reserved positions behind the first lines. As supporting second line troops to our main defensive line of divisional strength, they have not come to direct grips with the enemy, but are prepared for the known Jap strategy of infiltration.

Our all-important beachhead, sole possession on Bougainville, looks the size of a silver dime on a paper dollar bill. Facing Empress Augusta bay, it is surrounded on three sides by ragged ridges and Japanese infantry and artillery. In spots we are within rifle range. Already along the line the enemy has been confined mostly to scattering patrol clashes.

The proximity of the enemy to our well guarded and most strategic air strips is appreciated by the American command. But out ability to withstand an enemy offensive is just as apparent. In the event of frontal assault, we are prepared to make it costly.

TAKE POSITIONS

For the first time in South Pacific history American Negro troops, armed to the teeth, have plunged along the jungle trails and taken positions. The area has been reconnoitered and is secured. Our troops know their firing power and the seriousness of their mission. They have also considered the chances of survival. Boyish laughter has fled, now supplanted by serene seriousness.

During this sweating out period the air of professional soldiers has been acquired. For nearly two years these men have not seen a Japanese soldier or heard a rifle fired except on the range. Now fully tactical, their original mission as combat troops can be considered close. They look and talk like a bunch of men ready for any eventuality. Mingling free with whiteinfantry they have felt no race consciousness.

The spirit of "we're all home folks" was shown when our artillery unit received a near hit. A neighboring white unit rushed medics on the scene. An ambulance bounded into the area, but our own doctors had speeded the injured to first aid stations. And the sight of blood did not hamper the speedy fingers of Negro medics, heretofore accustomed to pill-handling during sick call. 4-1-44

SHELL HITS HOSPITALS

War isn't all shooting and being shot at, but an appreciable portion is. This entire beachhead constitutes the front. Our bivouac areas behind the lines are flanked by heavy artillery. The command is a military target. Recently shrapnel tore away an entire ward of the station hospital. Only God Almighty's grace kept the wounded from suffering more wounds. Your correspondent lives six feet under the ground, but he lives. Within 100 yards are several 90 millimetre batteries, noisy bed mates that make the nights so long.

Enemy attacks, no matter how insignificant, are expected. We are on the right flank of Jap bastion Rabaul. Within air fighter distance. To the north on the tip end of Bougainville is enemy-held Buka island whose harbor facilities are capable of holding our largest craft. Once possessed we are within 152 miles of the strongest enemy fort in the South Pacific, New Britain. The enemy is aware. We are aware that he is aware.

Whatever else the moment brings, it has inaugurated into battle one Negro unit, and made fully tactical another. And no matter how nerve shaking the periodical, air shattering day and night barrages, it is comforting to know that Negro gunners are in there pitching. From all indications the enemy has reached into a reserve sack and found heavy artillery also, but one's chances of survival are better on this side of the ridge.

To watch monstrous cannons spitting ugly orange flames into the night, knowing that each salvo in someway means we'll be home sooner is enjoyable and the cannoneers enjoy the thought. Within arm's reach of one of the land giants, directing death and destruction are gun commanders, Sgts. Floyd Dawson, Jr., Kansas City, Mo.; Raymond D. Johnson, Chicago; Earnest J.; Clack, San Antonio, Texas, and William M. Muckelroy, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Several steps from this battery, cotton-eared and undressed to the waist, commanding the gun they love are Sgts. Eldren Hollery, Colerian, N. C.; Jesse J. Jennings, E. Columbia, Texas; Major L. Barron, Malakoff, Texas, and Dwitt Robingson, Gary, Texas. 4-1-44

Attack has started again. Our dive bombers are overhead destroying mercilessly. The artillery usually follows. Darkness, now closing in, will bring respite.

4/5-1944

24th Infantry Called "Depositingest" Unit

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.

By FLETCHER MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
Representing the Journal and Guide and the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association
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$13,800 MONTHLY PAYROLL

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24th Infantry

Part Of 24th Is Back In Country

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
8-26-44

CAMP BRECKINRIDGE, Ky.—(ANP)—After 27 months of working and fighting in steaming Pacific jungles, 14 battle-hardened members of the famed 24th Infantry regiment recently returned to the U. S. under the army rotation plan, and have been assigned to the 372nd Infantry regiment at Camp Breckinridge.

The 24th was activated Nov. 1, 1866, and participated in campaigns against the Indians in Texas and Montana. When President Theodore Roosevelt led U. S. troops in Cuba during the Spanish-American war, the 24th was on hand to take part in the Battle of San Juan hill, then was sent to the Philippines. During World War I they served on the Mexican border and were later sent to Ft. Benning, Ga., where they served as a demonstration team for the infantry school until the start of the present war.

In April, 1942, while our forces were still reeling from Pearl Harbor and the Philippines, the 24th was the first U. S. Army unit to land in the New Hebrides islands, where they prepared fortifications and airfields in expectation of a possible Jap landing attempt. The 24th accomplished the amazing feat of completing a heavy bomber strip in 18 days entirely by hand labor, with the exception of the two bulldozers borrowed from a navy construction battalion. It was from this strip that B-17 bombers took off to begin the softening up process on Guadalcanal. Here also a communications section of the 24th laid telephone wire across 60 miles of mountains, with each man carrying an 80 pound drum of wire, in addition to his rifle, a blanket, and enough food for a week. Three weeks were required to do the job.

After 15 months of working as engineers and stevedores unloading ships in the New Hebrides, the regiment moved on to Guadalcanal while enemy resistance was pockets of enemy resistance was still in progress. Later one battalion was sent to Munda to aid in wiping out the last Jap resistance there. 8-26-44

It was on Bougainville island that the 24th got its ,rst taste of real action. The regiment moved into front line positions shortly after American marines had established a beachhead, and it was here that the first stories of bravery began to unfold.

Pfc. I. J. Henderson was with a patrol that made the first crossing of the Torquine river on Bougainville. After the crossing, they were pinned down by enemy fire for eight hours. Finally the patrol was forced to withdraw by swimming across the river under a hail of enemy bullets and mortar fire. Upon reaching the opposite bank, Pfc. Henderson discovered that Japanese soldiers had managed to infiltrate our positions there. Pfc. Henderson killed one of them as he attempted to throw a hand grenade, and a short time later located and killed another in an abandoned pillbox. 8-26-44

Staff Sgt. Harry Allen was a platoon sergeant in charge of a patrol that captured the first Japanese prisoner on Bouganville, and later captured the first Jap 75mm gun to be taken intact since Pearl Harbor. Sgt. Allen was commended for bravery by his regimental commander for his feat of fording the Terquine under heavy enemy fire to recover the body of a fallen comrade. 8-26-44

Cpl. Howard Sharp was in charge of a light machine gun squad that fired throughout the night at Japanese attempting to infiltrate our lines on the south bank of the Torquine. When the sun arose the following morning, Cpl. Sharp's squad counted five dead Japs a scant 25 yards from their positions.

Cpl. Herbert Brown, while leading an infantry squad in support of a tank unit, located and shot a sniper in a tree a few yards ahead of one of the tanks.

Pfc. Ezel Combs spotted a Japanese soldier who dashed out armed with an explosive charge in a suicidal attempt to plant the charge on a U. S. marine tank. Pfc. Combs calmly waited for the Jap to come within range, then killed him with a burst from a tommy gun. 8-26-44

All of these veterans, who wear the newly-designed Combat Infantryman badge, agree that the Jap is a good soldier with a fanatical lust to kill, but all claim he is a poor shot with a rifle, and that his equipment is far inferior to ours. Still, these battle-wise veterans state that they do not foresee an immediate end to the war in the Pacific.

Tells Students Of Cadet Nurse Corps

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
4-29-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) —Miss Rita Miller, consultant on Negro nurse education for the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps, is now touring twenty colleges and universities in seven southern and border states to inform Negro women students of the advantages of services in the corps, the Federal Security Agency announced this week.

Miss Miller, chairman of the Division of Nursing at Dillard University, New Orleans, will visit institutions in Georgia, North and South Carolina, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. The U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps is administered by the U. S. Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency, through its Division of Nurse Education.

"It is vital that college women realize the need for nurses with administrative ability for supervisory and teaching positions," Miss Miller said. "All expense scholarships offered by the corps have opened tremendous opportunities to qualified young women interested in the nursing profession."

Miss Miller reported that great gains have been made in the Negro nursing program through participation in the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps, both for the student nurse and the school of nursing. 4-29-44

In Georgia, Miss Miller will visit Spelman College, Clark College Morris Brown College in Atlanta and Paine College at Augusta; in South Carolina, Claflin College and South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical College at Orangeburg and Benedict College and Allen University at Columbia; in North Carolina, Johnson C. Smith University at Charlotte Barber-Scotia Junior College at Concord, Livingstone College at Salisbury, Bennett College and Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina, at Greensboro, North Carolina College for Negroes at Durham, and Shaw University and St. Augustine's College at Raleigh; in West Virginia, West Virginia State College at Institute; in Ohio, Wilberforce University at Wilberforce; in Kentucky, Kentucky State College for Negroes at Frankfort; and in Tennessee, the Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State Teachers College at Nashville.

Age N.Y., N.Y. July 22, 1944

65,000 HIGH SCHOOL GIRL GRADUATES NEEDED FOR U.S. CADET NURSE CORPS

NEWS ITEM

"NOW MORE THAN EVER!"

Inducted Freedmen's Nurses

Washington, Tribune

Fifteen States and the District of Columbia were represented among the fifty enrollees in the Cadet Nurses' Unit of Freedmen's Hospital inducted during elaborate ceremonies in Constitutional Hall, Saturday.

Those inducted are:

WASHINGTON—Annie Allen, 1202 P Street, N.W.; Lucy V. Franklin, 1007 Fourth Street, S.E.; Mildred Gaskins, 1331 Eighth Street, N.W.; Ruth Hinton, 2108 Flagler Place, N.W.; Eloise Pleasant, 2217 E Street, N.W.; Odel Starks, 1110 Fairmont Street, N.W.

MARYLAND—Laura Cook, Joyce Gilliam, Vera Reynolds, Henrietta Smith Baltimore.

VIRGINIA—Elizabeth Sanchez, Orange

PENNSYLVANIA — Evelyn Allen, Edith Robinson, Ruth Young, Pittsburgh; Vivian Walker, Rochester; Annie Pugh, McKeesport; Minnie Pettis, Aliquippa; Sarah Parsons, Bryn Mawr Katrina Johnson, Darby; Estelle Howard, Midland; Ruth Anderson, Parnassus; Virginia Brothers, Charlotte Payne, Ardelle Hundley, Philadelphia; Mildred McCoy, Farrell; Willa McClellan, Blairsville.

NEW JERSEY—Muriel Coffee, Pennington; Ella Claiborne, Orange Shirley Coleman, Neptune; Bertha Laster, Trenton; Natalie West, Englewood.

NEW YORK—Olive Benjamin, Maude E. Smith, New York City; Geraldine Vicks, Sparkhill.

OHIO—Roberta Anderson, Bridgeport; Elizabeth Randleman, New London; Jeanne Seabrook, Warren; Harriett Snell, Youngstown.

WEST VIRGINIA—Sylvia Anderson, Henrietta Coles, Algoma; Eva L. Carr, Parkersburg.

ILLINOIS—Mary Yancey, Chicago.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Edna Thompson, Charleston.

GEORGIA—Cora Terrell, Atlanta.

ALABAMA—Mabel Price, Eloise Harly, Birmingham.

5-20-44

5-20-44

ARKANSAS—Harriette Pearson, Pine Bluff.

INDIANA—Georgia Hughes, Rising Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA—Rosa Busbee, Kinston.

MISSISSIPPI—Edith Johnson, Gulfport.

NEGRO NURSES INDUCTED

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON — Fifty Negro nurses from the Freedmen's Hospital's school of nurse training were inducted into the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps Saturday in a ceremony held in Constitution Hall which was sponsored by the hospital association and the U. S. Public Health Services. A total of 750 nurses took the oath of allegiance with Dr. Thomas Parran, surgeon general of the U. S. Public Health Services officiating.

5-20-44

Cadets Get D.C. Posts

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

Vivian Walker, left, of Rochester, Pa., and Ardelle Hunley of Philadelphia this week became the first senior cadets at Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing. Beginning January 1, they will do field work with the D.C. Health Department. Eighty-nine cadets are enrolled in the course at Freedmen's. 12-30-44

They Can Give Only Limited Service

AFRO-American Balt., Md. 5-27-44

U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps at Mercy Hospital, Philadelphia includes the above: first row (left to right)—Misses Olivia Cuff, Salem, N.J.; Virginia Hawkins, Harriett Graves, Moorestown, N.J., and Anna Parker, Phoenixville, Pa.; second row (left to right)—Misses Jessie Dantxler, Bridgeton, N.J.; Dorothy Hammond, Wilmington, Del.; Dorothy Baynard, Marcus Hook, Pa., and Dorothy Caldwell, Tyrone, Pa.; third row (left to right)—Misses Vida Beckford, Morton, Pa.; Mary Quarles, Wilmington, Del., and Leonia Wyckoff, East Orange, N.J. Despite their training, bias Army policy prevents them from serving except in segregated units.

U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps

FREEDMEN CADET NURSES PARTICIPATE IN SERVICES

Fifty students from Freedmen's hospital School of Nursing were among the 700 young women officially inducted into the U. S. Cadet Nurses Corps at exercises held in Constitution Hall, May 13. The first photo shows some of the Cadet nurses as they marched to their seats.

In the second picture, Cadet Nurse Jeanne A. Seabrook, of Warren, Ohio, is shown with Congresswoman Frances Bolton, who made the program of Cadet nurses possible.—OWI Photos.

5-27-44

Cadet Nurses Take Part In National Induction Services

Pittsburgh Courier — Pa.

WASHINGTON—Fifty cadet nurses from Freedmen's hospital were among the more than 700 nurses who participated in the national induction services of the U.S. Cadet Nurses Corps at Constitutional Hall, Washington, D. C., Saturday, May 13. The exercises, witnessed by relatives and friends of the nurses who packed the spacious auditorium, were broadcast over a national hookup.

Preceding the radio broadcast, the U. S. Navy Band Symphony Orchestra gave a concert with Lt. Charles Brendler, conducting. With Captain Burgess Meredith, of the Army Air Forces, as master of ceremonies, the broadcast featured a skit by Helen Hayes, dramatic actress, and a solo by Bing Crosby from Hollywood. Brief addresses were made by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton of Ohio, who sponsored the bill which created the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, and Dr. Thomas Parran, Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, who administered the oath. A selection was also rendered by a chorus of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

Freedmen's Cadet Nurses who participated in the ceremony included Annie Allen, Washington, D. C.; Evelyn Allen, Pittsburgh; Roberta Anderson, Bridgeport, Conn.; Ruth Anderson, Parnassus, Pa.; Sylvia Anderson, Algoma, W. Va.; Olive Benjamin, New York; Virginia Brothers, Philadelphia; Rosa Busbee, Kinston, N. C.; Muriel Caffee, Pennington, N. J.; Eva La Carr, Parkersburg, W. V.; Ella Claiborne, Orange, N. J.; Shirley Coleman, Neptune, N. J.; Henrietta Coles, Algoma, W. Va.; Laura Cook, Baltimore; Lucy V. Franklin, and Mildred Gaskins, Washington.

Also Joyce William, Baltimore; Eloise Hardy, Birmingham, Ala.; Ruth Hinton, Washington; Estelle Howard, Midland, Pa.; Georgia Hughes, Rising Sun, Ind.; Ardelle Hunley, Philadelphia; Edith Johnson, Gulfport, Miss.; Katrina Johnson, Darby, Pa.; Bertha Laster, Trenton, N. J.; Willa McClellen, Blairsville, Pa.; Mildred McCoy, Farrell, Pa.; Sarah Parsons, Bryn Mawr, Pa.; Charlotte Payne, Philadelphia; Harriette Pearson, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Minnie Pettis, Aliquippa, Pa.; Eloise Pleasant, Washington, D. C.; Mable Price, Birmingham, Ala.; Annie Pugh, McKeesport, Pa.; Elizabeth Randleman, New London, Conn.; Vera Reynolds, Baltimore; Edith Robinson, Pittsburgh; Elizabeth Sanchez, Orange, Va.; Jeanne Seabrook, Warren, Ohio; Henrietta Smith, Baltimore, Md.; Maude E. Smith, New York, N. Y.; Harriett Snell, Youngstown, Ohio; Odell Starks, Washington; Cora Terrell, Atlanta, Ga.; Edna Thompson, Charleston, S. C.; Geraldine Vicks, Sparkhill, N. Y.; Vivian Walker, Rochester, Pa.; Natalie West, Englewood, N. J.; Mary Yancey, Chicago, Ill., and Ruth Young, Pittsburgh.

Cpl, Kansas City, Mo

FIRST NEGRO WACs TO ENTER AAF SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY at Lowry Field, Colo., arrived on the field this week. They are (left to right) Pfc. Indialee Branch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Inman Davis of 4350 St. Ferdinand Ave., St. Louis, Mo.; Pvt. Lavonic Browne, daughter of Mrs. Viola R. Browne of 614 East Hendrie St., Detroit, Mich., and Pvt. Mary Jane Beach, formerly of 6343 Rhodes Ave., Chicago, Ill.; Pfc. Branch is the wife of Cpl. Wilks S. Branch with the 5th Army in Italy; her brother is in the Navy, a sister in the WAC, two cousins in the WAC including one who is a lieutenant, two cousins in the army in the South Pacific including one who is a captain. Her father is a veteran of World War I. Pvt. Browne has a brother with the 5th Army in Italy. Pfc. Beach has an uncle with the Signal Corps in Italy and an uncle with the Medical Corps in France. Her husband, Cecil O. Beach is an aviation cadet at Tuskegee, Ala. The Lowry Field School of Photography is one of the highest-ranking technical schools conducted by the Army Air Forces. —Official USAAF Photo by AAF Training Command.

11-17-44

WAC Wins Position, Travelers Aid

New Amsterdam News

A unique army assignment fell to the lot of WAC Ethel Norman stationed at Camp Forrest, Tenn. By army orders she was assigned to the USO Travelers Aid unit in Tullahoma, Tenn., as a caseworker to help this agency serve the traveling civilians and men in uniform crowding into this army area.

Cpl. Norman was a trained social caseworker before she donned a uniform and the army felt that she could best use her previous professional training by assisting in the Tullahoma Travelers Aid unit as a case worker during the maneuver period.

On duty at this office, Cpl. Norman handled many kinds of case work problems of the camp, newcomers and was particularly successful in helping girls visiting the camp area, and in aiding with the grave housing situation. 12-30-44

For her outstanding work Cpl. Norman was recently promoted from the rank of private. Commenting on her contribution to the USO Travelers Aid service Mrs. Viola Perkins, director, said, "We feel that Cpl. Norman proved an excellent case worker in her assignment under our supervision and was a distinct addition to our USO staff meetings in Tullahoma."

Cpl. Norman, who was born in Petersburg, Va., received an AB degree in sociology from Virginia State College in 1939. Prior to joining the army, Cpl. Norman served for a year as caseworker with the Friends' Association for Colored Children in Richmond, Va.

She was sworn into the WAC on Nov. 18, 1943, and called to active duty Jan. 5 at Des Moines, Ia.

Insubordination Charge Follows Refusal To Work

Philadelphia Tribune—Pa

12-30-44

CAMP BRECKINRIDGE, Ky.—Five colored WACs were taken from the detachment center here by white MP's and lodged in the guardhouse at the Camp Hospital, last week, charged with insubordination.

They had been ordered to fix bed springs in a barracks which had been drained and had been declared unfit to work in since there was no heat.

The women, Privates First Class Eleanor Brown and Edith Young; and Privates Davetta Butler, Ruth Sanders and Geneva Pipkin, refused to obey the order given by a lieutenant who immediately reported them to the commander.

Orders were received to place them in the guard house where they are to remain pending further orders.

For three of the women it was the first offense and they feel that since Army regulations were not followed by the lieutenant in giving them the order that they are being made martyrs.

First Air WAC Company Averages Test of 108.5

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

ARMY AIR BASE, SIOUX CITY, Iowa — Parachute riggers, radio operators, clerks, medical technicians, airplane mechanics, photographers—these are but a few of the skilled jobs held by members of the latest Army unit to be added to the personnel at Sioux City Army Air Base, the War Department announced, this week. 5-13-44

These soldiers, coming from all parts of the United States, especially Eastern States, are members of the first colored WAC company in the Army Air Forces, and of the second largest group of WACs in the Second Army Air Force. They have taken over a wide variety of duties quickly and efficiently.

Average Test 108.5

Prepared by the Army for many vital jobs, more than half of the colored WAC company are college-trained women, the average age is 24, and their average on the Army's Classification Test was 108.5. More than one-fourth of the group made over 110, the mark required for officers' training. A large number of the WACs are ex-school teachers or were formerly in government work. 5-13-44

Typical of the young women who have taken over the WAC barracks at the air base is First Lieutenant Elizabeth Hampton, commanding officer of the company, whose home is Los Angeles, Calif. Lieutenant Hampton was a member of the first Officers' Candidate School class to graduate from Fort Des Moines, in 1942.

Washingtonian Is Adjutant

The company adjutant, Lieutenant Blanche L. Scott, 1826 H Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., received a promotion from second to first lieutenant March 7, several weeks before the company was transferred to Sious City. Lieutenant Scott attended Howard University, Washington, D.C., for three and a half years, and received her gold bars in the first WAC class to be chosen from the ranks, which graduated January 9, 1943. Both lieutenants are former recruiting officers.

First sergeant of the company, is Minnie B. Gay, a graduate of Temple University, whose husband is editor of a Philadelphia weekly newspaper.

Mine Negro Physical Therapy Aides Commissioned; First Trained by Army

Call-Reporter, Tex. 11-17-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—The first Army-trained Negro physical therapy aides were commissioned as second lieutenants, Medical Department, at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., upon their graduation October 20, from the Ninth Service Command's School for Physical Therapy and Medical Technicians, the War Department announced today.

Prior to the graduation of the class, made up of six enlisted members of the Women's Army Corps, and three civilian cadets, only three Negro women held commissions in the Army as physical therapy aides.

On October 1, 1943, the first three civilian cadets reported to Fort Huachuca to begin training. After six months of theory, they served at the station hospital as apprentices for another six months. Last January 10, six WACs were added to the first class. They spent six months in classroom study and served a three months' apprenticeship at the Fort's station hospital, during which time their work was closely supervised by Major Phillip T. Johnson of Washington, D. C., who was recognized in civilian life as one of the nation's foremost physio-therapists, and other officers of the Medical Department.

Nine students who were enrolled in the second class at the school will receive four weeks of Army training before reporting for duty at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. They will complete their training at that station.

Colonel Midian O. Bousfield, commandant of the school at Fort Huachuca, points out that physio-therapy is gaining a forward place in the medical world. During the recent spread of polio in the South, it was used with great success. The Army has found the methods used by physio-therapists of great value in restoring to health muscles weakened by lack of exercise. The formerly sworn into the WAC, 20 are Second Lieutenants Muriel B. Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Davis, 1501 Oak St., Chicago, Ill.; Lilyanne Plummer, daughter of Mrs. Rosa G. Plummer, 4 St., N. W., Washington, D. C., and Valjeanne Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Taylor, 383 Forrest Ave., N. E., Atlanta, Ga. They are now at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. Second Lieutenants Ida Belle Rogers, daughter of Mrs. Belle Rogers, 595 Polk St., Memphis, Tenn.; Edythe Bingham, daughter of Mrs. Amanda R. Bingham, 206 Jackson St., Talladega, Ala.: Ruth R. Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Jones, Wisconsin, where they will receive four weeks of Army training before reporting for duty at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. 11-17-44

These WACs were commissioned after they had completed a course of training at the Army's School for Physical Therapy and Medical Technicians at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. Left to right: Second Lieutenants Muriel B. Davis, Chicago, Ill.; Lilyanne Plummer, Washington, D. C.; Ida Belle Rogers, Memphis, Tenn.; Edythe Bingham, Talladega, Ala.; Ruth R. Jones, Atlanta, Ga. They will receive four weeks of Army training before reporting for duty at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. 11-17-44

Consideration of this situation was recently requested and we hope favorable action will be taken by theatre commanders." 12-2-44

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 6-3-44

47 WAC

6-3-44

CPL. ELEANOR BRACEY

Popular member of the WAC, who is a water and sewage analyst and goes about her work at the Fort hospital, where she is now stationed. Cpl. Bracey is one of a number of service women helping to keep camp routine running on an even keel at the big Post. She knows her business, say the boys in uniform.

WAC AT FORT HUACHUCA.—At Fort Huachuca, Ariz., T.-5 Betty Joy works in the Adjutant's office as stenographer and special order clerk. Cpl. Joy was born in Cambridge, Mass. She attended the Palmer Memorial Institute and spent two years at Boston business college completing a secretarial course. Formerly employed as typist-clerk with the Army Air Force, Washington D. C., Cpl. Joy joined the WACs in April, 1943, to receive basic training at Fort Devens, Mass. She was assigned to Fort Huachuca in July, 1943. Cpl. Joy recently appeared in "G. I." Rhapsody," the all musical show of the post. —U.S. Signal Corps Photo.

Negative 6-19-44

47m-1944

WACS Don New Uniforms

Daily World - Atlanta, Georgia
8-5-44

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

Chic and attractive in their new off-duty uniforms are these two members of the WAC Detachment at Fort Benning, Ga. At left, wearing the new light beige dress, is Cpl. Magdalen Thompson, of New Orleans. Pfc Julia Harris, of Augusta, Ga.,, wears the tropical worsted uniform. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

Boys In Pacific Want Negro Wacs, Martin Discloses

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
8-5-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN, U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS—(By Courier)—With the arrival of white members of the Women's Army Corps in the Southwest Pacific command, spec-

WACs

ulation has arisen as to whether Negro members will be sent into the area. Although questioned Army officials refuse to be quoted at this writing, it seems very unlikely that any are scheduled. From work the white members are reported doing it is quite obvious why Negro members are unlikely to be called.

Several weeks ago WACs arrived somewhere in Australia. Immediately a forward echelon was sent into New Guinea. It was learned that they are now being used in a clerical capacity at air bases, hospitals, base commands, finance offices, supply depots, and other installations where it is feasible to use women to replace men needed in other capacities.

Up to the present time Negro members of the armed services stationed here have seen very little of this type of duty. Very few, if any, have been assigned to base command clerical staffs. And the trend at present does not indicate that this condition will be altered. 8-5-44

Whether the table of organization of any Negro unit is flexible enough to allow the infiltration of women personnel is not known by this reporter. Unless it is, it is very unlikely that Negro WACs will be used. However, this is an opinion based on observation and not in any way official.

The question has arisen. On seeing other WACs, spruced out in regular ODs and parading thru the streets here, our troops asked the question, "Woder if the clean-cuts from Fort Huachuca are coming over?" The question remains unanswered.

DISCONTINUES WAC BAND; A ROTTEN DEAL

Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa
8-5-44

The Bystander has been informed that the Negro WAC band at Fort Des Moines has been deactivated. The only reason given was that it is an economy measure.

Well, that is strange. Certainly, in the army—while the country is at war.

Another vale excuse is that there is no authority for the unit. And yet somebody paid for about twenty-five hundred dollars worth of instruments for the unauthorized unit. Just another joke.

But be that as it may and assuming authorities are telling the truth, why would the whole Negro band be discontinued while the white band is left intact?

The rule has been that Negro WACs could not join the band with white WACs. This, of course, is ridiculous, unfair and constitutes just another of the many acts of discrimination and injustices which are being practiced upon Negro women at Fort Des Moines. It is further proof that contrary to what the commanding officer told a group of citizens some months ago. Negro girls are denied some types of training.

One of the arguments made against maintaining adequate consideration for Negroes is the burdensome expense of operating two institutions. The railroads argued this for their answer to the charge of unequal accommodation in interstate commerce; some states made the same argument when equal educational opportunities were insisted upon for Negroes. In each instance, the United States Supreme Court said the law is that Negroes were entitled to equal accommodations and since the separate facilities were insisted upon, they must be equal. 8-5-44

It is ridiculous to maintain two bands at Fort Des Moines. Since economy measures are sought after, here would be a fine place to begin by consolidating them; here would be some showing of the practice of the democracy for which we are supposed to be fighting.

The Bystander, and we know that this is the attitude of the Negroes of Des Moines, has been disappointed with the WAC situation. Too many officials have been over zealous in carrying out the army policy of segregation and some of the Negro officers themselves have aided and abetted that policy in order to secure promotions. And the fact that it has been impossible for the WACs to enlist sufficient porsennel because of the disappointment felt and broadcasted throughout the country by those who came to Fort Des Moines. is proof of this assertion.

The Negro girls have taken a terrific pounding from some of the officials at the post and those selfish Negro officers who have been willing to sell their race down stream—cheap too—for a chance to stand in with the right people.

Negro WAC Band Is Inactivated

Daily World
8-18-44
Atlanta, Ga.

FT DES MOINES, Ia.—(ANP)—Negroes throughout the nation have been asked to join in protest to President Roosevelt in an effort to have the recently inactivated Negro WAC band re-organized. After nine months of intensive training, followed by numerous appearances in parades and concerts, these 26 young women representing every section of the country and many Negro colleges and universities, are now being scattered into various training groups. 8-18-44

The members of the disbanded WAC band in Des Moines ask that citizens everywhere busy themselves by voicing their protests to the President.

Army Yields

WACs May Keep Disputed Band

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The decision to disband the colored WAC band at the WAC Training center Fort Des Moines, Iowa, has been reversed, it was learned last Saturday.

Colonel Frank U. McCoskrie commanding officer of the WAC Training center, recommended that the band be not disbanded because its benefit to morale outweighed in importance the necessity for the transfer of its personnel to other assignments at this time.

The War Department approved his recommendation and decided to continue the band. It had previously taken the position that the decision to disband the band was in furtherance of the war effort on the ground that the acute need for personnel did not justify the retention of so many Army bands.

FOR THE PAST two weeks, we've been talking about the White House press conference. From time to time as developments justify it, we'll do more of that type of thing. But now, let's "un-cover" some

UN-COVERING WASHINGTON

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
3-18-44

BY HARRY S. McALPIN
WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT For Atlanta Daily World & N.N.P.A.

Without a lot of fanfare or publicity, the WAC has been fully integrated into the Army. It happened officially on March 1. Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, the WAC director, has been promoted to the general staff corps. She will now set the broad general policies for the WAC here and abroad.

Of the approximately 50 WAC

Need WAC On General Staff

officers who were on Col. Hobby's headquarters staff only four have gone along with her to the personnel division of the general staff. No one of those four is a Negro.

3-18-44

But that isn't our point. We'd like to see a Negro officer on the general staff, yes. We aren't even complaining about the assignment that is in prospect for Major Harriet West, one of the two highest ranking Negroes in the Women's Army Corps. We think a Negro should be in such a spot, too.

But since the WAC is being reorganized, and integrated—and since the undemocratic policy of segregation into white and colored units exists despite our fighting a war against the Hitlerian theories of "Aryan supremacy and "divide and conquer"—why can't we have a Negro WAC in charge of the Negro division? 3-18-44

One reason may be the fact that such a person would be equivalent to a division commander, which would rate a rank of full colonel. But is there any law against that?

This person could take over the whole thing—step up the recruiting campaign for Negro WACs, which is now being given no attention by anyone, find assignments for the 30 or more Negro officers languishing at Des Moines with nothing to do, plug for overseas service for Negro WACs, set personnel goals and standards, and help remove a stigma which has attached itself to the corps so for as Negroes are concerned since its inception.

As a political move, it could be surpassed only by eliminating the color line in the American Army—which isn't in the cards just yet.

2 WAC's Get Labor Sentences

Afro-American—Baltimore, Md. 4-1-44

WASHINGTON

Reports that two colored WAC's at Fort Jackson, S.C., had been found guilty of breeches of military discipline and sentenced to terms of imprisonment were confirmed by the War Department on Wednesday.

In one case, Pvt. Dorcas Harris, of Savannah, Ga., was charged with insubordination and using obscene language to a superior officer. She is said to have refused to work in a hospital ward. The complaining witness was a nurse, Lt. Lillian E. Dillard.

Gets 6 Months, Fine

A special court martial found Private Harris guilty. She was sentenced to six months at hard labor and forfeiture of two-third of her pay for a like period.

In the other case, Pvt. Thenetha Harden, of Norfolk, Va., was charged with disobedience to her commanding officer, Lt. Catherine Landry, a colored WAC, who testified against her. 4-1-44

She was tried by a general court martial, found guilty and sentenced to five years at hard labor, followed by a dishonorable discharge from the army. The reviewing authorities reduced her sentence to one year, of which she is to do six months at hard labor.

A WAC Photographer!

The Union—Cincinnati, Ohio

Hampton Institute, Va.—Pvt. Luvenia C. Miller, photographer, who received the B.S. degree at Hampton Institute in 1934, has been assigned to the public relations office of Fort Douglas Army Air Field in Douglas, Ariz. A graduate of the New York Institute of Photography, she was the first colored woman on WAC duty in the photographic department at the WAC training center in Fort Des Moines, Ia. 4-13-44

The first Negro to pass the State Board of Photographers examination in North Carolina, Pvt. Miller is a graduate of Bennett College high school and formerly taught school in Greensboro, N. C.

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

10-6-44

COMMANDER.—

Captain A. Noel Campbell, commanding officer of WAC Detachment No. 2 at Camp Forrest, Tenn., is the winsome member of a service-minded family. Her oldest brother, Capt. T. M. Campbell is assigned to a tank destroyer unit at Camp Hood, Texas; her youngest brother, First Lt. William A. Campbell is with the AAF in Italy; one sister, Virginia C. is a cadet nurse at Lincoln hospital, New York City; and another, Elizabeth, has reported at the University of California for special work in physical therapy. Captain Campbell's father, T. M. Campbell, Sr., a field agent for the Department of Agriculture, is stationed at Tuskegee, Ala., while her mother is hostess at the Booker T. Washington home, national shrine of the great educator.—U. S. Signal Corps photo.

One Out Of 23

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa. 7-1-44

7-1-44

Lt. Doris Cable, a WAC officer at the Philadelphia Signal Depot, 5000 Wissahickon avenue, is a member of the Army's largest family, having twenty-two living brothers and sisters.

Doris Cable was born in Alabama, the Daughter of a Practicing physician. She completed her elementary education in Indianapolis, Indiana and was graduated from Fisk university, Nashville, Tenn. 7-1-44

Lt. Cable enlisted as a WAC in July, 1942 and was inducted at Port Haines, Columbus, Ohio graduating as a second lieutenant from Officers' Candidate School, Des Moines, Iowa. She attained the rank of a first lieutenant and was assigned to the Philadelphia Signal Depot in April, 1944 as assistant OC of the Post Restaurant.

As can easily be seen, it is difficult for Lt. Cable to check on the activities of her many brothers and sisters. The general picture includes service not only at the front, but on the equality important food production farm front. One brother, Baldwin, is farming in Montgomery, Ala. A sister, Marie, teaches music in Buffalo, New York. Another sister, Vasti, has two boys in the service from Toledo, Ohio. Another sister, Alma, is with the Ohio Red Cross. A brother, George, is a chemical engineer in Los Angeles. A brother, Jefferson, is a tailor in the Quartermaster Corps. She has six brothers in the Army and Navy, three brothers in defense work on the west coast, and six sisters in defense work. 7-1-44

Lt. Cable is married to Dr. Theodore Cable, a dentist and a civilian air patrol pilot.

Her mother is more fortunate than most mother by reason of having a pass to travel on railroads. She spends all of her time traveling from family to family. It takes her a complete year to make a cycle of visits to all of her children.

Not A Toot From WAC Band Since Reorganization

Iowa Bystander—Des Moines, Iowa

Since August, when the War Department ordered the reorganization of the Negro WAC Band No. 2, at Fort Des Moines, Ia., Negro citizens have been waiting for the first public appearance of the Negro women, now known as the 404th army band—but not a public toot has been heard since July when the women played their last engagement in Chicago, at the NAACP War Conference. 11-16-44

Ask any of these women why they are not carrying on—playing concerts playing for war bond drives in and out of Des Moines like they were when they were the Negro WAC Band, No. 2, they will tell you that "few of us have instruments."

Instruments Slow

During the two months that they have been reorganized the Negro band has been receiving on the average of one instrument a week, some of them related. With sixteen more instruments needed for the band, the women are beginning to wonder if the instruments will arrive before the war is over. 11-16-44

These band women are anxious to get busy, hold their band practices and win back their stripes which they lost during the summer when the band was disbanded, they related.

Whatever is holding up their instruments—with quartermasters' depots and music stores filled with instruments—is the question that is puzzling the members of the Negro Army band, No. 404.

In a message to Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, John S. Coleman, president of the Des Moines branch, urged Mr. White to "help make it possible for these girls with talent to do their share." 11-16-44

7m-1944

ACS AT FORT SHERIDAN, ILL.

ORT SHERIDAN, in the northern part of Illi-, is proud of its WAC detachment. Capt. ildred Osby, formerly of Boston, is top ranking ficer of the Negro group. Here we have Pfc. zella Pierce, 1227 E. Seventh street, Columbus, Ga., and Pvt. Rosalie Hassell, 217 West 130th street, New York city, at the right, as they measure and size clean garments for return to WACs in the service.—U. S. Army photo.

WACS

30 Fort Sheridan Wacs Have College Training

Defender-Chicago, Ill.

1-15-44

FORT SHERIDAN, Ill.—Typical of Women's Army Corps field companies that are performing innumerable army tasks is WAC Company B, 4662 Service Unit, here, Col. John T. Rhett, commanding officer. Company B is attached to the Recruit Reception center under the command of Lt. Col. Jefferson C. Campbell. Activated at Fort Custer, Mich., July 1, 1943, this WAC company so capably performed its duties, that when the Recruit Reception center was recently removed to Fort Sheridan, Col. Campbell requested that the WACs under the command of Capt. Mildred Osby also be transferred.

A brief glance at Co. B qualification cards reveals at least one reason why this group is functioning at a high level of efficiency according to Captain Osby. On the basis of Army general classification tests, the company shows more than 25 of 83 members in group two, the rating required of officer candidates.

Supplement this information with the fact that over 30 have college training, varying from one to four years and that only four are not high school graduates and add that most of these WACs have Army technical or administrative training, and it becomes evident why these women are able to perform in a highly satisfactory manner duties that range from driving and servicing trucks to interviewing recruits and completing war bond applications. 1-15-44

Although work assignments cover a wide and diversified range, in many instances a correlation of civilian occupations with Army jobs has been effected, especially at the Recruit Reception center. Thirteen of these WACs had prior experience in civil service jobs. A WPB stenographer became a payroll clerk, a typist in the Treasury department, became a typist interviewer in the insurance section and a tabulating machine operator for the Social Security Board, became a typist at the checking station.

However, in cases where women preferred new work, the WAC has offered them an opportunity to change. Pvt. Laura A. Browne, 122 Rhode Island avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., a clerk in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, is happy now as a motor transport driver, and T-5 Laura Bullock, 276 E. Fourth avenue, Columbus, Ohio, a former Show Boat ballet dancer, is punching out codes on classification cards of recruits.

At the Recruit Reception Center where innumerable civilians from three states become fledgling soldiers within the space of a few hours, Co. B WACs interview men, operate key punch machines that hammer out the "dog tags" which officially identify the recruit as a member of Uncle Sam's Army, type payrolls, make out bond and insurance applications, type the opening chapters in thousands of service records and in other ways expedite the work of transforming civilians into soldiers.

Ninety-nine per cent of recruits passing through the center take out $10,000 life insurance policies and from 35 percent to 40 percent request bond deductions from their fifty dollar pay, the average deductions being $6.75. Much of this routine work is handled by Co. B WACs. 1-15-44

Brother An Officer

Several Co. B members selected for typicality of job assignment and personality were interviewed to determine background and attitude. Pfc. Mozella C. Pierce, 1227 E. Seventh street, Columbus, Ga., a stock clerk in the warehouse where clothing is reclaimed under the direction of Capt. Jack Marietta, is one of a family of seven, five of whom have served in the present war. Born in Fort Benning, Ga., where her father is a warrant officer with 26 years of Army service behind him.

Pvt. Pierce has a brother James, a first lieutenant; another Manuel, a sergeant on overseas duty, and a foster brother, Manley, injured in overseas duty, then discharged from the army and now serving as a member of the Merchant Marine.

Private Pierce likes her job of sorting and sizing clean reclaimed clothing, and Capt. Marietta likes the idea that every hat, cap, shirt, or blouse salvaged means money saved for Uncle Sam's prosecution of the war in some other part of the globe.

Two young grandmothers are mess sergeant Marie T. Sublett, 208 N. 14th street, Springfield, Ill., with years of social service and community work experience who supervises the preparation of the hearty and attractive meals served Co. B, and Cpl. Bessie Robinson, 670 St. Nicholas avenue, New York City, administrative and technical clerk in company headquarters. Like many other members of the company, Corporal Robinson has relatives in service, her son, Sgt. Harry Yancey serving with the Air Corps in Hawaii and two brothers in the army. 1-15-44

Pvt. Josephine Moody, 818 17th street, Middletown, Ohio, lost her sight when five years old, learned Braille, regained her sight through an operation at 14 and enlisted in the WACs. She has been assigned to the motor pool where she services and drives vehicles up to two tons. In spare time diminutive Pvt. Moody alternates interest in writing and dancing. She has had several poems and one song published. She likes automotive work but hopes that someday her knowledge of Braille will be used in the rehabilitation of soldiers returned from the front.

Proud of her family's record of service is Pvt. Jacqueline Fuller, 135 N. Campbell avenue, Chicago, Ill., whose father, a Navy machinist's mate, was wounded at Guadalcanal, was awarded the purple heart and discharged from service. A sister, Pfc. Winona Clark, is a WAC at Fort Clark, Texas, and two brothers are in service. Pvt. Fuller is a typist in the records section at the Recruit Reception Center.

Innumerable hobbies are listed by individual members ranging through the usual categories of sports but no off-time activity is more popular than the glee club. Organized at Fort Custer by the late Dr. Nathaniel Dett, composer and director, the Co. B glee club has appeared at Detroit, Kalamazoo and Chicago. At present the group is directed by Eugene S. Perry, assistant director of the Waukegan USO.

Capt. Osby emphasizes that the women of her command are not just civilians wearing neat brown tailored suits, but are real soldiers, carrying on a program of physical fitness with scheduled periods of physical training and regular periods of close order drill in addition to eight hours daily of assigned work. Despite full periods of duty, morale is high in Co. B and good humor prevails. 1-15-44

Mail call during the noon meal is the occasion for good-natured ribbing as T-5 Grace B. Simpson, 528 E. 42nd street, Chicago, Ill., mail clerk, calls out nicknames such as "Termite," "Marmola," "Jeep," and "Friendship."

A company day room attractively furnished, a nearby Post theatre, chapel, and service club provide for leisure hours. However, there isn't much time for entertainment outside the post.

As one WAC put it, "We're just too busy, Ma'am. By the time we go to an occasional movie and keep up on our correspondence—why, it's time to go to bed. Those three buglers literally blow us out of bed at six every morning." The three buglers, Pfcs. Elizabeth Miller, 55 Four Corner Rd., Staten Island, N. Y.; Gertrude Lee, 505 Market street, Newark, N. J.; and Pvt. Mary Mayes, 448 W. 153rd street, New York, like their work. In fact, they like it so well that they alternate blowing the calls during the day. If Bugler Miller sounds reveille, Bugler Mayes will blow taps at eleven p.m.

Capt. Mildred Osby, a native of Boston and a graduate of the first WAC officer training school at Fort Des Moines, resided at 6246 South Parkway, Chicago. She has seen duty at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., Fort Custer, Mich., and Fort Devens, Mass., and Washington, D. C. In civilian life she was employed by the Massachusetts State Board of Public Welfare and subsequently by the Social Security Board in Chicago.

Supply officer of Co. B is Second Lt. Connie Sinclair, 6246 South Parkway, Chicago, who holds a B.A. degree from Tillotson college, Austin, Texas. Prior to enlistment in the WAC, she was employed by the Chicago Board of Education and later by the OPA.

Forrest WAC's Not Ward Boys

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Hold Varied Jobs in Mixed Post Hospital

3 OFFICERS IN UNIT

2-26-44

Colonel Says Morals High, Morale Fair

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a series of articles on how colored WAC's live and what they are doing in army posts where they are assigned. The third, to follow next week, will depict life of the woman soldier at Fort McClellan, Ala.] 2-26-44

By LULA JONES GARRETT

CAMP FORREST, Tenn. — Iceived proper ratings because their frankly admit that when I came officers thought ratings above pri- o this camp I expected to find a vate first class would give them far different story from what ap- pears here.

Morals Praised

For instance, the hospital unit at Fort McClellan is a white de- tachment, and also includes WAC's who had been trained who have been trained as motor transport school at mechanics and drivers, but who here are doing the work of nurses aides, 2 here had been placed in hospital posts as ward boys, that despite good educational qualifications they were being forced into menial jobs, that the company command- er was not solicitous of their welfare, and that they had not re-

Two of the things Col. T. L. Farenbaugh, post commander, will tell you are that the morals of WAC Detachment No. 2 are above reproach and that their morale is high.

As far as ratings being frozen, On the first count he is reasonI found that ratings had been frozen throughout the entire

2-26-44

Not in "Ward Boy" Jobs

But their hospital jobs are not ward boys, but run from Fourth Command. It was merely

All Ratings Frozen

members of WAC Detachment No. 2-26-44 as a hospital unit, g in the hospital, nurses' aides to technicians. This, an unlucky coincidence that the boys. This is be-I found, is a general policy and not order caught the Forrest detach- ment was sent out confined to colored detachments. ment.

2-26-44

As one WAC put it, "We're just too busy, Ma'am. By the time we go to an occasional movie and keep up on our correspondence—why, it's time to go to bed. Those three buglers literally blow us out of bed at six every morning." The three buglers, Pfcs. Elizabeth Miller, 55 Four Corner Rd., Staten Island, N. Y.; Gertrude Lee, 505 Market street, Newark, N. J.; and Pvt. Mary Mayes, 448 W. 153rd street, New York, like their work. In fact, they like it so well that they alternate blowing the calls during the day. If Bugler Miller sounds reveille, Bugler Mayes will blow taps at eleven p.m.

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cisely as a girls' school is run. WAC's are strictly chaperoned, carefully checked.

On the second, he isn't so accurate. This, however, doesn't hold only for this post. The Army just hasn't lived up to the glamour the majority of women expected of it.

Or, it may be, as has jokingly been said, that the WAC's have adopted the habit of "grousing" from soldiers. One of the few liberties the men have is that of grumbling; so, say officers, they "grouse" about everything.

Tried by Own Officers

Camp Forrest has been exceptionally free of incident as concerned behavior of colored WAC'c. Possible incidents were nipped in the bud when three were given a hearing for being late for 11 o'clock bed check. They were tried, fined, and confined by their own officers.

The only time a colored WAC has had a hearing before a white officer here, according to the colonel, was when the WAC officer was accuser, witness, and would have been judge. 2-26-44

Had Scrubbed Floors

While Major Edna Moat, white, chief nurse in the hospital where the WAC's serve, admitted that once, during an influenza epidemic, WAC's had scrubbed floors, none were allowed to do any of the work of ward boys, such as scrub, handle bed pans, etc., when I arrived.

I was told that an order which said that WAC's may be assigned to any job their physical ability would allow had been used by Major Moat in the first instance, but that the change had been made when a memo forbidding WAC'c to do such jobs had been issued.

Basis of Complaints

Cause of much complaint among women stems from the failure to understand that the Army, with a few exceptions, does not teach them new trades and professions, but trains them in the Army way of doing what they were prepared to do before they joined the WAC.

Hence a girl with a grammar school education is doomed to disappointment when she expects to be trained to hold a post that calls for a college background or special training.

Nor can a girl who has never handled a car expect to learn enough about driving and mechonics in the short course given to drive a staff car or handle a mail truck.

Recruiters Blamed

Officials blame WAC recruiting officers for painting a too-rosy picture of the organization when women are solicited. 2-26-44

Of the 153 WAC's stationed at Camp Forrest only 5 are college graduates, 27 above high school level, and 90 within high school grades. Sixteen have less than a full grammar school education.

Pfc. Alberta Stampley of New Orleans is serving as receptionist in the out-patient clinic, and Pfc. Sallie Smith of Bluefield, W.Va., as receptionist in the eye, ear, nose and throat clinic. Pvt. Juanita Bradley of Hennessy, Okla., is receptionist in the registrar's office and Pvt. Alberta Sullivan of Asheville, N.C., is a librarian on the post.

Is Lab Technician

Pvt. Catherine Overton of Philadelphia, is a laboratory technician. Pvt. Theresa McDuffie of Orangeburg, S.C., is a dietician, and Pvt. Jean Outlaw of Hyde Park, Mass., is a physio-therapy technician.

Pfc. Marguerite Coles of Oakdale, La., is a graduate of the Louisiana Normal School, has received special training since being at the post and recently replaced the nurse in charge of the operating room of one clinic.

Pvt. Thomasina Wreeves is now studying for a similar post at the Army-Navy Hospital at Hot Springs, Ark.

Work with Colored, White Patients

Incidently, these women work with white physicians and nurses and colored and white patients. There is no segregation in the post hospital. 2-26-44

The WAC detachment here is under command of three officers. Capt. A. Noel Campbell, company commander, a graduate of Tuskegee, is a member of the famous Campbell family, nearly all Army folk. The father, Thomas Campbell, is a government agricultural agent. Mrs. Campbell runs a USO at Tuskegee.

A brother, Capt. Thomas Campbell, is with the medical corps at Camp Hood, Texas, and another brother, 1st Lt. Bill Campbell, is just back from Italy.

A sister, Virginia, is studying at Lincoln Hospital, N.Y.C., and plans to join the nursing corps upon graduation, and the youngest sister, Elizabeth, now at the University of Wisconsin, plans to come into the WAC upon graduation. Incidently, Capt. Campbell is senior WAC officer on the post.

Supply and mess officer is Second Lt. Josephine Brown, wife of George Brown, police officer of N.Y.C. Second Lt. Margaret E. G. Allen, formerly of N.Y.C., is executive officer.

Colored WAC's Recruited for Overseas Service Now

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.

3-11-44

BULLETIN

WENDOVER FIELD, Utah — Members of the Women's Army Corps are going to have equality with the men. They are being signed up here for overseas service.

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Thousands of women are needed for the Women's Army Corps. They are needed at once at one army bases.

Citnzens are asked to inform themselves about the helpful work women are doing at airfields and army bases. Their jobs include everything from clerical work to repairing motors and airplanes.

Mrs. Walter Cartwright, 506 Roslyn Place, president of the National WAC Mothers' Association, asked each mothe rin her organization to pledge at least one recruit.

WAC recruits must be between 20 and 50, and have no children under 14. 3-11-44

Ft. Benning WAC Quota Is Filled

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

7-28-44

FT. BENNING, Ga.—(A N P)—First Lt. Corrie S. Sherard, commanding officer of WAC detachment, station complement, Section 2, this week announced that the detachment had been brought up to its full strength with arrival of the latest contingent of WACs in the area.

There are present 145 members of the WAC detachment. They are coming in steadily from Fort Des Moines, Ia., first WAC Training center; and at frequent intervals from Fort Huachuca, Ariz., after receiving advanced training at the large station hospital.

Pfc. Rebecca D. Scarborough, 25, and Pvt. Ida Hicks, 25, were transferred to Fort Benning from Fort Huachuca. Both are scheduled to be assigned to station hospital at technicians, Lt. Sherard stated.

First colored WAC to reach Benning as a dental technician, Pfc. Scarborough came highly recommended for her work. She is a resident of Decatur, Ala., and as a civilian followed the teaching profession. Pfc. Scarborough is also skilled in the operation of the addressgraph and embossig machine. 7-28-44

Pvt. Hicks, daughter of Mrs. Beaula Draper, of Chickasha, Okla., was a music teacher in civilian life. Both she and Pfc. Scarborough were stationed at Fort Sheridan, Ill., before going to Fort Huachuca.

CAMP FORREST, Tenn.—(ANP)—The majority of the Wacs of Detachment Number 2 here work in the station hospital in positions varying from medical technicians to receptionists. They do specialized work varying with their individual abilities and backgrounds. 8-4-44

This detachment received initial training in Fort Des Moines where after basic military training, they were given work to prepare them as a hospital unit. It was as such that they were brought to Camp Forrest.

After coming here many of the Wacs received not only "on the job" training, but specialized classes at the Army-Navy hospital at Hot Springs, Ark. The army tries to capatilize on the individual's civilian schooling and background when assigning them to military duties. Thus if a particular army job calls for an individual with a college background, such a person will be utilized. There is not time for the wartime army to train its soldiers for military duties from the 'ground up.'

Deactivate Negro WAC Band At Ft. Des Moines

Daily Worker, Des Moines, Iowa

July 20, 1944

Members of the 26-ipece Negro band of the First WAC Training Center who played their biggest engagement at the NAACP War Conference in Chicago on Sunday, July 16, returned to their post at Fort Des Moines Tuesday morning, July 18, to find deactivation orders awaitng their organization.

The women of the band who have been housed together as a band unit and have devoted all of their training since last August to the study of band music, laid aside their instruments Tuesday and began undergoing a program of reclassification.

Public Relations Officer K. Stull of the First WAC Training Center in an interview Tuesday said that the orders had come from Washington as a part of the nationwide program to reduce expenses at the camps.

The Negro band had never been authorized by Washington but had been operated on the post as an overhead expense, the officer stated. She added that when the Negro band played engagements out-of-town, the group did not go out as a unit but as individuals.

The public relations officer said that no post maintained two bands and that the 400th Army Band (WAC) belonged to the First WAC Training Center.

The 400th Army Band is an all-white band and for months after its organization, Negro citizens of the country made protests in vain to get Negro members of the then WAAC into the band at the post.

In Chicago Sunday the Negro band women received a big ovation when they played in the NAACP parade and program at Washington Park before thousands and then later gave a concert at the International House on the campus of Chicago University, where they were housed.

Protests have been made to Walter White, national secretary of the NAACP, who heard the band play Sunday. He also heard the announcement of the "rumor" that the band would be deactivated, which was made before the thousands of spectators by a NAACP officer Sunday.

The Des Moines branch of the NAACP, the Civil Liberties Union and other groups and individuals have filed protests.

Most WACs At Camp Forrest World - Memphis, Tenn. At Hospital 8-4-44

47m-1944

WACS

WACs Face Problems Of Other Soldiers

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

9-30-44

First U. S. Group Admitting Negro Women Still Holds To Elements Of Prejudice

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

9-30-44

By CONSTANCE CURTIS

The best known of the women's services, in which Negro women are admitted, is the Women's Army Corps, which at the beginning of the war was the Woman's Army Auxiliary Corps.

The oldest, as well as the best known of the women's groups, the WACs, during their two years of life, have had an interesting, and at times paradoxical career as far as the treatment of Negro women in the corps is concerned.

The first of the government services to admit Negro women, there was no question of their acceptance from the beginning. Women were enrolled in the Officers Candidate School as well as in the ranks. They were trained along with white members of the corps, and many of them at present hold ranks above that of second lieutenant.

Two Majors

The only Negro women in the country who hold the rank of major are in the WAC, Harriet West and Charity Adams. Both of them were in the first class which graduated from the Army training school at Des Moines, Iowa. Major Adams is at present post property officer for the whole fort, including both white and Negro officers, and Major West is connected with the Adjutant General's office in Washington.

Approximately 25 Negro women hold the rank of captain, in camps and forts throughout the nation, and the first and second lieutenants are numerous.

9-30-44

Within the ranks of the Corps, nearly 10 per cent of all women members are Negroes, though no policy of limitation is set upon their entrance into the service.

Follow Old Pattern

This background for the Corps at its inception spoke well for what the future might hold for the Negro woman serving in the Army. Events since that time however, show much of the regular Army pattern of segregation. In the majority of cases Negro women have been assigned to camps where the majority of the personnel is colored—their jobs seeming to be the replacement of Negro men only.

Up until the present, although thousands of Negro soldiers have been placed in the foreign theaters of war, Negro women in the WAC have not been sent overseas. The policy seems to be based on segregation, since this does not hold for other women who are members of the group. WACS are to be found on war fronts throughout the world while their Negro fellow members serve only within this country.

Following the inception of the corps, its popularity suffered to a large extent because of a bad press. Women seemed reluctant to join, and Negro women especially, who began to realize that prejudice existed there as well as in nearly every other organization within the United States.

9-30-44

Enrollments within the corps have increased however, and many of the Negro women serving there express a desire to continue in the Army when the war is over.

Change In Uniform

One of the minor ways in which a change has been instituted has been in the renovation of the uniforms. At the beginning, the women were dressed in the usual government issue materials which were used for the soldiers' uniforms. Skirts were cut straight, with fine disregard for the average woman's figure. The stiff hat, under which it was difficult to arrange attractive hair styles, and the unattractive summer uniform all added to a surface reluctance to enter the corps. During the Summer, however, the uniforms began to change. A new, overseas hat was issued, skirts were changed to be more attractive and off duty dresses, both for summer and winter were provided.

9-30-44

Serving in nearly 30 camps in this country, the Negro woman in the WAC works at a variety of jobs from dental technician to personnel officer. Camps where they are located are in many of the southern states, Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Texas and North Carolina. They will also be found in Missouri, Arizona, Iowa, Kansas, Indiana, Illinois and New York.

To Be Done

The all over picture within the WACS is till far from what one would wish. The barriers which have been erected have not been broken down as successfully as in other branches of the service—as within the Nurses' Corps for example. The next move for the Army to make in a policy of lessening the barriers in this service, is the transporting of Negro WACS to the overseas theater of war. When this occurs, Negro women will no doubt rally to that service as they are doing at present in the nurses corps.

78 Soldiers And WACS Get Promotions

9-23-44

Journal + Guide

Norfolk, Virginia

CAMP FORREST, Tenn.—Promotions of 78 soldiers and Pfc. WACs stationed here have been announced by Col. Frank T. Adington, post commander, through public relations.

The enlisted personnel, members of Post Detachment, Section II, and WAC Detachment II, were promoted as follows: Five to T/4; six to T/5; eight to T/4; six to T/5; and 36 to corporal; 23 to T/5;

S. C.
PRIVATES
Private, first class—Fayette Tyree, Eutaw, Ala.; Ollie D. Buck, Bowles, Savannah, Ga.; Joseph L. Hankinstpn, Miss.; Andrew Pettry, Johnson, Mobile, Ala.; John Buck-Cleveland, O.; James G. Mayor, ner, Pilotgrove, Mo.
WAC DETACHMENT
Rochester, N. Y.; Paul L. Benson, Glen Ferres, W. Va.; Eddie L. Wetumpka, Ala.; Boston J. Shee- Johnson, Little Rock, Ark.; Carter Kannapolis, N. C.; Timmie Payne, Natchez, Miss.; Joseph Toledo, O.; Chris Crawford, geant—Hattie M. Stanback, Fay-etteville, N. C.; Jean M. P. Outlaw, Hyde Park, Mass.; Sallie M. Smith, Mayor, Jr., New York: T/4 Walton H. Clark, Washington, D. C.; Corporal—Jesse Anderson, Ber-ing, Tex.; John James, Bastrop, La.; Hubert Bell, Caldwell, Tex.; Lewis M. Chavous, Philadelphia, Pa.; T/5—L. C. Reed, Jackson, Miss.; Herbert L. Goodwin, Columbia, S. C.; Private, first class—Tyree, Eutaw, Ala.; Buck, Bowles, Ga.; Pettry, Johnson, Ala.; Mayor, Pilotgrove, Mo.; Johnson, Little Rock, Ark.; Payne, Natchez, Miss.; Buck, Savannah, Ga.; Johnson, Mobile, Ala.; Benson, WAC Det, II promotions: Sergeant—Roland C. Dudley L. Hankinstpn, Miss.; Deal, Tex.; Caldwell, Tex.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Meridian, Miss.; Jackson, Miss.; Herbert L. Goodwin, Columbia, S. C.; Bronx, N. Y.; Charlie Banister, Campbell, Dixiana, Ala.; Catherine

ine Green, Sharpsburg, Ky.; Melba H. Hudson, Memphis, Tenn.; Mary B. Gillette, Strawberry Plains, Tenn.; Isabelle D. Payne, Princeton, N. J.; Maude B. Johnson, New Orleans, La.; Flora M. Maxwell, Louisville, Ky.; Corporal—Barbara J. Campbell, Bloomington, Ind.; Viola H. Ezell, Catawba, N. C.

T/5—Mildred E. Cason, 313 11th avenue, N. Nashville, Tenn.; Willie Mayfield, Marshall, Texas; **Rose M. Case, 1356 Fulton street, Norfolk, Va.; Ethel V. Berryman, Middleburg, Va.;** Bessie L. Herd, Birmingham, Ala.; Mildred L. Hoke, Bryson City, N. C.; Clotile Sinegar, Port Arthur, Texas; Clementine Armstrong, New Orleans, La.; Alma F. Jordan, Jacksonville, Fla.; Bernice P. Gordon, Pompano, Fla.; Sarah E. Henderson, Fort Smith, Ark.; Alberta Bennett, Orange, N. J.; Geneva Davis, Liberty, Texas; Georgia M. Milner, Shreveport, La.; Louise Thomas, Tupelo, Miss.; Deborah Seals, Kilmichael, Miss.; Genevieve M. Keller, Vacherie, La.; Mary L. Gray, Hemphill, Texas; Odell D. Weathers, Stamford, Conn.; Essie D. O'Bryant, Augusta, Ga.; Dorothy T. May, Lakeland, Fla.

9-23-44

PRIVATES FIRST CLASS

Private, first class — Alice V. Cooksie, Wolfe City, Texas; Catherine M. Lee, St. Augustine, Fla.; Clara M. Alcorn, St. Lockland, O.; Dorothy Felton, Macon, Ga.; Minnie G. Cross, Bradstown, Ky.; Jessie E. Mullins, Columbus, Ga.; **Dorothy E. Allen, South Richmond, Va.;** Juanita Bradley, Kansas City Mo.; Hazel E. Threadgill, Sedalia, Mo.; Mary J. Byrd, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Catherine I. Cottman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Susie I. Middlebrook, Montevalla, Ala.; Anna L. Green, Lovington, Va.; Queen V. Henderson, New York City; Frances R. Holmes, RFD No. 5, Fayetteville, N. C.; Ernestine E. Hunt, Greggton, Texas; Eloris Jerry, Balcher, La.; Alvia Jones, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Georgia Joseph, New Orleans, La.; Nettie D. Simmons, St. Martinsville, La.

First Air-WAC Sworn in Here

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

4-27-44

Miss Martha E. Cartwright, 313 N. Walnut St., Olathe, Kas., has the distinction of being the first Negro to be sworn as a member of the Women's Army Corps at the Air-Wac recruiting office at 114 E. 10th St.

She was officially sworn in by Lt. S. E. Fritts last Saturday morning.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Cartwright, 22-year-old Miss Cartwright, who attended Olathe high school, is now the second member in a family of 10 children who will be serving in the armed forces. A brother, John, is stationed at the army base at Fresno, Cal.

The rceruit will be shipped May 3 for her basic training.

WAC DISBANDED AT FT. DES MOINES

Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa

7-27-44

The First WAC Training Center's 26-piece all-WAC Negro band which was disbanded at Ft. Des Moines on Jluy 18, had made a remarkable record since its organization last September. 7-27-44

News releases from the Public Relations office at Fort Des Moines revealed that the band had played many engagements.

The most recent story of the activities of the Negro band was released durng June by Public Relations office. It read as follows:

"First WAC Training Center's 26-piece all-WAC Negro band, now in demand for public appearances and a stand-by in parades and ceremonies on the post, has had a remarkable growth since it was organized in September, 1943.

"At that time the group consisted of 16 women and no instruments. Only one of them was semi-skilled in band work, the rest having had a musical background unrelated to this particular field. 7-27-44

"The lack of instruments during their first month of organization was turned from a handicap to an advantage, however, for meanwhile the women were trained as a chorus to improve their ability to read music by note. As a result, audiences now have the double pleasure of en enjoy their lovely vocal harmonies as well as their band music.

"Responsible for their first training was Master Sgt. Joan Lamb, then director of the 400th Army Band (all-WAC) at Fort Des Moines. Miss Mary Waterman, Warrant Officer, succeeded Sergeant Lamb, March 2, 1944. Miss Waterman is now commanding officer in charge of both bands. In her absence, Pvt. Lenora J. Hull, assistant band director, takes charge of their trainnig. Individual members of the 400th Army Band also have assisted those in WAC Band No. 2 in mastering the technique of their instruments. 7-27-44

"Lieut. Thelma Brown is officer in charge of WAC Band No. 2, having succeeded Lieut. Alice McAlpine in November 1943.

"Since Pvt. Lillian F. Brown, drum major, led the band in its first parade on the Post in March, it has gained rapidly in popularity, expertly filling the gap when the 400th Army Band is away on tour, and representing First WAC Training Center at many public appearances off the Post.

"Invitations for such appearances began to come in rapid succession following a concert given at the Fort Des Moines hotel. The band was invited to be the guests of the Kiwanis club in Burlington, Ia., where they presented a concert and chorus May 11. The following week they participated in the annual tulip festival at Pella, Ia., with a concert and drill exhibition in addition to playing for the Company of WACs from Fort Des Moines who took part in the parade.

"WAC Band No. 2 filled five engagements in connection with the visit of the Air-WAC Caravan May 25-29, three at the Shrine Auditorium in concert at the Des Moines Air Depot in connection with the opening of the fifth War Loan Drive.

"All of these appearances are in addition to the parades and ceremonies for which they play on the post. Among these was a concert of Easter music featuring both band and choral music presented at the Boomtown Army Chapel; they also provided the music for the ceremonies at the Post Cemetery on Memorial Day.

'More recent engagements for WAC Band No. 2 include concerts at Gladbrook, Ia., June 13; and at Stewart, Ia., June 14, both in connection with the current Fifth War Loan Bond Drive. They are scheduled to present an open air concert Sunday, June 18, at 4 p. m., at Good Park, Des Moines, under sponsorship of Keo-Way USO." 7-27-44

The climaxing engagement for the Negro band took place in Chicago on June 16 when the Negro women marched in the NAACP War Conference parade and played at Washington park; then gave a concert at the Internatioanl House at Chicago University.

NEGRO WAC BAND INACTIVATED; CITIZENS PROTEST TO PRESIDENT

[redacted] — Houston, Tex.

3-5-44

FT DES MOINES, Ia. (ANP). Negroes throughout the nation have been asked to protest to President Roosevelt to have the recently inactivated Negro WAC band re-organized.

After nine months of intensive training, followed by numerous appearances in parades and concerts, these 26 young women representing every section of the country and many Negro colleges and universities, are now being scattered into various training groups.

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.

10-13-44

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

CAPT. A. NOEL CAMPBELL

Commanding officer of WAC Detachment No. 2 at Camp Forrest, Tenn., is the winsome member of a service-minded family. Her oldest brother, Capt. T. M. Campbell is assigned to a Tank Destroyer unit at Camp Hood, Texas; her youngest brother, 1st Lieut. William A. Campbell, is with the AAF in Italy; one sistar, Virginia C., is a cadet nurse at Lincoln Hospital, New York City; and another, Elizabeth, has reported at the University of California for special work in hysical therapy. Captain Campbell's father, Mr. T. M. Campbell, Sr., a field agent for the Department of Agriculture, is stationed at Tuskegee, Ala., while her mother is hostess at the Booker T. Washington Home, national shrine of the great educator. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo.

any Protest WAC Band Demobilization At Fort

By Starder—Des Moines Tribune

7-27-44

The disbanding of the Negro Women's Army Corps band at the First WAC Training Center at Ft. Des Moines, on July 18, has resounded over the country.

Telegrams have been going over the wires to Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ;to Col. Oveta C. Hobby, at WAC headquarters in Washington; to Secretary Stimson and to Col. Frank U. McCoskrie, commandant at the First WAC Training and to other influential leaders of the nation.

Local groups interested in equality of opportunity" for all persons in the military service have held conferences.

John Coleman, president of the Des Moines Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sent a message to NAACP headquarters.

Walter White's message to Secretary Stimson urging reconsideration read: 7-27-44

"We submit that original refusal to permit Negro WACs to play in the regular Fort Des Moines band was undemocratic and unwise. To disband now the Negro band which was then formed as compromise measure adds insult to injury and will be a serious blow to morale of Negro WACs which is already low because of failure to assign colored WAC officers to duties comparable to their rank, failure to promote colored WAC officers some of whom have been in their present grades two years, segregation and discrimnation at Fort Des Moines as in use of swimming pool and other facilities, refusal to send colored WACS to overseas duty despite requests by theatre commanders with one of which I am personally familiar, and other discriminations. We urge that orders be issued immediately that Negro WAC musicians be admitted to 400th army band at Ft. Des Moines."

7-27-44

Morale Lowered

"I need not tell you that this one act has lowered the morale more than any one incident since the establishment of this Fort as a WAC training center," Mr. Coleman informed Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary in the NAACP headquarters.

"As regards the telegram sent you relative to the deactivation of Negro WAC band, we have not been able to ascertain all the facts. Unofficially we were informed army regulation prohibits the sustaining of two bands at a fort of the size now in training at Fort Des Moines; and that if sufficient Negro WACs could be inducted to increase the present number now in attendance to 800 or more, this band would ye reorganized.

"Whatever action you deem necessary and advisable we will gladly pursue," Mr. Coleman said.

7-27-44

Racial Justice Group Meets

Called together by their chairman. Ike Smalls, the Racial Justice committee of the Des Moines Interracial Commission, met and sent messages to Colonel Hobby at WAC headquarters in Washington, Col. McCoskrie, commandant at Ft. Des Moines. In the group were: Atty. S. Joe Brown, Atty. James B. Morris, Freddie Hawkins, Frank Dillon, Don Douglass and D. R. Peterson.

The Racial Justice Committee directed Colonel Hobby's attention to the fact that the Negro band had been disbanded and that the "members assigned to other duties, which will make it impossible hereafter for those young women who have been acquitting themselves so well as musicians to further exercise their talent along this line." 7-27-44

Mr. Smalls, the chairman of the committee, informed that "a committee of Des Moines Negro and white ctizens which I happened to head were assured about a year ago, that the Negro WACs would not be barred from any activity at Ft. Des Moines Training Center that was open to white WACs, and that there is still a WAC band functioning out there."

The Racial Justice Committee suggested that "since it will no longer be possible to maintain the band, heretofore composed of Negro WACs, exclusively, that the Negro WACs who can qualify, be admitted to membership in the other band which is still functioning at this center." 7-27-44

To Commandant

The Racial Justice Committee's letter to Colonel McCoskrie, commanding officer at Ft. Des Moines, signed by Mr. Smalls, who a year ago was president of the local NAACP, read:

"As you will doubtless remember, about a year ago .I headed a committee from the Des Moines Interracial Commission and the Des Moines branch of the NAACP, which held a conference with you concerning reported discrimination against the Negro women in your organization, at which time you assured us that while there was separation there ws no discrimination; but that everything that your organization offered to white women, was also open to Negro women who could qualify."

"However, I was informed yesterday that there would no longer be opportunity for the Negro women who were musical to play in any band at the center; and in a conference with the other members of the Racial Justice Committee of the Des Moines Interracial Comission, it was unanimously agreed that I should write you and also Col. Hobby at Washington, calling attention to the fact that since there is still a band at your center, Negro women will be deprived of an opportunity that is open to white women, unless they are admitted to membership in the band which is still functioning there."

Colonel McCoskrie Replies

A prompt response arrived at the office of the Racial Justice Committee chairman this week, from Colonel McCoskrie. It read: 7-27-44

"This is to acknowledge your letter of July 20 regarding the demobilization of the Negro WAC band.

"I regret that the reduction in overhead throughout the army, which also affects this station, caused the demobilization of the band. At the time it was organized, there was ample personnel in the training center overhead to carry the band. However, since the overall Army allotment of bands provides for only one band at each station and the 400th Army Band had already been designated at Fort Des Moines, our No. 2 band had to be demobilized.

"I think you have gained the wrong impression of training at this station. At no time have we ever offered musical training to anyone, except the Negro band. Only accomplished musicians who have a great deal of musical training in band instruments play in the 400th Army band and the strength of that band is limited to 29 members. 7-27-44

"I hope that at some future date a Negro band will be reorganized," Commandant McCoskrie concluded his letter.

Don't Believe Negro WACS Will Be Sent To So. Pacific; Whites Are

Amsterdam News 8-12-44
New York Age

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
Representing the New York Amsterdam News and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)
(Copyright—Reproduction prohibited)

GEN. MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS (By Courier) — With the arrival of white members of the Women's Army Corps in the Southwest Pacific commend, speculation has arisen as to whether Negro members will be sent into the area. Although questioned, Army officials refused to be quoted at this writing, it seems very unlikely that any are scheduled. From work the white members are reported doing it is quite obvious why Negro members are unlikely to be called. 8-12-44

Several weeks ago WACs arrived somewhere in Australia. Immediately a forward echelon was sent into New Guinea. It was learned that they are now being used in a clerical capacity at air bases, hospitals, base commands, finance offices, supply depots, and other installations where it is feasible to use women to replace men needed in other capacities.

Up to the present time Negro members of the armed services stationed here have seen very little of this type of duty. Very few, if any, have been assigned to base command clerical staffs. And the trend at present does not indicate that this condition will be altered.

Whether the table of organization of any Negro unit is flexible enough to allow the infiltration of women personnel is not known by this reporter. Whether it is, it is very unlikely that Negro WACs will be used. 8-12-44

The question has arisen. On seeing other WACs, spruced out in regular ODs and parading through the streets here, our troops asked the question, "Wonder if the clean-cuts from Fort Huachuca are coming over?" The question remains unanswered.

Long Line of "Firsts" Follows This New York WAC Lieutenant

Amsterdam News 8-12-44
New York City, N.Y. 10-14-44

Lt. Mayo, daughter of Mrs. Mamie E. Young of 120 West 116th Street, New York City formerly taught at the Fort Valley State College in Georgia and Shaw University at Raleigh, North Carolina. She won a master's degree at Columbia University's Teachers' College in New York City in 1939 after being graduated from South Carolina State University in 1934. 10-14-44

A second lieutenant in the Women's Army Corps recently added another "first" to her lengthy record of "first events" compiled since joining the WAC.

Lt. Lucille Y. Mayo, of this city, gro women to complete their basic entered the WAAC in September training at Fort Des Moines, Ia. 1942 and became the first woman Born in Charleston, South Carin the American Women Volunteer olina, Lt. Mayo lived there until she Service Unit 12 to enlist in the completed high school in 1930. She Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. Re- moved to New York City where cently when she took command of a detachment of Negro Wacs at the Air Service Command Training Center in Fresno, Cal., she became the first WAC to be quartered at the Training Center.

WAC dispatcher at Huachuca's motor pool, made the first trip from the pool with the first Negro WAC at Fort Benning, Ga., and was a member of the first group of officer candidates from the enlisted ranks to be commissioned at Fort Des Moines.

Following "Firsts"

Combat Soldiers In Action

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

Negro Troops Help Invade French Coast

6-16-44

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS.—(ANP)—When the invasion blast hit the wall of Hitler's fortress Europe last Tuesday, combat Negro soldiers stood ready to do their share in ridding the continent of Nazism. No official information has been revealed, however, as to how many are in action in France.

Highly trained to handle many kinds of complicated weapons of modern warfare, thousands of Negro combat troops went through rigorous training in the downs and hills of Britain, hardening themselves to the assault.

These colored troops man anti-aircraft batteries of Bofors and anti-strafing machine guns, lay smoke screens to cover the advancing fighters, and lay field wire under enemy shelling in order to get the message through.

Man Artillery Guns

Heavy artillery guns manned by Negroes stood ready to pound the enemy, softening up the forward fortified zones, lessening the hazards for the infantry foot sluggers and the tank busters, and the thousands of other troops that swarm against the foe.

Many invasion troops were transported to the beach heads in landing craft assembled in British ports by colored port battalions.

One Negro unit that has been undergoing highly skilled training for months, both in England and the United States, was prepared for a painful thrust when the Nazis show themselves on the continent.

6-16-44

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One phase of this training included what is called "dome training," in which a large dome built on the style of a planetarium enabled the gunners to sight model planes skirting across the simulated sky. The battalion intelligence officer said of Cpl. Willie Walters, a Bofors gunner from Route 2, Roxboro, N. C., "He's one of the most accurate hitters I've ever seen manipulate a Befor."

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The rigid training in identification of both friendly and enemy planes made every soldier in the entire battalion able to recognize any airplane they are apt to see during the invasion.

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Lt. Gen. Leslie McNair, commanding general of the United States Army Ground forces, commended this battalion for its fine record and military proficiency.

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Huge blankets of artificial smoke belching into the sky from Negro operated smoke generators can not only screen the invasion troops from hidden Nazi pill-boxes and machine guns nests, but will also protect them from bombing and strafing and reconnaissance by the luftwaffe.

Much of the effectiveness of smoke screens depends upon the direction of the wind, its velocity and atmospheric pressure, but trained meteorologists like Staff Sgt. Paul L. Reid of Pittsburgh, have the responsibility of forecasting correctly all those changeable factors. Every half hour a meteorologist takes a reading of the wind direction and speed and atmospheric conditions, all of which are used to calculate future operations.

The generators, mounted on rubber shod vehicles, are highly mobile and move about on the beaches and terrain to the exact spot desired for smoke coverage. They have had plenty of actual practice operational experience.

Get Message Through

Erecting advance communications lines to forward obesrvaiton posts on the very edge of the enemy's territory is the role undertaken by signal corps construction units like the Negro battalion that for months has been getting actual practice by erecting lines for the British General Post office, to carry war messages throughout the United Kingdom.

The temporary field lines leading up to the front lines are reeled off moving trucks, and when it comes apparent the truck can advance no further into the fighting area, the reel may be carried forward by foot soldiers, while covered by riflemen and machine gunners. These lines connect battalions and regiments and combat teams with divisional headquarters, so that the commanding general's message goes through to every unit.

As the ground forces move forward, other sections of the signal corps battalion erect permanent lines, like the 135 miles of telephone lines one section constructed across English country side in eight days. A secret to this speed is the earth borer that drills a hole in less than three minutes, and a flying cable operated from the crane of the truck that hoists the pole into place, ready for the linemen to lay the wire.

Erecting lines is by no means the end of the job. They have to be serviced and kept in constant repair. The cable-splicers and repeater station mechanics are ever on the alert, ready to check and repair any spot on the whole circuit of wires. A line foreman in this colored signal battalion is T.-Sgt. Paul Green of Philadephia, and he, like a majority of the other soldiers in this signal corps construction battalions, has had civilian experience with America's large telephone companies.

All these Negro units work with the assuring confidence that comes from tough and thorough training.

Supplies in larger quantities have since been going in. Bulldozers "moving and like ants" are already in operation clearing beaches and surrounding areas of debris and other obstacles. Preparations were going forward to the repair of the few damaged installations—few because the landing areas were primarily beaches. The army spokesman did not consider that the fighting had progressed well enough to permit the establisment of docks yet.

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They were on attack transports, ISI (landing ship, infantry), LST (landing ship, tanks), cutters and everything else. The opposition from enemy water craft was minor, but Negro gunners were at their positions firing away.

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Today's Guest Column

by Alphaeus Hunton

(Pinchhitting for Max Yergan)

American Labor and the Colonial Postwar World

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

4-22-44

THE problems confronting the several labor conventions, to be climaxed by the CIO convention in November, are many and critical. Domestic problems, especially the question of how to guarantee postwar economic security for America, loom large. While it is essential for labor to deal fully and effectively with these homefront matters, I wish to suggest that it is likewise imperative for the trade unions to speak out more clearly and emphatically on matters of foreign policy than they have ever one before.

"Foreign policy, both political and economic," Philip Murray told American trade unionists in one of his addresses last year, "is as much our concern and can affect us as directly as the wages we are paid and the hours we work." The problem of insuring full employment and prosperity for American after the war is inseperably linked with the problem of furthering international cooperation toward building a world-wide system of economic security and democracy. Labor must simultaneously concern itself with domestic issues and questions of foreign policy as part of one common task.

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IN ADDITION to postwar considerations, there are other immediately pressing reasons why organized labor in this country must today give due attention to foreign affairs. Present developments in India are once more approaching the showdown stage. The political crisis within that country will be sharpened by the impending all-out Allied assault against Japan. The duration of that campaign and its cost in human lives will depend very largely upon whether the Indian and other subject peoples of Asia are fully enlisted on our side of the struggle. And that in turn depends upon whether these peoples are given guarantees (**not** stale promises) that they are in fact fighting for their own freedom. CIO conventions and several of the major international unions have in the past repeatedly supported the demands of the Indian people. The present need is action toward speedily implementing the resolutions previously adopted.

4-22-44

If India is a pivotal problem for winning the war, Africa represents a key question in winning the peace. That great continent, the least developed in all the world, is fraught with dangers of imperialistic conflicts. The already begun during the war, is a certainty. rapid development of Africa's great resources, What is yet uncertain is whether that development will be to the advantage of African people and in the interest of world-wide prosperity, or whether it will take the form of sharp competition between American trade and investment there, which has recently seen an immense increases, and that of Britain and the other colonial powers in Africa. In view of the fact that Africa represents a critical testing-ground of international collaboration in which this country must play a leading part, it is to be hoped that the CIO will give to African problems attention and constructive action similar to that which it has manifested on Latin American affairs.

4-22-44

THE forces of American imperialism backing Dewey's candidacy and striving to disrupt the continuing coalition of the United Nations are the enemies of American workers as much as of colonial and semi-colonial peoples. These reactionaries foresee no better world than that of Hoover's when workers and nations were "free"—free to starve.

In contrast with their dark prospect is the of "world-wide collaboration with the objective of security for all; of improved labor standards, economic adjustment and social security." The task of American labor, working in close cooperation with the democratic labor forces in all countries, is to exert maximum influence toward the shaping of a world which will no longer be one-third free and two-thirds slave. The time for American labor to apply itself to that task is now.

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IN ADDITION to postwar considerations, there are other immediately pressing reasons why organized labor in this country must today give due attention to foreign affairs. Present developments in India are once more approaching the showdown stage. The political crisis within that country will be sharpened by the impending all-out Allied assault against Japan. The duration of that campaign and its cost in human lives will depend very largely upon whether the Indian and other subject peoples of Asia are fully enlisted on our side of the struggle. And that in turn depends upon whether these peoples are given guarantees (**not** stale promises) that they are in fact fighting for their own freedom. CIO conventions and several of the major international unions have in the past repeatedly supported the demands of the Indian people. The present need is action forthwith speedily implementing the resolutions previously adopted.

4-22-44

If India is a pivotal problem for winning the war, Africa represents a key question in winning the peace. That great continent, the least developed in all the world, is fraught with dangers of imperialistic conflicts. The already begun during the war, is a certainty. In contrast with their dark prospect is the rapid development of Africa's great resources, What is yet uncertain is whether that development will be to the advantage of African people and in the interest of world-wide prosperity, or whether it will take the form of sharp competition between American trade and investment there, which has recently seen an immense increases, and that of Britain and the other colonial powers in Africa. In view of the fact that Africa represents a critical testing-ground of international collaboration in which this country must play a leading part, it is to be hoped that the CIO will give to African problems attention and constructive action similar to that which it has manifested on Latin American affairs.

4-22-44

THE forces of American imperialism backing Dewey's candidacy and striving to disrupt the continuing coalition of the United Nations are the enemies of American workers as much as of colonial and semi-colonial peoples. These reactionaries foresee no better world than that of Hoover's when workers and nations were "free"—free to starve.

In contrast with their dark prospect is the of "world-wide collaboration with the objective of securityfor all; of improved labor standards, economic adjustment and social security." The task of American labor, working in close cooperation with the democratic labor forces in all countries, is to exert maximum influence toward the shaping of a world which will no longer be one-third free and two-thirds slave. The time for American labor to apply itself to that task is now.

As Commander Decorated Benning Wacs

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
47M
3-18-44

COLUMBUS, Ga.—(SNS)— Sixteen members of the Women's Army Corps at Fort Benning were decorated recently with the Good Conduct Medal by Brig. General Wm. H. Hobson, commanding officer of the post. This award is the second won by these colored members of the WAC as they all were formerly members of the WAAC and earned a service ribbon for having joined the WAC.

The colored WACs at Benning who were decorated are members of WAC Detachment Station Complement, Section II, under the command of Lt. Lucille Moore of New York City. 3-18-44

Thoe who received the awards which denote faithful service in the Army for a year since Pearl Harbor are: T-4 Theresa P. Elliott, Decatur, Ill; Sgt. Josephine M. Frye, Charlottesville, Va.; Pvt. Rosalie Gravely, Huntington, W. Va.; S-Sgt. Norene Harris, Tribbey, Ky; Pfc. Emma Hughes, Kansas City, Mo.; Cpl. Lillie M. Jackson, New Orleans, La.; Pfc. Louise Jackson, South Norfolk, Va.; Pfc. Denzell Jordan, Dallas, Tex.; Pvt. Audrey Lindsey, St. Augustine, Fla.; 1st Sgt. Ella T. Madison, Birmingham, Ala.; S-Sgt. Delores Meacham, New York, N. Y.; Pvt. Marion Moore, Franklin, La.; T-4 Cora Parks, Dallas, Tex.; T-5 Margaret L. Rowlette, Columbus, Ohio; Pvt. Mary Sanford, Dallas, Tex.; and Sgt. Alberta Simms, New Orleans, La.

PM - New York, N.Y.
12-24-44
47M
Wacs

2d Lts. Geneva H. Culpepper, Marjorie S. Mayers of New York and Thelma L. Fisher, members of the first contingent of Negro nurses to reach Australia, leave camp for a trip to town.

'Our WAC's Are Not Powder Puff Soldiers'--Holloway

Courier - Pittsburg, Pa.

By Pfc. BESSIE M. HOLLOWAY

FORT KNOX, Ky.—The Women's Army Corps, now nearly two years old, but still in its infancy, has met the test. . . It was not just an idle dream. . . Despite its tender age, its progress since its creation, May 15, 1942, by an act of Congress introduced by Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers, can be measured with the stride of Seven League boots.

There are 62,859 officers and enlisted women in the WAC as of Jan. 1, 1944, compared with 20,943, Jan. 1, 1943. They are on duty at more than 200 Army posts, camps, stations and air bases throughout the world, and are proving beyond a reasonable doubt that they can do a man-sized job and do it well.

Miss Holloway

NO POWDER PUFF ARMY

This is no powder puff army. These women are not fighting the enemy with the wiles of womanly charm . . . They are filling essential positions formerly held by men. These women do 239 different Army jobs.

Included in the total number of enlisted women and officers are approximately 3,000 Negro women. Here at Fort Knox the Negro WAC component of the 1550th Service Unit is giving a good account of itself.

Heading the Negro WAC section is First Lieut. Vera A. Harrison, a Wilberforce university graduate, and one of the original 39 Negro officers graduated from the first Officers' Candidate school at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 28, 1942.

Assisting her are Second Lieut. Evelyn Edwards, a recent Tallagega college graduate; Second Lieut. Zelda Webb, of Baltimore, and First Sgt. Hazel Luby, of Philadelphia.

Negro WACs here fill more than a dozen different kinds of jobs. Four of the lot are mail clerks,

Pvt. Uola Lamb, of Norfolk, Va., a Pittsburgh enrollee. Marie Yountz. Pfc. Rosa Diggs, Pvt. Mattie Griffin, Paraloma, Ark., types of Army vehicles, from two to be assigned as chauffeur company chauffeur, used to keep faced Louisiana dress model, and First to be a Post was Technician Fifth house for her father back in Surearned her living as a seamstress on the Post Medley, of Clarksville, folk, Va., while 22-year-old Pvt. in New Orleans. Grade Alice Dothan, Ala., claims Pfc. Erma Pinkney swapped her job GIRLS REPLACE MEN Ming, another driver. Be- in a cleaning plant for one This Fall saw the first influx ips for the Post Ordnance the U.S.A. of Negro WAC chauffeurs at Fort Pvt. Bessie Sampson, of COOKS DO FINE JOB Knox. There are at present more ham, Ala., acts as company Next to the chauffeurs' group, than 30 WAC drivers handling all an. the largest group here is composed a defense worker in Green- of Army cooks. Tall, stately Tech. onn., to chauffeur at this Fourth Grade Cartalance P. White ost, is the story of Pvt. was an assistant director of foods

1-22-44

in a New York City establishment before she donned the white uniform she now wears as one of Uncle Sam's cooks. At home in Washington, D. C., T/4 Anna Hinton was an elevator operator . . now she's a cook.

T/4 Isabella Monroe, of Tulot, Ark., looks her youthful 22 years, but finds her youth no handicap to her Army career. T/4 Ida Lewis, of Toledo, Ohio, also 22, is a graduate, too, of the Army Bakers' and Cooks' school at Fort Des Moines.

In the ordnance shops, maintenance shops and offices, "the girls in olive drab," are working together toward a common goal.

Calm, poised Pvt. Vivian Bowman, an ordnance plant worker, enlisted in California last May; T/5 Annette Simmons, shipping and receiving clerk, hails from New Orleans. She was recently promoted upon the recommendation of her operating officer after being on the job only one month.

Handling war materials is nothing new to Sgt. Theresa James, of Newark, who was an explosives operator before she enlisted last January; ex-teacher and clerk, Pfc. Elsie Pierce, of Roanoke, Va., and Washington, D. C., was trained to be a chauffeur but was selected to serve as typist for the ordnance shops. Motor Transport-trained Pfc. Bessie Holloway is a personnel clerk.

T/5 Henriette Adams, of Louisville, Ky., and Pvt. Willie Smith, of Dekalb, Texas, and T/5 Lucy Berry, of New York, find plenty to do in ordnance shops.

A few service club or theatre employees like Pfc. Emily Bostick, of New York; Pfc. Ruth Brown, of Beaumont, Texas; T/5 Janie Hanson, of Eufaula, Ala., or Sgt. Ellen L. Browne, of Brooklyn, work nights until 10 or 11 p. m.

QUARTERS RESEMBLE CITY 1-22-44

WAC quarters at Fort Knox resemble a tiny little American city, with its inhabitants living together in three wooden two-story buildings, commonly called barracks. Here social class distinctions are forgotten . . . Nobody cares what you were or who you were "back home." The only thing that matters is whether or not you're a "good soldier."

Center of most activity in the Negro WAC area is the day room. Pretty striped draperies in gay colors, soft lights and loungs chairs make the room cozy and comfortable. Around the heater in the center of the large room, more tales are swapped than around the country store cracker barrel.

A "no charge" telephone is provided for communicating with friends on the post. "Reverse the charges" for long distance calls.

For the most active, table tennis is provided or there's always dancing to the juke box recordings by Lunceford, Harry James or Count Basie.

Another low wooden building just across the road from the orderly room, is the reception room where dates are kept with post soldiers. This room, too, is equipped with radio, ping pong table, games, newspapers and magazines.

Weekly dances are held at the recreation hall next door to the Post Exchange where the volume of trade is terrific. Between the Service club, where cokes are favorites, and Post Theatre No. 7, is the pretty little white boarded chapel, where Chaplain Frank Shaw is present to lend an ear to those in need of comfort and words of encouragement. Enlisted men and women furnish the weekly programs. A wealth of talent can be discovered in a Post chapel on a Sunday morning.

Chaplain Shaw's assistant is a WAC, Pvt. Florita Davis, of Jacksonville, Fla. 1-22-44

Wylda Plummer, of Chicago, mimeographs and acts of chauffeur for the chaplain.

This may be a man's world, but the women of the Women's Army Corps, imbued with the spirit that dominated the lives of other American women who have fought side by side with their men in other wars, will go down in history as pioneers, and part and parcel of one of the greatest experiments ever made . . . vigilant, courageous women who know that if this is to remain "the land of the free." America must win.

Diary of a Private

78 WACs Work 8-Hour Shifts

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md. 2-5-44

By PVT. JOAN WILLIS

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the tenth in a series of articles on the life and activities of a WAC private. She has completed basic training and is now in the field at a Southwestern army camp.]

We have two barracks housing 78 girls. We work many hours and on different shifts, so that the barracks have to be clean and quiet for girls coming off work when most of us are going on in the morning. Some work on Sunday.

When going on our jobs, we wear the A uniform, or the specified uniform for cooks or hospital work. On time off, we wear fatigue clothes, slacks or overalls. Unlike basic training, we are seldom dressed alike.

Physical Day

Probably the only time one sees the entire group dressed alike is for parades—one every month. Although hats are required, they are seldom worn when off duty. All the girls favor the overseas cap rather than the OD (olive drab) hat that was issued.

Once every month we have a physical day, when the doctor comes around.

There is little similarity between basic training at Fort Des Moines and field work here.

Details Light

We stand reveille at 6:30, have breakfast at 7. From 7:15 to 8:30 we clean our barracks and dress for work. About 12 noon, we have lunch.

At 1:45 we return to work. Work day ends about 6 and supper is at 6:15. The rest of the day, God bless it, belongs to us.

The details are very light and K.P. (kitchen patrol) comes very seldom. When it does get around to me, I am on for a half day. Non-coms only are charge-of-quarters.

The only real cleaning is done on Friday night or early Saturday morning. Formal inspection is held then, although we have some form of inspection every day.

Movie Dates

There is only one movie house here, but WAC's and soldiers do not have to stand in line. Thus, it is that we always have movie dates. The place is very crowded and poorly ventilated.

The area surrounding our barracks houses the special training regiment. These are the illiterates who are going to school for the first time. 2-5-44

The one service club in our area is out-of-bounds after 5:30. About 9 miles from us is a place called Harmony Church, where the fellows for the most part have finished basic training.

In the personnel section of the Reception Center, filing, discharge and transfers, records (service records), payrolls, morning reports, returns, correspondence and special orders are taken care of.

The soldiers are section leaders and sergeant majors. Some do not seem anxious to teach us and some still don't like the idea of girls coming in to do their work, while they get shipped out, possibly overseas, that much quicker.

Salute Every Uniform

There were so many officers at Fort Devens, Mass., that the WAC's saluted everything in uniform, including messengers, cab drivers and Western Union boys.

One WAC driver gets all the breaks because of her childlike innocence. Once she drove her big army truck down the street, as an officer stepped from the curb and almost got knocked off. The girl backed up, blessed him out, and drove on.

Speeding down the highway, she had several MP's on her tail. (The speed limit is 15 miles.) He caught up with her, asked politely: "Did you know you were doing 45?" "Yeah, I know it," was the reply. Astonished to get this frank and simple answer, the MP told her to drive on.

Best Clerks

WAC's stationed at Fort Sheridan, Ill., boast the best detachment of 75 clerks in the field. Our unit was not wanted in the sixth corps area which embraces Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan, but finally Fort Custer, Mich., reluctantly accepted us.

We proved our worth, and when the area reception centers were consolidated and sent to Sheridan, the big-shots insisted that we go along. Our leaving Custer made room for the German prisoners of war, who in dirty blue fatigue uniforms, marched in singing.

They all appeared to be very young, and finally got used to seeing colored girls in uniform.

WACs Ask For Recruits But Won't Crack Jimcro

Peoples Voice-New York, N.Y. 1-29-44

DES MOINES, Ia.—While Negro girls throughout the country are being urged by recruiting officers to join the Women's Army Corps, nothing is being done to offset present discriminatory practices against them within the Corps. It was revealed here last week that an officers' pool has been formed on the post consisting of Negro and white officers formerly stationed at Daytona and various other places. They are in a building awaiting re-assignment. While white officers have quarters throughout the building, it is charged that Negro officers are in a small squad room upstairs, segregated from the others.

It is reported that there are 13 Negro girls in a room designed to hold a normal capacity of eight, and an emergency capacity of twelve. 1-29-44

REFUSED BOOK

It was also charged that one of the Negro non-coms teaching on the staff of the "Opportunity" school here was refused a reference book to take out from Service Club 1, a "lily-white" club. According to information received, Negro girls are supposed to try their own service club first, and if it does not have the book they get a note and are allowed to go over to the white service club library.

Wac Photographer In Douglas, Ariz.

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 4-15-44

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va.—Pvt. Luvenia C. Miller, photographer, who received the B.S. degree at Hampton Institute in 1934, has been assigned to the public relations office of Fort Douglas Army Air Field in Douglas, Ariz., "The Flight Pattern," officials D.A.A.F. publication, announced recently. A graduate of the New York Institute of Photograph, she was the first colored woman on WAC duty in the photographic department at the WAC training center in Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

WAC Discrimination Is Claimed At Des Moines

Courier-Pittsburgh, Pa. 2-5-44

FORT DES MOINES, Iowa — (ANP) — Negro WACs are being discriminated against here, according to current reports.

An officers' pool has been formed on the Post here. These officers, both white and Negro, were formerly stationed at Daytona Beach and are now living in a building known as "O. C. Row," awaiting assignment.

The white officers are permitted to live in any section of the building, while the Negro officers are confined to a small squad room which is segregated from the rest of the building, with 13 colored in a single room that was designed for a capacity of nine, according to the charges.

A Negro non-commissioned officer, a member of the teaching staff of the Opportunity school, was recently refused a reference book from Service Club No. 1. The assistant librarian of the club did not even white girl to withdraw the book despite the fact that she needed it to prepare her teaching program for the following day, it is reported.

Contends Army Evades Issue On Negro WACs

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-16-44

Only 4,000 Women Out of 62,889 Enrolled Negroes

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—There may be a good side to the Women's Army corps—certainly no better than the army itself—but the answers to a series of questions submitted to the war department by the Associated Negro Press recently failed to reveal it. Specific figures were unavailable, and hazarded guesses were about the best that could be provided on matters in general.

Needless to say, war department policy is applicable to the corps just as much as it is to any of the three forces that comprise the military. In short, the views of Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, WAC director, correspond faithfully to the pattern already laid down for the recruiting, training and disposition of Negro men in the army.

ONLY 4,000 ENLISTED

On Jan. 1, there were 62,859 officers and enlisted women in the WAC, the department announced. The goal for 1943 had been 150,000. The answer to a question regarding the number of Negro women enrolled brought the reply in December that "less than 10 per cent of the corps is comprised of Negro women." A sufficient number of eligibles had not applied, it was explained. From a reliable source it was learned that up to July, 1943, there were roughly 4,000 Negro officers and enlisted personnel. 1-16-44

No special appeal had been made nor were Negro officers being used to find recruits during the major part of the year, however, toward the end of 1943 a few were given recruiting details. This might have been done before, the department said, except that as fast as officer material became available, the women were assigned as instructors and to minor commands for which "there would have been complaints" had white officers been assigned.

TRAIN TOGETHER

On the other hand, candidates for officer training are given the benefit of an integrated atmosphere, even at Oglethorpe, Ga. "Because of the small units there, Negroes are integrated because there are not enough of them to make a unit of their own," was the dept's. answer. "That can be done where you have a small number; but when you have a large unit everyone is happy (when separated)."

A booklet used last year for recruiting purposes said WACs were performing 155 important army jobs. Col. Hobby finds now that that figure has since been boosted to 239 jobs at more than 200 posts, camps, stations and air bases in continental United States and overseas. There was nobody in the war department willing or in a position to give the approximate number of specialized courses in which Negroes are to be found. An over-all estimate was offered that "about 25 per cent of the complete list of 155 jobs got about 75 per cent of the corps." 1-16-44

BARRIERS ERECTED

Fact of the matter is that there are artificial limitations placed upon Negroes seeking training in certain special courses. Eligibility for all is based on aptitudes, civilian experience and background, it was explained. Then the needs of a company are agreed upon and only sufficient personnel to meet those needs and in those categories are allowed to obtain the training. Hence, if a company has no need for various technical and professional services, mechanical, trade and manual performance, Negroes don't get the training as x-ray technicians, chemist, photographer, weather observer, airplane specialist, welder, and other jobs. 1-16-44

White WACs, on the other hand, may receive almost any type training for which they can meet the basic requirements of eligibility and be assigned to a job. WACs are never sent to a post in groups of less than 50 unless there are others there already. Housing and recreation facilities dictate this policy. But neither will Negro WACs be sent to a post where there are no other Negro WACs. The net effect of this, so far as training is concerned, is to actually limit the courses Negro women may take to those needs of the company in which they are assigned.

PUT IN COOKING SCHOOL

1-16-44

Most Negroes find themselves in the motor equipment school, the cooking school or the administrative school. There is no laundry school as this work is preformed by contract with a laundry firm.

The war department is not responsible for this information, but it has been learned that more than two-thirds of Negro WACs fall into grades four and five (the lower ones) in the literacy tests whereas only a little more than one-fourth of the whites are so classified. This may or may not have something to do with the amount of training Negro WACs can absorb in specialized classes.

One of the questions put to the war department was this: "Why have not Negro WACs been sent abroad just as have others?" Director Hobby herself is source of the disclosure that at the present time there are 3,002 WACs serving overseas. They are disposed as follows, she said: North Africa, 1,739; England 1,143; and smaller numbers in the Southeast Asia Command at New Delhi, India; at Cairo, Egypt, and in New Caledonia.

NEGROES NOT REQUESTED

The written answer to the question was this: "WAC units are shipped overseas in answer to specific requests from theater commanders. No Negro WAC units have been requested to date." The reply went on to say that no such assignments are contemplated for the near future 1-16-44

At present Maj. Harriet West and Maj. Charity Adams are the ranking Negroes in the WACs. During the summer, it is understood, there were then about 110 Negro officers among the total personnel. She will now set the broad, general personnel policies for the WAC here and abroad.

Of the approximately 50 WAC officers who were in Col. Hobby's headquarters staff, only 4 have gone along with her to the personnel division of the general staff. No one of these four is a Negro.

But that isn't our point. We'd like to see a Negro officer on the general staff, yes. We aren't even complaining about the assignment that is in prospect for Major Harriet West, one of the two highest ranking Negroes in the Women's Army Corps. We think a Negro should be in such a spot, too. 3-18-44

But since the WAC is being reorganized and integrated — and since the undemocratic policy of segregation into white and colored units exists despite our fighting a war against the Hitlerian theories of "Aryan supremacy" and "divide and conquer"—why can't we have a Negro WAC in charge of the Negro division?

One reason may be the fact that such a person would be equivalent to a division commander, which would rate a rank of full colonel. But is there any law against that?

This person could take over the whole thing—step up the recruiting campaign for Negro WACs, which is now being given no attention by anyone, find assignments for the 30 or more Negro officers languishing at Des Moines with nothing to do, plug for overseas service for Negro WACs, set personnel goals and standards, and help remove a stigma which has attached itself to the corps so far as Negroes are concerned since its inception.

As a political move, it could be surpassed only by eliminating the color line in the American Army—which isn't in the cards just yet.

And while we're on the Army, let's look at the significance of Rep. Andrew J. May's objections to the Army using the pamphlet on the "Races of Mankind" as orientation material for its instructor personnel. 3-18-44

Rep. May is the Democratic Congressman from the 7th District of Kentucky. He is also Chairman of the House Military Committee. He has boasted of blocking the use of the pamphlet by the Army because his ire was fanned by a statement in it to the effect that a survey showed the average Negro in New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut has a higher intellect than the average white in Kentucky, Arkansas and Mississippi —not because they are in the North or the South, but because of the differences in educational advantages. 3-18-44

We are willing to wager that for individual differences, one doesn't have to leave Kentucky, Arkansas or Mississippi to find Negroes with higher intelligence than Rep. May. In his own state we'd put our chips on Rep. Charles Anderson of the State Legislature, for example.

"We're going to keep our eyes open to see that this pamphlet does not go out to our soldiers through War Department channels. If it does," he said, "somebody is going to have to do plenty of explaining."

What has not appeared in the papers is the fact that Rep. May is from a district which has a potential Negro vote of 3,543. In the last election, he won by a bare majority of 540 votes. The shift of 271 Negro votes could have defeated him then.

What "explanation" is Rep. May going to have in Novem-

Perhaps it would be wise for Congressman May to transfer his allegiance to South Carolina, where the State House of Representatives passed that "nasty" (or Nazi) resolution in support of "white supremacy."

The best answer to the State of South Carolina in an editorial in the Washington Post, which concluded: 3-18-44

"It is a lonely war that the South Carolina House of Representatives would have its great State wage. Divorced from the splendid company of the United Nations, who proudly number black and white and brown and yellow and red men among their

UN-COVERING WASHINGTON

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.

By HARRY S. McALPIN

White House Correspondent
(Released By NNPA)

3-18-44

For the past two weeks, we've been talking about the White House press conferences. From time to time, as developments justify it, we'll do more of that type of thing. But now, let's "uncover" some of Washington.

—0—

Without a lot of fanfare or publicity, the WAC has been fully integrated into the Army. It happened officially on March 1. Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, the WAC director, has been promoted to the general staff corps.

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-28-44

Jobs For All Of Us

The pressing need for additional Negro women WACs is a cause for serious regret by those of us concerned with our people giving their strongest support to every phase of the war effort.

In a recent advertisement appearing in our Saturday's issue of January 22, it was pointed out that there are many jobs open to Negro women in the WAC, WAVES, SPARS, Marines, Army Nurse Corps and Navy Nurse Corps.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience, but who have had a high school education. Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had some college training.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no college training, but who have had experience in clerical work, typing, stenography, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in clerical work, typing, stenography, etc., but who have had experience in domestic work, cooking, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in domestic work, cooking, etc., but who have had experience in factory work, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in factory work, etc., but who have had experience in agricultural work, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in agricultural work, etc., but who have had experience in other types of work, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in other types of work, etc., but who have had experience in no work, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in no work, etc., but who have had experience in nothing, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in nothing, etc., but who have had experience in anything, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in anything, etc., but who have had experience in everything, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in everything, etc., but who have had experience in something, etc.

Many of these jobs are open to Negro women who have had no experience in something

are over 239 types of army jobs available. All kinds of special skills are needed—clerical workers, medical technicians, teachers and even women without experience.

Answering the question as to whether there are enough WACs, the advertisement gives a positive no! "Many thousands more WACs are needed. And unless more women join at once, it states that the War Department cannot meet the demands which come in daily from the Army ground forces," General Marshall stated.

Thus, if you are a colored woman between the ages of 20 and 50 years and without children under 14, then you are needed in this vital and necessary Army service. The need is great and the opportunities are good.

Negro Wac Given Part In New Picture

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga. 1-25-44

A "SERGEANETTE" is Butterfly McQueen as she heads her group of WACs on the set of David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away." The stellar cast includes Claudette Colbert, Joseph Cotten, Jennifer Jones, Shirley Temple, Monty Woolley, Lionel Barrymore and Robert Walker.

1-25-44

Wacs Do Fine Job In Taking Over Ga. Reception Center

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-13-44

Assume Difficult Tasks Without Fanfare To Relieve Many Soldiers

FORT BENNING, Ga.—Nearly one-third of all members of WAC Detachment, Station Complement, Section II, is assigned to the various departments of The Reception Center, according to Lt. Lucille Y. Mayo, commanding officer.

Arriving on the post early last fall, the WACs lost no time in going about their jobs to which they have applied their skill with satisfaction and effective results. Approximately 125 made up the contingent, including twelve cadres which came here on September 3. Their arrival at Fort Benning was marked by a ceremonial welcome that the WACs still remember as a highlight of their careers as members of the Women's Army Corps.

Assigned to Reception Center Headquarters are Pvts. Jennie Byrd, of Springfield, Ohio, and Emma Hughes of Kansas City, Mo.

Five WACs assist in the work of compiling, filing records in the dispensaries, and interviewing service men. They are Pvts. Lillian B. Armstrong, Rogerville, Tenn.; Ruth M. Bingham, Memphis, Tenn.; Cpl. Delores Meacham, New York City; Pvt. Cleo Murray, of Detroit; and Pvt. Edna Sanders, of New York City. 1-13-44

Six WACs are assigned to the Personnel Section which takes care of payrolls and discharges, two major jobs. They are: Pvts. Winifred Brady, of Detroit, a graduate of Michigan State Normal; Pearl L. Lasenby, Newark, N. J., a graduate of Morris Brown college, Atlanta, Ga.; Pvt. Maude Nious, San Antonio, Tex., graduate of Tilliston College, Austin, Tex.; Dorothy Walker, S. Sioux City, Neb. and former student of Tuskegee Institute; Sgt. Norene Harris, Tribby, Ky., a graduate of Rosenwald high school, Harlan, Ky.; and Pfc Dora Wheaton, Jersey City, N. J., a graduate of Lincoln high school, Jersey City.

In the Reception Center mail room section are Pfc. Wilhelminia Edmunds, of Columbia, S. C.; Pvts. Nellie Harmon, Atlanta, Ga.; Ollie Johnson, Wrens, Ga.; Denzell Jordan, Dallas, Tex.; Rosa Murray, Raleigh, N. C.; and Velma Riddick, Brooklyn, N. Y., the latter a graduate of State Teachers College, Elizabeth City, N. C. Pvts. Harriette Turner, Cleveland, and Ollie Johnson, were public school teachers as civilians. The latter, graduate of Florida A. and M College, also served as cafeteria manager of Dorsey high school, Miami, Fla. 1-13-44

Other WAC assignees in the Reception Center include Pvts. Beverly Carrington, of Cambridge, Mass.; Carrie Miller, Newton, Ga.; and Theada Weddle, Jefferson City, Mo., all three of the Classification Section; Pvt. Lavina Brewton, Spartanburg, S. C., Quartermaster; Mattie Edmond, Baton Rouge, La., Tailor Shop; Pvt. Elliott, Decatur, Ill., Insurance Section; Pvts. Lola Harris, Memphis, Tenn.; Mildred Watkins, Englewood, N. J.; Grace Jackson, San Antonio, Tex., and Hilda Marshall, New Orleans, La., Tailor Shop; and Pvt. Catherine Wiley, Beaumont, Tex., Quartermaster.

10 NEGRO WACS ARE RECRUITED AS DRIVE BEGINS

Tribune Chicago, Ill. 1-30-44

500 Women Sought in Five Weeks.

Ten south and southwest siders, the first of 500 Negro WACs to be recruited from the Chicago area in the next five weeks, left recently for Fort Des Moines, Ia, for basic training.

Pvt. Isabelle G. Francis, 4416 South Park way, was appointed recruit leader for the group on the trip to camp. The other enlistees were Ruby Jones, 4619 Prairie avenue; Lucia Pitts, 5156 Michigan avenue; Onita Gravois, 4619 Prairie avenue; Leovy Dixon, 119 East 37th street; Geraldine Johnson, 9549 Wentworth avenue; Elinor M. Nesby, 6630 Kimbark avenue; Theola Jones, 4645 Evans avenue; Bernice Robinson, 4647 Prairie avenue, and Bernice E. Huggar, 6119 Ada street.

The drive for more Negro WACs is being directed by Capt. Ruth L. Freeman, herself a Negro, and one of those who trained in the first WAC companies. 1-30-44

Citizens Committee Helps.

She is being assisted by a citizens' committee headed by Atty. Edith Sampson, 3518 State street. In appealing to south and southwest side Negro women to join the service, Mrs. Sampson said, "The army is calling for women citizens to join the women's army corps. Eligible Negro women should enroll and make available their skills to the nation in this hour of need.

"New skills may be learned, skills that will be more important in the post-war world. Our men are engaged with all the vigor, courage, and energy they possess to help our country win the war. It is essential that Negro women likewise assume their full responsibility. We must demonstrate to the world, and to America in particular, that we are capable of carrying our full share in every avenue of service open to us," she added.

Name Workers.

The program committee of the citizens' committee aiding the recruiting drive includes A. N. Fields, chairman; Olime M. Diggs, Lucius Harper, Capt. Edward Gillespie, adjutant of the Illinois reserve militia, and Mrs. Lovonia H. Brown, director of the Women's Army for National Defense. 1-30-44

Members of the steering committee for the campaign are: Alton Davis; Mrs. Jeanette T. Jones, counsellor, Du Sable High school; Edigins, member of the National Counson Love; Mrs. Fannie Carter, presicil of Negro Women; Mrs. Jane ident of the Chicago Northern Dis-Kemp, Mrs. Grace Knighten, and trict Federation of Colored Women's Odell C. Turpin. clubs; Mrs. Lottie Davidson, grand worthy matron of the Order of the Eastern Star; Mrs. Mattie Hampson, Women's Army for National Defense; Mrs. Mame Mason Hig.

TOP, LEFT— Tribune

SUPERVISES REPAIR OPERATIONS AT Q.M. SUB-DEPOT— Second Lieutenant Cornelia T. Brangman (WAC) Quartermaster Corps, officer-in-charge of the equipage repair division at the Jersey City Quartermaster Repair Sub-Depot, New York City, inspects damaged mess kits in process of repair. Lieutenant Brangman is responsible for supervision of repair operations on a wide variety of items, including canvas, web, and metal equipage. Philadelphia, Pa.

TOP, RIGHT—

DEPOT TRANSPORTATION OFFICER— Second Lieutenant El Freda Le Beau (WAC) Quartermaster Corps, chief of receiving and shipping division and depot transportation officer at the Jersey City Quartermaster Repair Sub-Depot, New York City is pictured supervising an outgoing shipment at the depot. 12-28-44

BOTTOM, LEFT—

SEMI-SKILLED MACHINIST—Private Sarah A. Parker of 3606 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, is getting on-the-job training in the sub-depot machine shop at the Sioux City (Iowa) Army Air Base. She has been a member of the Women's Army Corps for one year and six months. —(Army Air Forces Photo from Bureau of Public Relations).

BOTTOM, RIGHT- 12-30-44

INTERVIEWS JOB APPLICANTS—Lieutenant Stella G. Garvin (WAC) Quartermaster Corps, chief of civilian personnel division, Jersey City Quartermaster Repair Repair Sub-Depot, New York City, has a busy job interviewing applicants at the rapidly expanding repair sub-depot. The sub-depot is now operating with more than 2,000 employees. —(U. S. Signal Corps Photos from Bureau of Public Relations).

12-30-44

French WAC's Spurnel Dates; Fine Soldiers Say Officials

AFRO-American
Baltimore, Md.

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md.---Fort Meade's "Little France" became smaller this week as a contingent of 17 young women, all natives of Martinique, Guadaloupe and other French possessions in the Caribbean, wound up thier stay here and moved on for other assignments with French WAC forces.

8-19-44

The arrival of the colonial group brought the total strength of the French WAC detachment here to 30 members. The detachment's strength has varied, increasing as new groups arrive for outfitting and a short course in basic military essentials, and decreasing as orders send them elsewhere.

Have Never Seen France

The new group differed in several respects from other units here most of whom are natives of France, and who left Allied jobs and schools to aid in the liberation of their homeland. The colonial contingent has never seen France but displayed as much enthusiasm for the cause of its liberation.

Major difference, however was the factor of previous military training. The newcomers were experts in close order drill and acquainted with the nature of company and military duties. Since they were not assigned separate quarters close to the headquarters of the French detachment. The recruit French WACs have quarters with American WACs of the 1322nd Service Unit.

8-19-44

The new group spent most of its time brushing up on military fundamentals and getting outfitted with some parts of the uniform they did not receive when they joined. Their uniforms of khaki required in Martinique differ from that worn by other French, mainly in the cut and design of the jackets. Another distinguishing factor is the wearing of three-quarter length hose.

Seek Overseas Duty

All of the members of the contingent were anxious for overseas assignments as nurses, truck drivers or typists. None of the group spoke English and hence probably will serve with French forces.

When the first French WAC contingents arrived at Fort Meade several months ago, they dubbed their quarter "Little France". They quickly adapted themselves to the military environment and more often than not volunteered for the monotonous and arduous company chores, an attitude which won them the admiration of their American companions.

Spurned Dates

Conducting themselves with exemplary propriety they often form gay parties which tour Washington. They prefer seeing the sights of the nation's capitol, which they say is "in it's way as beautiful as Paris," and dining at places which serve French dishes, rather than ordinary dates to theaters and night clubs.

Dental Technician

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa. 12-9-44

Corporal Sara B. Little, 83 Poplar street, Asheville, N. C., a dental technician at the base hospital of the Sioux City (Iowa) Army Air Base, is pictured at work assisting Capt. Williams, Dental Corps. A member of the WAC since May 1943, Corporal Little was assigned to the first group of Negro air-Wacs. She received training at the state laboratories in Lansing, Michigan, where she studied laboratory bacteriology. Prior to this training she attended Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina for two years. Later, she went to West Virginia State College at Institute, where she received a bachelor of science degree in home economics. — (Army Air Forces Photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

FT. HUACHUCA WACS AT WORK

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 6-3-44

T-5TH BETTY JOY

Efficient and attractive WAC who works in the Adjutant's office at the Fort, as stenographer and special order clerk. She joined the Women's Army Corps in April, 1943, and received her basis training at Fort Devens, Mass. Besides her work at Post headquarters, Cpl. Joy finds time to participate in the musical revues sponsored by the Special Service Division, and was recently featured in "G. I. Rhapsody."

OFFICERS OF AIR WAC DETACHMENT

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 5-13-44

Lt. Blanche L. Scott, sitting, formerly of Washington, commander of Sioux City Army Air Wac's, is shown above with Sgt. Minnie B. Gay, formerly of Philadelphia.

WAC's in Transportation Corps at New York POE

Baltimore, Md.

Afro American
10-21-44

47 M

These WACs are doing vital work with the Transportation Corps at the New York Port of Embarkation. Front row, left to right, Pvt. Helen Clark, Youngstown, O.; Pfc. Gloria Parris, Bainsbridge, Ga.; T/5th Sylvia LaGrande, Roanoke, Va.; S/Sgt. Juanita Goodloe, Waco Tex.; Second row, Pvt. Lois Coston, NYC.; Pvt. Alice Ford, Pittsburgh; Pfc. Rosemary Thompson, Washington; T/4th Mamie Doss, Chicago; Pvt. Margaret Goins, Philadelphia; Third row, Pfc. Evelyn Lozi, Long Island, N.Y.; T/5th Dorothy Williams, Pittsburgh; Pfc. Vivian Brown, Toledo, O.; T/5th Adeline Bell, Pittsburgh; Pvt. Venise Dawson, Cambridge, Mass.—(Signal Corps Photo)

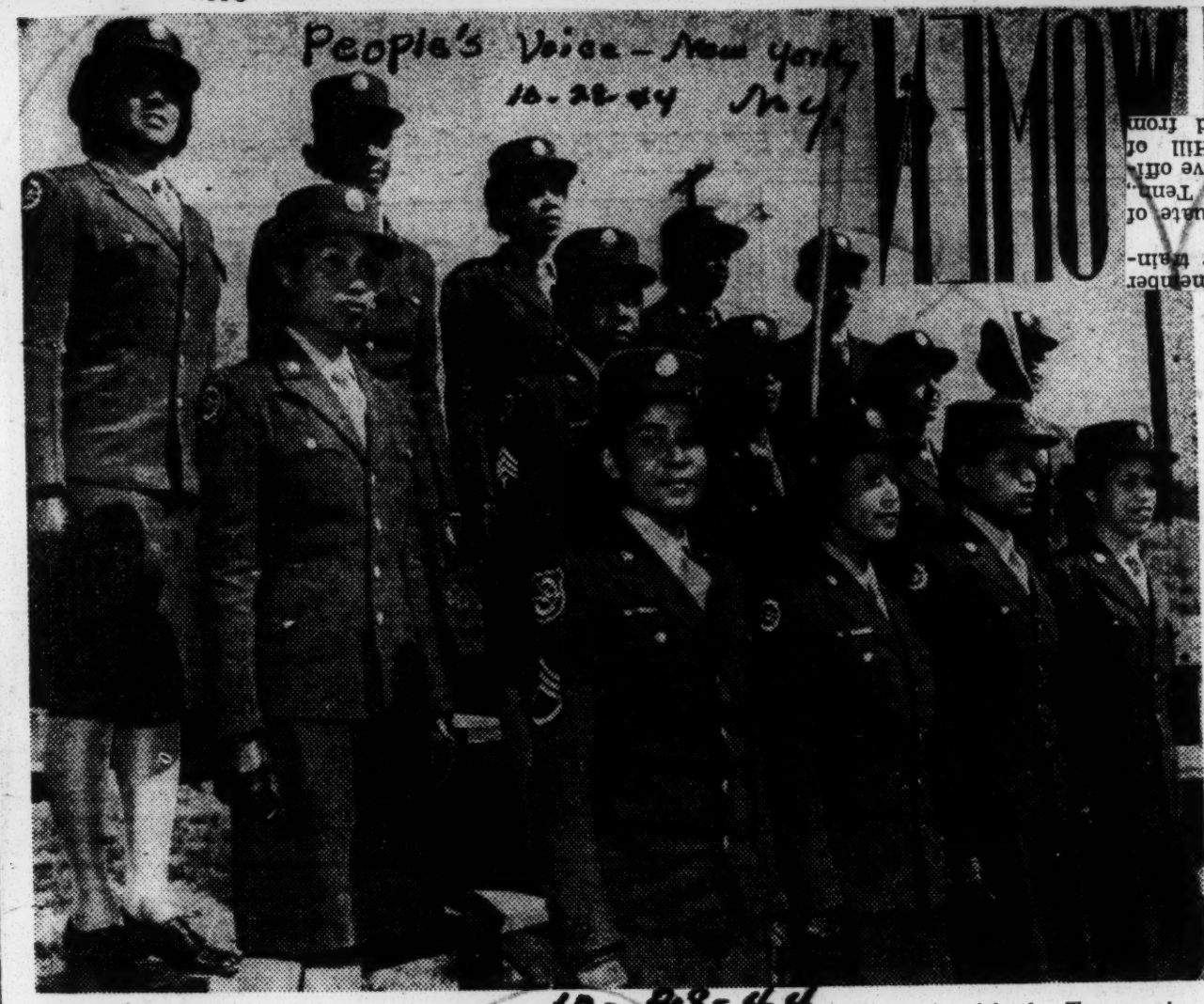
47m-1944

WAC

9-9-44

Tribune—Washington, D.C. 9-9-44

NATION'S MOST POPULAR—Capt. Loretta Freeman, one of the nation's leading WAC recruiting officers, is successfully filing her quota at her new streamline headquarters in the Commonwealth Edison Building, Forty-seventh Street, Chicago. Captain Freeman is a native of Texas. She is a good pal of Sgt. Joe Louis, headed a WAC unit which made Duke Ellington their "Pin Up" boy of 1943, and has appeared on more bond rallies, social, civic, and religious programs than any other WAC member of her race. A score of Gobs from the Great Lakes Training Station recently gathered at Servicemen's Center No. 3, and made her their "Chin Up" girl for the duration.



People's Voice—New York 10-28-44

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10-28-44

2 Rapists of WAC Are Sentenced

Afro American Baltimore, Md. 11-4-44

FORT BENNING, Ga.—Two of five soldiers accused of raping a WAC have been found guilty.

One was sentenced to life and the other to twenty years. The three other cases are pending.

The five men attacked a WAC and her companion as they were en route to a dance. Severe criticism has been made of one soldier who, because of threats against him, made no attempt to save the girl from the five attackers.

Army Graduates 9 Negro Women

Daily Worker, N.Y. 11-13-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz., Nov. 13.—Nine Negro women have just been graduated from the 9th Service Command's school for physical therapy here, six coming from the enlisted ranks of the Womens Army Corps and three from civilian life. Each is a graduate of an accredited college and holds a degree in physical education or science.

11-14-44

The three civilian cadets reported for training Oct. 1, 1943. After six months of theory they were transferred to the Fort station hospital for an additional six months. Six WACs last January joined the first class, spending six months in classroom study and three months as apprentices at the hospital.

Nine additional women are training at the Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham City, Utah.

WAC Promoted

Tribune—Philadelphia 12-23-44

Dorothy Sanders, of Greensburg, Pa. are among 56 colored WACS and Inez C. Chapman of Lansdowne, Pa., who recently were promoted to privates first class at the Air Service Command.

They arrived here last September with the first detachment of colored WACS stationed in California's San Joaquin Valley. Pfc. Sanders and Chapman received their basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

Born November 15, 1921, Pfc. Sanders resided with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kirkland, at Greensburg, Pa., before entering the Army. She attended Greensburg

Born February 18, 1904, in Philadelphia, Pa., Pfc. Chapman, resided at 132 Bartram avenue before entering the Army. She is a graduate of the Lansdowne High School.

Puerto Rican WACs To Be Trained Here

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y. 11-25-44

ATLANTA—More than 100 Puerto Rican senoritas, as WAC recruits, have been flown by the Army Air Transport Command to Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., for basic training, headquarters Fourth Service Command has announced.

Each of the planes carried an Army nurse to follow the practice of strict chaperonage of young unmarried daughters still followed by many Puerto Rican families. These young women were recruited by a party of four Negro WACs who went there in September, after they had received many inquiries from the island on how they might join the WAC.

11-25-44

Upon completion of basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, these Puerto Rican women, like American WACs, will be assigned wherever they are needed according to their qualifications an dspecial skills.

New York WACs Among Those Assigned To Western Fort

N.Y. Amsterdam News 12-2-44

Among those welcoming the very first WACs at the Fort Lewis railroad station were Lt. Col. J. H. Sherman of Babson Park, Fla., 14th engineer group commander, and Capt. Janet Eisenach of Milwaukee, Wisc., commanding officer of the present Fort Lewis WAC detachment, who extended a warm greeting to the new arrivals.

Under the command of Capt. Irma J. Cayton a group of 145 young women arrived recently at the Army Service Forces training center in Fort Lewis, Wash., the first Negro members of the Corps to serve there. As the girls debarked from the train, their first words were for new station is Pfc. Josephine Hutty of New York City, whose husband, Pfc. James A. McCall, is a member of Company I, 555th engineer training battalion.

Captain Cayton is a graduate of Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., and the detachments executive officer, First Lt. Violet W. Hill of Batavia, Ill., was graduated from

47m-1944

WAC

9-9-44

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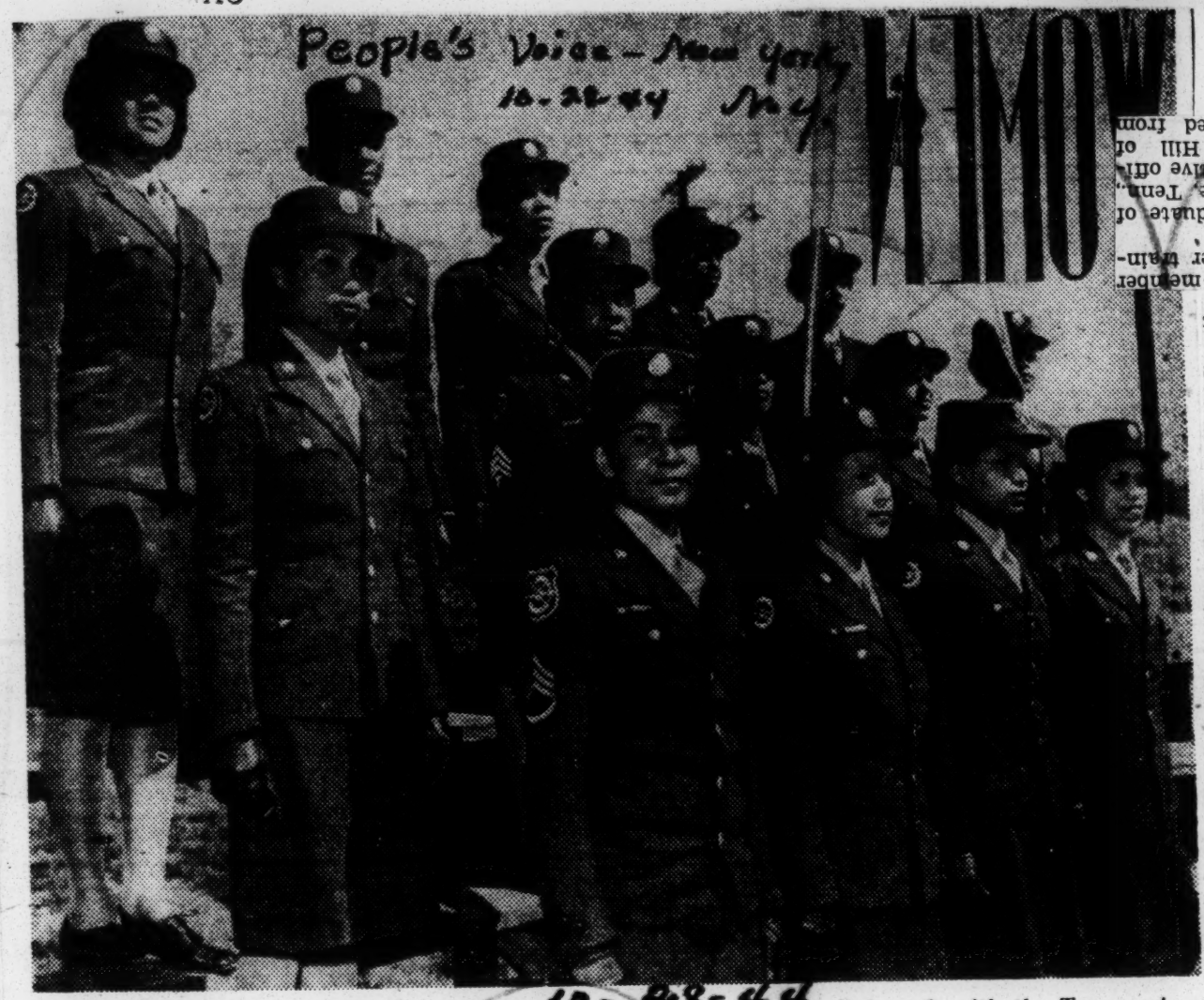

People's Voice—New York 10-28-44 Navy

MOW

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N.Y. Sunday News 12-3-44

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Captain Cayton is a graduate of Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., and the detachment's executive officer, First Lt. Violet W. Hill of Batavia, Ill., was graduated from

Wilson junior college in Chicago. Both officers were commissioned in July, 1942, at Fort Des Moines, Ia., with the first class of WAC officers to enter the service. They have served together continuously since with WAC detachments at Fort Huachuca.

"Most of our girls are between 21 and 25 years old," Captain Cayton disclosed, "and their skills range from clerk-typist to artist." Lieutenant Hill, whose husband is serving in the European theater of war, explained that the majority are drivers, clerk-typists, and supply clerks, with stenographers, cooks, mail clerks, and administrative aides in smaller numbers.

But it will not be all work and no play for Fort Lewis' first Negro WAC detachment. Invitations to special dances in their honor had been extended by representatives of at least a half-dozen engineer outfits before the girls had been here two hours. But First Sgt. Lawrence E. Carter of New York City, veteran of 27 months in the Alaskan theater, made sure that Company K, 56th ETB's invitation to a special dance tonight at Service Club No. 4 was the first to be accepted.—Sergeant Carter met the train.

Philadelphia Tribune

First WACs In Air Corps "Take Over" In Sioux City

8-13-44

ARMY AIR BASE, Sioux City, Iowa—Parachute riggers, radio operators, clerks, medical technicians, airplane mechanics, photoghaphers—these are but a few of the skilled jobs held by members of the latest Army unit to be added to the personnel at the Army Air Base here, the War Department has announced.

These soldiers, coming from all parts of the United States, especially eastern states, are members of the first colored WAC company in the Army Air Forces, and the second largest group of WACs in the Second Army Air Forces. They have taken over a wide variety of duties quickly and efficiently.

Commanding officers of the company is First Lieutenant Elizabeth Hampton, former case-work supervisor, of Los Angeles, California. First Lieutenant Blanche L. Scott, of Washington, D. C., is company adjutant.

First sergeant of the company is Minnie B. Gay, a student of Temple University, whose husband is editor of the Philadelphia TRIBUNE.

Activated at Wallu, Washington from WACs trained at Fort Des Moines and Fort Devens, Mass., the company was transferred from Walla Walla to Wendover Field, Utah, and then to Sioux City.

St. Louis Argus—Missouri

11-17-44

FIRST NEGRO WACS—To enter the AAF Training Command's School of Photography at Lowry Field, Colo, arrived on the Field this week. They are Pfc. Indialee Branch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Imman Davis of 4350 St. Ferdinand avenue, St. Louis, Mo., Stowe College graduate and wife of Cpl. Wilks S. Branch, with the 5th Army in Italy,; Pvt. Lavonic Browne, daughter of Mrs. Viola R. Brown of 614 East Hendrie street, Detroit, Mich., and sister of a 5th Army GI in Italy; Pvt. Mary Jane Beach, formerly of Chicago, Ill., and wife of Cecil Q. Beach, an aviation cadet at Tuskegee, Ala. The AAF School of Photography is one of the highest ranking technical schools operated by the Training Command and is one of the most difficult for any man or woman in uniform to attend.

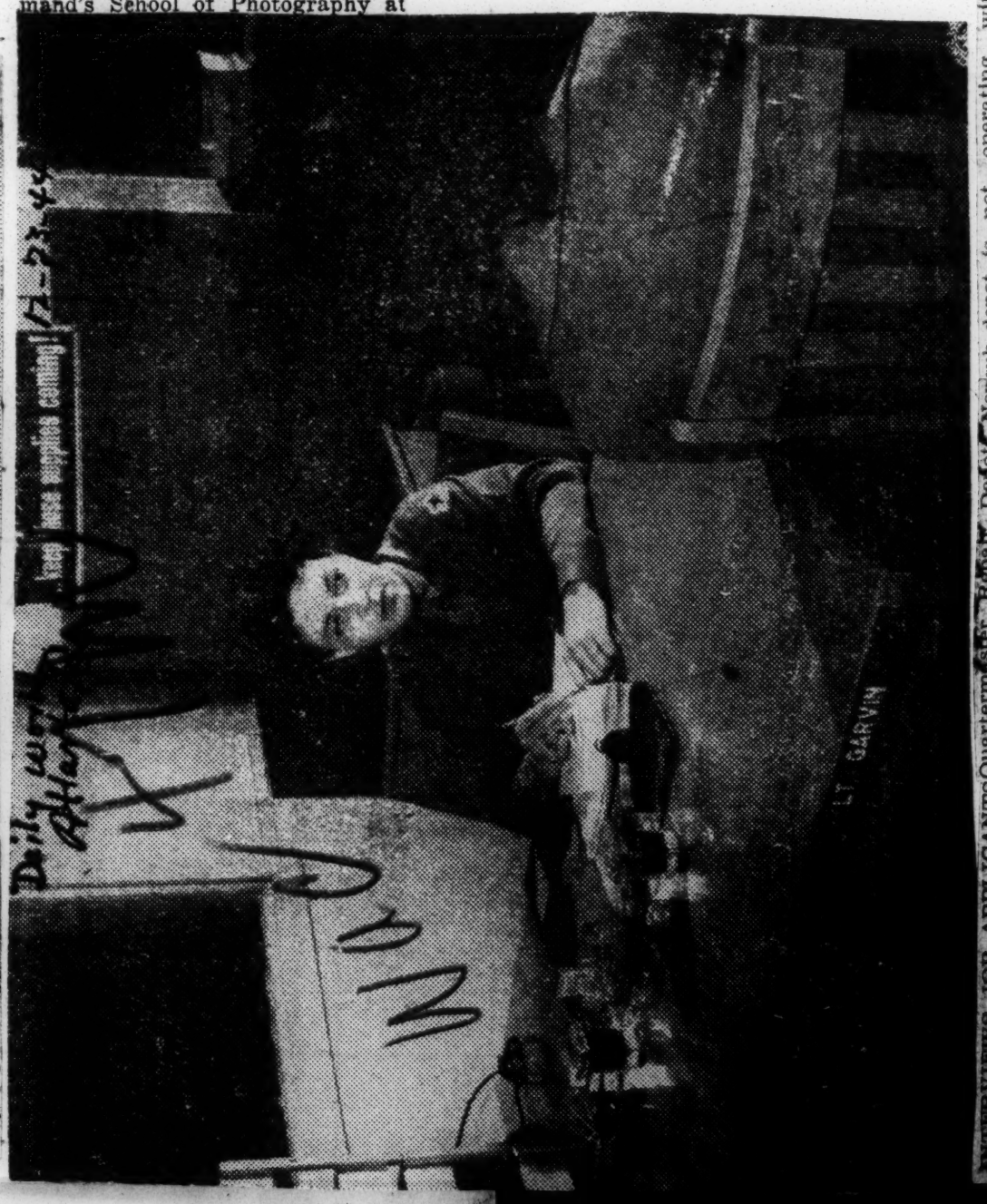
Part Of Our Fighting "Men"

Amsterdam News—New York, N. Y.

11-26-44

THESE WACS ARE DOING VITAL WORK with the Transportation Corps at the New York Port of Embarkation. Front row, left to right: Pvt. Helen Clark, Younstown, Ohio; Pfc. Gloria Parris, Bainsbridge, Ga.; Tech. 5 Sylvia La Grande, Roanoke, Va.; Staff Sgt. Juanita Goodloe, Waco, Tex. Second row, left to right: Pvt. Lois Coston, New York City; Pvt. Alice Ford, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pfc. Rosemary Thompson, Washington, D. C.; Tech. 4 Mamie Doss, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. Margaret Goins, Philadelphia, Pa. Third row: Pfc. Evelyn Lozi, Long Island, N. Y.; Tech. 5 Dorothy Williams, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pfc. Vivian Brwn, Toledo, O.; Tech. 5 Adeline Bell, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pvt. Venise Dawson, Cambridge, Mass.

11-25-44



Daily Worker

INTERVIEWS JOB APPLICANTS Quartermaster Depot Newsub-depot is not operating with Lt. Stella G. Garvin (WAC) York City, has a busy Job Inter-more than 2,000 employees.—(U. S. viewing applicants at the rapidlySignal Corps Photo from Bureau of

Physical Therapy Aides

World – Memphis, Tenn.
11-10-44

Left to right: Second Lieutenants Valieanne Taylor, Atlanta, Georgia; Lilyanne Plummer, Washington, D. C., and Muriel Joy Davis, Evanston, Illinois, are the first civilian cadets to be graduated from the Ninth Service Command's School for Physical Therapy and Medical Technicians at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Upon completion of one year of training and practical work, they were commissioned on October 23 as second lieutenants, A. U. S., Medical Department. (Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.)

11-10-44

Wacs

Six Wacs Are Among 9 To Receive Bars

World – Memphis, Tenn
11-10-44

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona — (SNS) — The first Army-trained Negro physical therapy aides were commissioned as second lieutenants, Medical Department, at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, upon their graduation October 20, from the Ninth Service Command's School for Physical Therapy and Medical Technicians the War Department announced Monday.

Prior to the graduation of the class, made up of six enlisted members of the Women's Army Corps, three civilian cadets, only three Negro women held commissions in the Army as physical therapy aides.

On October 1, 1943, the first three civilian cadets reported to Fort Huachuca to begin training. After six months of theory, they served at the station hospital as apprentices for another six months.

WACS ADDED 11-10-44

Last January 10, six Wacs were added to the first class. They spent six months in classroom study, and served a three months' apprenticeship at the Fort's station hospital, during which time their work was closely supervised by Major Phillip T. Johnson of Washington, D. C., who was recognized in civilian life as one of the nation's foremost physio-therapists, and other officers of the Medical Department.

Colonel Midian O. Bousefield, Medical Corps, commandant of the school at Fort Hauchuca, points out that physio-therapy is rapidly gaining a forward place in the medical world.

The former civilian cadets who were sworn into the Army October 20 are Second Lieutenants Muriel Joy Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Davis, 1501 Oak Street, Evanston, Illinois, Lilyanne Plummer, daughter of Mrs. Rosa Plummer, 310 "I" Street N. W., Washington, D. C. and Valjeanne Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Taylor, 383 Forrest Avenue, NE., Atlanta, Georgia. They are now at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

11-10-44

These Wacs were commissioned Second Lieutenants Anna Lee Rogers, daughter of Mrs. Ida Belle Rogers, 595 Polk Street, Memphis; Edythe Bingham, daughter of Mrs. Amanda R. Bingham, 206 Jackson Street, Talladega, Alabama; Ruth R. Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Jones, Cofield, North Carolina; Bernice Lockhart, daughter of Mrs. Birdie Lockhart, 429 Church Street, Hot Springs, Arkansas; Mary Lou Shannon, daughter of Mr. Ollie Shannon, Madison, Arkansas and Mildred Robinson, daughter of Mrs. Ida G. Robinson, 1319 Central Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

11-10-44

Each of the newly-commissioned physical therapy aides is a graduate of an accredited college, holding a degree in physical education or science. All have been assigned to Army hospitals in the United States.

'Wainwrights' Reach Ft. Des Moines and Part

Iowa Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Negro women from New York state who were recruited along with 200 other New Yorkers as members of a company of women who would honor the name of General Wainwright who is in a Japanese prison camp, by banning themselves together, living and training as one separate company, found another story when they reached Fort Des Moines WAC Training Center, on Nov. 1, it was learned this week.

11-16-44

Though honored and feted in New York's Grand Central Palace, photographed and praised for being a group of white and colored women who would set a precedent by being able to live and train together to serve their country, the Negro Wainwrights learned that they are the onlookers while the white Wainwright WACs carry the banner of their company, live in a separate building which is designated the "Wainwrights."

11-16-44

Arriving at Ft. Des Moines the Wainwrights separated—the white women went to the special Wainwright barracks, known as Company 13, and the 12 Negro women were placed in a Negro company, No. 6.

"Though we share none of the Wainwright honors here we are forced to wear the armbands and take a good razzing because we cannot take any part with the Wainwrights," one member said.

"Even Col. Hobby hoped that the white and colored girls would get along in one company," the discouraged Negro Wainwright WAC added

Follows Footsteps

Courier
News, N.Y. N.Y.
5-6-44

PVT. HILDA P. GRIGGS, the fifth member of her immediate family to become a member of one of the military services, is a daughter of Mrs. Ethel B. Pratt, of 519 W. 4th St., Palmyra, N. J., and a recent graduate of the Army Clerk's School at First WAC Training Center. Private Griggs is a graduate of Palmyra High School. Before enlisting in the WAC, she was a stock clerk at Blauner's Department Store in Philadelphia, Pa. She was also a machine operator in Riverside, N. J. Her brothers, 2nd Lt. Maurice Griggs, Sgt. Edward Griggs and Pvt. Joseph Griggs, are members of the Army, while A S Warren Griggs is serving with the Navy.

Mixed WAC Unit Fizzled Out in Iowa, Girls Say

The People's Voice
New York N.Y.
11-25-44

By KEN JESSAMY

Bringing into glaring focus need for legislation to abolish jimcro in the armed forces, is the report that Negro women, recruited from the New York area to join the Women's Army Corps as members of the Jonathan Wainwright Company, are incensed at the jimcro treatment they are receiving at WAC training headquarters at Fort Des-Moines, Iowa. 11-25-44

At the induction ceremonies held here early this month at Grand Central Station, WAC recruiting headquarters, the company which was reported away from the colored girls who came out orders from Colonel McCroskie, with the Wainwright group have been put by themselves . . . that PV could not reach Col. Mc Croskie who was reported away from his post on temporary duty. them intend to write to 480 Lexington av (WAC quarters) and ask the why, since the WAC recruiting office at they were under the impression Grand Central Palace, when called

Last week PV contacted Lt. David Friedland, Public Relations Director at the women were placed in a Negro company, No. 6. PV received a letter and speeches by military personnel stressed the fact that this company would establish a precedent. in that it would be the first WAC division to have Negro and white

Bystander

country, a service for which they ironically enough, in face of the facts, volunteered.

On arrival at Des Moines, however, the Wainwrights were separated—the white women went to the special Wainwright barracks, known as Company 13, and the 12 Negro women were placed in a Negro company, No. 6.

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by PV on Monday, said that she was ignorant of the conditions at Des Moines, adding that at Grand Central they were only concerned with recruiting and had nothing to do with training regulations.

11-25-44

Call – Kansas City, Mo.
8-11-44

8-12-44

WACS AT CAMP FORREST.—Not all the jobs in WAC Detachment No. 2 stationed at Camp Forrest, Tenn., are at the Station hospital. There must be a staff of non-commissioned officers to assist company officers in the administration and efficient running of the detachment. Pictured with Capt. A. Noel Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala., are, left to right. S.-Sgt. Hattie R. Metz of Gainsville, Fla., supply sergeant; Sgt. Marcell Booker of Richmond, Va., mail clerk; 1st Sgt. Clovis Gooodloe of Waco, Texas, first sergeant of the detachment; S.-Sgt. Josephine Hartzog of Philadelphia, Pa., mess sergeant; and Cpl. Amelia Outen of Columbia, S. C., personnel clerk.—(Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.)

Colored WACs Guarded From White Troops

Journal & Guide
Norfolk Va.

Army Takes Action After Threatened Trouble

8-12-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—A 24-hour guard has been placed by the Army around the Negro WAC area at Camp Forest, Tenn., and the area declared "off limits" to all white soldiers in accordance with an order of the Inspector General's Office of the War Department, following threatened rape and invasion by white paratroopers.

The incident first came to light about a month ago when there was threatened trouble between the white paratroopers and Negro soldiers at the camp from the outcome of the molestation of the Negro WACs. The post denied, however, that any such problem was involved—but the posting of the 24-hour guard would seem to substantiate the charges.

6-17-44

Lt. Minafield is a graduate of Atlanta High School, and Clark University. She enlisted in the WAC's while a teacher in the Atlanta high schools, in 1942, and was sent to Des Moines, Iowa, for basic training. On completion of the course was ordered to First WAC Training Center at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, from there she was sent to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, where she received her commission as 2nd Lt. in March, 1944. Lt. Minafield was assigned to the Philadelphia Signal Depot and placed in the Inventory Control Branch, where she released a man for overseas duty.

Jailing of WAC Soldier Protested

Baltimore Md. 10-14-44
FORT BENNING, Ga.—An investigation has been requested in the case of a Wac private who, with an Army service company was arrested and held in a cell with thirty-nine other women for twenty-four hours on a people and was forced to sit on the concrete floor. At the trial, charge of disorderly conduct.

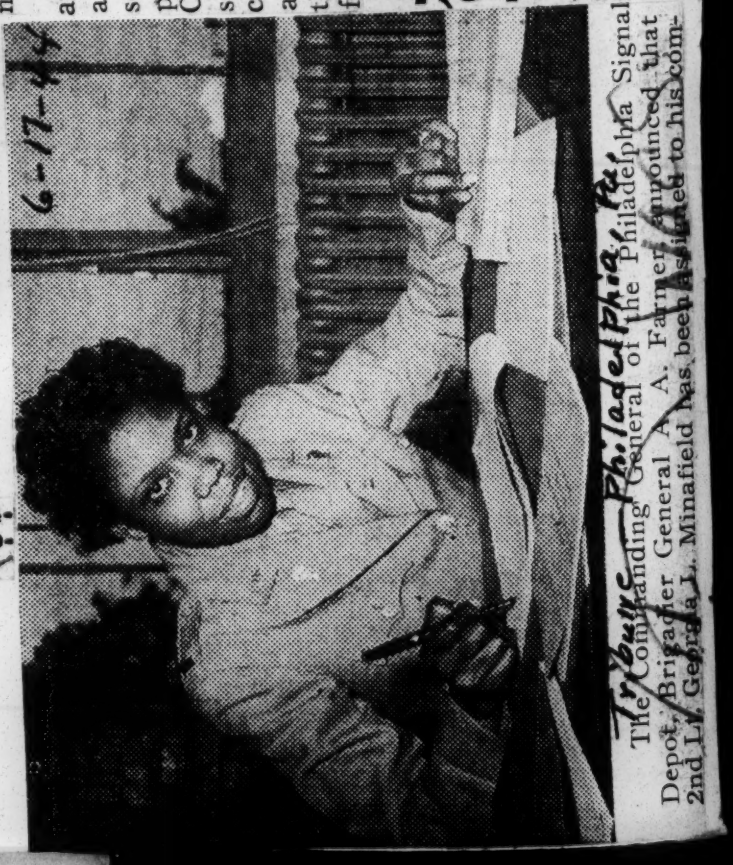
According to reports, the two were riding in a taxicab from Columbus when a State policeman halted them within two miles of this military reservation and ordered them to police headquarters where they were searched and held without any charge being preferred.

Forty in One Cell

The Wac said she was placed in a cell with thirty-nine other women for twenty-four hours on a people and was forced to sit on the concrete floor. At the trial, the arresting officer charged that the soldier and the Wac were conducting themselves in a disorderly manner in the taxicab.

Both pleaded "not guilty" and were turned over to the provost marshal's office and brought back to the post, where they were released to their respective commanding officers. 10-14-44

There were no military authorities present during the trial and only the testimony of the prosecuting witness was heard.



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Baltimore, Md. 10-14-44

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Mrs. FDR Concerned, Col. Hobby Regrets, but Prejudice Keeps These Wacs from Foreign Posts

Afro American - Baltimore, Md. 12-2-44

While white service women are serving in every theatre of war, colored Wac's are confined to the U.S., due, according to Col. Hobby's office, to prejudiced theatre commanders. The colored Wac's are doing the same type of work white Wac's are doing overseas. Form left to right are Pfc. Sally Alexander, at a New York Port of Embarkation, rated as an expert stock clerk; Technician Fifth Grade Annie Lawson of Washington, La., is shown preparing patient on X-ray table while Technician Fifth Grade Gertrude C. Hunt of Decature, Ill., adjusts machine. Being a fast, efficient typist is but one of the qualifications of Pvt. Evelyn Anderson of New City assigned to Base Photo Laboratory at Walla Walla Army Air Field, Wash.

12-2-44

12-2-44

Ft. Benning WACs Observe Their First Anniversary

Tribune — Memphis, Tenn.

9-22-44

Lt. Corrie Sherard Of Atlanta Commanding Officer, Gives Party

FORT BENNING, Georgia — First anniversary of the WAC Detachment, Station Complement, Section II, at Fort Benning, was observed with a reception at Service Club Four. Presented for recognition were members of the Detachment who arrived on the Post wtih the first contingent of WACs last September 14, a year ago.

Arrangements for the celebration were made by First Lieutenant Corrie S. Sherard, of Atlanta, Ga., commanding officer of the Detachment. Celebrants, for the most part servicemen from the Reception Center, Harmony Church Area and other units of the Post gave the WACs a rousing round of applause as their birthday cake, topped by a glowing candle, was brought to the center of the lobby. Overhead the decoration was a riot of colors that matched the attraction of the chic, off-duty uniforms of the servicewomen.

9-22-44

USE SWING BAND

For music the WACs had the first swing orchestra of the 218th Army Band. The musicians dedicated several selected numbers as tribute to the occasion.

More representative of the first anniversary of the WAC Detachment, however, were the accomplishments made during the past year. WACs have been performing with a high degree of skill and efficiency a variety of jobs at Station Hospital, Reception Center, and their own Detachment.

9-22-44

At Station Hospital WACs are assigned as Laboratory Technicians, Hospital Orderlies, Dental, Surgical, Medical and X-Ray Technicians. There are eighty-six service women in the Reception Center, assigned to the following sections:

Reception Center Mail Room, 12; Personnel Section, 10; Insurance, 13; Quartermaster, 8; Headquarters, 5; Dispensaries, 23; Classification, 4; Records, 10 ;and Special Service Office, 1.

ACTIVATED LAST FALL

They also perform special duties as sales clerks, mimeograph operators, and beauty culturists. One member of the Detachment is assistant to the Librarian of Library Number 4.

The WAC Detachment was activated last fall with a contingent of 125 service women, all of whom came to Fort Benning from the First WAC Center, Des Moines, Iowa. Since then, the strength of the Detachment has been built up with newly trained WACs from Des Moines, and specialists from Station Hospital, Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

9-22-44

Second Lt. Lucille Y. Mayo served as the first commanding officer of the Detachment, having arrived on the Post September 3, 1943, with an advanced cadre of twelve WACs. She was succeeded this spring by First Lt. Sherard, former commanding officer of WAC Detachment, Section II, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

WOMEN COMMENDED

Post officials have made frequent visits to the WAC Area, and commended the service women for the contributions they have made to the war efforts. Brig. Gen. William H. Hobson, Post Commander of Fort Benning, awarded thirty members of the Detachment with good conduct medals. Secretary of War Stimson included the WAC Detachment on his tour of Fort Benning.

9-22-44

Other officers are 2nd Lt. Patricia S. Gunter, Executive Officer of the Detachment; Technical Sergeant Ella T Madison, First Sergeant; Sgt. Mildred R. Lar Sheay, Company Clerk; Sgt. Bernice Lee, Supply Sergeant; and Staff Sergeant Alberta Simms, Mess Sergeant.

1st Lt. Jack Davis in an interview here last week. Lt. Davis is making an appeal for women to join the WACs and he emphasized both the need for women to serve the country and the advantages which accrue from such service to the WAC herself.

WAC Recruits Badly Needed; Stress Advantages To Girls

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.

9-16-44

NORFOLK—"The war is not over yet and there is still an urgent need for recruits in the Women's Army Corps," declared public relations officer for the

ADVANTAGES LISTED

9-16-44

For instance, he points out, women who join the WACs get specialized training in all kinds of jobs; they get pay while they are learning; they have the chance to request where they want to be stationed and almost invariably get assigned near their homes; they will leave the Army with valuable vocational training which will make it possible for them to get good jobs after the war; they can earn ratings rapidly and get increases in pay with every rating; and they will leave the Army with veteran preference in job opportunities and with every protection afforded male soldiers by the GI bill of rights and other post-war, veteran legislation.

9-16-44

These opportunities, he declared, are added to the chance to serve the country and to do an effective job toward winning the war. Lt. Davis believes that many women could advance their own interests considerably by joining the WACs and at the same time advance the interests of their country.

Requirement for qualification are not difficult to meet. The WAC requires the same physical standard that the Army sets up.

The mental requirements can be met by any person with two years of high school and by many who have had no high school training. The age limits are 20-45.

9-16-44

GO TO DES MOINES

The WAC recruits are given six weeks basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., or Fort Des Moines, Iowa. In the case of colored recruits, the WAC sends them all to Fort Des Moines for the obvious reason that they would enjoy life in Iowa better than in Georgia. They are paid all the time and then, after the basic training, are given specific duties and specialized training in any job they like to do.

Lt. Davis emphatically warned against indifference to the Army's needs because newspaper headlines seem to suggest that the war is nearly over. He says there is much yet to be done before victory is assured and that now is as good a time as ever to get in the Army and to take advantage of the benefits offered to the individual.

Young women in the Eastern Virginia area are urged to come to the WAC headquarters, Room 415, Norfolk Post Office Building, or to write or call that office. Every effort will be made to process the candidate and to get her enlisted in the WAC. While Lt. Davis represents the area which includes Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Newport News, Smithfield, Lawrenceville, and all other towns down to the North Carolina line, he urges that there is a need for WAC recruits from all areas of the country and suggests that women who are interested should get in touch with their local WAC recruiting office, usually located in the federal post office building in their town.

9-16-44

Army Reverses Decision; Iowa WAC's to Keep Band

Afro American, Baltimore

9-26-44

WASHINGTON

The decision to disband the WAC band at the WAC Training Center, Fort Des Moines, Iowa, has been reversed, it was learned last Saturday.

At the Fort, this week, it was reported that WAC's, both colored and white, had urged the keeping of the band, because, said they, "It had more rhythm and could be drilled to easier than the first band."

Morale Builder

Colonel Frank U. McCoskrie, commanding officer of the WAC Training Center, recommended that the band be not disbanded because its benefit to morale outweighed in importance the necessity for the transfer of its personnel to other assignments at this time.

The War Department approved his recommendation and decided to continue the band. It had previously taken the position that the decision to disband the band was in furtherance of the war effort on the ground that the acute need for personnel did not justify the retention of so many Army bands.

Would Combine Two

The colored band has never been officially authorized, but was organized locally, as only one band is allotted to one post. The authorized WAC band at the Fort Des Moines WAC Training Center is the 400th Army Service Forces Band, consisting of white personnel. Suggestions were made in various quarters that colored musical talent be integrated into the white WAC band.

In the band are:

Cpl. Novella J. Cromer, clarinet; Pfc. Audrey Gross, tenor sax, of Baltimore;

Pfc. Romaine Saunders, clarinet and Pfc. Maude C. Blackwood, French horn, Philadelphia;

Pfc. Violet Moore, trumpet; T/5 Gloria V. Davis, trombone and T/5 Lillian P. Brown, clarinet, all of NYC;

Pfc. Jane R. Holloway, drums, of Washington, D.C.; Pfc. Inez Stroud, sax, Greensboro, N.C.; Pfc. Lenora L. Dial, tuba, Mumford, Ala.;

T/5 Constance A. Hurlins, trumpet, Verona, N.J.; Pfc. Yvonne L. Payne, cornet, Richmond, Va.; Pfc Rachel Stewart, French horn, Brooklyn, N.Y.;

Pfc. Celestine McNeil, drums, Pensacola, Fla.; Sgt. Lenora J. Hall, director, Jacksonville, Fla.; and Lt. Thelma Brown, band officer, Arcadia, Fla.

WACs at Maxton, N. C.

Amsterdam News, New York, N.Y.

Sir: I am writing you in behalf of the members of Squadron D-1, the colored WACs at this base. The aforementioned soldiers are the first colored WACs and the only colored WACs in the 1st Troop Carrier Command, which has eight bases in different parts of the U. S.

11-23-44

The inclosed information should be noted for your future reference and immediate guidance: There are 120 enlisted women and 2 WAC officers, both first lieutenants. Their positions range from telephone operators on the flight line, clerk-typists in the Base Military Personnel Office, drivers of staff cars, command cars, etc., for the Base Transport Office, control tower operators for the airplanes, nurses aides in the station hospital, etc. They hail from all parts of the country, from all walks of life and are deserving of a little publicity.

The public relations officer of this base was supposed to have given the above information to the Associated Colored Press about three months ago, when the cadre for aforesaid WACs arrived here, but hasn't yet accomplished said promise. I suggest you either contact Lt. Camille F. Thomas, commanding officer, Squadron D-1, Lmaab—Maxton, N. C., or yours truly at the address listed below, informing us what you will do about it, if you can. There are also 350 colored enlisted men here at this base, of which I am one. Some are overseas returnees. I will either hear from you directly or through action taken through the BEC this base.

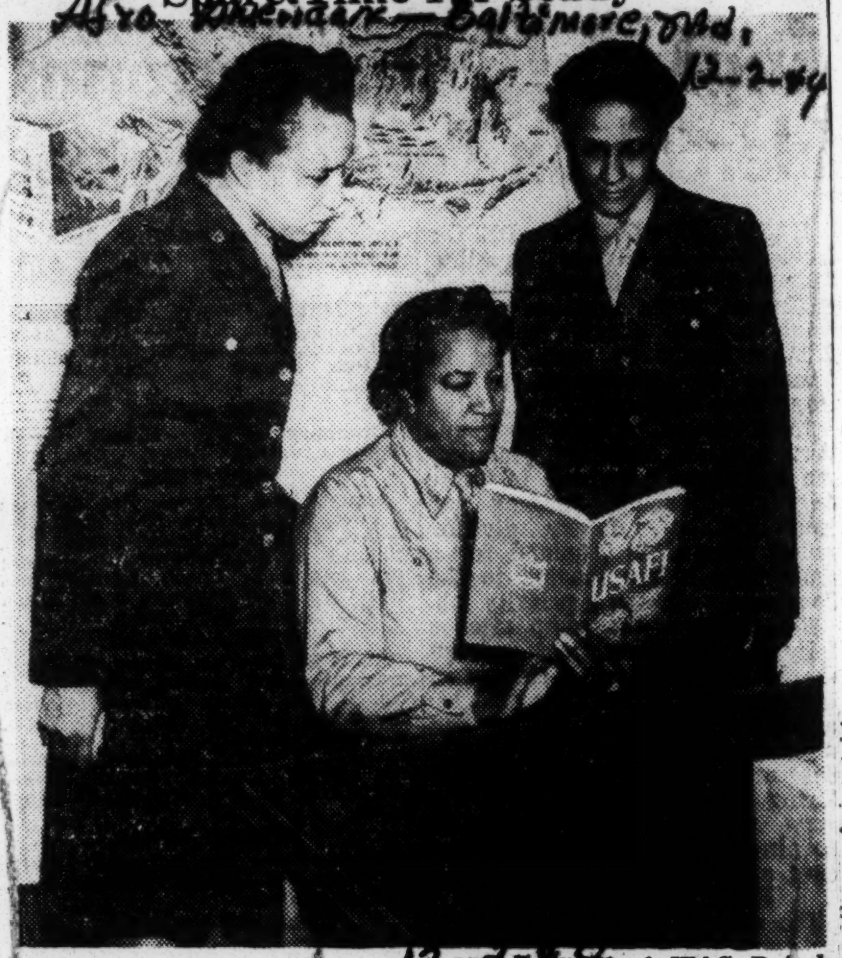
11-23-44

Cpl. Vincent H. Syphax,
Military Personnel Office,
Lmaab-Maxton, N. C.

Spare Time for Study

Afro American, Baltimore, Md.

12-2-44



Captain Harriette B. White, commanding officer of WAC Detachment No. 2, stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., is shown with two members of the Women's Army Corps, who are taking courses in survey in English literature and shorthand offered by the United States Armed Forces Institute through the information and education branch at Fort Bragg. Shown from left to right are: Pvt. Male L. Hall, Lexington, Va., Captain White and S/Sgt. Florine B. Upton, Sweetwater, Tenn.

WAC Prejudice Laid to Foreign Service Command

Afro American, Baltimore, Md. 12-2-44

Mrs. Roosevelt Intercedes; Told Hobby's Office Is Tied by Lack of Requisitions from War Theatres

WASHINGTON

The absence of colored WAC's abroad was charged to the prejudice of commanders by the office of Col. Oveta Culp Hobby in a statement to Mrs. Roosevelt, this week.

The First Lady had interceded on behalf of the AFRO-AMERICAN which requested her to help break the bottle neck that is keeping colored WAC's at home while whites are being dispatched to all quartesr of the globe.

She was informed by War Department officials that WAC's are sent out when requested by commanders and that so far, none of the generals have requested colored WAC replacements.

In the meantime, white WAC's are serving in England, France, North Africa, Italy, New Caledonia, Australia, New Guinea, Hawaii, Egypt, India, Labrador, Casablanca, and China.

12-2-44

Lt. Col. Jessie P. Rice said in reply to the letter of Miss Malvina C. Thompson, secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt: "Col. Hobby shares Mrs. Roosevelt's feeling concerning overseas service for colored members of our corps. The War Department sends overseas only personnel requisitioned by the theatre commanders and no colored personnel has been requisitioned.

"Consideration of this situation was recently requested and we hope favorable action will be taken by theatre commanders."

Puerto Rican WACs Arrive

Pittsburgh Courier

11-25-44

ATLANTA—(ANP)—More than married daughters still followed by 100 Puerto Rican senoritas, as many Puerto Rican families. These WAC recruits, have been flown by the Army Air Transport Command to Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., for basic training, headquarters of the Fourth Service Command announced.

Each of the planes carried an Army nurse to aid in the practice of strict discipline of young women at the post.

Puerto Rican women, like American Wacs, will be assigned wherever they are needed according to their special qualifications and skills.

47m-1944 Wacs

Fort Leonard Wood WACs Fine Cager Tossers

THE BASKETBALL TEAM of WAC Detachment No. 2, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., which has been beaten by only one of the post teams it has met this season.

Six Wacs Are Among 9 To Receive Bars

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona (SNS) — The first Army-trained Negro physical therapy aides were commissioned as second lieutenants, Medical Department, at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, upon their graduation October 20, from the Ninth Service Command's School for Physical Therapy and Medical Technicians the War Department announced Monday.

Prior to the graduation of the class, made up of six enlisted members of the Women's Army Corps, three civilian cadets, only three Negro women held commissions in the Army as physical therapy aides.

On October 1, 1943 the first three civilian cadets reported to Fort Huachuca to begin training. After six months of theory, they served at the station hospital as apprentices for another six months.

WACS ADDED

Last January 10, six Wacs were added to the first class. They spent six months in classroom study, and served a three months' apprenticeship at the Fort's station hospital, during which time their work was closely supervised by Major Phillip T. Johnson of Washington, D. C., who was recognized in civilian life as one of the nation's foremost physio-therapists, and other officers of the Medical Department.

Colonel Midian O. Bousefield, Medical Corps, commandant of the school at Fort Huachuca, points out that physio-therapy is rapidly gaining a forward place in the medical world.

The former civilian cadets who were sworn into the Army October 20 are: Second Lieutenants Muriel Joy Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Davis, 1501 Oak Street, Evanston, Illinois, Lilyanne Plummer, daughter of Mrs. Rosa Plummer, 310 "I" Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and Valjeanne Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Taylor, 383 Forrest Avenue, NE., Atlanta, Georgia. They are now at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

These Wacs were commissioned Second Lieutenants Anna Lee Rogers, daughter of Mrs. Ida Belle Rogers, 595 Polk Street, Memphis; Edythe Bingham, daughter of Mrs. Amanda R. Bingham, 206 Jackson Street, Talladega, Alabama; Ruth R. Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Jones, Cofield, North Carolina; Bernice Lockhart, daughter of Mrs. Birdie Lockhart, 429 Church Street, Hot Springs, Arkansas; Mary Lou Shannon, daughter of Mr. Ollie Shannon, Madison, Arkansas and Mildred Robinson, daughter of Mrs. Ida G. Robinson, 1319 Central Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

Each of the newly-commissioned physical therapy aides is a graduate of an accredited college, holding a degree in physical education or science. All have been assigned to Army hospitals in the United States.

WAC Assigned To Post Publication Office

At Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Pfc. Pearle Florence Roberson is the clerk for the Post Publication Office. Pfc. Roberson is a graduate of Lewis Business College in Indianapolis, Ind. She took two years nurse training at the Red Cross Hospital, Louisville, Ky., and was registrar at the Sunshine Beauty College, Indianapolis, before entering the service.

WAC Guilty Of Bigamy; 1-Year Term Suspended

HAMPTON—Mrs. Pearl Jackson Wilson, a member of the Women's Army Corps, was found guilty of bigamy in the Elizabeth City County Circuit Court last week, and given a sentence of one year in the penitentiary by Judge John

MARRIED AGAIN 6-24-44

Wilson, at which time she gave her home address as Richmond. She was arrested in Danville Testimony showed that Wilson allegedly married William Richardson on December 10, 1933, and, without the dress as Cascade. She was divorce, married Odell Wilson on June 29, 1942, with a license obtained in the office of Clerk of Court R. E. Weymouth who is on the sick list.

However, impressed by the defendant's good character, the court suspended the sentence upon good behavior and gave Mrs. Wilson permission to rejoin her Army command.

SGT. HAZEL E. GILES

Pretty St. Louis Wac who was the first Negro girl to graduate from the Army hospital at Hot Springs, Ark. She was the highest ranking Wac in a class of virtually all whites. She is now at Regional hospital No. 2 at Ft. Jackson, S. C. She recently visited her mother in St. Louis while on a furlough.

First Air WAC Company Averages Test of 108.5

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

ARMY AIR BASE, SIOUX CITY, Iowa — Parachute riggers, radio operators, clerks, medical technicians, airplane mechanics, photographers—these are but a few of the skilled jobs held by members of the latest Army unit to be added to the personnel at Sioux City Army Air Base, the War Department announced, this week. 5-13-44

These soldiers, coming from all parts of the United States, especially Eastern States, are members of the first colored WAC company in the Army Air Forces, and of the second largest group of WACs in the Second Army Air Force. They have taken over a wide variety of duties quickly and efficiently.

Average Test 108.5

Prepared by the Army for many vital jobs, more than half of the colored WAC company are college-trained women, the average age is 24, and their average on the Army's Classification Test was 108.5. More than one-fourth of the group made over 110, the mark required for officers' training. A large number of the WACs are ex-school teachers or were formerly in government work.

5-13-44

Typical of the young women who have taken over the WAC barracks at the air base is First Lieutenant Elizabeth Hampton, commanding officer of the company, whose home is Los Angeles, Calif. Lieutenant Hampton was a member of the first Officers' Candidate School class to graduate from Fort Des Moines, in 1942.

Washingtonian Is Adjutant

The company adjutant, Lieutenant Blanche L. Scott, 1826 H Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C., received a promotion from second to first lieutenant March 7, several weeks before the company was transferred to Sious City. Lieutenant Scott attended Howard University, Washington, D.C., for three and a half years, and received her gold bars in the first WAC class to be chosen from the ranks, which graduated January 9, 1943. Both lieutenants are former recruiting officers.

First sergeant of the company is Minnie B. Gay, a graduate of Temple University, whose husband is editor of a Philadelphia weekly newspaper.

47m-1944

WACS

Six Former Wacs Get Bars as Physical Therapy Aides

Afro-American Balt, Md. 11-11-44

57 M WACS

Six former members of the Women's Army Corps, graduates of the first class for physical therapy aides at the Ninth Service Command's School for Physical Therapy and Medical Technicians. The class, which began January 10, was graduated on October 20 after six months of Theory and three months of apprenticeship at the station hospital, Fort Huachuca, Arizona. The graduates received commissions as second lieutenants in the Medical Department. Left to right: Second Lieutenants Ruth R. Jones, Cofield, North Carolina; Anna Lee Rogers, Memphis, Tennessee; Mildred Robinson, Baltimore, Maryland; Mary Lou Shannon, Madison, Arkansas; Edythe Bingham, Talladega, Alabama, Bernice Lockhart, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

47n-1944

Toward Freedom

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.

A RECENT V-Mail letter from "Somewhere in New Guinea" jolted my conscience quite a bit. Perhaps you need to know about it too.

Bill Taylor, former chairman of the Communist Party of Baltimore, writes, in part:

"A friend sends me your column. . . . I was wondering if sometime you couldn't write one on the need for letters to the soldiers overseas. I say this because I have noticed that everyone in my Company has been writing to everyone he knows. Hundreds of letters go out, but only a few come in. 7-10-44

"Letters are important for us as they (1) keep us in touch with the 'States' and (2) give us something to read. You see, we don't have much reading matter here. Books are rare, and the only big thing we have are movies.

"Speaking of movies, imagine sitting at an outdoor theatre. It starts to rain like hell, but only a few leave. The bulk of the men and officers just sit there and get soaked, because movies are some diversion to us.

"Letters mean the same thing to the men here. Those folks back home who say they don't have time to write should remember this: We too don't have eight-hour days. We work day and night sometime, but we find time to write letters."

* * *

THIS is my second letter from Bill since his outfit left camp to be shipped. The first remains unanswered.

Which reminds me of another unanswered letter about "Toward Freedom" from London. Its author is probably in France now. Then, too, there is that long unanswered letter from a former student who was in North Africa when he wrote. By now he may be marching somewhere north of Rome.

There are others. I am ashamed to admit it, and do so because I suspect that my negligence is by no means unique.

We win-the-war actives on the civilian front get so darned busy with the urgent tasks of today—and tonight!—that some of us just "can't find time" to write letters—unless they're to GOP presidential aspirant, Governor Thomas E. Dewey, urging him to free Morris Schappes. 7-10-44

We say that we are doing "everything in our power to back-up the boys overseas." We buy war bonds, donate blood, fight discrimination, spur war production, solicit funds for the Daily Worker and The Worker, ring door-bells for the election of FDR and a win-the-war congress, and so on with the never-ending s ies of immediate tasks.

* * *

My Letter from GI Bill—
THEY Find Time To Write
by Doxie Wilkerson

MEANWHILE, the concrete personalities of GI Joe and Bill and Jim, with whom we once worked and played and fought, tend to recede into the background of our consciousness. They get metamorphosed into a sort of collective "boys overseas" whom we must do everything to "back-up." We lose contact with them as persons. 7-10-44

It is easy to forget that the resolute morale of our fighting men is one of the most imperative requirements of victory, and that nothing contributes more to build and sustain such morale than frequent and newsy letters to the fighting men we know.

Perhaps (and I hope) YOU do not need this little sermon. Anyway, it was good for me to write. I have just gone through my file of "Correspondence—pending," and pulled out all the GI letters it contained. Every one of them will be answered before you read this week's column. Moreover, I have already begun to inquire about the overseas addresses of fellows who have not written to me, but to whom I surely should write.

It may not be a bad idea for you to do a little checking-up too. Just remember Bill Taylor's closing words to me: "We work day and night sometime, but we find time to write letters."

Negroes Form Eight Per Cent Of Attack Team

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Do Excellent Job In Their Major Roles

7-10-44

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES — (SNS) — American Negro soldiers, now constituting nine per cent of U. S. troops in Normandy, are contributing generously to the Allied effort, the War Department announced Tuesday. Before D-Day, troops of color made up eight per cent of the Americans Forces in the European Theater of Operations.

True to the indominable spirit of the American soldier, Negro fighting men are doing an excellent job in the many operational phases assigned to them.

Major General Cecil R. Moore, Chief Engineer, European Theater of Operations, recently stated that Negro soldiers have played a major role during the past two years in the accomplishment of Engineer tasks, especially in the Aviation Engineer battalions.

General Moore said that men of a battalion had volunteered their free time for six weeks in order to expedite special programs of construction.

Dump truck companies, general service regiments, and Ordnance units are performing most commendable service. The Ordnance Department has reported that more than half the total troops handling ammunition are Negro soldiers, and they are doing an efficient job.

An Engineer fire fighting company is credited with saving millions of dollars worth of such vital supplies as gasoline, paint, lumber and other stocks in depots of the United Kingdom. 7-10-44

There are two Negro Signal Construction Battalions in Normandy that have attracted praise from all who have inspected signal installations there. These units did a grand job of rehabilitating German communication lines and instruments for our use, and, in the process, captured a number of prisoners.

OF MEN AND WAR

Tribune—Washington, D.C.

By MORRIS L. MURRAY, U.S.A.

(Editor's Note: The following article is the second of a series based in letters of Morris L. Murray, former Washington Tribune employeee, now somewhere with the United States Army in Italy, to his father, F. Morris Murray; his aunt, Mrs. Ethel Murray, presently connected with The Tribune. The articles contain anecdotes, funny incidents, and other information about a soldier's life which make interesting reading.) 7-22-44

Miss Lena Horne has done more for the Negro race overseas than the 99th Pursuit Squadron or any other fighting outfit, as far as race relations are concerned. We over here think of her in terms of being the "Cordell Hull" of the race. Without a doubt, she is one of the most popular women in the world. No other Negro personality has attained the respect, admiration and popularity that is Miss Hornes' in so many parts of the world.

Lena Hornes' name is a by-word among G-I's. She's more than a pin-up girl to American soldiers, both white and colored. Lena represents a certain "sweetness" of American womanhood that touches the hearts of America's soldiers all over the world.

The three most popular pin-ups overseas are Betty Grable, Chili Williams, and Lena Horne. You find the pictures of these three American beauties everywhere, even in Italian restaurants and shop windows. The most popular pin-up of Miss Horne is the full-pager published sometime ago by Esquire. Pushing this picture is the one published in Coronet, showing just the face of Lena, throwing that heart-warming smile, that has endeared her in the hearts of America's fighting men. 7-22-44

Contrary to opinion back home, Lena Horne's popularity far exceeds that of Miss Hazel Scott here in Italy. Hazel is very popular around Negro soldier centers, and now and then one will spot her photo among other units; but this is not so with Miss Horne. Her picture is everywhere. On jeeps, two-tonners, dump trucks, and I have even seen it on a tank destroyer, headed to blast the Jerries to hell and back.

When not in the lines, the average G-I in this theatre of operations sees three movies weekly. They are mostly musical comedies and practically all of them feature Lena Horne. When she appears on the screen the audience goes into howls. The soldiers scream out compliments that run from out-and-out proposals to "My God, ain't she a gorgeous creature?"

Yes, Miss Lena Horne is a "gorgeous creature." But more than that, we over here regard her as an international representative of the loveliest sepia beauties in America. Miss Horne is not regarded by the American Army as a "colored actress," but as one of the loveliest and talented

He is Pvt. Joseph Spears, of Mobile, Ala.

"All the medics in our outfit had been killed, Pvt. Spears said. "I was crawling toward my lieutenant to try to drag him back to cover when I was hit in the right shoulder.

"The lieutenant was killed," he stated. "but I was able to crawl back to cover and was saved."

8-25-44

Negro Forces Total 700,000 Of Which 5,000 Are Officers

Courier-Journal

8-8-44

Somewhere In France, Aug. 7 (AP)—Brig. Gen. Oliver Davis, only Negro general in the U. S. Army, told war correspondents today there are 700,000 Negro troops in the United States forces, with approximately 5,000 commissioned officers, and that he was looking to the day when there would be at least 10,000 Negro officers.

Commenting on racial differences, General Davis said, "When I was wounded on Bougainville in the Solomons while attempting to rescue his lieutenant under fire is years ago recovering from injuries at Finney get along General hospital, Army medical but now establishment here.

Negro Soldier Wounded In Rescue Attempt

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Aug. 24. (AP)—A Negro infantry soldier who was wounded on Bougainville in the Solomons while attempting to rescue his lieutenant under fire is recovering from injuries at Finney General hospital, Army medical establishment here.

And None Have Done More For War Effort

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

7-13-44

Some of our war wounded will ride in comfort in this new field ambulance, the gift of 76 physically handicapped school children of the Nation's Capital. Although restricted to crutches and wheel chairs and forced to receive school instruction at home or in district hospitals, the little shut-ins insisted on doing what they could for the war effort. The ambulance, purchased with $2,022 in war savings, was presented to the Army at appropriate ceremonies last week in the Freedmen's Hospital annex.—(Official Treasury photo by Harris & Ewing.) 7.13.44

Our Troops Do Over Half Ordnance Job

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

8-1-44

HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS — In supplying the fabulous amount of ammunition needed by our fighting units, Negro Ordnance troops are handling considerably more than half the total Ordnance job in the European Theater of Operations, the War Department announced today.

Trained for technical duties in Ordnance Supply, these troops also are doing their part in the combat zone as well as at the many base supply units in the United Kingdom. They are serving under their own non-commissioned officers and, in many cases, under Negro officers who have earned commissions in the U. S. Army Ordnance Department. 8-1-44

"These troops are performing very efficiently both here and on the continent," according to Lieutenant Colonel John B. Goodell, Chief of Ammunition Supply in the office of Major General Henry B. Sayler, Chief Ordnance Officer. "They have been with us a long while and we are proud of their work on this important and exacting task of ammunition supply," he added. 8-1-44

Another Ordnance function at which Negro troops are serving in the ETO is the supply of vehicles, including tanks, armored cars and trucks of all types which Ordnance must bring forward in a never-ending stream to replace combat losses. Negro troops on the continent maintain an uninterrupted flow of the machines needed by our fighting forces.

Soldier Gives Life To Save Isolated Artillery Unit

Register - San Antonio, Tex.

3-17-44

By The Associated Negro Press

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The story of how a colored soldier died in the mountains of Italy to help save an isolated American artillery unit from annihilation was told to 18,000 people at Madison Square Garden during a Red Cross War fund rally last week.

The account, given by George W. Goodman, an overseas director of the Red Cross, was one of the dramatic high lights of the enthusiastic war-spirited meeting.

An American unit, somewhere in the tortuous mountain front of Italy, faced massacre. Unless it could lay down a continuous barrage of shells against the Nazis, superior in number, they were certain to advance. The unit was desperately in need of shells.

Word had been sent by the commanding officer that a convoy of shells had to get through to the unit in a hurry or the infantry would surely be overwhelmed.

"At 4:30 as the day began to break, officers standing anxiously outside of headquarters scanning the moutain road saw a truck lurch into sight, swaying from side to side as if out of control," Goodman said. "Then appeared the second, the third, the fourth and the fifth. They were all coming like mad, but the one in front held the officers spellbound. 3-17-44

"But in a few seconds, this leading truck swung into the clearing and jolted to a stop. A huge Negro soldier threw himself from behind the wheel, saluted the colonel with a broad smile, and said, 'Am I on time, colonel?' But before the colonel could reply, the Negro toppled over dead.

"As they rolled him over they found that the left side of the man's body was riddled with machine gun bullets; that his left arm had been practically torn from the socket. The soldier had tied a piece of rope about his arm and lashed it to his body. 3-17-44

"As the colonel inquired of the dead soldier's convoy comrades what had happened, they continued to unload the shells with tears in their eyes, and all that any of them could be induced to say was 'We had a helluva time getting through those Jerries, but he led, and we had to follow.'"

Ike Commends Negro Troops

Tribune - 7-31-44

Atlanta Daily World

ADVANCED COMMAND POST, SHAEF, July 30.— (AP) — Negro troops of an antiaircraft balloon battery and a quartermaster truck company today drew official commendation from Gen. Eisenhower for their work in Normandy since D-Day.

"Your battalion landed in France June 6 under artillery, machinegun and rifle fire," Eisenhower said in a citation to the troops. 7-31-44

"Despite the losses sustained, the battalion carried out its mission with courage and determination and proved an important element of the air defense team. The cheerfulness and devotion of its officers and men have been commented on by personnel of other units. This report is most gratifying to me. I commend you and the officers and men of your battalion for your fine efforts which have merited the praise of all who have observed it."

Eisenhower spoke to the quartermaster company of its landings against intense enemy opposition, and said: 7-31-44

"Nevertheless you salvaged most of your equipment at once and within three days 90 per cent of your vehicles were operating on a 24-hour basis, a scale which was maintained for five weeks. I want you to know that I appreciate your splendid work."

Bishop Gregg Ends Tour of War Fronts

Bee - Chicago, Ill.

2-20-44

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. — (ANP) — After returning from a 50,000 air-mile trip Sunday, Bishop John A. Gregg, whose tour of battle fronts has included all except Russia, reported that colored troops are everywhere and that he is proud of their fine record.

Bishop Gregg, who has probably covered more air-miles than any other member of the cloth, was appointed by President Roosevelt to visit the various war fronts upon the recommendation of the Fraternal Council of Churches, which represents approximately 5,000,000 members.

SOLDIERS PRAISE BISHOP

Praised by the soldiers for his cheerfulness, who also marvel at his endurance, the noted A.N.E. prelate discovered that his wide experience and extensive traveling were a great asset when he made his first tour in the Pacific war area. He scored hits with the boys by his remarkable memory of particular places in cities like Kansas City, Memphis, Atlanta, Cleveland, Indianapolis, New York, Chicago and Detroit. 2-20-44

Dubbed as the "flying bishop" and "daddy" by the soldiers, Bishop Gregg showed a determination to visit them wherever they were, willingly penetrating the jungles of India, enduring the hot African sun and the Italian mud to have a chat with the boys, hear their grievances and take messages back home.

"I am proud of their fine record in this global war for they are everywhere, he said, as he expressed gratitude to President Roosevelt and the Fraternal Council of Churches for making his tour possible.

Guard Lauded By Gen. Hayes As Camp Ends

Washington, D.C. Post

Fort George G. Meade, Md., Aug. 1 (AP).—The Maryland State Guard comprised of Baltimore one of the nation's best State guard broke its 10-day encampment at Negroes and led by Capt. William Brady, had won the Dwight H. this Army post today, drew its pay trophy for the best-kept and started for home. 8-2-44 Mohr "What you are doing here will quarters and kitchens in the en- not win the war," General Hayes campment. told the guardsmen, "but what you Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, Third may not do here might help lose Service Command head, reviewed General Hayes paid tribute to the war. . . If disaster comes later, the guardsmen yesterday as it was General Mohr, guard because of your training here you announced that the eleventh bat- commander, whom he described as will be the better able to cope talion, commanding officers. 8-2-44 with it."

47n-1944

DUMBARTON OAKS PARLEY GETS UNDER WAY

Undersecretary of State Edward R. Stettinius greets Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, area specialist, division of international organization and security, State Department, as he arrives at the historical peace parley now under way at Dumbarton Oaks in the Washington suburb of Georgetown where the three powers—Soviet Russia, Great Britain and the United States—met to explore a lasting system of organized and peaceful relations among nations. Dr. Bunche is serving as a member of the American technical staff. Looking on are Special Assistant to the Secretary of State Leo Pasvolsky, Joseph C. Grew, former ambassador to Japan, and Venice Tipton Spraggs, Chicago Defender Washington staff correspondent

Dumbarton Oaks Parley Seeks Peace Formula In Historic Virginia Setting

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—Reports coming out of the informal peace discussions now moving into the second week out at the Dumbarton Oaks estate, in historic Georgetown, indicate a general accord and unanimity of thinking among the three powers surprising even to the most optimistic observers.

Delegates to the Dumbarton Oaks conference, coming from Soviet Russia, Great Britain and the United States, are trying to discover how a lasting system of organized and peaceful relations among nations may be established.

At the request of the Soviet government which is not at war with Japan, China is not sitting in on this first phase of the conference, but will hold a separate series of talks with the American and British delegates when Russia bows out of the picture.

Hope For Agreement

It is expected that agreement in this first phase of the parley on the broad principles for international peace and security will be reached shortly. Earlier doubts as to whether these great nations could see eye-to-eye on a formula have apparently been abandoned.

The setting for the historic meeting is one of the 18th century charm. A cordon of military police thrown around the place, with pistols dangling from their sides, brings it up to date.

Secretary of State Cordell Hull began the parley droning away over the microphone in a scarcely audible drawl: "The principle of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving states irrespective of size and strength as partners in a system of order under law must constitute the foundation of any future international organization for the maintenance of peace and security."

His words conjured up shades of a former resident of Dumbarton Oaks, John C. Calhoun, who more than 130 years ago during his term of office as Secretary of War, Vice President, and Senator from South Carolina, lived here through courtesy of his brother, James. This avid proponent of slavery nursed a fanatic belief in sovereign equality also. He believed that the right of the state should take precedence over the Union, exercising the right to nullify any act of Congress it chose. His was a belief in sovereignty which led to slavery and oppression of Negroes.

Mr. Hull was talking about a sovereignty which leads to freedom. A freedom in which such Negro countries, members of the United Nations, as Ethiopia, Liberia, and Haiti might share.

Russian Delegation Youngish

A seventeenth century chimney-piece, taken from the castle of Theobon at Loubes-Bernaicin, France, formed an imposing frame for the Russian delegation. Although youngish in appearance, they are capable. The genial smile of the young Red army general was a contrast to the determined faces of some of the others. As Ambassador Andrei A. Gromyko, leader of the group, began his speech, their expressions became immobile.

He warned, "In order to maintain peace and security, it is not enough to have a mere desire to harness aggressors and the desire to apply force against him if it should be demanded by circumstances. In order to guarantee peace and security it is absolutely necessary to have resources with aid of which aggression could be prevented or suppressed and international order maintained."

The swishings of the huge Dumbarton Oak broke the momentary silence. The MP guarding the door unconsciously adjusted his holster.

Sir Alexander Cadogan, permanent British Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, heading the British delegation recruited from the "humble official level" took over at this point treading on a middle ground between Mr. Hull's advocacy of justice and right of the small powers and Ambassador Gromyko's emphasis on the responsibility of the great powers.

The conference is expected to last for three weeks.

Bunche On Technical Staff

Under Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius is heading the American delegation. Dr. Ralph J. Bunche area specialist, division of international security and organization, State Department, the only Negro participating in the conference, is serving as a member of the American technical staff. He will give expert advice on broad territorial problems and dependent territories generally, including African, Pacific and Carribean. Dr. Bunche, a resident of Washington, is a former Howard university professor.

The scene of the epoch-making conference is one of the largest Georgian estates remaining within the District of Columbia. It is used at present by Harvard university as an almost monastic retreat for scholars in early Christian, mediaeval, and Byzantine research, having been given to the university along with the transfer of 16 acres of land and about 18,000 research volumes by its former owners, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bliss.

Ancient Setting

The room in which the meeting is being held has a beamed ceiling brought from the Chateau de Chimery. Five red Verona marble arches lead into the garden. An Italian cassone of the fifteenth century with Pastiglia panels, and an immense sacristy cupboard from the villa at Caprola, near Rone, constitute the major pieces of furniture.

Benches covered with the original heraldic velvet coverings from the Cathedral of Zamora in Spain flank the walls. Most of the paintings have been removed for the conference, but several remained on the walls between the arches. Ancient candelabra are placed intermittently.

A stone statue of the Madonna and Child by Reimenschneider, and a wooden polychrome figure of the Madonna were bits of statuary remaining. Silver brocaded drapes fringed in soft rose and moss green framed the high windows.

The exterior of the stately mansion is adorned with carved stone ornaments, classic cornices and crowning pediments. It has a double-pitched roof. The gently sloping knolls have been landscaped to form a picturesque period background.

Built In 1801

An orangery, a brook with miniature waterfalls, and orchard and a pew walk are on the estate. It has a tennis court and a private swimming pool. A waterwheel, and millstone stables and caretaker's house complete the illusion of a self-contained estate of a century or more ago.

The house, built in 1801, takes its name from the Rock of Dumbarton on the Clyde in Scotland which was the place of origin of the first owner of the new-world property, Ninian Beall. Beall obtained the estate by Royal grant in 1700. The name Oaks was given it by Henry Fitch Blount who bought it in 1891. It was rechristened the name Dumbarton Oaks in 1920.

As far as could be ascertained, the present conference on International Organization is the first major meeting to convene there.

The Army's "No Segregation Order"
A War Department order has just put an end to the most insulting, outrageous and unjustifiable policy that any Government other than Germany has practiced against its own nationals and defenders. The order, issued July 8, forbids any discrimination or segregation, based on color or race, in Post Exchanges, transportation facilities and Army theatres or places of amusement located in Army camps.

Although we are pleased by the War Department's order we are not satisfied, as the "no-segregation order" has not gone far enough. All forms of differences based upon color must be eliminated. Separate units for Negroes must go, and Negroes in the armed forces must be protected against injustice and abuse from Southern civilians. Negroes have been trained for officers with whites in training camps all over the country without incident Negro enlisted men can serve with equal harmony alongside white enlisted men if the Government only has the will and the courage to make the "order." THIS IS THE JOB AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

* * *

The Army and Federal Government has also remained silent when Southern civilians have been guilty of every kind of insult and atrocity against Negro soldiers . . . from segregation to murder. The Federal Government may be barred by States' Rights from directly changing local laws and practices, but it can use the powerful weapon of declaring "out of bounds" for soldiers, any district or community that segregates or otherwise abuses Negro troops. All these communities near camps are more or less financially dependent upon soldiers' trade.

9-9-44 * * *

The Government's excuse for segregation in the Army has been that it cannot, in the midst of a war, revolutionize the opinions and convictions of people and it must therefore conform Army camp practices and policies to local prejudices and hates.

* * *

The Courier has contended against the cowardice, injustice and absurdity of this attitude. It has been ridiculous for the United States Government to say that it has the power to force Negroes to bear arms, take them from their homes and camp them in the South, but is powerless to protect them from the prejudice of their fellow white soldiers, over whom the Government also has the power of life and death. Instead of conforming to Southern prejudices the Federal Government must not only force the Army but Southern communities in vicinities of camps to conform to justice and fair play to Negro soldiers.

* * *

If the Army were to take a forthright position on behalf of Negro troops, envision its effect on the Negro problem throughout the Nation, by intermingling 800,000 Negroes with 10,000,000 whites on the basis of the individual rather than by race, the Army could serve as the greatest medium in abating race prejudice.

9-9-44 * * *

Many public officials throughout America have a justifiable fear of increased racial prejudice after the war. It happened after the last war, and this increased racial hate can, in a measure, be attributed to the prejudices engendered by Army practices. Tens of thousands of men and women who knew little or nothing of segregation and race prejudice were perverted to accepting them by the Army. Segregation was practiced even in Army camps located in States where State laws protected civilians from segregation. This is true of Camp Dix, located in New Jersey. The Federal Government, through the Army, was extending jim crow into communities that were attempting to free themselves from its curse.

* * *

It is beyond dispute that the Armed forces have been a greater propagator of prejudice than any other agency in this country. Everywhere our Armed forces go they carry their color hates and prejudice and disseminate them among the people. In Australia, England, Hawaii and France, American soldiers and sailors have carried the torch of color hate and intolerance. In every land they have touched, prejudice against Negroes has increased. The eminent position America has gained in world affairs has been used to reduce the status of American Negroes and darker people the world over. These malicious practices can also be stopped if the Federal Government would vigorously penalize the offenders.

* * *

If the Federal Government does nothing to supplement the present "no-segregation order" it will rightly be suspected of playing politics rather than being motivated by justice and fairness. The order was issued July 8th, just two weeks after the Republican National platform had declared for an investigation of prejudicial practices against Negroes in the armed forces. All prejudice against Negroes in the armed forces must be wiped out if an investigation is to be forestalled, and if the present Government is to receive political benefits for magnanimity.

9-9-44 * * *

Negroes are aware that the most hurtful and insidious forms of prejudice and segregation are those carrying the label of their government. If your own Government classifies you as inferior, it is a potent example for the private individual, industry and foreign peoples.

* * *

Negroes must fight unrelentingly every form of Governmental prejudice. We must demand without compromise absolute equality for Negroes in the Armed services. We must gain for them all the dignity and prerogatives their sacrifices and services warrant.

* * *

Robert Ingersoll said that, "A flag that won't protect its protectors is a dirty rag that contaminates the air in which it waves." Fight to save your country from this accusation.

Dumbarton Oaks Aims Discussed

N.Y. Amsterdam News N.Y. 11-18-44

Council on African Affairs Issues Statement in Effort To Shed More Light on Meet

In an effort to shed further light on the Dumbarton Oaks Conference regarding the race problem and the future of the colonial peoples, the Council on African Affairs this week declared that the conferences were concerned not with principles but with international machinery for establishing and implementing principles.

The Council on African Affairs is led by Paul Robeson, chairman; Max Yergan, executive director, and W. A. Hunton, educational director. The statement, which was first published in the Council's journal, "New Africa," said in part:

The Council's Statement

"Sharply critical observations on the Dumbarton Oaks plan for a United Nations organization to maintain peace and security have been voiced by several Negro commentators and newspapers because of the plan's failure to affirm the principle of racial equality and its lack of reference to colonial representation in the assembly of nations or to the question of dependent peoples in general.

"The Council on Africa Affiairs deplores these omissions as much as anyone. But we most certainly do not agree with those who, on that basis alone, regard the cause of democracy as lost and see the proposed organization as an instrument for the perpetuation of imperialism and the colonial system.

"In the first place, the Dumbarton Oaks conference was a meeting not of top-ranking officials to establish principles, but rather of government technicians to frame **international machinery for establishing and implementing principles.** The conferees did not define an aggressor nation, but they proposed a Security Council to prevent aggression. And while they did not refer specifically to imperialist exploitation or racial discrimination, they **did** recommend an Economic and Social Council, made up of representatives of 18 elected nations from the Assembly, to "facilitate solutions of international economic, social and other humanitarian problems and promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"Secondly, as Secretary Cordell Hull has emphasized, "the proposals in their present form are neither complete nor final." They will be further developed before being placed before the United Nations Conference for full consideration. And at that time, not only China, but Ethiopia, Liberia, Haiti and the democratic Latin American countries will have opportunity to present recommendations for insuring the world organization's effective action on the problems of imperialism and racialism."—m.

47n-1944

Fisk Host To Global Post-War Conference

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa 12-1-44

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—In an effort to educate youth for participation in the activities of a post-war world community, Fisk university will assemble on its campus, April 19-22, prominent speakers and artists from different areas of the globe who will take part in the various seminars and performances during the Spring Musical Festival, it was announced here recently by Harold C. Schmidt, director of the Department of Music.

There will be representatives from China, India, the Pacific Islands, Europe, Africa, the Caribbean Sea, South America as well as the United States.

ROLAND HAYES FEATURED

A significant feature of the festival celebrations will be Roland Hayes, artist of pre-eminent international reputation as a tenor, who will perform a concert.

His Excellency the Haitian Ambassador to the United States, Andre Liataud, and Dr. Hu Shih, a former Chinese ambassador, are two of the distinguished visitors who will speak and lead in seminar discussions on world affairs during the festival week.

TWO-DAY SEMINAR

As part of the study of the "symphony of world cultures," there will also be a two-day seminar discussion on the subject of "Missions and the Socialization of Non-European Peoples."

Leaders in these discussions are Dr. Edwin W. Smith, former president of the Royal Anthropological institute of Great Britain and Ireland, and at present Special Consultant and Lecturer at the Fisk University Institute of African Studies; Miss Fatima Massaquoi, a Vai from the Republic of Liberia; Ramokoena Motsi, a Bechuana from South Africa; Dr. Emory Ross, executive secretary of the International Missionary Association on Africa, and Dr. Hugh Stuntz, president of Scarritt college.

HONOR MEMORY OF DR. PARK

Dr. Charles S. Johnson, professor of sociology and director of the Department of Social Sciences at Fisk, will read a posthumous paper by the late Dr. Robert E. Park, the great American sociologist, on the role of Christian missions in the building of a common world culture and civilization.

Art as a cultural element in the world community, illustrated by music and film, will be presented by Colin McPhee, noted American artist, who has devoted many years to a study of the cultures, music, arts, and dances of the Pacific Islands and also of the civilization of India and China.

Lilavati, celebrated film star and dancer from India, will perform a concert, accompanied by a drummer. Mr. McPhee will narrate and interpret the performance.

Dumbarton Oaks

Weekly Review — Birmingham, Ala. 12-30-44

What happened at Dumbarton Oaks? Men met there and talked about the problem of world peace. They represented the United States, Great Britain, Russia and China. They agreed on many points.

What is the main point? That all the peace-loving nations shall take part in an organization called the United Nations, with one delegate from each country. All the delegates will be on the General Assembly. Eleven of them will be on the Security Council. The delegates from the United States, Great Britian, Russia, China and France will always be on the Council. The others will take turns. The Assembly will discuss things and give advice, but the Council will really have the say.

12-30-44

What will the Council do? Whatever it thinks must be done to keep a war from starting. When two or more countries get into a dispute, the Council will do its best to get them to settle the dispute without fighting. If that doesn't work the Council will decide which country is a fault and will try to make it behave by not letting trains or ships or airplanes or mail enter it from the outside, or leave it; and by other measures of that kind. If still it doesn't work, the Council will then use armed forces to make the country that is trying to start a fight—or has started one— back down. Since the Council will have behind it the forces of many nations, the idea is that no one country, or even two or three, will ever be strong enough to get a big war started.

Will the Council have its own armed forces? No. It will be permitted to use the armed forces of the various countries, the ones that are handist when they are needed.

Were other points agreed upon? Many. For instance, the Council and the Assembly can deal with things like election of new members, size of armies and navies and air forces, general welfare world trade, and so on. But the main idea is to prevent war.

Will all nations have equal power? No. The bigger nations, for instance, will always be on the Council. They haven't decided just how the voting will be done, but they intend to let the big nations have more say-so.

12-30-44

Must we take it or leave it? No. Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin will probably talk it over and agree on points not yet decided. Then there will be a meeting of all the United Nations where everybody will talk, and out that will come the final agreement with all points covered. Then each country will discuss it — in our case, our Congress will do the discussing, and will decide for us whether we want to join in this effort to prevent wars. And as time goes on it will always be possible to make changes, just as we have made changes in our own Constitution.

Is this to prevent wars? Not necessarily. But if we really mean it when we say we want no more wars, here is our chance to make a real start on a set-up that will get us what we want if we work at it.

African Council Replies To Dumbarton's Critics

People's Voice — New York Pa. 12-30-44

In a letter to the editor of the "Amsterdam News," which he made public last week, Dr. W. A. Hunton, Educational Director of the Council on African Affairs, severely criticized a series of accounts of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference carried in that paper, including one over the signature of A. M. Malliet. He charged the array of false and unauthenticated assertions and numerous baseless opinions of unnamed 'observers,' all of which represent not merely dishonest and publicly harmful journalism but vicious and dangerous Hitlerite propaganda."

Dr. Hunton said, "From no one else except Herr Goebbels and those in this country who echo him will one hear the *Amsterdam News'* interpretations of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference as "a confab to divide the spoils of the war."

The letter concluded: "Is the *Amsterdam News* for international unity? If so, it should provide honest news on international affairs. To aid the cause of the colonial peoples it is necessary to strengthen, not disrupt, unity among the nations of the world."

Further developing the line of thought set forth in Dr. Hunton's letter, an editorial in the November issue of *New Africa*, official organ of the Council on African Affairs states that the Dumbarton Oaks proposals are neither complete nor final, adding:

11-11-44

"They will be further developed before being placed before the United Nations conference for full consideration. At that time not only China, but Ethiopia, Liberia, Haiti, and the democratic Latin American countries will have opportunity to present recommendations for insuring the world organization's effective program on the problems of imperialism and racialism."

Asserts Negroes Lethargic About Peace Table Spot

Memphis World

Writer Doubts Negro Will Be In Delegation

11-24-44

Tenn.

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Unless the "current and abiding state of lethargy among American Negroes" is quickly shaken, what passes for a clamor for a voice at the peace table will "go unrecognized, not to mention unhonored."

This is the view set forth by Ernest E. Johnson, Washington correspondent for the Associated Negro Press, in the lead article in the November Crisis titled "A Voice at the Peace Table?" Johnson pooh-poohs the idea that a Negro may be included on the American delegation but places within the realm of possibility the assignment of a few technicians to the delegation.

Whereas Haiti, Ethiopia, and Liberia, all black nations, will be represented at the peace table, the writer claims that "among them there has been no exchange of views nor collaboration" on the matter of expressing the viewpoint of colored peoples of the world.

11-24-44

In this same issue of Crisis appear two other provocative articles on foreign affairs, one by Max L. Hudicourt, called "Jim Crows Menaces Haiti", and the other by George Padmore, London correspondent, titled "Anglo-American Plan for Control of Colonies."

150 Leaders Petition FDR

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-30-44

NEW YORK—A petition signed by 150 prominent Negro and white citizens was sent to President Roosevelt and the State Department, urging that in the further development of the Dumbarton Oaks plans, this Government press for the United Nations' adherence to "essential undertakings and principles" which would enable the hundreds of millions of people throughout Africa and other dependent areas to "play their full part in a system of world-wide democracy and prosperity."

The statement was prepared and forwarded to Government officials by the Council on African Affairs in New York.

12-30-44

The signers of the statement represented a cross-section of American cities, and included Prof. Robert Dale Woolbert, Dr. Arthur Upham Pope, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Arthur B. Spingarn, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Dr. H. A. Wieschhoff, Roscoe Dungee, Congressman-elect Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

Other signers were Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Max Porlow, Dr. Alain Locke, Fannie Hurst, Prof. Henry Pratt Fairchild, Henry Epstein, Theodore Dreiser, Blair Boles, Dr. Gene Weltfish and officers of the Council on African Affairs, Paul Robeson, Dr. Wm. Jay Schieffelin and Max Yergan.

Representatives of the legal profession signing the statement included Judge Anna M. Kross, Judge Charles E. Toney, Dean William H. Hastie, Charles H. Houston, Raymond Pace Alexander and Earl B. Dickerson.

12-30-44

Christian Asso- clinic in Harlem. eH said that the 144 West 138th problem was further complicated by the fact that there are fewer Social Agencies, than six Negro psychologists in Welfare Council the country and that there are no funds or scholarships available to at many Negro train more.

The meeting, sponsored by fifty- four social health, educational and mental hygiene welfare organizations serving Har-

the Young Men's ciation auditorium, 144 Street, to members of Harlem Council of Soc- executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York, de- Planning out that many Negro veterans suffering from

ing a Problem After War

Mr. Lewis

HELP FOR NEGROES URGED

Returning Troops Seen as Cads

N. Y.

cared last night in an address at plored the lack of a men

lem ,was also addressed by Mrs. Ethel Ginsburg, assistant director of the Veterans Service Center at 10 East Fortieth Street .

WORLD VIEW

Chicago Defender 11

By JOHN ROBERT BADGER

11-25-44

Critics of Dumbarton Oaks Chicago, Ill.

"PASS THE 'POSSUM," said the Reverend Johnson, reaching for his fourth helping. And the amazed guests began to realize that while they had been chattering about the new church building, the parson had attended strictly to the principal business at hand.

The good Reverend Johnson's wisdom might be used with profit by many a newspaper commentator, including those oracles of the Negro press who think it smart to damn everything which doesn't have a "For Colored" label on it. Specifically, the present critics of the Dumbarton Oaks conference might more profitably attend to "first things first." 11-25-44

The business at hand at Dumbarton Oaks was NOT colonies, nor questions of race or color. It is true that the Chinese attempted to get a proposal for racial equality on the agenda. It is also true that the Soviets considered defining "aggression" so as to include the persecution of national minorities. I do not know if the Soviet representative ever actually articulated this view or sought to have it inculcated in the official declaration. But, in any event, the conferees decided to concentrate on the more urgent and pressing business, namely that of projecting an organization that could and would keep the peace, by force if necessary.

Foundation for Other Things 11-25-44

WHO DARES to argue that this is not number one business for Negro-America as well as for all other people? It ought to be elementary for a schoolboy that unless peace can be maintained, there is slight chance of eradicating racial and color prejudices, or of abandoning colonialism.

Those who howl because the conferees didn't spend their time arguing about colonialism, when they had not reached agreement on the number one business before the world, are merely running off at the mouth. An agreement to observe racial equality, signed, sealed, gold-embossed, gilt-edged and framed in platinum, wouldn't be worth a Confederate dollar bill if there were no agreement to keep the peace.

Given an agreement and an effective organization to prevent a recurrence of the Japanese rape of Manchuria, the Italian conquest of Ethiopia, the German and Italian intervention in Spain, the German seizure of Austria and Czechoslovakia — given this foundation, mankind can then begin to tackle the other questions that cause misery to so many millions.

How Colonialism Will Go

A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE approach to the question would impel Negro observers to think realistically about the question of colonialism, and to use their influence in support of those trends and forces which can and will effect progressive changes in the colonies. I think it should not pass notice that Wendell Malliet of the New York Amsterdam News and other critics of the Dumbarton conferences were on the Thomas E. Dewey bandwagon. In other words, the critics of Dumbarton Oaks were allied with the worst enemies of any kind of agreement between the four big powers, as well as with the most irresponsible purveyors of racial hatred during the recent campaign.

Given a long period of peace, the backbone of colonialism will be broken. During such a peaceful period the great industrial colonial powers will require ever-expanding markets. They will be forced to expand the markets of colonial countries. That means they will have to industrialize those countries, so as to raise the living standards of the colonial peoples. This industrializing process will necessitate a democratizing, educating process in the colonies. First things first: peace, then industrialization, then education and self-rule. That is the course history will take, according both to past experience and present indications.

1326 Leaders Petition for International Rights Bill

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

12-16-44

NEW YORK. — Thirty-two colored leaders are among the 1,326 signers of a statement issued by the American Jewish Committee urging an international bill of rights to serve as a post-war guarantee of religious and individual rights for all persons throughout the world just as the American Bill of Rights is a guarantee of individual liberties for Americans.

Approved by President Roosevelt and signed by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, Supreme Court Justices Owen J. Roberts and Frank Murphy, the declaration was made public by Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, presdient of the committee, on the 153rd anniversary of the ratification of the American Bill of Rights.

It callsf or the recognition of the individual human being "as the cornerstone of our culture and civilization" and the establishment of the "new world" on the basis of the "dignity and inviolability of the person."

Labor, Business Leaders

The list of signers of the Declaration, representing a cross-section of American life, indicates the unanimity of American opinion in behalf of a world organization guaranteeing the individual rights of man by an international bill of rights.

12-16-44

Among the signers are 172 high public officials, including representative governors, mayors and members of Congress, and 348 churchmen of all faiths, including 36 bishops of the Episcopal, Catholic and Methodist churches.

Labor leaders like William Green, AFL president, and Philip Murray, CIO president, are joined in support of the declaration by Eric A. Johnston, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Robert Gaylord, president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

Among Colored Signers

Colored leaders signing the declaration include:

Eugene A. Clark, Washington; Miles W. Connor, Baltimore; E. Franklin Frazier, Washington; Lester Granger, New York; Leslie P. Hill, Cheyney, Pa.; Langston Hughes, New York; Dr. Noma Jensen, New York; Canada Lee, New York; Edward S. Lewis, York York;

12-16-44

Dr. Alain Locke, Washington; Dr. Adam C. Powell, Jr., Sidney Redmond, New York; J. W. Seabrook, Fayetteville, N.C.; Channing Tobias, New York; W. J. Trent, Salisbury, N.C.; Dr. Louis T. Wright, New York.

Sees Peace Table Seat Being Lost by Default

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK (ANP) — Unless the "current and abiding state of lethargy among colored Americans" is quickly shaken, what passes for a clamor for a voice at the peace table will "go unrecognized, not to mention unhonored," 11-25-44

This is the view set forth by Ernest E. Johnson, ANP Washington correspondent, in the November Crisis. Johnson poohpoohs the idea that a colored person may be included on the American delegation but places within the realm of possibility the assignment of a few technicians. 11-25-44

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Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

Negro Women Attend Post-War Meet In D.C.

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

12-23-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Negro women served as spokesmen for three organizations among a total of 31 national organizations attending a conference on post-war adjustments of women workers, under auspices of the Women's Bureau, United States Department of Labor, this month. The Negro spokesmen included: Mrs. Anne Arnold Hedgeman, representing the United Council of Church Women; Mrs. Jenetta Welch Brown of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc.; and Miss Helen Hosstetter, who represented the National Association of Colored Women.

Miss Frieda S. Miller, chief of the Womens' Bureau, presided, and called attention to the increased employment of women in industry, from a little more than 13 million in March of 1940 to a total of 16,880,000 in March of 1944, an increase of more than 3,000,000 women in the labor force in four years.

Afro-American Balt., Md.

Dumbarton Oaks Plan Defended

11-11-44

NEW YORK. — In an editorial in the November issue of "New Africa," the Council on African Affairs, headed by Paul Robeson and Max Yergan, denies that the Dumbarton Oaks agreement evades the problems of imperialism and racial discrimination.

Recalling Secretary of State Hull's statement that the proposals are neither complete nor final, the editorial points out that the conferees were not concerned with principles but the "international machinery for establishing and implementing principles."

Council Proposed

Instead, it says, they did recommend an economic and social council to "facilitate solutions of international economic, social and other humanitarian problems and promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Admitting that it deplores the omissions, the council declares that it considers the 90 per cent agreement of the four powers as "the keystone of international cooperation for achieving world democracy.

Asserts Negroes Lethargic About Peace Table Spot

Atlanta Daily World

Writer Doubts Negro Will Be In Delegation

Atlanta, Ga.

11-24-44

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Unless the "current and abiding state of lethargy among American Negroes" is quickly shaken, what passes for a clamor for a voice at the peace table will "go unrecognized, not to mention unhonored."

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47n-1944

POST-WAR FASHIONS?

Racial Equality Called Major Issue After War

St. Louis Argus—Missouri

Roger N. Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union, New York City, told an audience at the Wheatley Branch Y. W. last Friday that the issue of racial equalities is the major problem of civil liberties growing out of the war.

Baldwin stated "Contrary to popular assumptions that race differences are inherent, examination of the evidence will show that they're essentially economic. They arise either from the subjection of one race by another or from the competition of one race with another. Racial divisions are maintained for the benefit of the dominant race."

"In American trade unions, despite historic racial discrimination still rife, the more progressive sections are successfully fighting against race discrimination, recognizing the equality in work of all men.

Sees Justce As Obstructed

"But American law in relation to racial fights is founded upon a gross injustice — segregation. The courts have adopted the fiction that separate accommodations satisfy the constitutional requirement if they are equal. But they are never equal, as anyone can testify who has seen a jim crow coach or visited a Negro school or examined the appropriations for Negro schools and the salaries for Negro teachers. 11-17-44

Equality before the law is impossible until the theory and practice of segregation is abolished."

"The job of achieving racial equality is primarily one for the minorites themselves. The ferment in the Negro population during the war represents demands which will not subside at the end of the war. Equality of sacrifice during the war has created a stake in our democracy which must not be denied them —nor will they accept this denial. The Negro asks nothing more than equality before the law. Social equality is to them not an issue. But they refuse to be "kept in their place" in a status inferior to white men in public service, in private employment and in their political and civil rights."

Hypocrisy of Nations

weekly—New Orleans, La. 11-18-44

NOT so long ago, statistics experts set the population of the darker races as constituting approximately three-fourths of the world's population. Of this three-fourths, 400,000,000 were Africans or of African descent, 458,000,000 Chinese; 70,000,000 Japanese and 352,000,000 Indian.

If there is power in force and safety in numbers, we have wondered how this mighty majority became subjected under white rule? But they did, and now the $64 question, which most whites don't even think about, is how a world peace can be planned which will enable all nations and all races to live together as brothers without one infringing upon the rights of another.

The men at the helm of the ship had better start thinking fast and right about what can be done to alleviate the burdens of the darker brother throughout the world. They should have learned by now that to ignore these rights in formulating a world peace can only bring down the wrath of the war gods upon their heads. The case of Haile Selassie, who haunted the corridors of the last League of Nations begging for equal recognition, has made history. He said then that because of their selfishness the big three would again become involved in another world conflict,

11-18-44

in Africa millions of blacks writhe under the
rfdom and complete subjection to greedy whites.
g recently on China, Leslie Balogh Bain said,
er how persistently the Western Allies try to
r faces from the growing crisis in China and pre-
all that ails our Far Eastern ally is that China
out to be a much greater and far more compli-
olem than any thus far encountered in this war.
ver believes that unless China's political tension
ed before the end of hostilities to enable her to
a strong, united nation around whom all Asia
the fermenting forces in China and Indonesia
le within a decade and usher in World War III."
leading nations, it would seem that France, more
has her heart in this "four freedoms" business.
And he was right.
Britain carries out her end of the battle for democracy
emerge as a s
may rally, the
will explode w
Of the lead
than any has

Recently she outlined a program for her African colonies which will do much to better their education, health and elevate the masses to finally rule themselves.

And in the United States, one-tenth of the nation wonders why the slogan "War for Democracy" is still being used when Negro soldiers, sailors and marines are discriminated against in the armed forces while poll taxers and race baiters parade through the country with spreading the disease of race prejudice.

The time is at hand for these nations to decide whether they want a genuine world peace or World War III.

Col. Woodruff Chisum, Commanding Officer 15th Regiment, Explains Status Of Unit

Col. W. Woodruff Chisum, Commanding Officer, 15th Regiment, New York Guard, realizing that there is much confusion in the minds of many people in the community as to the difference in meaning of the organizations which, during the history of the State of New York, have been variously called "The Militia; "The New York Guard"; "The National Guard" and lastly again "The New York Guard," frequently spoken of as "The New York State Guard," has decided to make a determined effort to clarify the issue.

Actually there is no basic difference in any of the organizations which have been designated by those names. They have always been made up of voluntary citizen soldiers of New York State, commencing when it was a colony. There has been a straight line of New York State soldiers, which has always remained unbroken since 1775.

Many individuals are of the opinion that the present State Guard is an organization which is only something over four years old. They believe it dates from the time the National Guard was called into service in 1940. That is definitely incorrect. When the Federal Government, because of the dual oath of the National Guard—which is first given to New York State, and secondly given to the Federal Government—called out the State troops of New York for Federal service, the State Government immediately reformed all of the Guard regiment so that their straight line of State service was never broken. Actually the present 15th New York Guard regiment is the direct descendant of its original unit which was organized in 1917, and it is worthy of note that Col. Chisum served with and during every organizational change from the organization of the regiment.

The defense troops of the original 13 colonies were known as "The Militia" or "The Minutemen." They were voluntary citizen soldiers organized for the defense of their localities, colonies, or later their states. Early in 1900 the "National Guard" came into being. The "National Guard" was and still are State troops who have taken the oath of allegiance to both the Federal and State Governments. For 169 years the New York Guard has been the Military Corps Elite of the United States.

Be smart! Join the Famous Fifteenth Regiment. Register at the Armory, Fifth Avenue and 142nd street, New York City, any evening from 8:00 to 10:00

Army Point System May Keep Negro GI's Overseas

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Negro soldiers serving in non-combat outfits and who have been overseas just as long as, or longer than, combat soldiers will not enjoy the same opportunities for being demobilized, the War department revealed on Thursday.

Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson told his news conference that discharges will be effected upon the basis of a system of points earned through service in combat. The system is one, he said, which developed "in accordance with the feelings of the troops themselves. The man in the combat service has an advantage," he added.

Patterson had been asked how this system will affect men who, without choice, have been required to serve in the service units, who will have spent an equal length of time overseas, and who as a matter of choice would prefer being in a combat organization.

Adjusted Service

"On the adjusted service rating card credit is given for combat service," he stated. "I think it is indicated by the campaign ribbons. That is a reflection of combat service that is clearly credited on the service cards. The man who wins that credit by service in a combat unit gets credit other soldiers do not get."

The War department announced its demobilization plan early in September. First priority in this readjustment program will be the transfer of elements from theaters no longer active to the Pacific war zone, or from the United States to the Pacific war zone.

The plans developed after months of study takes into account all possible variable factors. The plan for the return of non-essential soldiers to civilian life will start with the assembly in the United States of men declared surplus to the needs of each overseas theater and to the major commands in the United States.

Plan Adopted

As part of the plan adopted, an "adjusted service rating card" will be issued to all enlisted personnel after the defeat of Germany. On this card will be scored the following four factors that will determine priority of separation:

1. Service credit—based upon the total number of months of army service since Sept. 16, 1940.

2. Overseas credit—based upon the number of months served overseas.

3. Combat credit—based upon the first and each additional award to the individual of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service cross, Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying cross, Soldier's medal, Bronze Star medal, Air medal, Purple Heart, and Bronze Service stars (battle participation stars).

4. Parenthood credit—which gives credit for each dependent child under 18 years up to a limit of three children.

The value of the point credits are to be announced after the cessation of hostilities in Europe. In the meantime, the point values are being kept under continuous study. The total score will be used to select surplus men from the theaters overseas and in the United States.

Here's Army's Anti-American No J.C. Order

It Forbids Segregation in PX, Bus, Theatre

POLICY CHANGED

Colored Soldiers to Get Better Treatment

WASHINGTON

While Gov. Chauncey Sparks of Alabama awaited an answer to the message he sent President Roosevelt protesting against a War Department "restricted" directive forbidding race segregation in recreational facilities on Army posts and on transportation facilities owned or operated by the Federal Government, on or off a post, Representative John E. Rankin (Dem., Miss.), read it into the Congressional Record.

The War Department's secret order provides a penalty for publication. This did not deter Rankin.

The directive itself represents a change in Army policy. Previously the Army had followed local custom in the South and permitted commanding officers to provide separate recreational facilities or segregate colored soldiers from white soldiers in the same facility.

Segregation Forbidden

Under the new directive, race segregation is forbidden in post exchanges and theatres and on buses owned or operated by the Federal Government, on or off a post, camp or station, regardless of local civilian custom.

Substance of this order was published in the AFRO a month ago when it was posted at Fort Benning, Ga. Alabama papers got hold of it just last week.

Representative Rankin, dubbed the leader of the "white-trash bloc" in Congress, said on the floor of the House, Thursday, that the directive was an attempt to wipe out segregation throughout the South and predicted that it will precipitate race riots.

Called "Standing Policy"

At the War Department, a spokesman explained that the directive was a general letter to all Army establishments directing attention to the department's standing policy against race discrimination.

The War Department would not release the text of the directive, explaining that it was in "a restricted classification," but Representative Rankin was so choleric because of the order that he inserted its full text in the Congressional Record. It follows:

"Restricted" Order Published

War Department,
The Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, D.C., July 8, 1944

Subject: Recreational Facilities.

To Commanding Generals, Army Air Forces, All Service Commands, Military District of Washington:

1. Reference is made to letter A.G. 353.8 (March 5, 1943) OB-S-A-M, March 10, 1943, subject as above, in which it was directed that all personnel, regardless of race, would be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy recreational facilities on each post, camp and station.

2. While in general the spirit of the above-mentioned letter has been observed, occasional reports indicate that practices exist on some installations that are not in harmony with its provisions.

3. Exchanges: While exchanges and branch exchanges may be allocated to serve specific areas or units, no exchange will be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race. Where such branch exchanges are established, personnel will not be restricted to the use of their area or unit exchange, but will be permitted to use any other exchange on the post, camp or station.

END TO J.C. ON BUSSES

4. Transportation: Busses, trucks, or other transportation owned and operated either by the Government or by a governmental instrumentality will be available to all military personnel regardless of race. Restricting personnel to certain sections of such transportation because of race

If subsequent inspection of the installation indicates that proper remedial measures have not been taken, the commanding general of the service command will initiate action to ensure full compliance with the announced policy.

7. The commanding general, Army Air Forces, will bring the contents of this letter to the attention of each commanding officer of the installation that such discrimination is contrary to War Department policy.

By order of the Secretary of War:

J. A. ULIO,
Major General, the Adjutant General.

47n-1944

THE HORIZON

America Should Use Force In Co-operation with Other Nations to Maintain Peace

By P. L. PRATTIS

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

WHY is America so hesitant and skeptical about lining up with some form of international organization to keep the peace? Asking the question assumes that America really is; that is, that the rank and file of Americans has thought this international stuff through and through and is highly dubious about it. To establish a base for an argument, I should like to state that I think that America should do all she can to see that such an organization is perfected and that she should also join and do her utmost to make it strong. So far as I have been able to learn, the merits of such an organization or the wisdom of belonging have never been presented fairly to the American people and the American people have never been able to express themselves on the issue, cleaned of all externalia. When fair play for the Negro is sought, the seeker, if white, is often asked: "Would you want your daughter to marry a Negro?" Of course, the question has nothing to do with fair play. And when American co-operation with an international organization for peace is sought, the seeker is asked, "Do you want some super government sending American boys into war?" That has nothing to do with trying to keep the peace.

Mr. Prattis

OPPOSITION POLITICAL

THE opposition to American co-operation with such a world organization is basically political. This opposition has used the prospect of a few thousand American soldiers co-operating with a world "police force" to alarm and confuse Americans in the street. It just happens that Democrats have been the protagonists and Republicans the antagonist of such co-operation. The roles could easily have been reversed by the challenge of events. If Republicans were clamoring for a world organization, backed by force, the chances are that the Democrats would be passionately against it.

But the partisan interests of political leadership ought not to control the thinking of all other Americans on the issue. It is certainly reasonable to assume that an army or peace force, made up of the nationals of most of the nations of the world, could, if it had the authority to act, prevent any one or two nations from getting out of line and starting wars as Italy did in Ethiopia, Japan did in Manchuria and Germany did in Poland. America's contribution to such an agency or force need not be any larger, if as large, as our former peace-time army. And with that small contribution we would have an assurance of peace and not the prospect of recurring wars which call for the sacrifice of the lives of hundreds of thousands of the best of our youth.

NAVY USED FORCE

THERE are those who say that giving the power to send our boys on such police missions would violate the Constitution which gives the Congress the right to declare war. The point is purely technical. If necessary, we could clear the path by amending the Constitution. But that is scarcely necessary in the light of our past experience. Our Navy has been used belligerently throughout our history without authorization from Congress. When Commodore Perry sailed into Japanese waters, backed up by six warships, and made demands upon the Japanese government in 1854, he clearly committed an act of aggression (or war) which the American Congress had not authorized and which the Japanese government was too weak to resist. This weakness enabled Commodore Perry to win a war without bloodshed.

The chances are that any world police force would have to do nothing more than to make a "show of force" to possible aggressors. We have made such a show of force in the past in many South American harbors. Only a couple of months ago, a so-called rebellion in Cuba was quickly quieted when the American ambassador to Cuba let it be known that American warships would go into action if the rebels didn't behave. We weren't at war with Cuba and Ambassador Braden had no authority to threaten Cuban rebels with American guns. But he did and he got away with it. And there was no rebellion.

CAN SAVE LIVES

AMERICA ought to belong to such a world peace organization. No nation, like ours, which harbors the vigilante and mob spirit, should flinch before the prospect of having an international posse to suppress disorders, before they get started. We can save American lives through the application of international force and use, for the pursuits of peace, the wealth we have been pouring into the maw of war.

Data Show Negroes Met War Tasks

By JAMES W. FORD

All the American people should be made aware of the full significance of the figures just released by the War Department of the contribution of the Negro people to the war.

As of Sept. 30 there is a total of 701,678 in the Army, of whom 411,368 are serving overseas. There are 49,483 in the infantry; 36,302 in coast and field artillery; 867 in the cavalry; 133,180 in the engineers; 73,686 in the air corps and 408,160 in all other branches of the service.

There were 5,804 commissioned officers including the following non-combat commissions: dental corps, 101; nurses, 247; other medical corps, 463; chaplains, 236. The above facts are only known by a very small section of the American people, and a small section knows about the conduct of Negro troops overseas and on all of our fighting fronts. The many Army citations of the deeds of the courageous fighting of Negro troops in this war remain almost solely in the files in the War Department, or are only elaborated upon fully in the Negro press for the Negro people.

When Congress passed the Selective Service Act in 1940 the Government declared, in reference to Negro citizens, that inasmuch as they constituted one-ninth of the population, they would have to provide their proportionate share of manpower.

POLITICAL ASPECT

The figures of the War Department now show that they have fully met their share of responsibility. But it is not a matter of mere statistics. What is equally significant is the political aspect of the question and the understanding which the Negro people have of the nature and character of the war in which our country is engaged. They know that this is a war against fascism and that the national survival of this country is at stake. They understand that only complete destruction of fascism in this war can assure continuation of human progress, and that all other considerations should be subordinated to this central objective.

As a result of the correctness of the course pursued by the Negro people they have made great advances and they have becme one of the strongest sources of democratic strength in the country. They have understood that securing equal rights was inseparable from winning the war. The Negro people are justly proud of their contribution to the country's war, and so must be all sections of the democratic coalition in the nation.

This is what attaches so much importance to the figures released by the War Department. A full understanding of this by wider sections of the peoples is necessary for further strengthening national unity to win the war.

PROBLEMS STILL UNSOLVED

There are still unsolved and pressing problems. The most glaring is segregation in the armed forces and injustices to Negro soldiers. And these grievances must be wiped out. It is inconceivable that in a total of 700,000 Negro soldiers there are only 5,0000 commissioned officers. There are too few Negro troops in combat arms of the service and they are grieved about this. Certainly the figures given of the number of Negroes in the medical, nursing corps and other auxiliary services are insignificant.

Certainly the treatment of the nineteen dishonorably discharged Negro Seabees is unfair and a disgrace. What is still more disturbing are the court-martial findings against 50 Negro Navy men on the west coast and court-martial of the Negro soldiers at Seattle. All printed information about these trials show bias. The solution of all these problems is the conclusion to be drawn from the figures released by the War Department in the interest of national unity to win the war.

Petition to Roosevelt Urges Peoples Voice New York, N.Y. That Africa Benefit in Plans

A petition signed by more than 150 prominent Negro and white citizens was sent Friday to President Roosevelt and the State Department, urging that in the further development of the Dumbarton Oaks plans, this government press for the United Nation's adherence to "essential undertakings and principles" which would enable the hundreds of millions of peoples throughout Africa and other dependent areas to "play their full part in a system of effective policies for the paid and right of self-determination within world-wide democracy and prosperity."

The statement, which was prepared by the Council on African Affairs in New York, set forth the following four recommendations:

- that the proposed United Nations' organization establish effective machinery for the non-colonial territories" and
- that the United States "take the lead in raising the living standards for all the inhabitants of the African people;
- that the "guiding principle" of all administrative measures of all forms of rights for all the inhabitants of or by its agencies;
- that the signers of the statement include: Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Arthur B.

12-23-44

Spingarn, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Dr. H. A. Wieschhoff, Roscoe Dungee, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Dr. Alain L. Locke, Fannie Hurst, Earl Browder, Henry Pratt Fairchild, Henry Epstein, Theodore Dreiser, Carey McWilliams, Blair Bolles, Rockwell Kent, Paul Robeson, Dr. William Jay Schieffelin, Max Yergan.

Judge Anna M. Kross, Judge Charles E. Toney, Dean William H. Hastie, Charles H. Houston, Raymond Pace Alexander, Earl B. Dickerson, Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick Dr. Sherwood Eddy, Bishop William Y. Bell, Bishop David H. Sims, Dr. Harry F. Ward and officers of fraternal, civic and labor organizations

NEGROES AT THE PEACE TABLE

Chicago, Ill.
Chicago Defender

Some Negro leaders have become all hot and bothered in recent weeks because the recent Dumbarton Oaks conference on a world peace organization concluded without a declaration on the much-bandied-about question of racial equality. 12-2-44

Some of our more unrealistic brothers thought that perhaps Soviet Russia or China would throw the problem into the international arena. They have been disillusioned in a hurry.

Now comes Ernest E. Johnson, the Associated Negro Press Washington correspondent, to present a new view in an article in the November issue of Crisis. Johnson gives due credit to the Chicago Defender for its pioneering job in its recent symposium on the question, "Should Negroes Sit at the Peace Table?" and then goes on to criticize the Defender for not showing "more concern in its columns for the subsequent presentation of questions which have arisen." 12-2-44

Certainly Johnson must be good enough of a newspaperman to know that news cannot be doctored out of the air, that when nothing happens that's not news. The facts are that Negro leadership has been asleep at the switch in the question of race representation in the peace.

Johnson admits as much and then goes on to offer as a final hope to the American Negro the possibility that three black nations — Liberia, Haiti and Ethiopia — will be able to represent the Negro viewpoint at the peace table, if there is a peace table.

This hope is completely at variance with the past record of the three countries, none of which can be called a true democracy and none of which has recognized its kinship with thirteen million black Americans. 12-2-44

How can the rulers of these countries represent the Negro peoples the world over when it is questionable whether they represent their own peoples? In both Haiti and Liberia, Wall Street seems to have assumed a commanding position that has relegated the natives to the place of virtual colonials. Ethiopia will come to the peace table as one of the few remaining kingdoms in the world, anxious only to win relief and succor from the United Nations to enable the tiny African country to recover from the horrors of Italian invasion.

To practical, thinking Negroes, there is but one outlook. Having failed to capitalize and follow up on the frank Defender agitation for protection of the Negro's interests in the peace, it would be unwise at this late hour after Dumbarton Oaks to hope for a place at the peace table. 12-2-44

However, it is never too late to wage a determined and relentless campaign of constant reminder to the statesmen of the world of their pledges in the Atlantic Charter and other historic documents written during the darkest hours for world civilization.

Part of that reminder will be given when the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association mission to Africa reports to President Roosevelt their findings of colonial conditions in Africa. Plans for a new Pan-African Congress should be rushed to conclusion to avoid the mistakes made after World War I, when eleventh hour parleys failed to accomplish any good purpose at Versailles.

For Negro America and their colored brothers throughout the world, the future lies within their own hands rather than in any peace table promises, valuable though these pledges may be.

In every land where colored peoples are oppressed, the battle lines for racial democracy must be more firmly drawn and the fight waged with more determination and strength.

Nazi Prisoners Ignorant Of Negroes In U. S. Army

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
8-12-44

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH THE FIRST ARMY IN NORMANDY — German prisoners captured in the Saint Lo region this week state that they have never seen Negroes in Germany and solemnly declare ignorance of the fact that Negro troops were fighting against them in Normandy.

This writer, in an interview with five Nazi prisoners of war, selected at random from the cages where thousands are awaiting transportation abroad, found these self-styled "master race" soldiers now completely subdued and only too eager to talk through interpreters.

Professing no knowledge of Hitler's "Mein Kampf" description of the Negro race, they stated that they had not read all parts of the book. These five prisoners were among the thousands taken during the initial Allied break-through when our armor smashed the German western defense line in the Saint Lo area. 8-12-44

Returning from the front lines, I was conducted through the prisoner cage where an officer selected the prisoners. He began friendly conversation in the racy vernacular of the Berlin alleys. They eventually warmed up as we lay puffing cigarettes in a barbed wire-fenced cow pasture.

Under the regulations of the Hague convention, war prisoners are required to tell only their name, rank and serial number to captors but our officers know that on certain occasions, they will volunteer and talk freely. I was not too certain of their sincerity but one of the guards who knows the Boche said that they were intelligent and that he believed their statements to be fairly accurate.

The youngest of the group—wounded in the head, was only 14 when Hitler's meteoric rise to power began. Three others, older than he, had been dressmaker, druggist and restaurant owner. They were amazed to learn that Negroes represented one-tenth of the United States population and when told that the fraction amounted to approximately 14,000,000 Negroes, they shook their heads and said, "Ich verstehe nicht" (I don't understand). 8-12-44

The captives refused to believe the statement that 700,000 Negro troops were fighting with our armed forces, saying that they had been led to believe differently and that we were the first Negroes they had seen. Questioned concerning their attitudes, all agreed that they couldn't predict the outcome of the war but would be satisfied if their Fuehrer lost the conflict. 8-12-44

They expressed hope that the United States supervise the peace terms and dreaded the thought of Russian entry into their fatherland. They had no knowledge whatever of the Russian gains. All had fought in the Russian campaign and denied the tales of atrocities that the Russian people had been subjected to. They believed that after the war, they would be returned to their homes where the work draft would have them building as before the hostilities began.

While we talked, the steady explosions of our artillery, immediately behind us, pounding enemy installations not far distant kept us jumping. As we ended conversations, everyone suddenly ducked and lay flat. A swishing, whistling sound overhead, followed by a deafening explosion, terrified the Germans. As they shuddered, military police explained to befuddled correspondents, "That last one was a German shell."

In Enemy Terrain

We had passed our unit and were proceeding into enemy territory on the outskirts of Saint Lo. Back through the ruins and rubble of the heavily shelled town we hastily rolled to each unit high on a hill atop poles, oblivious to the shelling going on down below.

Pvt. Clarence Workings of Gallatin, Tenn., said: "Hell, it's war. And while we are not on the front, we are in tough spots. We have our heroes, too."

Proudly he pointed out Privates Bernard Henderson, New York City, and Percy Cox, Petersburg, Va., who the week previous, while working on top of a pole near the town of Valognes, suddenly looked up from their work to see 15 Germans, members of a scouting party, and fully armed, stealthily creeping up the hill. 8-12-44

Unhooking their spiked shoes, the two Yanks slid down and jumped into a hedgerow where their automatic guns could well be concealed. Stopping breathlessly and waiting, not knowing whether they had been sighted, but with guns poised for a last-ditch battle, they saw the Jerries emerge from behind trees, marching in a column, single file.

Capture 15 Germans

With their automatics, the two Negro privates leaped forward, yelling. Their sudden coup resulted in the capture of the entire group of 15 Germans and without a single shot being fired.

The Yanks marched their prisoners off to camp and returned to work atop the poles.

"It's all in a day's work," remarked Pvt. Lester Walker, 4744 Forestville avenue, Chicago, a company clerk, as he sat in a tent pounding away on a letter to his wife Clare. Far removed from exciting and dangerous front-line wire stringing, but near enough to know that the Jerries strafe, bomb and shell nightly, Pvt. Walker took me through an apple orchard, with each tree heavily burdened with fruit and each tree sheltering a fox-hole, where the men have cunningly designed sleeping quarters.

"Wherever there are troops, there are Chicagoans," said Pvt. Richard Sayers, 5820 Indiana avenue, as we met several fellows I had seen before. 8-12-44

There were Frederick Southern, 3230 Lake Park avenue; Irvin Collier, 424 E. 42nd street; Paul C. Amos, 109 E. 49th street; Gomez Charleston, 4839 Champlain avenue; Ernest Tucker, 417 E. 45th street; Henry Hamilton, 464 E. 33rd street, and Staff Sergeant Lee Brezan, former Gary, Ind., policeman.

Fox-Hole Headquarters

Later, as the rain fell in sheets, settling the thick carpets of dust on the roads, clogged with trucks, tanks, jeeps and ambulances, I lay wet to the skin in an open truck. We rolled up in front of my fox-hole, where headquarters were.

The wires had been set up by the very men whom I had just visited and over these wires my copy would be transmitted home.

I couldn't help but think that stringing wire while being shelled with snippers taking pot-shots at the linemen, and moving cautiously among mines and booby traps might not be combat fighting, but it was the nearest thing to it, I have seen thus far.

47n-1944

Public Expects Worst in Post-War Race Relations

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Only 23% Believe Races Will Get Along Better Together, While 39% Say Worse

8-26-44

[The National Opinion Research Center is an opinion finding organization. As such, it simply reports the results of national surveys made by its personally trained staff of over 200 interviewers throughout the United States. The center is an academic institution working under a grant from the Field Foundation and the University of Denver. The survey used included 2,523 confidential interviews. Statistically, these are sufficient to be within 3 per cent correct 997 times in 1000.]

DENVER, Col. (Special) — The average white American is much more likely to be pessimistic than optimistic regarding the future of colored-white relations in the United States, according to recent survey findings of the National Opinion Research Center.

Although over a third of those questioned do not definitely commit themselves, more persons expect worse relations (39%) than expect better ones (23%) between colored and white in the post-war world. Twenty-three per cent reply "same" and 14 per cent, "undecided."

NORC asked a nation-wide civilian cross-section of white Americans:

"After the war, do you expect N—— and white people to get along with each other better, or not as well as they did before the war?"

8-26-44

	All	"Better" or "Worse" Only
Better	23%	37%
Not as well	39	63
Same	23	—
Undecided	14	—
Qualified answer	1	—
	100%	100%

Those who volunteer "same" include two groups: (1) persons who think the situation bad now and feel it will continue to be bad after the war — 14% — and (2) persons who consider the colored-white situation perfectly satisfactory now and see no reason why it should change — 9%.

63 Per Cent Pessimistic

When only those who committed themselves in one or the other direction are considered, 63 per cent think the races will not get along as well after the war and only 37 per cent think they will get along better. The greatest differences are sectional.

In the New England and Atlantic States opinion divides exactly 50-50, while in the Pacific and Mountain States, 58 per cent expect white and colored to get along not as well after the war as they did before.

8-26-44

In the Midwest, 62 per cent, and in the South, 82 per cent express this negative view.

When the people were asked to give reasons for their opinions, a divergence of attitudes reveals itself. These reasons appear so important that only typical quotations can give the flavor of feeling across the nation.

Post-War Employment

The reply of a Chicago chemical engineer summarizes the ideas of many respondents who expect a worse racial situation:

"After the war there won't be many jobs. The colored workers will be pushed out first and if he tries to protest, there will be trouble. As long as jobs are plentiful, he is O.K. because he is needed. When jobs are scarce, no one bothers with him."

Only a few think that good war jobs for colored people will lead to better feeling after the war.

A Minneapolis auto mechanic says: "Defense work has given colored workers a lot of chances and education they never had before." According to the wife of a sheet-metal worker from The Bronx, "Colored workers have been given more opportunities during this war and whites see they are capable."

Army Association of Races

A number of respondents believe that the association of white and colored in the army will lead to better post-war relationships.

A streetcar motorman in Chicago says: "Because the two races have fought in the army together, they will appreciate each other more. And if the colored group doesn't push too hard, white people will someday see that a democracy must treat everyone alike."

8-26-44

A research chemist in Brooklyn replies: "The mixing of both white and black races in the army tends to break down some barriers."

Others of those interviewed take the opposite point of view. The wife of a Brighton, Colo., truck driver answers: "Our boys have been thrown together with colored men in camps and it makes them dislike them more."

A farmer's wife near Wichita looks for trouble because "the Southern soldiers are rude to the Northern colored soldiers." A woman college student in Brooklyn feels that "segregation in the army only irritates the situation."

Other Wartime Associations

A considerable number of people feel that greater knowledge of each will help white and colored to get along together better.

A Chicago stenographer thinks: "Because of the war, the two races are mingling more and more. Whites will have a broader knowledge of the needs and abilities of the colored group and will have more tolerance."

A New York City file clerk observes: "Colored and white should get along better now that they have had an opportunity to work together."

8-26-44

A naval construction superintendent in Portland, Oregon, says: "From the intermingling and scattering around more now will come better understading."

The opinion of an Oklahoma City business executive is typical of those who disagree: "The intershift of population of white and colored is resulting in more misunderstanding of how to handle colored people."

Sectional Feeling

A number of Southerners believe that Northern interference and misunderstanding tend to intensify the "N——o problem."

A South Carolina housewife remarks: "If the Northerners would only let colored people alone — but they will stir them up." A county official in Houston, Texas, feels: "The damnyankees mingle with the colored people too much and spoil 'em."

A contractor in the same city expresses this viewpoint: "The colored citizen is slowly getting better chances to get jobs and he'll want them after the war, and the Southern whites will rebel."

8-26-44

Some specifically mention the question of colored Americans voting. For instance, the wife of a farmer near Austin, Texas, comments: "It looks like they might have trouble with the n-----rs the way they've started things. They're trying so hard to get the vote on everything."

Changes in White Attitudes

Some whites expect the war to bring about basic changes in white attitudes toward colored people because:

"They are fighting for us just as our white boys are fighting. They should have the same freedom as whites because they're fighting for us.

"It's one of the points we are fighting for — no race or religious prejudices. This war should teach us a lesson on how to get along with people regardless of color, creed, or nationality. This war will humble a great many people."

A civil service examiner in Washington, D.C., puts it this way: "I think the colored Americans' contribution to the war will be appreciated. If we continue as a democracy, we will have to accept them." In New Jersey a young man discharged from the army says: "When a man fights, he gets different ideas."

A greater number of whites, however, believe that it will take more than a war to change human nature.

8-26-44

A Massachusetts engineer thinks: "People will feel after the war as they did before, and forget what we are fighting for."

Other respondents comment: "Nothing will ever change southern prejudice. I dont think the war will make any difference. The war has not had any great effect on any of the Americans."

Propaganda

A number of people consider definite planned propaganda to be at the root of most colored-white problems. A few of these people think such difficulties are "enemy-inspired" and will end after the war.

The wife of a Pennsylvania industrial chemist, for example, answers: "Much of the feeling against colored citizens is agitated by fifth columnists and will be over with the armistice."

Most, however, expect conditions to become worse because of the activity of colored leaders, labor agitators, the present administration in Washington, and others.

8-26-44

A Tennessee farmer believes: "This race social equality agitated from Washington will cause trouble." The wife of a Brooklyn newspaper dealer says: "During the war colored people are being stirred up by people who want to educate them."

Some question the wisdom of widespread discussion of colored and white differences. An Oklahoma baking manager feels: "There's too much talk about possible trouble. I don't like the publicity in that connection."

Equality

A considerable number of people look for more trouble than ever as a result of wartime privileges colored persons have enjoyed.

A radio program director in Tulsa summarizes the problem as follows:

"There will be a conflict between the supremacy of the white and the newly-found sense of freedom of the colored group due to the war." A southern grocer thinks: "After the war colored people are going to demand the equality we preach and don't practice."

8-26-44

A woman old-age pensioner in Chicago answers: "I'm afraid colored people will have had a taste of equality in the army and in war jobs and will demand their rights as citizens. The white people will try to stop them, and there will be trouble."

Negro Named On United Nations Relief Position

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

6-12-44

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration this week appointed its first Negro on the all-important distribution staff.

The appointee is Malcolm A. Jackson, a native of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, educated in Dewitt Clinton high school of New York, and in Wagner College and Columbia university.

Jackson is a distribution officer for the European mission reserve and upon completion of his probationary orientation period of four to six months, will leave for overseas duty, probably in the Scandanavian countries. His basis salary will be $4,400 with ample additional allowances for living expenses when on duty.

The appointment and the use of Jackson in a non-racial category represents a new approach on the part of government, and in Jackson's words, it is "gratifying and significant." Other Negroes under consideration for appointment include Lester Granger of the National Urban League, T. Arnold Hill of OPA, and Ira DeAReid of Atlanta university.

8-12-44

Jackson was sent to the Virgin Islands by the National Youth Administration as a vocational teacher in September 1941. From August 1942 until July 1944, he served as a rationing executive and director of information for the OPA in Virgin Islands.

Here is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, a Bachelor of Science in education from Columbia, and a Mason. He speaks Danish and German.

ASKS NEGRO IN POST-WAR ARMY

Defender — Chicago

12-23-44 $11.

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Congressman William E. Dawson (D.) of Chicago confirmed this week that he has called upon the war and navy departments to immediately institute studies "by appropriate officers" looking to the establishment of basic policies with regard to the inclusion of Negroes in the post-war military establishment of the United States.

Pointing out that both branches of the service have taken specific steps toward making determinations regarding its post-war organization, the Congressman posed the question as to whether anyten into since 1940 were due to plans have been outlined or are the lack of advanced planning." He contemplated for Negroes. maintains that "the intelligent the specific contents of his letter planning now will not only make

utilization of are fighting for democracy
out should also through the world."
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Negro manpower, but she
result in a departure
procedures
operated to discourage and
and for a more efficient utili
Secretary Stimson and
Navy Secretary Forrestal were
revealed but he did state what he
called the "general context of the policies and
communications."

ROGERS SAYS:

There Must Be No Favored People in The Post-War World

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By J. A. ROGERS

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

REGARDING what I said on power politics last week, a very good friend of mine objects to my view on Stalin's treaty with Hitler in 1941. Russia, he said, was not prepared at the time and Stalin did it for reasons of national security and because the English had been plotting against him. He pointed out, as I said once in this column, that Hitler's trump card in getting that treaty was the dictaphone records of his secret conversations with the British and what they had said against Russia. It was a very nasty mess and had I been in Stalin's place I would have done the same. Stalin really chose the lesser of two evils.

Mr. Rogers

But my purpose was not so much to say why this or that had been done as to say what must be avoided so that there will be no more double-dealing in politics. For instance, I could go on to say that Chamberlain, Churchill, and others raised Mussolini, hoping to plate him because he had built up a powerful submarine navy across England's so-called life-line. Pope Pius XI praised Mussolini because the latter had permitted him to create some sort of religio-political state, while Pierre Laval, of France, and Stanley Baldwin, of England, agreed to Italy's rape of Ethiopia for the same reason that Neville Chamberlain handed Czecho-Slovakia over to Hitler. Yes, and even collaborationists like Petain and Laval can be beautifully explained if you will only see the selfish ends they try to serve.

WHITE NATIONS MUST RELINQUISH LANDS

As I said last week, no European peace treaty since the days of the Caesars has been able to prevent wars. All of them have been failures, and therefore if this peace conference should be a success it will have to proceed on radically different lines from the others.

FRANKLY, though the operation will have to be a very major one if we are not to have another war soon. First, nations now in lands to which they have neither geographical nor biological right must relinquish rulership to the natives, that is, even as Europeans rule in Europe, so Africans must rule in Africa, and Asiatics in Asia; that even as the latter when they come to the white man's lands come as "guests," so must it be when the white man goes to their lands. Even today in parts of Africa and Asia, natives are treated worse than dogs, an injustice that is going to cry louder to the heavens as years go on. In South Africa are 5,000,000 blacks in virtual slavery. The immense wealth they create go to the whites. A color bar bill confines them to menial and semi-skilled labor. Recently one Negro there was made a warrant officer, which is below a second lieutenant, and it was world news.

THERE MUST BE NO FAVORED PEOPLE

There must be no favored people, white, yellow, or black, but human dignity for all. For instance, West Indian troops now training in the United States were issued instructions that they should have no affairs with white women, and that if a white woman spoke to them first they should not reply. Yet no similar instructions were issued to white Americans now living at naval bases in the West Indies, some of whom run riot among the colored women there, with nothing being said about it. In England and Italy, because a few Negroes go with white women, there being no other women about, there is a furore. On the other hand, one hears nothing about the white soldiers and their affairs with colored women in the South Seas, Africa and India. Colored women do not count. They are fair game for anyone. Only white women are sacred. Most unjust!

To destroy Hitler's doctrine of Aryan superiority and let the older one of Anglo-Saxon color superiority stay is like operating on a boil and letting a cancer remain.

THIS fact is clear: Power politics has always failed to prevent wars. Handing Manchukuo and French Indo-China to Japan; Ethiopia to Italy, and Czecho-Slovakia to Hitler did not prevent war. Stalin's treaty with Hitler did not prevent the ravaging of Russia and the killing of over 10,000,000 of her people. Nor did the dicker of Petain and Laval with Hitler save either France or themselves. And as for Hitler, see what his great cleverness and planning has brought to his people! Power politics, like crime, does not pay.

Do the peace makers know this? They certainly do. If they do not act accordingly they'll just be eating up the taxpayers' money, and bringing on another war because peace conferences have been one of the greatest causes of war in the past.

Refuses To Back Down On Order

9-9-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) —There appears to be no disposition on the part of the War Department to recede from the position it has taken in the non-segregation directive sent to all Army posts early in July, in spite of the ranting and protests on the part of Southern legislators and governors.

Last week Representative Newsome, of Alabama, entered into the record the protest of Governor Chauncey Sparks, of his State, sent to President Roosevelt, on Aug. 27, asking that the opinions of Southerners be invited before it is made effective.

LIBERALS HAIL ARMY DIRECTIVE

Up to last Thursday the White House had not replied to the Sparks telegram. A spokesman there acknowledged receipt and simply said that the matter "is in the mill." There was no clarification as to whether there would be an answer or not.

Meanwhile, as rabid segregationists continued to rail against the War Department directive, liberal elements were hailing it as "an important step forward in the fight to abolish discrimination based on race, color or creed from the armed forces and from our country." The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties has been notable in this respect. 9-9-44

In a letter to President Roosevelt, which referred to "these ossified white supremists" who would suspend the order, the federation told him that "the great majority of Americans abhor the views and tactics of this group," and assured him of continued "support to your leadership of our country."

Estelle Massey Riddle Conducts Survey In West

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-18-44

LOS ANGELES—On nationwide tour in the interests of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps, Estelle Massey Riddle, Consultant on Negro Nursing for the National Nursing Council for War Service, arrived in Los Angeles Monday for a series of conferences, speaking engagements and radio talks. She plans also to conduct a survey of the area as regards the present opportunities given race nurses, and en route East she will inspect nursing facilities at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and Camp Livingston, La. The visitor's headquarters are in New York.

According to the consultant, the Cadet Nurse Corps program offers excellent opportunities to young women everywhere. There is absolutely no race bias involved.

The course entails 30 months' service and is in no way connected with the Army or the Navy. Instead trained cadet nurses perform vital war services by helping to relieve graduate nurses for more highly skilled duties. In many cases Federal scholarships are granted for advanced study.

The corps members receive uniforms, tuition fees and monthly personal allowances. 3-18-44

During Mrs. Riddle's stay she will be the house-guest of Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Bailey of the city.

47n -1944

Germans Show No Color Line

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

All Prisoners Treated Alike, Say Repatriates

WOMAN IN GROUP

Arrived Last Week Aboard Gripsholm

3-25-44

By SAMUEL HOSKINS

JERSEY CITY — Twelve colored and 650 other persons returned Wednesday to America on board the Swedish Steamer Gripsholm after their release from a Nazi prison camp.

Of the twelve, nine were permitted to land and three are being held at Ellis Island for further investigation.

They reported that they were well treated by the Nazis; that there was no color line in Germany; that they had no desire to go down and sample the jim crow of the South.

All Treated Alike

Leon Brooks, who went to France with the 303rd Stevedore Unit, American Expeditionary Forces, World War I, and stayed there after the armistice as a wine salesman, said:

"Black and white make no difference to the Nazis. We were all treated alike, occupied the same quarters, eating, sleeping and spending our leisure time together. There was no jim crow on the Gripsholm either."

Brooks married a French girl who was not interned with him. He hopes to rejoin her as soon as the war is over. He has a sister, Mrs. Ethel Martin, in Cleveland.

No More South

Another repatriated American who is not going South is 62-year-old George Welch, a native of Edenton, N.C., who has been in France, Scotland and Wales for the past forty-two years. He is a singer and pianist. He spent twenty-two months in a Nazi prison camp. 3-25-44

"After all these years," he said, "I don't think I would like the South."

Moslem Movie Actor

When six-foot two-inch Reginald Berry came down the gang plank, one of the customs guards wanted to know "Is that Paul Robeson?"

Berry grew a goatee after he became a Moslem. He served as a professional wrestler and physical culture instructor in Prague, Czechoslovakia and for a time, he said, was employed by a Dutch studio, Bavaria Pictures, and had major roles in such movies as "Carol Peter" and "Auf Weidersehen."

A native of Kansas City, Berry went to Europe in 1928. His wife, a Bohemian girl, and eleven-year-old son are interned in Liebenan.

Berry's Moslem name is Omar Ibn Rhaman. His twenty-five months were divided among three prison camps at Compiegne, Tittmoning and Laufen. 3-25-44

Arrested in Holland

Jacob Taylor, light heavyweight boxer, who said he won the title in Cuba by defeating Battling Siki in 1923, fought in various European countries until 1933. Then he opened a sport and massage institute in the Hague, Holland, where he was arrested by the Nazis in 1941.

He spent twenty-five months in two German prison camps and described conditions there as fair and the food as poor. "It was mostly cabbage soup and potatoes." Taylor said he was one of Jack Dempsey's sparring partners for the Bill Brennan fight.

With Leslie's Blackbirds

Mrs. Evelyn A. Haymann of Philadelphia went to Europe thirteen years ago, she said, as a member of Lew Leslie's "Blackbirds."

Sengelese soldiers taken as prisoners by the Germans, she declared, are now doing forced labor inside the Reich. Her husband is Joe Haymann, a member of Louis Armstrong's orchestra.

She reported traveling throughout Europe as a dancer after leaving the "Blackbirds" and said she settled in Holland five years ago. Her description of the German invasion was "We just woke up one morning and there they were." 3-25-44

50c For an Egg

According to Mrs. Haymann, one egg in Holland is fifty cents; cigarettes, $15 a pack; socks, $30 a pair; stockings, $45 a pair.

Henry Crowder, Washington pianist, said he had spent the past twenty-six years in London, Paris and cities of Belgium and Frederick Johnson, New York, who went abroad with Sam Woodie's band and later organized Freddie Johnson's Harlemites' band, were other repatriates. Johnson was much concerned about learning the Harlem lingo. "I've got to get 'hep,'" he said, "to the 'jive talk.'"

3 Held on Ship

Johnny Mitchell, former Baltimore musician, did not disembark and it is believed he is among the three who were returned to Ellis Island for further investigation. The other two are Maceo Jefferson and John Walch, both of New York.

Mitchell, a guitarist who formerly played in Baltimore with the late Joe Rochester and Ike Dixon, went abroad in 1925 and played with various orchestras on the Continent. 3-25-44

Another repatriate, Robert Baker, said he fought Max Schemling in Germany, but was not surprised when the referee awarded the decision to the German.

"Wouldn't Talk"

One passenger who refused to talk to newsmen was George W. Cook, Jr., of Washington, son of a former dean of Howard University. In French he said he was too tired; that he would stay with Dr. and Mrs. D. O. W. Holmes, president of Morgan State College, and his wife in Baltimore. At a late date he had not arrived there.

Saw 3,000 Jews Killed

Eugenia Ruthkowski, Buffalo, told the AFRO she had seen race hate in Germany. "I saw 3,000 Jews killed in one day," she declared. 3-25-44

Irwin Safir, white, New York, said: "The French are glad to see Paris bombed unless they happen to be under the bombs."

Sixteen-year-old Mary Arvanities, interned in Greece, said butter costs over $33,000 a pound; shoes, $154,000 a pair; a suit of clothes, $550,000; a pound of meat, $2,000.

Nazis Intern Two of 99th Flyers

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Belief that two pilots of the 99th Fighter Squadron are interned at Ostintting, Germany, was expressed by two persons returning to America this week on the Gripsholm. 3-25-44

Reginald Berry, interned for twenty months in Compiegne and Tittmoning prisons, told the AFRO he was witness to an air battle on February 6 during which two flyers bailing out within sight of the camp were captured and taken to Ostintting. Henry Crowder of Washington, prisoner at the camp with Berry, verified his statement.

Treatment Accorded To Chinese Clue To Fate Of Colored Peoples

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

A FEW DAYS AGO CHINA quietly took her place as a conferee at the great Dumbarton Oaks Conference. Her very presence in this august body of world leaders has already created widespread speculation among darker races the world over. The big question seems to be "What kind of treatment will China be given"? 10-14-44

It is clear, however, that the participation of China in the planning of the new world order gives the Conference a great opportunity to make the coming peace a lasting one. China wants and deserves the same consideration accorded other nations no matter how strong or how powerful they may be. She has shed her blood by the gallons in the cause of world democracy. She withstood the agony of lean, dark days when democracy appeared to be on the verge of complete collapse. She has maintained her faith with the Allied cause, when she might have chosen the easier road of collaboration with the Japs.

She has done this because of a burning desire for full economic and political equality among world powers. To deny the Chinese people the considerations to which they are entitled will be an inevitable invitation to another war.

The conference should keep constantly in mind that China not only represents 350,000,000 Chinese people, but is likewise the hope of millions of other dark people the world over. These people, long the victims of widespread exploitation by stronger nations, are looking eagerly to the Dumbarton Oaks Conference for an equal opportunity in the new world alignment.

To rebuff China, to give her second-class consideration will be tantamount to telling the darker people of India, Africa and other sections of Asia, "You still are not ready for equality." 10-14-44

Ask Equality As Post War Guide

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—Equality of all its nationals without regard to race or creed, is urged in a memorandum submitted by the American council for Judaism to Secretary Hull, as a guiding policy in post-war aid to foreign countries. 10-28-44

"Such a condition to the extension of American aid would be an effective, practical demonstration of our determination to foster the principles of democracy in the post-war world," Lessing J. Rosenwald, president of the council, said.

"We trust that the United States of America, in accordance with its traditions, and in its own enlightened self-interest will exert its fullest influence for the universal acceptance of this concept of full equality of rights and obligations," Rosenwald added.

In those sections which are void of sovereign status, the United States was asked to exercise itself by guaranteeing that "immigration shall not be limited by racial or religious qualifications, and that self-government shall be speedily established as soon as population demonstrate a capacity for self-government." 10-28-44

The memorandum stipulated that the determining factor for immigration in these territories should be "in accordance with their expanding economic capacity and political stability."

What the Negro Hopes For In the Post-War World

The Nation — New York, N.Y. 10-21-44

BY HENRY LEE MOON

Former Regional Racial Relations Adviser to the Federal Public Housing Administration

WHAT the Negro hopes for in the post-war world is simple and obvious. His hopes may be summed up in a phrase—full equality and the end of Jim Crow. In this, the race is united as never before. Indeed, the attainment of that goal is today more than a mere hope. It is now the grim determination of all elements within the race. We must have the right to work, to be upgraded, to occupy any position for which we may be individually

qualified by training, experience, and skill. In the field of politics, the Negro expects those political rights guaranteed to every American by the Constitution. Denial of political rights imposes a status of second-class citizenship, which the Negro is no longer willing to accept. Finally, and urgently, we must have equal educational opportunity. Our children must have facilities and instruction equal to those offered to other children of the nation.

Our struggle must be for equality with meaning. Such equality requires the raising of the social, economic, and cultural levels of the common people throughout this country. In a word, that means we must have a new society in which poverty can be abolished and racial conflicts eliminated. If we are to end job discrimination, we must first achieve full, stable employment. Then there will be no mad scramble for jobs; no need to exclude large bodies of workers because of race, sex, creed, or national origin; no fear of insecurity. Were there decent homes enough for all the people of America, it would be impossible to crowd Negroes or other racial minorities into the back alleys and filthy slums of our great industrial cities. Our slums and blighted areas could be cleared. 10-21-44

Despite the bitter opposition of entrenched reaction, President Roosevelt's program of social legislation has contributed immeasurably to the advancement of the common people of this country. The New Deal has not only recognized the need for raising the economic, social, and cultural levels of the masses of the American people, but it has also been aware of the special disabilities under which the Negro minority lives. Discrimination in employment has been curbed. Negro personnel has been appointed in many agencies to see that Negroes enjoy full benefits of the legislation.

It is for this reason that I believe the majority of Negro voters will recognize 10-21-44 the need for reelecting President Roosevelt and giving him the kind of Congress that will enable the Administration to go forward in this drive for equality of opportunity.

Pacific War a Race Mixture

8-11-44

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

Color Line Vague As Net Tightens Around Japs

(This is the first in a series of Articles written for ANP to acquaint readers with intimate facts of the Pacific War.)

By WILL V. NEELY
(ANP Foreign Correspondent)

WITH THE U. S. TROOPS IN THE PACIFIC. (ANP) — The war now in progress in the Pacific can, when it is recorded in history, be considered the war of the races.

It is a war where several races are being pitted against the influx of the Japanese. To appreciate the true meaning of what is going on in the Pacific, one needs only to glance at the record. 8-11-44

China, with her millions powerful, yet struggling against a nation of aggressors, realizes that the Japanese grew in power even under her very shadow while she passed through the years in confusion.

China holds the key to the now free world. Across her sprawling lands, men are fighting and dying to regain the torch of freedom so vital to her peoples.

To the aid of China came the big nations, realizing that to lose China was to risk the future of the Asiatic-Pacific world.

Against Aggression

Yet, China in her deathhold against aggression was not alone. There was huge Australia with a total population about the same as New York City.

At the start of the war, Australia rushed her fighting men to the middle east and to Africa to stem the tide of Rommel and his German hordes. From England to Egypt, the Australian soldier did his part to represent his homeland and the homeland of millions who were to come into the war later. 8-11-44

This left Australia pitifully weak in fighting men but not weak in fighting spirit.

The Japs knew of Australia's weakness. They thought invasion of her soil would be an easy task. First, they would take New Guinea and then——

American planes sighted and sank the invasion forces before they had a chance to carry out the threat.

After the arrival of Gen. McArthur, Australia took a new lease on life. American soldiers began to arrive and for the first time in history, Negro troops set foot on Australian soil. With the defense of Australia came the task of moving back the Japanese in New Guinea. 8-11-44

Fighting Grand

New Guinea became the fighting ground for the Australians, and American white and Negro troops. Supplies were rushed to the Jap infested jungle. Australian infantry moved forward while American infantry completed the incirclement.

Negro engineers and quartermaster troops made roads through murky jungle paths. The net tightened. The whites and Negroes were pitted against the Japanese.

Negro troops arrived in Bougainville, Lae, Guadalcanal.

They also arrived in India and Burma and China. Mixed races fighting and working together for one common cause—Democracy!

And so the net still tightens. It is a huge football game with the navy making the passes and being followed up by the Marines and the army, or perhaps the army or marines making the passes and being supported by the Navy.

It is a mixture of races, this war in the Pacific. 8-11-44

When the book of time is closed and the world is at peace again—the peoples of all races can thank God that when freedom is at stake, the color line is as flexible as the horizon.

DuBois Hits Dumbarton Oaks Plans

Tribune—Savannah, Ga.

10-26-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a statement to the conference of Americans United for World Organization, held at the department of state October 16, in which several hundred were in attendance, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, representing the NAACP, raised the whole issue of colonies and imperialism bringing out the inadequacy of proposals made on each.

Basing his summary remarks on study of the published proposals of the Dumbarton Oaks conference, in regard to colonials, Dr. DuBois said, "It virtually says to six hundred million human beings, if not to a majority of mankind, that the only way to human equality is the philanthropy of masters who have historic and strong interest in preserving their present power and income." In outlining precisely, details for the basis of his conclusion, Dr. DuBois elaborated as follows: 10-26-44

"As I have gone through the published proposals at Dumbarton Oaks, I am depressed to realize with what consistency the matter of colonies has been passed over. In chapter one, paragraph three, the emphasis is on the fact that this is a union of nations, not races, groups or organizations of men, not recognized as nations; in chapter two, paragraph one, peace-loving 'States' alone may join the union; in chapter six, 10-26-44 apparently an aggrieved party must be a state in order to complain or appear before the council; similarly, in chapter seven, no colonies as such can appeal for hearing before the International Court of Justice. Elaborate effort is made to protect states from aggression, but I find no prorovisions in chapter seven even to consider aggression of a nation on its own colonial peoples while apparently international military force can be called in to suppress revolt. Indeed in paragrph seven of 10-26-44 that chapter it seems definitely to say that colonial disputes lie entirely beyonr the jurisdiction of this proposed government of men. The econom ic and social council set up in this chapter offers some ray of hope. It can recommend and consider complaints and situations, but there is no direct power to investigate conditions. The council is appointed by eighteen states with no colonial participation indicated."

Among 10-26-44 organization representatives, Dr. DuBois was one of the few recognized for a statement, by Under Secretary of State Stettinius. Judge William H. Hastie also represented the NAACP at this meeting, designed for discussion, relative to proposals for an internation al organization to maintain peace and security.

47n-1944

Negro In Uniform Infuriates South

Amsterdam News — New York, N. Y.

4-1-44

Mrs. Agnes Meyer, Wife of "Washington Post" Publisher, Exposes Story of "Negro and War"

Describes Murders In Dixie of Soldiers By Ignorant Whites

Woman Attacked By 'Bama Driver

Army Almost Helpless In Face of Situation Existing in Southland

4-1-44

The Negro and the War
By AGNES E. MEYER

The following is the first in a series of three articles by Mrs. Agnes Meyer, wife of Eugene Meyer, publisher of **The Washington Post**, on "The Negro and the War." The series begins in The Amsterdam News by special arrangement with **The Washington Post** and **The New York Herald Tribune** in which the articles appeared in their issues of Sunday, March 19 and Sunday, March 26. As Mrs. Meyer's concluding article is the most important of her discussion of the Negro question, The Amsterdam News begins publication of the final article first and may reprint the first of the series later. Of special importance to Negroes and others is a lengthy statement by John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, which will appear soon, setting forth the fixed policy of the War Department upholding and maintaining segregated units in the nation's armed forces. Mr. McCloy's statement is believed to be first official pronouncement by the government on racial segregation of the Negro in the U. S. Army. —Editor's note.)

4-1-44

Two problems have strained to the utmost the relationship between the Army and the Negro population. In the South the uniform worn by a Negro affects the ignorant white population as a red rag does a bull; what is worse, a large part of the South is very crude in its attitude toward murder, particularly when the victim is a Negro.

The white police and state constabulary who are supposed to uphold the law are the chief offenders. The number of brutal murders which have not been punished is shocking. In addition to the killing at Alexandria, La., Negro soldiers were murdered at Little Rock, Ark.; El Paso, Tex.; at Mobile, Ala., where a bus driver was the assailant; at Columbia, S. C., and in several other places where the murderers caped conviction.

In Montgomery, Ala., a Negro my nurse was beaten by two lice officers. Her nose was broken d her whole body badly bruised. The excuse was that she had re- sed to leave the back seat of a s so that white passengers could ve all the places. These acts of olence continue unabated.

Daily Insults Endured

4-1-44

Only the serious cases come to e Army's attention — shooting, lling, rioting. But the daily in- lts that have to be endured in lence are even more disastrous Negro morale. The Negro soldier leave must wait until all pass- gers have been accommodated efore he can secure transportation. e must get out when his seat is eeded by a white traveler.

Last Christmas hundreds of Ne- ro soldiers passed their entire rlough waiting, waiting in vain. hey never got home. Southerners ave said to me quite frankly: You've got to teach a nigger in niform that he's still a nigger." n many Army posts the Negro oldiers prefer to remain in camp nd sacrifice the recreation im- ortant as a relief from constant iscipline rather than run the risk f insult or injury.

But even within the camps there re frequent cases of gratuitous in- ult to the Negro, especially from outhern officers, of whom there is preponderance in the United tates Army. The impact of military ustice upon the Negro soldier is fre- uently one - sided, revealing mild unishments of whites who have ommitted offenses against Negroes -and severe sentences for Negroes ho have offended whites.

Prison-Camp Example

When a Negro is the offender in ivil life, the punishment is also requently twice as severe as that neted out to the white man. The best example of the way the Negro oldier's feelings are disregarded in the South occurred at the German Prison Camp McCain in Mississippi. Here the facilities, toilets and drinking fountains were labeled "For whites only." The Germans and white Americans were in one class, the American Negro in another.

4-1-44

No wonder the Germans say they don't know wh we are fighting them, as their ideas on race and ours are the same.

To be sure, many white people are alarmed or incensed over the impertinent behavior of Negroes in uniform, and of Negro civilians as well. These frequent exhibitions of bad manners and the crimes which are the only news items about Negroes in the white press, worry the Negro leaders even more than the white people, for they realize that excesses on the part of any individual are blamed upon the whole race.

Their Army chaplains, clergymen, school teachers, and the Negro newspapers are doing all they can to impress upon their people the need for restraint in deportment and dress; but they have often expressed to me the hope that the white population would try to understand the magnitude of their problem.

4-1-44

After all, people who have lived an impoverished slum existence are bound to show signs of aggression when jobs and money suddenly become more plentiful, and when the world which formerly ignored their existence suddenly discovers that it cannot fight a war without their help.

The Army authorities are deeply concerned over the depredations committed against Negro men and women in the service, and have taken many steps to end them. Statements of policy have been issued to commanding officers, and Major General J. A. Ulio, the Adjutant General, has drawn up a stiff memorandum clarifying the Army powers on arrests and prosecutions.

But when state and local officials are not only weak but indifferent, the Federal authorities are seriously handicapped.

Transportation difficulties present the worst problem. The Army has tried to use its own motor equipment in extreme situations, but the supply is necessarily inadequate. Several post commanders have cleaned up their situations by telling the local officials in no uncertain language that they would stand no nonsense. But this is effective only when the local community has enough pride and decency to create a public opinion that supports commander's orders.

4-1-44

Bogged Down by Politics

I have seen Army generals bogged down by the political crooks that run cities just outside their doors I have been in one Southern county containing a very large camp, where the murder of a white man or Negro is a less serious offense than stealing a pig; on the theory, no doubt, that there are too many people and very few hogs.

In the face of such a low morality the military is helpless. Even if the Army took over such communities, I doubt whether they could clean them up, so ingrained, so secretive is its vice, and so clannish is the population. Only somebody who has been in touch with this somber and un-American atmosphere can understand how hard it is to control and that the Army has an unbelievably difficult situation on its hands.

4-1-44

But that is no comfort to the Negro mothers whose sons have been insulted, beaten or murdered.

The might of the United States Army is the greatest power in the world in the eyes of these mothers, and naturally they do not understand why that power cannot protect their sons if it wishes to do so. Nothing but an aroused nationwide public opinion can stop this lawlessness.

The country no longer can remain indifferent to the moral callousness of certain elements in the South, especially where it concerns the Negro. If the Army can teach our soldiers how to treat the natives of Patagonia, New Guinea and Africa, perhaps it can eventually handle the much more difficult task of teaching such Americans how to treat their Negro fellow-citizens.

In justice to the Southern states, it should be added that I found there not only the worst conditions for the Negro but among a small percentage of the people the greatest progress in thinking and behavior toward him.

In one Southern war center I found the only equitable division betwen whites and Negroes that came to my notice, of the housing, schools and recreational facilities furnished by the Federal government.

4-1-44

Near several camps the Southern communities contributed their services generously to the entertainment of the Negro soldiers, and with a kindliness I never encountered in the North. A social revolution is dawning below the Mason and Dixon Line, set in motion chiefly by a rapidly expanding industrialism that has created huge population shifts, shaken prejudices and created an intellectual ferment more profound and more promising than the effects of the war upon the North.

It is a pity that active sympathy for the Negro is receding in the rest of the nation just as this Southern liberalism is getting under way.

The popular resentment of the Negro race undoubtedly has focused itself upon the Army with an irrational force, because of the maltreatment of husbands, sons and brothers by the Southern communities. Minor factors increased this popular resentment.

4-1-44

At the beginning of the war Negro volunteers were often rejected because separate Negro camps were not ready, and these rejections were not very courtesously made by some of the local draft boards. As the Negro Army grew, the screening process was not yet perfected, with the result that some college professors and professional men were assigned to menial tasks.

—M. R.

NEGRO CHOSE PRISON TO LIVING UNDER NAZI RULE

Plaindealer — Kansas City, Kans.

8-11-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—J. Edgar Hoover tells in a signed article in the September issue of The American Magazine how a Negro, caught in the Nazi invasion of Holland, consented to become a German spy in South America to escape Hitlerism, but once back in the Western Hemisphere surrendered even thought knew it meant imprisonment and tricked his German-born co-cospirator into giving himself up.

Both now are in a South American penitentiary. The "lesson here for Hitler and all who believe in tyranny," said the Director of the Federal Buerau of Investigation, is that a Negro "born in a free world and conditioned to freedom so hated Naziism . . . that he was willing to return to poverty and even imprisonment rather than suffer it longer. And a German, (the co-conspirator) whose father had been executed by his government had taken tyranny lying

The Negro had gone to Holland as a stowaway in peaceful days but after the German invasion he was recruited for espionage. Trained thoroughly in radio transmission, codes, secret writing, and identification of ships and planes for espionage in South America, he and the German-born spy were shipped across the South Atlantic.

They paddled ashore separately in rubber boats with instructions to proceed by different routes to a rendezvious, relates Mr. Hoover. He writes:

8-11-44

"When the Negro was on free soil again, he buried his equipment,. marked the spot carefully, and set out at a jog for the near- est town. At dawn he came to a village and breathlessly asked the first man he met for a policeman.

"'I am a policeman,' the man said.

"'There is a big German boat down at the beach yonder,' the Negro said, 'and there is a German spy who has just landed.'

"Unfortunately the Negro spoke the native language poorly—his Dutch and English were much better—and the policeman did not understand him, but after scouting around a few moments, returned and said he had found a man who could speak Engish. Ironically, their passport the man he had found was the other spy.

"Confronted by his fellow con- spirator, the man was seeking to travel. The German finally agreed . . .

"On their w to the station, the Negro simply laid down the pistol and blurted out the whole story. The German, enraged, denied everything but later, when the Negro led police to the beach and dug up the buried equipment, the German confessed."

AN ARMY OF AFRICANS

Guardian — Boston, Mass.

Native soldiers of the Royal West African Frontier Force are in action on the Burma front. They have advanced in the Kaladen Valley by successful attacks on Apaukwa, south of Kyautaw, and earlier they had beaten all Japanese counter attacks east of Kyautaw. They reached India shortly before the Burma offensive began but had been well seasonsed for their present assignment by having lived for months in the dense jungles of their native land. The British Information Service says that they are "the finest jungle fighters in the world."

3-25-44

This is, indeed, high praise; and its significance becomes clearer as we consider the kind of raw material from which the Force was successfully built and the unprecedented complexities of modern mechanized warfare. On the other hand, the efficiency of her African troops thus acknowledged reflects no small amount of credit upon Great Britain. For three years the natives underwent training directed by British officers and non-commissioned officers, who braved tropical diseases, endured living conditions in isolated stations and continued to "carry on" in that spirit of doggedness which is commonly associated with the British character. Trained continuously in secret, the Force was known in West Africa as the "Forgotten Army." When finally it was ready, whot had been accomplished was astounding.

Dark Continent natives had become drivers, fitters, carpenters, electricians, stenographers, survey assistants, and others had joined engineer companies, the medical services and anti-aircraft batteries. "Within a short time after its arrival in India," the British Information Service states, "the Force was already adding to the great tradition of the West African Frontier Force which was formed by Lord Lugard near the end of the last century to preserve the internal security of British possessions in West Africa."

3-25-44

The transformation of "green" Africans into a formidable modernized fighting force will be viewed with unruffled calm by the scientific anthropologist. To him it means nothing more than an expected confirmation of his well-based conclusions which recognize the equality of all mankind however widely separated and distant may be the dwelling places of the "sons of men." To many average Americans the puzzling statement of a War Secretary belittling the colored American soldier becomes more baffling than ever as they learn what Britain has done with her African colonies. Our colored inductees are unquestionably better equipped educationally than African tribesmen. It appears glaringly clear, then, that the excellent results exhibited by the African soldier are due to a high-quality system of military training, administered with patience and an unremitting faithfulness to duty.

Secretly Trained Africans Fighting Japs On Burma Front

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

3-18-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Trained in secret for three years and now in action on the Burma front where they are scoring daily successes against the Japanese, the native soldiers of the Royal West African Frontier Force are the finest jungle fighters in the world, the British Information Service has told the Office of War Information.

According to official British communiques, these West African troops — fighting 5,000 miles from their native villages — continued their advances in the Kaladen Valley on the Burma front by attacking Apaukwa, south of Kyauktaw, on March 2 and capturing a majority of the enemy positions. Earlier they had repulsed Japanese counterattacks east of Kyauktaw.

The strong contingent of the Royal West African Frontier Force arrived in India shortly before the Burma offensive opened, the BIS said, but the units had lived almost continually in dense jungle country for months before they embarked on the Indian assignment.

3-18-44

FOUGHT ITALIANS

The present campaign is only one of a number participated in by various units of the Force. Early in the war, two West African infantry brigades — one from Nigeria and the other from the Gold Coast — were put into the field against the Italians in Abyssinia and played an important part in the liberation of that country.

The placing of these two brigades in the Abyssinian field left the four West African colonies practically defenseless during the early days of the African war, the BIS stated, but when the triumphant native troops returned to West Africa, they found that an entirely new army had been organized in their absence.

It was an untrained army at that time, the BIS pointed out. The majority of the British officers and non-commissioned officers were still learning to adapt themselves to African conditions. The thousands of Africans who had voluntarily joined the Force were enthusiastic, but untrained in modern warfare.

3-18-44

Heartened by the Abyssinian victory and undaunted by the complexities of mechanical warfare, the Force settled down to the task of making itself a first class fighting outfit.

There was plenty of good fighting material. The Hausas of Northern Territories of the Gold Coast had long been recognized among the finest colonial troops in the world.

MORE LITERATE TRIBES HELP

For its technicians and tradesmen, the Force turned to the more literate tribes near the sea coast —the Yorubas and Ibes of Nigeria, the Fantis and Gas of the Gold Coast, and the town-dwellers of Sierra Leone and Gambia. Many trained schools were opened.

Under British and African instructors, thousands of young recruits quickly learned to be drivers, fitters, carpenters, electricians, stenographers and survey assistants. Others joined engineer compaines, the medicial services, or anti-aircraft batteries that guarded West Africa's important airfields.

3-18-44

The main burden of training during the last two years of silence in the African jungle schools fell on the comparatively small number of British officers and NCOs serving in West Africa, the BIS said. For them it was an exacting life, with tropical diseases and long periods of service in isolated stations. Secrecy surrounded what was being done. The Force was known in West Africa as the "Forgotten Army."

FORCE WAS READY

3-18-44

Finally, however, the Force was ready. And within a short time after its arrival in India, it was already adding to the great tradition of the Royal West African Frontier Force which was formed by Lord Lugard near the end of the last century to preserve the internal security of British possessions in West Africa.

In the last war the Force served with distinction against the Germans in the Cameroons and East Africa.

CONVERT NEGRO TROOPS TO ENGINEERING UNITS

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-26-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—It was officially learned here Monday that the 931st Field Artillery Battalion has been converted into a Combat Engineer Battalion and redesignated the 1698th, and that officers of the disbanded 184th Field Artillery Regiment, known as "the Old Eighth" from Illinois, have been transferred to service with the 92nd Division.

Other information also discloses that the 795th and 732nd Field Artillery Battalions have been relieved of their field artillery duties and are now receiving engineer training. The 732nd was transferred to Camp Pickett, Va., while the 795th is stationed at Fort Jackson, S. C.

3-26-44

17 Paratroopers Still Jugged

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

3-25-44

COLUMBUS, Ga.—Seventeen members of the 555th Paratroopers are in the guard house awaiting general court-martial. Infantry are in charge.

Trouble began in a hundred men when news that they were being transferred to McCall, N.C. Two of them were shot by MP's. Most of the non-commissioned officers were busted.

Meanwhile, colored gunners of the 234th Battalion, of Camp Davis, N. C., commanded by Lieut. W. Andrews, of Glendale, Calif., who was succeeded by Lieut. Col. Chester G. Bouwkamp has been converted into a Combat two months ago, and a skeleton cadre of key enlisted men from the 235th Searchlight Battalion of the 613th Regiment, of Camp Stewart, Ga., commanded by Major Galen P. Eaton, of Stonington, Maine, have received warm praise from military authorities for their unusual firing records.

The 234th, only recently mastered a three-day field problem it underwent, to test the theories of firing methods it had been taught at Camp Davis. The men of the 235th were rated "Excellent," scoring 91 in artillery training and an overall average of 86 in all phases of training.

3-25-44

OUTSTANDING ABILITY

47n-1944

Other Editors Write

POST WAR PLANNING

There is much talk about Post-War planning...Everybody is making preparations to live after the present war comes to an end. It is smart to plan for the future, those who prepare for the future are more able to make adjustments to the world than the fellow who only lives for a day.

There are many things that could be said about Post-War planning, but we only wish to make one suggestion.

Our great task in the Post-War world will not be solving the racial problem so much, but rather getting our own house clean....If we can give our people more education, common sense, vision, intelligence, honesty, dependability, efficiency and decency, we will be able to participate in a Democracy. Our status will demand that recognition be given us along all lines. We must keep up the fight to defeat racial barriers, but we must not neglect to keep up the fight to set our own house in order.

Of course, there are thousands of us who can measure up to any requirements of good citizens in all phases, but there are also thousands walking in darkness holding the entire race back. Our great task is going to be keeping the young jitterbug element, the hoodlum, both old and young, the hair-brain radical, the political crooks, the ignorant and the Uncle Tom under control and elevate them to a status that will not take away the social, economic, political and religious gains already achieved. In order to go forward, we must give the problem within our race some real attention throughout this country.

The task is not being neglected, but we wish to call attention at this point to the fact, that too much cannot be done in getting our own house right.

The Plaindealer

—o—

GET READY TO HOLD YOUR JOB

The public should be concerned about conversion from war to peace time activity. Congress is concerned to the extent that several bills have been introduced calculated to get people back to normal. None other than the one providing unemployment benefits for a certain class of workers actually and directly apply to most of the people.

Already we have seen some cutbacks in employment in certain war industries. As we come closer to the defeat of our enemies these cutbacks will be greater and we shall have a lot of readjustments to make.

The question of jobs is of paramount importance for if people can be employed at gainful occupations other things will go along; people will be sane and patient enough to work out a lasting program.

While jobs have been plentiful, most employers have been forced to work employees who are not only unqualified for their respective jobs, but also lack many of the ordinary habits that go to make up a good worker. And these same people have been shortsighted enough to fail to take advantage of opportunities they never had before.

Of course, what will happen is that those employees who failed the employer during these times of national emergency will be the first fired upon returning to normalcy. And this is true for both Negroes and whites.

Often we have complained that generally Negroes were the last hired and the first fired. That is true in a great many instances. But the By-stander believes that the Negro himself can do much to keep his job by proper conduct. We found during the depression that generally speaking, those people who were industrious and took care of the responsibilities in the past, had jobs while genarlly the shiftless, irresponsible were on relief. Of course there were a lot of good reliabl people on relief; there were exceptions. There just were not jobs left to go round.

Realizing that the churches, clubs and lodges have a lot of influence in any community, we believe that much of the program of each should be devoted to the job of advising and helping people to appreciate that there is a serious problem ahead and the question of whether they hold a job when the rush comes, depends greatly upon them.

—:o:—

ONE LAW, ONE JUSTICE

It may be a hard thing for some people to learn, but it is nonetheless true, that the people of this country, whether they reside in Jersey or in Georgia, will come of age, and so be ready for a real peace, only when they realize that ONE LAW, ONE JUSTICE, ONE LIBERTY is the indispensable basis of a stable and civil society.

To the extent Amercans, as any people, see law and justice and liberty as divisible, to that extent they make their life a thing of divisio nand wasteful conflict.

One law, one justice, one liberty: this is the thing without which there is no civility, no social dignity, no continuity of the higher human heritage.

What of the Parties?

If there is any one thing political parties should be together on, as given matter, it is this necessary basis of sane social intercourse.

Still, the most argued about section of the two major party platforms this summer is that on the Negro.

Opinion differs as to the respective merits of the sections, but it is clear that neither party would have to be bothered with the "Negro problem" if the top leaders of the major parties had gone to their conventions ready to accord the Negro citizen his full rights under the law—the United States Constitution.

The "problem" exists primarily because America is at war with itself in the basic concept of its promise and function as a nation.

How there is to be victory in the peace so long as America is at war in its vitals is something we want to be told.

New Jersey Herald News

Postwar Reconversion And The Negro

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va

8-19-44

THE VOTE on the GEORGE states' rights postwar reconversion bill in the U. S. Senate on August 11 offers plain evidence of what the Negro may expect to be up against, and the type of development which he must, more than ever, be on guard against and take steps now and hereafter to forestall by every legitimate democratic process.

The vote on the GEORGE bill, following rejection of a similiar but somewhat more acceptable bill sponsored by SENATORS MURRAY and KILGORE, found the Democrats of the South, with only four exceptions, and a controlling bloc of Republicans lining up together to gyp the Negro out of his equitable share of benefits under the reconversion program.

Coming on the heels of the conventions of the two major parties, neither of which offered really strong and unqualified platforms dealing with minority rights, this has especial significance as the first act of the two parties following their protestations via party planks on the Negro question, 8-19-44

What the GEORGE bill would do is to turn over to the individual states absolute control of relief for unemployed persons during the postwar period—but with the federal government underwriting the expenses, however.

How important this is can be seen from the fact that there are about 20,000,000 war workers and 10,000,000 service men involved.

IT IS SHOCKING to witness the unanimity with which the GOP members of the Senate embraced the states' rights doctrine, used by the South primarily in the past to evade its plain duty to distribute equally the benefits and rights of government. 8-19-44

The Republicans need no reminder that in the southern states, where eight million Negroes reside, those in power will grasp such an opportunity as the GEORGE bill provides to further depress the living standards of colored civilians and returned war veterans during the postwar period. It will be a sorry picture—an army of black veterans who've been fighting for democracy to return and be forced, through such devices, into virtual or actual serfdom.

And that is what will happen. It has always happened in the South in the distribution of public funds, for education, for health, for relief, for agricultural aid, for housing, and similiar functions. The records show the denial to, or great disparity in the distribution of such funds and other aid between the races in the affected area. 8-19-44

Interested agencies and individuals are already asking GOVERNOR DEWEY, the GOP presidential candidate, and PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT to comment on this vital legislation. Their answers and the final disposition of the legislation will be useful criteria by which voters, particularly in the pivotal or balance-of-power states, will determine the candidate to support in November.

Every citizen interested in his birthright should write to his congressman and senators and frankly insist that a more civilized type of legislation be devised. None of the present legislation, that already rejected by the Senate nor that passed by the Senate, is really adequate

Ex-Combat Men With 93rd Jump Island to Aid 24th

Afro-American 8-12-44

Master Techniques of Jungle Warfare, Shifted When Island Loses Importance

Baltimore Md

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the South Pacific

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Baltimore, Md.

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (Via Courier) — Temporarily relieved of semi-combat duty on an island in the New Georgia archipelago of the Solomons Islands, a portion of one of the 93rd Division's combat teams is relieving a part of the 24th Infantry in vital non-combatant guard and maintenance functions on another island.

Soon after arriving overseas, this portion of the division began to add the names of Guadalcanal, Banika, Vela Lavella, Gonanga, Baga and Gizo to their vocabularies.

They found Gizo, the only real city in the group, dotted with modern houses and were awed at the sight of a lawnmower and of a few of the Polynesian natives the movies had led them to believe people all the Pacific isles.

Little Contact with Enemy

On one tactically important island the unit split up to guard an airdrome. They saw the enemy moving about on adjoining islands, even watched them fishing in small native-made boats but had close contact with only a single son of the Rising Sun.

The comic bit of scuttlebutt the unit is now telling is that the Jap, a straggler, had been wandering around the island for weeks or even months.

For a week a patrol dragnet searched for the Jap. They found his cave and evidences that he had been able to swipe some American rations at some time or other, but they didn't find the Jap.

Waited to Surrender

A crack Ft. Bragg-trained anti-aircraft unit got credit for the capture when the emaciated and more than half-starved Jap stood on the roadside waving to after-movie crowds for someone to pick him up.

8-12-44

Security patrols from the unit walked the trails of the unit's island and several adjoining ones. In this manner they became partially jungle wise. Other parts of the group kept the supply lines open and still others practiced scouting and other jungle tactics.

In time the unit earned a commendation for efficiency on combat maneuvers, proving their ability to master the savagery of the bush and deal with its diseases.

No Longer Needed There

It was shifted off the island because of its diminishing tactical importance following the successful operations of other parts of the division at Bougainville, Green Island and Emirau Islands.

Now it is guarding fuel and ammunition, loading it on or off barges and ships, shuttling it forward to airmen and infantrymen in our farthest advanced sectors.

Only award winner, so far, is S/Sgt. William Tate, Coshocton, Ohio, a mess sergeant, who earned the Soldier's Medal when he saved the life of a white sailor after a navy craft had blown up in a harbor near where his unit was stationed.

Colored Officers

Colored officers in the segment of the team include Baltimoreans, First Lieut. Christo Waller, 1823 Eager Street, husband of the former Laura Singleton and ex-Morgan State football and track star; First Lieut. Thomas J. Wheaden, 2407 Madison Avenue; Second Lieut. Booker T. Williams, 1515 Argyle Avenue; First Lieut. Edward D. Hinkson, 2520 Druid Hill Avenue.

Washingtonians are First Lieut. Samuel E. Tyree, 1205 Linden Street, Northeast, and First Lieut. Oswald V. Monroe, 215 T Street, Northwest.

All-CIAA Star

Other officers contacted by this correspondent include:

Capts. Napoleon B. Helm, Cincinnati; Reden R. Williams, Tampa, Fla.; First Lieuts. William H. Kearney, Bridgeport, Conn., former Virginia Union all-CIAA football star; William T. Harper, Orange, N.J.; Barney Q. Duncan, Chicago; Joseph Hairston, Phenix City, Ala.;

8-12-44

Second Lieuts. William H. Youngblood, New Bedford, Mass.; Romeo A. Cherot, Ann Arbor, Mich.; James T. Hollin, Montgomery, Ala.; Shirley W. Gregory, Chicago; Joseph Sarpy, Alexandria, La.; Richard L. Crawford, Chicago; Alfred A. Rousselle, Wilmington, Del.; Alonzo D. Mitchell, Long Island, N.Y.; Benjamin Hicks, NYC; Roger Smith, Andrews, S.C.

Warrant Officers Gentry Heslep, Tucson, Ariz., and Floyd W. Pettie, Salina, Kan.

Know Their Weapons

Enlisted personnel in this unit, like that in every infantry group of a combat team, is trained in handling the regulation rifle, light and heavy machine-guns, light and heavy mortars, bazookas and flame-throwers. Among men whose homes are on the East coast are:

BALTIMORE

Pvt. Herbert C. Smith, 556 St. Mary Street; T/Sgt. Johnnie Baxter, 1313 N. Bond Street.

WASHINGTON

S/Sgt. Henry Braxton, 1014 Florida Avenue, Northeast; T/Sgt. Floyd Finney, 1739 Q Street, Northwest; Pvt. Isham Thompson, 31 Florida Avenue, Northeast.

PHILADELPHIA

Pvt. Harry Dent, 8418 Bartram Avenue; Pfc. Maynard Washington, 761 Moore Street; Pfc. Patillo Greenwood, 1726 N. Nineteenth Street; Pfc. Samuel Stribling, 1807 W. Montgomery Avenue; S/Sgt. Eddie Sears, 2039 Wharton Street; Pfc. William Seville, 32 S. Cecil Street;

Pfc. Nathaniel Lynch, 1900 N. Twenty-first Street, Pfc. George Poyner, 4055 Samson Street; Pvt. Harrison Gamble, 1833 W. Master Street; Pfc. Curtis Thompson, 1419 W. Stiles Street; S/Sgt. Richard Floyd, 954 N. Warnock Street; S/Sgt. Eugene Darden, 3636 N. Smedley Street; Pfc. James W. Baylor, 423 S. Forty-second Street.

8-12-44

VIRGINIA

S/Sgt. Henry Q. McDaniel, Roanoke; S/Sgt. Paul Dickerson, Chilowie; Sgt. Earvin Wilkerson, Bedford; T/5 James Smith, Buchanan; Pfc. Edward Davis, Appomatox; Pfc. Ernest Hairston, Lynchburg; Pfc. Bennie Lamb, Virginia Beach; Pfc. Hiram Terry, Nathalie; Pfc. George King, Blair;

Sgt. Vincent Davis, Norfolk; Sgt. George L. Roberts, Norfodk; T/5 Clarence E. Bias, Roanoke; Pfcs. Josephus Hicks, Norfolk; William Motley, Danville; T/5 Thomas Dandridge, Quinton; T/5 Jeremiah Sanders, Portsmouth; Pfc. Alexander Brown, Sanderston; Pfc. Herman Powell, Suffolk;

S/Sgt. Russell Walker, Norge; Cpl. Herbert Kelly, Norfolk; Pfc. James Armstead, Farmville; Pfc. Henry W. Jones, 353 Hurt Street, Petersburg; Pfc. Thomas Millner, Ridgeway; Pfc. John Prince, Franklin; Pvt. Joseph Costen, Portsmouth; Pvt. Roy Washington, Troy.

NORTH CAROLINA

Pfcs. Thomas Bostick, Burlington; Anderson Cartwright, Camden; William Jenkins, Bethel; Lindsay Anderson, Guilford; McCallum Clifton, Red Spring; Pvts. Herbert Branch, Warsaw;

Clemon Burnett, Burlington; Willie Turner, Reidsville; William Venable, Oxford; William Price, Allen's Alley; Sim R. Meadows, Kinston; Joseph Gaylord, Plymouth; William Bowser, Gatesville; James O. Byrd, High Point;

James M. Knox, Winterville; Willie Weaks, Winston-Salem; Marshall Wallace, Mt. Holly; William Roudy, Maxton; Daniel Edwards, Ayden; James Dobbin, Smithville; Robert Kerr, Albermarle.

Post-War Plan Urges Equal Opportunity

Amsterdam News New York N.Y.

Senator Wagner Outlines Nine-Points Program for All—Regardless of Race

6-3-44

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Equal opportunity in public and private activity for of our people, regardless of race, creed or color, was among the cardinal requirements of democracy listed by Sen. Robert F. Wagner, (D. of NY), in an "I Am an American Day" speech this past Sunday.

He was outlining a nine-point program of post-war objectives. He said later that he believed the principles he enunciated would be embodied in the Democratic platform at the convention in July, and hinted that his views had the approval of the President.

Nine Point Program

His nine points were outlined as;

"First and foremost is the organization of the world for peace. . .

"Our SECOND objective is the vigilant preparation of our nation at all times to defend our liberty and security. . . .

"Our THIRD objective is to maintain in the future as we have in the present, a government which is the servant of the people and not its master.

"Our FOURTH objective is the maintenance and prudent expansion of the whole system of Social Security. . . . .

"FIFTH, we must enlarge the scope of Social Security so as to make available to rich and poor alike the benefits of modern medical science. . .

6-3-44

"SIXTH, one of our immediate tasks is the mobilization of both public and private means to clear away our slums, build in their place decent housing and bring a home it can love within the reach of every family.

"SEVENTH, a cardinal requirement of democracy is that every boy and girl shall have an education which is not limited by the ability of their parents to pay for it. All our children must have an equal chance to make the most of themselves. . . .

"EIGHTH, the same reasons dictate the necessity of equalizing opportunity in public and private activity for all of our people, regardless of race, creed or color. In a democracy, merit and merit alone should determine the heights to which any man can reach.

"Our NINTH goal is the preservation and extension of the great freedoms to think, to speak, to write and to worship without molestation so that man may attain that high dignity which the divine plan comprehended when He created him."

"Adequate Provisions For Returning Servicemen" Proclaimed At Annual Conference Of Natl. Urban League

N.Y. Age

COLUMBUS, Ohio—The determination of the Selective Service System to make adequate provisions for the return of Negro veterans to civilian life was stressed by Colonel Campbell Johnson in an address before the National Urban League in its 34th annual conference here last week.

The theme of the Conference was "Victory Through Unity." "The Selective Service System," said Colonel Johnson, "will make every effort to carry out its responsibility for the placement of returning veterans without regard to color."

Lester B. Granger, in summing up the activities and findings of this 34th Annual Conference of the National Urban League, said: "The Negroes in America and the entire nation are plagued by many perplexing problems, but we are encouraged by the willingness and the eagerness of thoughtful persons, both north and south, to give unreservedly of their energies in the solution of these problems."

The Conference, which attracted nearly 300 registrants from 40 or more cities in which Urban Leagues are located, recommended "A direct frontal assault against those practices inconsistent with democratic principles." Edward S. Lewis, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York and chairman of the Committee on Findings of the Conference, was vigorously applauded as he read the concluding statement of the introduction to the findings. "This Conference further places itself on record as reaffirming unqualified opposition to all discriminatory modifications of citizenship in any phase of our common American life."

The Conference also recommended the setting up of industry councils representing labor, management, and government, co-

Frank [illegible] the fact "that housing conditions among Negroes and other minority groups amount to a national scandal." The Conference called for legislative action and program policy in the elimination of racial restrictive covenants, and for the rejection of

47n-1944

G. I. Bill of Rights And What It Means

Weekly — New Orleans La.

9-16-44

Here, in its main sections, is what the GI Bill means to you:

Who Is Covered

In general, all men and women are covered who have been in active military or naval service 90 days or more since Sept. 16, 1940, and prior to the end of the war. You may apply for benefits upon receipt either of an honorable discharge or a discharge without honor.

Those receiving dishonorable discharges may not apply for benefits. However, a special board is set up under the law to review discharges upon application by a veteran.

Where to Apply

The Veterans Administration is the enabling authority under the bill. Upon discharge, you contact the VA branch nearest your home, tell them your story, show your papers, get them any other pertinent information they want and let them do the rest.

9-16-44

How to Finish School

The law says that any veteran who entered the service when he was 25 or younger will be given the means to complete his education, if he so desires. Any older veteran will have to prove his education was interfered with by going into service.

The Government will pay you up to $500 a year for tuition, books, laboratory fees, etc., for a minimum of a year's schooling in public or private colleges, universities, trade or business schools or secondary schools.

In addition, you will receive $50 a month subsistence and $25 a month extra if you have dependents. No matter how many dependents you have, however, the $25 will be for all of them.

Depending on the length of service, and on regulations still to be set up by the Veterans Administration you will be able to apply for a maximum of four years' schooling.

9-16-44

If you go to a school where tuition is free, such as the University of California or the City College of New York, an equitable method of paying you a part of the $500 set aside for school expenses will be worked out. If you go to a school where annual tuition is more than $500, such as most of the Ivy League colleges and universities, it is probable that the Government will put up the $500 and let you pay the rest of the tuition yourself.

If you choose to work days and go to school at night, the chances are you'll qualify for a part-time tuition and partial subsistence.

The most important qualification in this business of education is—you'll have to get passing marks in all subjects. If you flunk, no more education.

Incidentally, while you're completing your schooling, you'll be given an annual 30-day leave at the same rate of subsistence.

Since recent studies have shown at least 60 per cent of the men in the Army are under 26, the great bulk of soldiers are eligible for the educational provisions. It is generally true, moreover, that most men older than that have completed their education or don't want to go back to school anyway.

9-16-44

How to Get a Loan

If you want to build, purchase or repair a home, open a small business or professional office or buy, refurbish or repair a farm, you will be able to get a Government-guaranteed loan from a public or private lending agency.

The interest will be not more than four per cent, generally, and the loan will be repayable in 20 years. Naturally, you'll have to show some ability to repay. Moreover, there will be a Veterans Administration check-up on your project, whatever it is, to make certain you won't be gypped.

The Government is willing to guarantee the principal up to 50 per cent of the principal, provided the guarantee does not exceed $2,000. The Veterans Administration will absorb the interest for the first year on the amount guaranteed.

If you already have an original loan from a Government agency, such as the FHA, the Veterans Administration may guarantee the entire amount of a secondary loan specifically to cover a required 20 per cent down payment on the purchase price of a home. In that case, however, the interest rate may be 5 per cent.

9-16-44

What this means is that a good many soldiers will be able to build their own small homes with the aid of the Veterans Administration and the FHA and pay off the carrying charges in the usual manner.

The exact details and procedures obviously haven't been worked out yet by the Veterans Administration, but by the time you're ready to apply they'll be prepared to give you full and specific assistance.

How to Get Job Insurance

In the first two years following your discharge or the termination of the war, whichever is later, you will be able to apply for unemployment insurance, if you are out of a job, or if you earn less than $3 a week.

The flat rate of weekly payments is $20.

If you have served in the armed forces for 90 days, you are entitled to eight weeks of unemployment insurance. For each additional month of service, you are entitled to four weeks' additional pay.

9-16-44

The most you will get is 52 weeks unemployment insurance in the first two years.

If you receive any State unemployment insurance, that will be deducted from the Federal pay. You must, of course, show willingness to take a suitable job at prevailing regional wages.

If you go on strike, you lose the job insurance benefits but you will not be obliged to take a job where a strike is in progress. The job insurance provision covers self-employed veterans as well as those who work for someone else.

9-16-44

How to Get a Job

The bill sets up a job-locating agency within the U. S. Employment Service and the director of the agency will be chairman of the Veterans Administration. The War Manpower Commission also will be an intrinsic part of the job-locating project.

If you are looking for a job, the best thing to do under the terms of the bill will be to consult your nearest Veterans Administration bureau for directions and they will refer you to the proper source at the U. S. Employment Service.

Hospitalization

New hospital facilities will be provided by the Veterans Administration, which is authorized under the terms of the bill to spend $500,000,000 for that purpose specifically to care for returning service men and women.

9-16-44

In addition to the above benefits, the veteran retains his rights to the mustering-out pay benefits of $100 to $300 cash, liberal benefits for disability in military service or pensions to his survivors in case of death.

Kentucky Governor Names Negroes On Postwar Board

Amsterdam News — New York

10-28-44

LOUISVILLE (ANP)—Among the 25 leaders in various Kentucky professional and business fields named by Gov. Simeon Willis to serve on the post-war board, President R. B. Atwood, of Kentucky State College, Frankfort, and the Rev. W. P. Offutt, Louisville, were named.

Representatives of agriculture, labor, industry, education, business and government form the group, which will "study and investigate the physical and human resources of the state."

10-28-44

Created by executive order, under plans outlined recently in a broadcast "report to the people" by the chief executive, the commission will "consider and coordinate the plans and recommendations of all other planning bodies, including private and governmental bodies, as related particularly to the opportunities and problems of Kentucky."

It will, according to the governor's order, formulate plans and make recommendations for the full development of resources for the aid o all interests of the state.

Plans of Work

The commission will provide it own organization, plans of work and financing, and it may create any committees and sub-committees it deems ecessary to facilitate its work. Such committees may include any "suitable persons," whether members of the commission or otherwise.

The research department of the University of Kentucky and all departments and agencies of the state government were requested to cooperate with the group.

10-28-44

The recently created Negro Affairs Commission, composed of 12 members of which Atty. Charles W. Anderson, Jr., Dr. Maurice F. Rabb, the Rev. William H. Ballew, Prof. William H. Perry, Robert E. Black and Mrs. W. H. Fouse are the Negro representatives, has organized and is now functioning in order that practical solutions to problems confronting Negroes in Kentucky in the fields of education, health, housing, economics and civil affairs, may be recommended to the governor at least 90 days before the 1946 session of the general assembly.

DuBois Displeased About Commission Of Colonies at Dumbarton Oaks

10-21-44

By Harry McAlpin

Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, noted educator and writer, told a meeting of Americans United for World Organization, held at the State Department here last week, that the Dumbarton Oaks Conference on the future peace organization had depressed him by its passing over the matter of colonies in its deliberations.

In regard to colonials, he said, the conference "virtually says to six hundred million human beings, if not to a majority of mankind, that the only way to human equality is the philanthropy of masters who have historic and strong interest in preserving their present power and income."

10-21-44

Depressed

Criticizing the proposals made at the Oaks, Dr. DuBois declared: "As I have gone through the published proposals at Dumbarton Oaks, I am depressed to note, paragraph one, chapter two, paragraph six, apparently an aggrieved party must be a state in order to complain or appear before the Council; Similarly, in chapter seven, no colonies as such can appeal for hearing before the International Court of Justices.

10-28-44

No Protection

"Elaborate effort is made to protect states from aggression, but I find no provisions in chapter seven even to consider aggression of a nation on its own colonial peoples while apparently international military force can be called in to suppress revolt."

Undersecretary of State Edward Stettinius presided at the meeting, attended by several hundred persons. Dr. DuBois was one of the few recognized as a statement.

W. African Frontier Force Has Best Jungle Fighters

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
3-18-44

A member of the Royal West African Frontier Force in bayonet practice at the engineer training center, Bukuru, Northern Nigeria.

WASHINGTON

Trained in secret for three years and now in action on the Burma front, where they are scoring successes daily against the Japanese, the native soldiers of the Royal West African Frontier Force are considered the finest jungle fighters in the world.

The British Information Service, in a communique to the Office of War Information this week, said that these troops continued their advances in the Kaladen Valley on the Burma front by attacking Apaukwa, south of Kyautaw, on March 2, and capturing a majority of the enemy positions.

Others in Action

Earlier they had repulsed Japanese counter attacks east of Kyautaw. They arrived in India shortly before the Burma offensive opened, the BIS said, but lived almost continually in dense jungle country for months before they embarked on the Indian assignment.

3-18-44

The present campaign is only one of a number participated in by various units of the force. Early in the war, two West African infantry brigades—one from Nigeria and the other from the Gold Coast—were put into the field against the Italians in Abyssinia and played an important part in the liberation of that country.

RESCINDS 'ATTACK' SENTENCE

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
July 1, 1944

General Wins Praise For Returning Soldier to Full Duty Cleared of Charges

By RANDY DIXON,
War Correspondent

LONDON, England — Cpl. LeRoy Henry, whose death sentence for an alleged rape was disapproved by General Dwight D. Eisenhower, has been returned to full duty and completely cleared of the charge by order of General Eisenhower. This action follows Eisenhower's earlier disapproval of the findings of the court-martial. He rescinds the sentence without remand because of insufficient evidence either to support the conviction or to warrant a re-trial.

This action of the General is certain to lend the morale of the Negro soldiers in this theatre soaring far above the existing levels and permanently entrench him in their minds as a fair and fearless leader. Under military law, Eisenhower had two courses open to him—retrial or disapproval without remand. His decision was the latter.

By GEORGE PADMORE,
London Correspondent

LONDON, England — General Dwight D. Eisenhower, affectionately known among Britishers as "Ike," has saved the good name of American military justice by direct intervention in rescinding the death sentence of Cpl. LeRoy Henry and has won for himself public eulogies not only as a brilliant soldier, but also as a great humanitarian and upholder of the highest ideals of American democracy.

Now that the great wrong has been righted, it can be disclosed that British publications interpreted the sentence of the corporal as a frame-up resembling the Scottsboro case. Consequently American prestige suffered a great setback. Only Eisenhower's action has retrieved the situation.

LONDON PAPERS PRAISE GENERAL

The London Tribune writes in a lead editorial, "Eisenhower possesses many attributes of true greatness. Among these, not the least is a sense of pity and a quick sympathy with anyone suffering from injustice. He revealed these in a notable fashion when he intervened to save a Negro from execution. Those familier with certain aspects of American politics realize that he risked attack from some elements in America.

"It seemed to us that a grave injustice might be done by the woman concerned and to the reputation of the United States in this country if the sentence of death had been carried out on the evidence adduced at the trial. It is therefore especially gratifying that Eisenhower took such a view. Now ordered are a consideration of the circumstances and the sentence. The final outcome of this case is beneficial all around. Eisenhower has gained in stature and the Negro community feel that they are no longer unprotected and exposed to the racial prejudice of a court-martial."

ASKS U. S. ARMY TO PUBLISH FACTS

The liberal weekly, New Statesman and Nation, says, "The United States Army would do well to publish fully the facts about the sentences for rape in this country. Since it is notoriously true that in many parts of the Southern States the Negro stands no chance of fair play on such a charge and that this injustice is defended by many white soldiers, it is not surprising that British public opinion seems assured that the American military courts will follow the same pattern.

"If, as seems to be the case, the Army authorities here are in fact doing their best to obtain race equality within the Army overseas, the sooner the facts are known, the better it will be for all parties."

John Paton, secretary of the British National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, issued the following statement explaining that the British parliament gave American military authorities the power of sentencing death says, "These sentences are being passed under powers granted by Parliament under the visiting forces act of 1942 which, in effect, gives the American Army in Britain extra-territorial rights.

PARLIAMENT CANNOT INTERVENE IN U. S. CASES

"When the act was under discussion in Parliament, it was clearly stated that the penalties to be imposed for offenses would be in accordance with the American penal code which for some offenses like rape in certain States, though not in all, is more severe than ours. Consequently the death sentences now being passed for rape have profoundly shocked large numbers of people to whom the operation of the act has come as a complete surprise.

"So far as reports show, all charges for the single offense of rape have been against colored soldiers and in all these cases the verdict of guilty has been followed by the maximum sentence of death. It is inevitable that under these circumstances the suspicion should be aroused that race prejudice is operating, although it is fair to say that a careful reading of the reports reveals no evidence of it.

"But it is a sriking fact that in all cases reported in which the death sentence has been passed, the condemned man has been a Negro. It is significant also that in the districts where the cases have been tried and where the local press has fully reported them, and therefore where the population might reasonably be presumed to be incensed against the offender there has been widespread and spontaneous protest by various bodies, shop stewards, groups of factory workers and by many individuals.

"This same disquiet has expressed itself in questions from members of Parliament to responsible ministers who, however, profess no jurisdiction in the matter. Eisenhower ought to be made aware of the repugnance with which large numbers of people in this country would view the actual infliction of the death penalty in these cases."

MEDICAL EXPERT GIVES OPINION

Analyzing the case from a medical and psychological aspect, Dr. Clifford Allen, leading British psychiatrist, says, "I do not think that the average man realizes how many women there are who are likely to make unfounded accusations of sexual assault. As a psychiatrist, I have encountered hysterical cases in which this accusation is made for exhibitionistic reasons.

"Much more dangerous are those cases of schizophrenia in which the delusion that rape has occurred appears without any symptoms. These delusions of being raped are very common among female schizophrenics and no doubt the presence of colored soldiers would be woven into the psychosis."

Similar medical and legal expert analyses have appeared in the press throughout the British Isles since the rape cases involving Negro soldiers have aroused widespread attention.

Signalman Captures 20 Germans

Tribune — Houston, Texas
9-12-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)—In typical fashion of ridiculing even when reporting heroism of Negroes, the United Press reporter Henry T. Gorrell, with U. S. Armored Forces Attacking Coutances, France, has filed a story in which is included what he calls the "prize capture of the day" in those parts.

According to Gorrell, the "prize capture" was made by a Negro signalman who was stringing wire during the night when a German approached him. "Jumping," reports Gorrell, "he shouted 'Who dat?' and began firing his rifle. Twenty more Germans, who had been thinking it over, tumbled out of the bushes and surrendered."

The signalman is not identified. A signalman entrusted with the stringing of wire is likely to be a chap with some educational background even among white. Among Negroes, he is even more likely to have a background to compare with Gorrell's and possibly says "who's that" as clearly.

8-12-44

Whites Talk Flat Also

There are many Negroes who say "who dat?" There are possibly more whites, numerically, who talk as flatly. No one ever tries to reproduce in print the broad, flat enunciation of Southerners, if they are white. But it seems to be a source of "fun" to make sport of any Negro by ridicule, even when he is risking his life for black and white.

Dumbarton Oaks Remains Silent On Race Issue

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
10-21-44

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON —(ANP)—The two matters of singular importance to colored peoples of the world, apart from the general principle of maintenance of peace, were left untouched by the Dumbarton Oaks conference, and the tentative proposals which are now being reviewed in the capitals of the united nations throw no additional light on the subject.

These matters are, first, the mandates system; and second, the question of an equality plank.

In making public the text of the proposals last week official quarters referred to it as being "90 per cent complete." It was later freely admitted that the disposition of mandates was one of the matters falling within the category of the unfinished ten per cent.

10-21-44

As regards an equality plank, this too was considered outside the realm of the immediate discussions. It has been generally acknowledged now that the Chinese did make a proposal on the equality of races and nations. It is also true that proposals dealing with various cultural and economic problems came to the attention of the conferences.

CHINA ASKS RACE RIGHTS IN PEACE

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
9-16-44

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—China will propose the equality of all races and states as a principle which should be upheld by a world security league when she moves in for her say at the exploratory big-power discussions on world security organization now underway at Dumbarton Oaks.

A similar proposal was made by Japan, then an ally, at the peace conference following World War I and got little support.

It is understood that China's position on racial and state equality is supported by all independent non-

of an international police force. It also might affect such things as the executive council of an international security league under the immigration barries against various races.

9-16-44

European states. The racial equality proposal, if Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador to Great Britain, heading the Chinese delegation arrived in Washington last week. He has handed out the Chinese memorandum to the United States and Britain. It is similar to that of Russia. It proposes the creation

to act under these press it, may arouse far discussion because it directly affect the status of areas in Asia and Africa.

It is expected that China will the discussions this coming

The proposal goes beyond that of both the United States and Great

It is proposes the creation

47n-1944

Negro Signal Corps units in France are doing an excellent job getting messages through. Their work in rebuilding Nazi lines and instruments has been commended on many occasions. Lower left photo shows Technician Fifth Grade Dexter Clayton, of Sulphur Springs, Va., and Master Sergeant Nelson T. Ewing, of Louisville, Ky., tying wire to a pole after sag is taken up. In center photo, linemen fasten ends of wire to clamp block prior to stringing lines. Two young natives observe the wire stringing in photo at right.

—U. S. Signal Corps Photos.

ON THEIR WAY TO THE INVASION OF SOUTHERN FRANCE

Soldiers of the Seventh Army join with sailors in singing a hymn aboard an LST

War Dept.'s Report on Negroes

By JAMES W. FORD

THE War Department's report on the number of Negroes in the armed forces of the United States and the part they are taking in the all-over fighting shows the big role they play in the defense of the nation. They are listed in all departments of the Army.

The report shows 698,911 Negroes serving in the Army on June 30, 1944. More than one-half — 361,456— are serving overseas. This is 150,000 more than served overseas in the last war. There is a rise in the number of commissioned officers as compared to the last war. Negro soldiers are in every branch of Army service. This widely diversified use of Negro personnel never happened before in the history of the Army. Heretofore the policy was to regulate Negro personnel to non-combatant service, mainly laborers corps.

Today the report shows Negroes are performing heroically and brilliantly in the highest and most technical branches of the Army, notably the Air Corps.

Negro Nurses

The first contingent of Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps has just arrived in the European Theater of Operations. The contingent was greeted by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, America's ranking Negro officer. Capt. Mary L. Petty of Chicago heads the contingent. During four years as chief nurse, she supervised a station where an average of 20,000 men were in constant training.

Serving under Capt. Petty are 63 officers from all parts of the country. They have a glorious record. Fifteen members of the unit have had previous foreign duty in the African campaign.

There are Negro Chaplains, serving both Negro and white soldiers.

There is Staff Sgt. John R. Gibson of New York City, whose company delivered the first cargo of supplies to Soviet Russia. He has just returned to the country after serving 18 months with a Quartermaster regiment in the Persian Gulf Command.

A Negro processing unit is functioning perfectly at the Air Corps Command at Boca Raton, Fla. The report gives a detailed listing of names and addresses of hundreds of Negro soldiers and their deeds.

The breakdown of the report on the Negroes in the Army shows 44,869 in the infantry; 38,517 in the use of Negro personnel by the coast and field artillery; 1,473 the Army. They show how ex- in the cavalry; 123,789 in engineers tensive the process of the integra- corps; 79,027 in Air Corps. tion of Negroes is going on. It is The balance, 406,236, are listed a reflection of what is going on as "all others." It would have been at the home front too: The Amal- well if these had been further gamated Association of Street and broken down as to the number Electric Railway Employes in Los in the signal corps, marines and Angeles voted to accept Negroes other branches of the Army. into the union.

It shows the democratization of the Army in reference to Negroes is making headway.

Credit is due our commander-in-chief, President Roosevelt, whose policies and leadership are forcing serious attention to this problem. This report also reflects the patriotic response of Negro citizens in loyalty, in efficiency, in military elan.

As one who served in the last war, I can say that the difference between the integration of Negro soldiers in the Army in the last war and today is the difference between night and day.

If the integration of the Negro soldier in the Army is to be further strengthened and morale of colored citizens on the home front raised, the right of Negro as well as white soldiers in the use of the voting ballot must be sustained.

Right to Vote 8-22-44

Meaning of Data 8-22-44

These figures reveal a revolution

ed and facilitated in time for them to vote in November.

A further democratic duty is to eliminate Jimcrow. If the pattern dramatized at Philadelphia of Jimcrow and organized resistance to the Negroes' full participation in the war effort is continued, then obstructionists will succeed in holding back the war. Those who hoped to profit by the Philadelphia disturbance are the same people who hope to profit by keeping the ballot out of the hands of soldiers. 8-22-44

Every obstructionist who Jimcrows Negro soldiers in the Army should be brought to task.

Jimcrow should be wiped out of the Army and full civil and military rights guaranteed to Negro soldiers.

It is inconceivable that a contingent of 689,911 Negro soldiers has only a complement of 5,987 colored commissioned officers. The Negro Army personnel should be increased in the number of generals, colonels, majors, captains, lieutenants and on down the line. Tens of thousands of lower rank soldiers carry officers' qualification in their knapsacks.

The breaking down of Jimcrow, stepping up promotions and the further distribution of Negro soldiers as full combatants will hasten the breaking of the back of the Hitler machine and the wiping out of Nazism. Full support of the commander-in-chief will help to bring about complete and full integration of Negroes into every phase of American life and make our Army truly democratic.

"improvement of both on an equal basis." 8-25-44

The president was asked by the governor to "give consideration to the opinions of those of us who are trying to be helpful—those of us whose efforts will be neutralized by such orders."

The governor's protest followed publication here that segregation of the races in the Maxwell Field post exchange had been terminated on War Department orders.

Public relations officers declined comment.

Negro Division With U. S. Fifth

Constitution—Atlanta, Ga. 8-28-44

ROME, Aug. 27.—(AP)—Elements of the all-Negro 92d division have been in action with the U. S. Fifth Army, and the division's first man to give his life in the Italian theater was a captain, commander of a company, who was killed by mortar fire while going forward in a reconnaissance mission, it was learned today.

The 92d, activated in September, 1942, at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., arrived in Italy July 13 as a completely self-sustaining combat organization with its own artillery, antiaircraft and communications and supply. 8-28-44

Lt. Philip Grayson, assistant personnel officer, of Columbus, Ohio, said it was equipped "with everything we asked for."

The division was fed into the line within a fortnight after its arrival. The name of its commanding officer was withheld.

The division's chaplain, Lt. Allen L. Johnson, of Mississippi, described the men as "the best bunch" he ever saw.

"That's right," said Sgt. Robert E. Bazemore, of Portsmouth, Va. "We're going to make news."

PAT ON BAN OF JIM CROW

9-16-44

Patterson Tells Alabama Governor Order Still In Force

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The War Department stood pat this week on its order prohibiting Jim Crow in post theaters, post exchanges and government-operated buses.

Replying to protests by Dixie solons against the directive, Acting Secretary of War Robert Patterson wrote in a letter to Gov. Chauncey Sparks of Alabama:

"All soldiers, regardless of race, must be afforded equal opportunity to enjoy the recreational facilities, which are provided at army posts, camps and stations."

He added that the War Department is "not an appropriate medium for affecting social readjustment."

Same Suffering

"The thought has been," Patterson said in his letter, "that men who are fulfilling the same obligations, suffering the same dislocation of their private lives, and wearing the identical uniform should, within the confines of the military establishment, have the same privileges for rest and relaxation."

Flagrant violation and disregard of the War Department's order banning segregation is reported meanwhile at Fort Benning, Ga.

According to this report, the War Department's order was issued to all units, and was read and explained by all unit commanders to their troops. 9-16-44

Try to Win Rights

Following this, some of the soldiers attempted to exercise their rights. One soldier attempted to ride the "white" bus, but was refused transportation. Others went to the Main theater and to the various post exchanges formerly earmarked for whites only. Some attempted to be served in the Patio Grill.

Everywhere except in the theatres, the reaction was the same. They were told, politely, that Negroes were not acceptable in these places.

of the South. 8-27-44

Starnes said "The people of the South and of the country know this order had its inception in the political program of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Communist party and other left-wing and radical groups."

Gov. Chauncey Sparks and other members of the state's delegation in Congress already have protested the recent memorandum, which called attention to the Army rules against segregation.

Starnes, a veteran of the First World War, said the "order was issued without consultation with or the approval of the people of the South.

"Time and again the War Department," he said in his wire to Secretary Stimson, "has issued orders to our armed forces requiring them to observe the local customs and traditions of friendly, neutral and even enemy countries.

"What a sad commentary upon the attitude of the War Department when it issues an order which requires the violation of the customs and traditions of a great section of our country, and is sure to breed disorder and disunity." 8-27-44

In his telegram to the president, the Alabama representative pointed out that the South had been vigorous in its support of the defense program and the president's foreign policies before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

power-driven sewing machines buttonholers and feed-off arm machines, employs 135 skilled, unskilled and clerical workers of all races and creeds.

The plant, which originally contracted to complete 16,000 garments, now produces 30,000, Olander J. Smith, president, said this week, adding that the plant had been given a perfect production record by the quartermaster inspection division. 7-15-44

No Union Difficulties

Admitting problems in recruiting trained precision workers, Kenneth Tate, personnel director, said there is no union trouble and that they do not expect to fire any racial group after the war.

Mr. Smith attended the University of Wisconsin and received his law degree from Northwestern University. He is married and father of two daughters and two sons, one of whom is with the army in England.

Gov. Sparks Protests War Department's No-Segregation Rule

News—Birmingham, Ala. 8-25-44

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has been asked to intervene against a War Department order to eliminate racial discrimination in post exchanges and other facilities on Army posts.

Gov. Sparks, in a telegram to the president asking that he give his "personal attention" to the matter, declared the order posted at Maxwell Field "breaks down the essential principle of race relationship in the South."

"As governor of Alabama," Sparks said, "I protest such an order, which violates a statewide practice and believe it aggravates, rather than helps."

The governor declared the order handicapped leaders in their attempts to bring about a better relationship between the two races and

Highest Sum

Soldier Awarded $62,500 for Bus Accident in Alabama

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

BIRMINGHAM (ANP)—Damages totaling $62,500 for personal injury were awarded here Wednesday to Pvt. Jesse Lewis, of Dallas, by a jury in Judge Whit Windham's court, believed to be the highest sum ever accorded a Negro in Alabama by a District court.

Lewis was injured while on furlough from Greenville, S. C., at the time of his accident, which occurred when a Greyhound bus, on which he was a passenger, collided with an A. B. and C. train, on September 8, 1943. His injuries resulted in amputation of his right leg.

ARMY STANDS

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

Starnes Wires F.D.R. About Segregation

New Age-Herald Birmingham, Ala.

GUNTERSVILLE, Ala.—(AP)—Rep. Joe Starnes(D., Ala.) wired President Roosevelt and Secretary Stimson Saturday asking that the recent War Department ruling against segregation in Army installations be rescinded as "a violation of the customs, traditions and laws"

War Dept. ends PX segregation

Tribune Los Angeles, California 9-9-44

WASHINGTON—Led by Gov. Chauncey Sparks of Alabama, the reactionary elements of the South are up in arms against the belated, but welcome, War Department order of last week-end, officially ending segregation in its post exchanges, theatres and buses.

In a history-making order the War Department declared such practices as designation of exchanges, transportation or theatres "for the exclusive use of any particular race" at an end, "regardless of local civilian custom".

President Roosevelt has been asked to intervene against the War Department's order by Gov. Sparks in a telegram in which the Chief Executive is asked to give the matter his "personal attention". The wire followed posting of the order at Maxwell Field in Alabama.

"As Governor of Alabama," Governor Sparks said, "I protest such an order, which violates a statewide practice and believe it aggravates rather than helps."

The Governor declared the order handicapped leaders in their attempts to bring about a "better relationship between the two races" and "improvement of both on an equal basis."

The President was asked by the Governor to "give consideration to the opinions of those of us who are trying to be helpful—those of us whose efforts will be neutralized by such orders."

ORDER QUOTED

The order read, in part:

"Post exchanges—While an exchange or a branch exchange may be allocated to serve specific areas or units, no exchange will be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race. Where such branch exchanges are established personnel will not be restricted to the use of their area or unit exchanges, but will be permitted to use any other exchange on the post, camp or station.

"Transportation — buses, trucks or other transportation owned and operated by the government:

Restricting personnel to certain sections of such transportation facilities because of race will not be permitted either on or off a post, camp or station, regardless of local civilian custom.

"Army motion picture theaters may be allocated to serve certain areas or units, but no theater or performance in any theater will be denied to any group or individual

Colored War Plant Makes Army Garments, Hires 135

American—Baltimore, Md. 9-9-44

CLEVELAND (ANP) — The army and lend-lease contracts produces military garments under two sons, one of whom is with the army in England.

American Enterprises Association, here. Located in the Hart Building, one of the few war plants owned and operated by colored people, the five-month-old plant, with 110

47n-1944

Nazi Internment Adventures

4-15-44 JULIUS J. ADAMS Amsterdam News 4-8,44

Three men laughed as they drank champagne at the La Mar Cheri, uptown night spot a week ago and reminisced about the joys and sorrows they had experienced together and talked of a possible reunion of a group that went to Europe several years before the war, was split up after the Nazis over-ran the Low Countries and finally got back safely in the good old U. S. A.

John Mitchell, stubby guitarist who was a favorite as a member of Willie Lewis's band in principal cities on the European continent, and last of the aggregation to get back home . . . having returned recently on the S. S. Gripsholm—was doing most of the talking. The other men—Lewis and Billy Burns, also a member of the band listened attentively.

When the Nazis conquered the low countries, Mitchell and the band were in Amsterdam, having left Paris in 1939. This is his story:

"We left Paris and had gone to Ostend for the Summer season when the war cloud gathered. The last of August all British tourists were asked to return home at once. Free to find another engagement, the band decided to go to Holland, confident that it would remain neutral.

Disturbs His Peace

"I was lying in bed listening to the Chesterfield program when suddenly I heard rumbling noises in the distance. It was the Germans; they had crossed the frontiers and were bombing the airports. I switched off short-wave and tuned into Hilversum—the local Dutch station. The announcer was saying—'calling all air defense . . . 80 German planes are over Lieden. I was startled. After a few minutes another announcement said, 'about 100 planes over Rotterdam. I leaped out of bed and ran through the house shouting.' It happened, it happened, the Germans have invaded Holland." 4-15-44

"That was in May. Nobody was allowed to cross the borders, so the band was forced to stay in the country, but no effort was made to stop the group from working.

"One night," Mitchell said, "while we were playing at a cafe in Groningen, a Dutch Nazi officer came in and told us 'this is your last night.' The band returned to Amsterdam."

Splits 'Em Up

"Gradually Americans were allowed to return, and members of the band began splitting up, some coming back to the States, others going elsewhere. Joe Heyman, saxophone player went to Egypt; Willie Lewis, the leader and Billy Burns, trombone player came home. That was in May 1941. Mitchell said he stayed behind to look after some business.

"On December 11", Mitchell said he was attending a birthday party in Amsterdam, "drinking champagne and enjoying good food when someone produced a newspaper with the headline announcing Germany's declaration of war against the United States."

Back in his rooms about 8 p. m. the same evening, Mitchell said he was resting when he opened the door in response to the bell and found two 'good-sized' men, who said they were detectives.

4-15-44

"I didn't expect you until tomorrow", Mitchell said. "You came earlier than I thought."

"It's nothing", one replied, "you'll be gone only two days."

"Should I take a handbag", Mitchell inquired.

"No, the detective emphasized, "you'll be back soon."

"Not even a toothbrush," Mitchell insisted.

"No," said the detective, a trace of impatience in his tone. "It's nothing."

Outside, Mitchell was placed in a patrol wagon, where he found several other Americans. They were taken to a prison where they remained six weeks. Conditions were bad, the barracks were cold and the food was poor and skimpy. At the next prison . . . a former Dutch resort converted into a camp . . .

Mitchell said he made many friends in the internment camp, but was elated late in February when he and about 40 others were told they had 24 hours to get ready to return home. Mitchell said he could have been ready in fifteen minutes.

On the way across France to Portugal, Mitchell said their train passed the one carrying Germans home who had been interned in the United States.

Mitchell was not any too talkative about the Germans. He did praise the Red Cross and the YMCA for their work in behalf of those in internment camps. He wouldn't say what he plans to do, but believes if the old gang got together again with Willie Lewis wielding the baton, the band would be able to go places.

4-15-44

The original members of the band were Johnny Russell, Joe Heyman, Willie Lewis, Louis Bacon, Billy Burns, Herman Chitterson, June Cole, Tommy Benford, Henry Mason and Mitchell.

When Old Friends Meet

4-15-44

WILLIE LEWIS, left; Billy Burns and John Mitchell all interned in Europe after war started, got together at LaMar Cheri last week for a little reunion. All were members of Lewis' band in Holland when the Nazis over-ran that country.

What Negroes Are Doing

Age-Herald Birmingham

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

4-30-44

The National Urban League has been assured by the War Department that Negro counselors will be utilized in the re-employment and rehabilitation of Negro veterans and that the league's active cooperation would be welcomed in connection with other aspects of the question.

Friday Julius A. Thomas, director of industrial relations for the league, along with other representatives, conferred with Col. George Evans, in charge of counseling and placement for the Army.

"We were able to get the counseling service to recognize its responsibility to the Negro veteran to the extent that they are going to do some special training of counselors," Thomas said following the talk. "They are going to use numbers of Negro counselors, and the Urban League is going to help by preparing printed matter for their use."

Local branches will supplement the work of the Army, he added, and the league will be recognized as an "official source" on jobs and training.

Lt. Charles Davis is the first Negro to enter a counseling school. He is at Ft. Dix and, along with others, will ultimately be assigned to a demobilization center or Army hospital.

The league plans to confer with Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, veterans' administrator, on other phases of the problem.

* * *

GEN. MARY McLEOD BETHUNE, as head of the Woman's Army for National Defense, last week issued directives for the organization's first annual convention, to be held at Parkway Ballroom in Chicago Sept. 12-13. The group is known as the Wands.

With the conference theme "Working for Victory, Planning for Peace," Gen. Bethune declared: "The Wands must reinforce its present program and set new goals for the postwar era. We women have more to lose in this war than any other group and we have more to gain."

* * *

THE NETTIE J. BROWN Surgical Dressing Depot, located at 561 Jasper Road, formerly the Old Folks and Orphans Home, is making surgical dressings for wounded soldiers in our overseas forces.

The depot is operated by the American Red Cross, with Mrs. Geneva Blackman in charge of the work room and Mrs. Alma Johnson chairman.

Over half Negro troops overseas

Tribune—Los Angeles Calif.

8-28-44

WASHINGTON — There were 698,911 Negroes serving in the Army on June 30, of which 361,456 were serving overseas, the War Dept. announced today. This indicated an increase of 34, 845 above the Feb. 29th total of 664,066. Since August 31, 1943, the Army had accepted 116,050 additions to its Negro personnel.

The announcement revealed a sharp rise in the number of Negroes assigned to overseas theaters, with other principal increases occurring in components of the Army service forces.

Following is a partial breakdown of the Negro personnel of the Army: Infantry, 44,869; coast and field artillery, 38,517; cavalry, 1,473; engineers, 128,789; air corps, 79,027; all others, 406,236; total 898,911. Commissioned officers represented 5,957 of this number, including: dental corps officers 102; nurses, 213; other medica corps officers, 508; chaplains, 239

GI's Give Views on Post-war Plans

Afro American Baltimore, Md. 9-16-44

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN ITALY.—Now that all indications point to an early end of this European war, our troops here are spending more anxious hours speculating to what extent their efforts to establish democracy overseas have helped forward it on the home front.

More and more soldiers have been besieging me lately with pointed queries on this score. This is a brief composite picture of what your GI Joe here is thinking about the matter, as culled from their opinions and queries put to me. 9-16-44

All Opinions Positive

These men, I find, are either optimistic or pessimistic. When a soldier has lived in combat for several months, he doesn't view an issue from a wishy-washy standpoint. He looks at it firmly, either one way or the other.

News of the recent Philadelphia strike has clouded visions of the optimists, however, and added weight to argument of the pessimists. This strike has probably given rise to more concern among those here who read of it than some unfavorable conditions which they face daily. 9-16-44

Will Right Wrongs

Those still optimistic contend that returning soldiers of both races will be the salvation factor to right whatever wrongs still are practiced. They argue that combat together has taught each about the other and furnished a measure of mutual respect hitherto lacking.

For proof they point to the liberal reaction of air corps personnel here as a result of association and fighting a common enemy together with Col. Benjamin O. Davis's fighter group.

No Longer Mere Servants

They hold that action of the

Pessimists Cite Uprisings

They point out that the government itself is often slow to take that too many unfavorable conditions stand on these issues; that tions are allowed to exist in sting court battles are still Allied-held territory overseas ry to obtain just rights which are in sharp reverse of the provided for by long-democratic principles for which hed laws; that separation this war is supposedly being

fought by those on our side.

Back of all this argumentation by both elements is the primary speculation as to whether each will be able to return home and provide happiness for his family on the basis of his merit as a man. 9-16-44

Those optimistic servicemen over here agree with the pessimists that anything short of this at the close of the war will bring a partial victory which will certainly require later decisive action to bring about a lasting peace.

Outbreak Looms in 477th Over Abuses

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Tensions Caused by Emphasis on Color, Restriction on Flyers

By HARRY McALPIN

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Third and last in a series on Godman Field, Ky., where the 477th Bombardment Group is preparing for overseas duty.] 9-16-44

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — The premium put on a white skin, the disregard of official orders, and the general atmosphere have had an unhealthy reaction, declared many of the men who are flying and maintaining the B-25's in the 477th Bombardment Group, recently moved from Godman Field, Ky., to Atterbury Field, Ind.

A colored captain said: "If this continues, this whole thing is going to crack. Tensions are just about at the peak now. This good record which has been established will be broken."

Declaring that he feared, most of all, neurotic cases, he added: "Some of the men have said they are not going to take any more stuff off certain officers. They threatened to handle situations themselves."

"Not only will such reactions bring disgrace on the whole unit," he concluded, "but some of the flyers may crack up in the air if they become psycho-neurotic cases." 9-16-44

March on Theatre Stopped

On August 23, the evening after he made his remarks, this officer and two other colored persons had to exert every bit of their persuasive powers and authority to prevent over 200 enlisted men marching on the theatre at Fort Knox, adjoining Godman Field.

Their reaction was a protest to the absolute disregard there of the War Department's order banning segregation and exclusion of colored from army post facilities.

Photostats of affidavits made out by enlisted men at Godman Field, concerning the theatre incident and attempts to segregate them on busses between Louisville and Godman Field, have been turned over to a War Department official.

Prisoners Treated Better

In one of them a colored corporal affirms that when he asked Capt. Wilbur C. Wilson, in charge of the Fort Knox theatre, why "Italian parolees could sit where they wanted and we could not," he was given a refund ticket and sent away.

A flight medical officer, commenting on the situation, said: "Proof of the low morale is the high venereal disease rate among the men. Medical authorities recognize the fact that contented men do not have high venereal disease rates." 9-16-44

Col. Robert Selway, the group commander, on the other hand, says that the high VD rate simply means infected people are being allowed to get to the men.

No Check of Civilians

He said there is no checking of passes for civilians on the busses pulling into Fort Knox, the bus station, and that there is no fence between Knox and Godman.

To combat the high VD rate, he issued a memorandum on August 4, in which he outlined measures for regaining control of the VD rate, which were placed into effect immediately.

8 p.m. Curfew for Women

By the order he barred all colored women from Godman Field after 8 p.m., unless they were personally escorted by an officer, or married to enlisted men assigned to Godman Field, or domiciled on the Fort Knox reservation.

The order further limited dances to Saturday night, called for 11 p.m. bed checks by squadron and section commander, who were told to circulate around the base in order to maintain good order.

"Color" Always Included

The designation of "color" in the order is a habit with the colonel, according to reports of the officers and men. 9-16-44

Among recent incidents antagonizing the men was the withdrawal, on the colonel's orders, of a colored crew which was inspecting his ship, getting it ready for a flight.

Insistence on white crews and refusal to fly with colored pilots have caused serious reactions, they say, although since then he has flown with two colored pilots to combat the reports that he refuses to do so.

Flyers Restricted

Although regulations permit a flyer in training to land for overnight stay, when his training program requires such, at any field within a 500-mile radius of his base field, the flyers of the 477th are limited to four fields.

477th Holds Records

Despite the situation, however, the 477th Bombardment Group has the best safety record, the best maintenance record, and the best flight per plane record in the First Air Force. 9-16-44

Col. Selway brags about this fact, but the men insist that the record exists not because of Col. Selway, who gets the credit for it in Washington, but in spite of him.

Also a subject of conversation among the flyers is the fact that one of the white supervisors was publicly commended by the colonel for a single-engine landing, whereas none of the colored pilots have received such commendation. 9-16-44

Never Commended

Not even the latest one made in one of the heavier model B-25's, which the pilot brought back on a single engine for 60 miles with a crew of nine men aboard without mishap, was cited, they add.

Despite all the handicaps, problems and humiliations, however, every man in the 477th Bombardment Group is determined to make good, giving in the hope that "rescue" from this Southern atmosphere of segregation and separation, and a different type of commander will be forthcoming soon.

93rd Takes Over Position Vacated By 24th Infantry

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa. 5-6-44

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent

(Representing the Philadelphia TRIBUNE and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)

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With American Forces On Bougainville (By Courier) In a move to extend the beachhead, giving more water frontage and stabbing enemy supply routes, the base command pulled the 24th Infantry from its position and swung it around to meet Japanese opposition near the mouth of the Torokina facing the Coral Sea. Fire fighting was heatedly progressing when the Negro infantry took itsposition. 5-6-44

As an Easter morning sun peeped over the camel-humped ridge the infantry broke camp. Within two hours after covering the distance to the new sector, patrols had been despatched to clean out immediate surroundings, mortar positions dug, the enemy contacted. Mortars were racing skyward and falling on enemy emplacements 3000 yards south. 5-6-44

Before the last of the motor vehicles move off the hill, elements of the 93rd division had taken possession of the old 24th emplacement, and digging in, also the 93rd had sent a combat patrol to scour the region. Armed with automatic rifles and two light machine guns, the patrol moved off in the direction where two smoke grenades had sent up clouds of white smoke—possible signifying that the enemy was near.

Lt. Gil Lloyd (chaplain of Chicago) and your correspondent were among the last to pull off. The jeep was loaded down with supplies, including rations, shelter halves, grenades, and rifles. Storm clouds had changed the beautiful Easter morning to dull grey. Rain followed. Artillery roared, so did the thunder.

The path led between towering jungle foliage. Winding in and out between craters and stench, the jeep finally entered the perimeter. Among many emplacements we drove finally coming out on the beach. We arrived just on time to swing aboard a "duck" (floating GMC) and went southward. Rain lashed the Coral and the duck rolled with each foamy wave. 5-6-44

On shore pill boxes had been smashed by our naval guns. In the background trees showed shell marks. Along the beach ran barbed wire, dividing the perimeter from 'no man's land. We were well outside of the safety zone. Small humps in the grey sand on shore indicated that dead were buried there. Carrion birds scaring lazily overhead strengthenced the belief.

The 'now' beachhead seethed with Negro troops. Supplies were being moved inland. Our sector ran for several thousand yards down the beach. In the same direction flanking us as it rushed into the sea was the Sava river—thought to be one of the main enemy supply routes. 5-6-44

The first—and most important task was to set up gun positions. Our small perimeter had to be secured before chow-rest—even coffee. The jungle dark was approaching. We and burned outr 'bridge' behind us. A frothing Coral sea was to the rear. In front lie acres of black, shell blistered jungles. To the left flank machine gun spuoting continued. Shoves scooped the sand.

Down the beach is the native village of Naravia. Most of that etta has been cleaned out, but small bands of the enemy are still known to be lurking in the vicinity. From that point came the sharp reports of rifle fires. Also came the odor of decaying flesh. Blow flies were thick and persistent. 5-6-44

Our temporary command post was a bomb crater. S-Sgt. Robert Mitchell (New Orleans) was in the middle making the hole deeper. His office was on his back—dispatch case. Several feet from Sgt. Mitchell, M-Sgt. Frank Ferguson, of New York City, was digging, sweating and abusing the language.

Mortars were hurriedly placed in positions. Rocket projectiles were soon enroute down the beach. We could hear the dull thud of explosion. As this went on one unit moved into the jungles stringing communication wire. Back of the command post what was left of an enemy soldier was lying sprawled out in a crater. Also was foung the remains of a heavy Jap machine gun. Evidently the gun had received a direct hit, the muzzle was smashed.

There was so much work going on at once until it was confusing—to your correspondent. I felt as useless as a swim to an Eskimo, Darkness was fast approaching. Another Jap body was reported found. All firing soon ceased. 5-6-44

After coffee and sandwiches were served we bedded down in the damp sand for the night. The Coral swished and roared. Somebody, whispered gloomily that it was 7 o'clock. Long dark hours lie ahead.

Negro spy for Hitler surrenders

CHICAGO — Although schooled a Negro dock worker captured by to sabotage the Allied war effort, the Germans in Holland had ac- a Negro spy for Hitler surrendered espionage training but ly secured the gun of his partner, held him prisoner, urned him over to the au- issue of the Negro Digest, pub- lished here.

In an article entitled "No Spy for Hitler," Hoover reported how rector of the Federal Bureau of and turned in the September thorities upon arriving in Amer- ica.

47n-1944

Live, Work, Fight Together For Victory

Negro and white troops are living and working together in the best traditions of the U. S. Army in the all-out effort to defeat the Nazis, according to recent official War Department reports from the European Theater of Operations. These photos show commissioned and enlisted personnel of a Quartermaster trucking station. Upper photo shows officers at mess. Left to right: Capt. F. D. Robinson, Evansville, Ind.; 1st Lt. Alfonso Finch, Weldon, N. C.; 1st Lt. Walter L. Mitchum, Memphis, Tenn.; 1st Lt. C. H. Marshall, Philadelphia, Pa., and Capt. Paul L. Stagg, Alloy, W. Va. Enlisted men file into a mess hall in center photo. Bottom photo shows enlisted men at their places in the mess hall. Left to right: 1st Sgts. John H. Thomas, Baltimore, Md.; Leroy Z. Davis, New Orleans, La.; William P. Tompkins, Jamaica, New York; Samuel I. Thomas, Warren, Ark.; Robert P. Jordan, Savannah, Ga.; Walter Bowell, Columbus, Ga., and Archie N. Jones, Topeka, Kans. (Photos by U. S. Army Signal Corps.)

Yanks Sweep Into Breton Plains in 10-Mile Advance

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 8-2-44

ALLIED SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, London, Aug. 1 (UP).—Victory-flushed American tank forces swerved suddenly eastward today in a 10-mile drive from Avranches which threatened to box up the entire French front, leaving in their wake seven destroyed enemy divisions and more than 23,000 Germans dead or prisoners with the count only partially complete.

Under the tremendous impetus of the American break-out from Normandy onto the Breton plain, the Allies swung into a coordinated offensive along a 100-mile front, driving for a knockout blow against the lines that had barred the Paris roads since D-Day.

Linking up with the American east flank, British tank forces deepened their wedge in the center of the line to 11 miles in a thundering battle involving heavy forces of artillery. Canadian troops, striking through a dense fog, launched a powerful attack at dawn southeast of Caen against the last intact section of the German line.

NAZIS FALL BACK 8-2-44

German forces which had been counter-attacking savagely at the pivot of the American line around Percy and Tessy-Sur-Vire faltered and fell back as the Allied advances on either side undermined their flanks and American anti-tank gunners in front knocked out most of their armor. The Yanks fought their way back into both Tessy and Percy Tuesday morning and their swift recapture seemed assured.

American Negro truck drivers, armed with battle knives the size of butcher's blades, and Yankee commandos carrying piano-wire garrots were pressed into service as ambush parties along the German lines of retreat, front dispatches said.

The escape of any Germans between the American coast flank and the British spearhead in the center was growing problematical as the Yanks drove south of Avranches across the Selune River, then struck east-northeast and swept into Brecy, 10 miles inland from the fallen port city at the base of the Norman cape

This armored spearhead now was only 20 miles away from a junction with British troops who crossed the Souleuvre River at Le Beny Bocage, 17 miles southeast of St. Lo, and the focal point of both drives was the important communications hub of Vire.

TAKE PONTAUBAULT

Striking as they pleased against resistance so negligible that dozens of bridges were found intact, the fast-moving American tanks first feinted into Brittany as if to try a drive across its 100-mile wide base, capturing Pontaubault four miles south of Avranches and Ducey, six miles southeast.

It appeared that their real purpose, however, was to safeguard against German flooding of the See-Selune. 8-2-44

Back up in the peninsula where a mop-up of trapped and beaten German units was being rapidly completed, American infantrymen closed in from three sides on the cross roads of Villedieu-les Poeles, 12 miles northeast of Avranches. There a desperate German rear-guard force was attempting to hold open a narrow corridor to the southeast for the exit of their comrades by-passed in the pell-mell American dash southward, but it appeared a hopeless fight.

The tremendous achievements of the eight-day offensive that sliced clear through the enemy's west flank, were underscored by German casualty figures which, although

47n-1944

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Daily World - Milwaukee, Wis.
8-11-44

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The tremendous achievements of the eight-day offensive that sliced clear through the enemy's west flank were underscored by German casualty figures which, although

from complete, virtually wrote off the enemy's 84th Army Corps as a fighting force.

TWO NEGRO FIGHTING MEN MEET OVERSEAS

Times-Star, New York, N.Y. 8-14-44

Neda Kostura (left), member of Yugoslavia's Partisan fighting Germans, displaying her cap to three Wacs in a hospital in Italy, w girls are (left to right) Pvt. Assunta J. Iucci, Hollis, L. I.; Pfc. Eliz and Corp. Lavisa J. Crawford, Dayton, Ohio.

Daily Worker—Atlanta, Ga. 8-17-44

Brig. General Davis greets the Mayor of Cherbourg, France, at the opening of the American Red Cross Service Club for Colored troops in Cherbourg. The club opened August 8. (Signal Corps Radio Telephoto from London.

WASHINGTON ARMY ORDERS RESENTED

Advertiser—Montgomery, Ala. 8-25-44

Montgomery, a tolerant, liberal and intensely patriotic city, is profoundly disturbed by reports of high Army efforts to impose race customs and habits on the local military reservations that are in conflict with relationships growing out of generations of experience.

Montgomery quickly, firmly and advisedly wants to let it be known that any efforts designed, directly or indirectly, to impose any form of social equality, is something that neither this community nor any other Southern community can tolerate. This represents the thought of the better elements of both white and colored races on the subject.

If it be said that Army orders are something from which there is no recourse, the people of this community would have it understood that even Army orders, even armies, even bayonets, cannot force impossible and unnatural social race relationships upon us. It has been tried before and failed. It will fail if tried again.

Orders from Army headquarters seeking at this late date in the war to make whites and blacks mingle on a basis of social equality at the restaurant tables on the military posts or camps of this State can have no other effect than to cause friction which has been happily absent during the three years of the war up to this time. Heretofore, there has been commonsense recognition of nature's dividing lines. Any other policy can be interpreted only as due to ignorance of conditions. Certainly such orders could not come from anyone seeking the real welfare of the Negro race and the relationship between the races that all men of good will would like to see.

8-25-44

If troublemakers are responsible for this new situation, then troublemakers must be dealt with as such, because these troublemakers are a puny minority which must be shown that majorities rule here.

Since the establishment of our great airfields in this city, Montgomery's relationship has been most cordial with them and with the personnel they have brought among us. The officers and men of the fields have been the type that we were glad and proud to claim as friends and as participants in our social life. The fact that many of them were from the North or from communities where the race issue is not pronounced made no difference in the relationships, because the visitors recognized local conditions, had confidence in local judgment and had respect for customs and traditions that have grown out of many years of trial and experience in the South. Furthermore, they were on the ground. They saw the conditions and the necessity for them. They were not desk men seated in some far away place acting on some academic or idealistic impulse.

In Montgomery and in other Alabama and Southern communities race relationships are a condition and not a theory. This is said kindly and firmly and in the utmost friendship for the members of the Negro race. We want the Negro soldiers to have the same food, the same pay, the same uniform, the same courts, and the same kind of justice and the same protection as is given the white race. But political and economic and military equality are entirely different from the social equality that is implied in the new order for serving and seating of restaurant customers on the military reservations.

Our insistence upon this is in the interest not only of the white race but of the Negro race. We all know that we are to live side by side in the South, and each race is in a measure dependent upon the other. But domination by the race which is best qualified to dominate will be maintained at all costs. Efforts, even in a small way, to introduce any other practice bring only the deepest kind of resentment and encourage serious trouble.

8-25-44

These are facts which we cannot too firmly impress upon Army officials, our representatives in Washington and all men everywhere.

Race Division Terminated At Maxwell Field

Advertiser—Montg., Ala. 8-24-44

War Department Order Calls Off Segregation In Post Exchange Cafe

Segregation of the races in the Maxwell Field post exchange was terminated yesterday on instructions contained in a War Department directive which was read to civilian and military personnel, by organization officers of the post, according to information brought into the city by civilian workers.

All attempts to obtain an official elaboration on the order, its extent, and its full effect were unsuccessful. Inquiries at post headquarters elicited the brief reply, "no comment."

From a trustworthy but non-military source it was learned that the directive reaching Maxwell Field was only one of others going to every other military post in continental United States. The directive, it was said, was restricted which means that it could not be released for publication. This explained the reticence of Maxwell Field officials who were described as in the position of having to carry out orders they could not publicly discuss.

8-24-44

The Advertiser's informant took a conservative view of the situation caused by the directive's going into effect. He said the commanding officers at Maxwell Field could, in his opinion, be trusted to carry out the order without imposing a hardship on civilian personnel.

While The Advertiser did not have access to the directive, it is understood that it requires the removal of all segregation devices on the post so far as military personnel is concerned.

Civilian workers at Maxwell Field have limited use of the post exchange facilities. They are entitled to buy food and soft drinks for on-premises consumption but when they buy cigarets and tobacco they pay the State tax which is turned over by the post exchange to the State Treasury.

General Praises Negro GI Deeds

Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the Office of the Inspector General, only Negro general in the U. S. Army, told an Army Hour radio audience Sunday that he felt sure that "when the story of the contribution now being made by our colored soldiers is told the masses of white Americans will be more tolerant and sympathetic with the aspirations of our colored people."

The General, recently returned from a combat zone, reported numerous acts of heroism performed by Negro troops, some of them in charge of Negro junior officers.

He quoted one colonel as saying that the conduct under fire of Negro quartemaster truck troops attached to his combat team "was such that the best of comradeship was developed" between them and the white troops.

47n-1944

Negro GIs to Take Their Show to Russia

WITH U. S. ARMY FORCES IN MIDDLE EAST, May 22.—American Negro troops in Iran, supply route for U. S. war materials moving up to Russia, have organized a musical show which has become the stage hit of the Persian Gulf Command, the War Dept. announced today.

The show, which features a Hallelujah Chorus, is scheduled to go into Russia after playing to American installations in the command, some of which are located in the blistering desert country.

Appearances in the USSR are to be a return courtesy to the Russians for sending several of their shows into the Persian Gulf Command to entertain Allied soldiers.

Thirty-five men make up the cast of the show. They use a portable stage which was brought to the Middle East from North Africa. The show is billed under the name of *Hallelujah Caravan* and was written and directed by T/Sgt. Harold W. Arberg, 10 Morningside Dr., Montclair, N. J.

Costumes for the production were made by Lieut. Sophie Tripodi, Army Nurse Corps, of Stamford, Conn., with the assistance of several members of the cast.

On the day Russia officially adopted its new national anthem, the chorus of *The Hallelujah Caravan* sang it as a part of the program. The entire audience of Russians and Americans rose to its feet with a deafening applause.

New York members of the cast: Wesley C. Brown, 471 Carlton Ave., Brooklyn; Hudson D. Stevenson, 133 W. 113th St.; Joseph E. White, 106 W. 132d St.; John B. Kennedy, 180 W. 135th St., all Manhattan.

Walter White On 1,800-Mile Tour

NEW YORK.—In a message of greeting to his board of directors, Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary and Chicago Defender columnist, now in England, cabled last week that he has just completed a tour of 1800 miles inspecting many installations.

"Have found much encouraging, but also much which needs correction. Expect to leave for North Africa latter part of the month. Present plans are to go only as far as Iran, with later trip to Pacific area. Expect to return to the United States latter part of April or early May."

V-Mail Photos for Fathers in Service

Mrs. Carmen Bolling and her daughter, Saundra Eileen, born last Jan. 11, live at 250 Manhattan Ave. The baby's father, Sgt. Milton Bolling, former hospital attendant, is with the Army in England.

Martin Barry was born Aug. 25, 1943, to Mrs. Sally Graber of 404 E. 8th St. His daddy, Cpl. Max Graber, a former mechanic, is with an ordnance unit of the Army in Italy.

If your baby is less than a year old and was born after your husband went into service overseas, we'll take a picture of you and the child and reprint it on a V-mail blank which you can mail to your husband. Call ST 3-2501 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and ask for the V-Mail Editor. There is no charge for this service, which is restricted to New York City

Mrs. Florence M. Clark and her son, Franklin D. Jr., born July 18, 1943, live at 153 W. 188th St., Bronx. The father, T/Sgt. Clark, formerly in the *Sun* advertising department, is in North Africa.

Daniel Robert was born Aug. 2. 1943, to Mrs. Eva Musicant of 635 W. 174th St. His father, 1st Lt. Belmont F. Musicant, a physician, is with the Army Medical Corps in India.

"Champion War Mother" Is Crowned

Mrs. Olivia Jones, Mother of 17, Nine Under Arms

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Among the features of the Fourth War Loan drive in Memphis, Tenn., was the crowning of Mrs. Olivia Jones, a West Tennessee farmer's wife, mother of seventeen living children, as "Champion War Mother." Nine of Mrs. Jones' children are in the armed forces and one is deferred for farm work.

The ceremonies, performed by Bishop R. R. Wright Jr., executive secretary of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in America, under whose auspices the crowning was staged, attracted and estimated ten thousand persons to Convention Hall.

The principal speaker was Bishop John A. Gregg, representing all Negro churches, who was invited by President Roosevelt to visit Negro troops abroad. The bearded Bishop, nicknamed by soldiers Gregg the Great because of his prominence and his impressive bulk, has just returned from a 50,000 mile aerial tour to the South Pacific, England, North Africa, and Italy.

PICKENS, GIBSON HEARD

The huge patriotic rally, with Bishop J. A. Hamlett presiding, inaugurated the War Bond sales campaign being conducted in Memphis by the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches. This drive was given further impetus through an address by William Pickens, head of the interracial section of the Treasury's War Finance Division. Truman Gibson, Negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War, also spoke.

The "Champion War Mother" was discovered through a nationwide, four-month search conducted through newspapers. She had as her attendants at the crowning Mrs. A. B. Hendrix and Mrs. A. J. Johnson, both of Memphis, mother of four and six sons, respectively.

Although the rally was sponsored by the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, the Methodist and the Baptist Ministers Alliances of Memphis, along with scores of civic and fraternal organizations, cooperated to assure the success of the War Loan drive. Some of these churches and organizations were represented on the roster of speakers, who included the Rev. W. H. Brewster, the Rev. N. T. Walker, F. O. Davie, and Mrs. Daisy Scott.

Says Race Can Be Proud Of Soldiers

PHILADELPHIA (ANP) — "Col[illegible] held last Thursday evening at the[illegible] branch in its membership drive[illegible] the mass meeting of the local[illegible] "the closer the men come to the[illegible] les pronounced are the[illegible] ices." Although an[illegible] airfield devoid of runways, and with its[illegible] on buildings still intact, [illegible] something new afte[illegible] the [illegible] of 24 bombings in Lon[illegible] ACF official said some [illegible] don, th NAACP [illegible] of the joy was taken from his Congress. It seemed that the men [illegible] by a perusal of the there alone of all the world, are [illegible] wspapers and a visit to little moved, and are still bound by [illegible] homecoming by [illegible] nation's newspaper [illegible] WANT THE TRUTH [illegible] He also said that white enlisted men and women are becoming more

hatreds and bigtory.

URGES ACCOUNTING

The anti-poll tax was killed by the "unholy alliances' of Southern Democrats and reactionary northern Republicasn, Whites said. An apeal was made to Republican officials to try to force through the cloture vote, limtiing debate so that Bilbo could not carry through his threat to filibuster for 18 months.

The speaker warned the audience that they can call the senators to account in the Nov. elections on the basis of their actions now. 5-25-44

On the brighter side, however, White said that the morale of the men, both white and colored, was lifted by the supreme court decision in the Texas primary case. They look upon it as a step forward. In parting, the secretary told the audience that trip to the Pacific area is being contemplated.

GENERAL CLARK GREETS BISHOP GREGG.—Somewhere over there, at the Fifth Army Field Headquarters General Mark Clark greets Bishop John A. Gregg, representing the Federated Council of Negro Churches of Christ in America. T. Sgt. William C. Chaney of Williamsburg, Va., personal aide to Commanding General of the Fifth Army is standing on the right.—Photo from OWI.

Send Negro Combat Troops To Europe, Urges NAACP Head

Some 14 sore spots in relations between Negro soldiers and the War Department were uncovered by Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a 15-week, 20,000-mile tour of the European theater of operations, just ended. He has made remedial recommendations to the Secretary of War, it was announced here yesterday.

Gen. Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" of towns and taverns should be enforced in all areas, White says, for many Negro soldiers believe such directives apply specifically to them. He recommends also a special board, to include an eminent Negro lawyer with appropriate military rank, to review courts-martial cases.

Deliberately-spread stories in England that "Negroes are afraid to fight" make it essential that Negro combat troops be sent there, White says. 5-20-44

"It is unfortunate," he states, "that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only Negro service units have been sent to the European theater."

He recommends that Negro medium bomber crews be sent to England "to fly in non-segregated units" and that service troops now stationed there be given refresher courses in the use of combat weapons, because "many of these troops will closely follow the assault waves of invasion, will be under fire, and need to be made competent in the use of weapons."

He says the presence of more Negro officers above the rank of captain in England would materially aid morale. 5-20-44

been used to poison the Italians against Negro American troops.

The American Red Cross is praised for doing, "in many respects, a superlative job," but "white" and "colored" clubs maintained by it not only introduce segregation to the British but deny Negro and white soldiers the opportunity of knowing one another.

The War Department attitude toward race, the NAACP head declares, "lags behind that of much of the army personnel" and, while an "advanced position" might be opposed by some persons, "it would be approved by a much larger percentage than the War Department appears to believe possible."

"PATERNALISM HIT

He calls for an end to "the paternalistic attitude on the part of some white officers toward Negro soldiers," declaring the men resent it, regardless of the degree of their education. He recommends "more news and more sympathetic handling of news dealing with Negro troops." 5-20-44

Other recommendations are that more Negro actors and singers be sent to all troops and that neither white nor Negro military police be armed except when guarding payrolls.

400 Listeners Hear Smith, Townsend

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Although Vice President Henry A. Wallace, champion of the "common man," had star billion on a card that carried labor's heavyweights, the two ranking Negroes in the Congress of Industrial Organizations, Willard S. Townsend and Ferdinand C. Smith, told nearly 400 listeners at the "Full Employment conference" sponsored by the CIO Political Action committee here Friday and Saturday that experience of the past dictates that no program based upon an economy of abundance and full employment in the post-war period would be complete if it did not include America's Negro population.

"This committee extends the hand of fellowship in a campaign to unify the country behind a program of full employment and full democracy in America," Phillip Murray CIO president, said at the outset of his speech, made at the luncheon.

As if anticipating this statement of Murray's, Townsend, the president of the United Transport Service Employes of America, said at the morning session preceding that "you can't have unencumbered and prosperous white workers and unemployed black workers, for if you let that happen the white worker will have to carry the black worker on his back through relief."

In his prepared address Wallace said he did not propose to say what the government ought to do with regard to post-war employment. "But inasmuch as the government had to take full responsibility for getting cooperation from all groups to convert our economy from peace to war," he added, "it will have to equal responsibility in converting from war to peace."

Leading the discussion of "Full Employment and the Negro," Townsend observed that "the tradition of white men's jobs and black men's jobs is being challenged and actually being broken down in score of tight labor markets outside the south." Continuing he said, "In the south itself there are unmistakable evidence of economic advances among Negroes and this fact has been dramatically and unpalatably brought to the attention of the white community by the scarcity of Negro domestics."

"Intelligent planning must recognize that the Negro in the United States has developed more rapidly than his opportunity for participation in American life," he asserted. Townsend rejected the motion that full employment is going to remove racial tensions. It will, he believes, set the "economic stage" for effective educational programs designed to reduce the frequency and intensity of "one of the basic causes" for race conflict. In such an economy, he sees trade unions taking the lead in establishing cooperation between white and black workers, with various governmental and private agencies aiding in the program.

Smith assured that Negroes "do not place their special problems ahead of the major task of winning the war," nor do they seek an "immediate solution of their just needs," he said.

"What the Negro people want is what every decent American wants —full citizenship in a democracy," he declared. "If every trade union opened its doors to Negroes and removed the stigma of second-class membership and its attendant inequalities, you can be sure the time would not be far off when the second-class citizenship of Negroes in our democracy would be wiped out, the poll tax congressmen notwithstanding."

Dean Hastie maintained that "economic democracy" is essential to the elimination of race conflict and to the "political effectiveness" of labor. He called democracy in unions a "practical education in the American way of life."

"Like labor, Negro women have no assurance of adequate or stable income after the war," declared Mrs. Brown. "We must therefore depend upon some form of federal agency or legislation to begin now to plan for the transition period from war to peace. If left in the hands of the states, plans will get caught in a bottleneck of conflicting interests and unwholesome prejudices."

NOTED AUTHOR AND COLLEGE PROFESSOR SAYS NEGROES HAVE NO FAITH IN ALLIED CAUSE—NONE IN SINCERITY

CHICAGO—Painting a realistic picture of the average Negro's belief concerning the war and the peace and his role in the American scheme of things, J. Saunders Redding, noted author and college professor, writing in the January ssue of Negro Digest published here on the subject "What the Negro Believes," declares that Negroes have no faith in the white American's sincerity, and do not feel that the peace to come will be a peace for them.

Redding, who gained national fame as the author of the recent sensational book, "No Day Triumph," says that the ingness of whites to

no glory for the Negro in pitting him; that he foe, Redding says the average man and therefore they can be Japanese are something less than human and that if the Japs because the white Jew have a God were black, should get together somehow; that if other Negroes were more like him, things would be better.

"Even the good white men

47n-1944

THE NEGRO IN THE WAR

Editor, The Journal: I want to take this occasion to congratulate you on your forthright news account of the participation of the 99th U. S. Fighter Squadron in the air battles over the Nettuno beachhead last Thursday, and your challenging and courageous editorial in Saturday's edition.

May I assure you that the success of the 99th Pursuit Squadron in its first major battle was "cause for especial pride among Negroes." Atlanta, Ga. Journal

Yet, as strange as it may seem, in a country where democracy is supposed to be the essence of life and the press prides in its freedom, after two years of war your report and editorial on the 99th Pursuit Squadron was cause for comparable and parallel pride among your many thousand Negro subscribers in this state. This ought not to be.

We hear every day over the radio or in the press that this war is being fought for the Four Freedoms. Then we hear the Georgia Democratic Committee rule that 100,000 Negro soldiers of this state cannot vote in the Democratic primary. The mothers and fathers of many of these soldiers read advertisements in the daily papers seeking workers for various war plants. They apply for the jobs, seeking to do their bit in the war effort, but are immediately told that their services are not needed. They keep on paying their increased war taxes and increasing cost of living. The letters come from the fighting fronts of the world telling of the daring and courageous work of the Negro Quartermaster Corps, Engineering Corps, Antiaircraft Units, Infantry Units, Marines, Coast Guards, Seabees, etc., then you pick up your daily newspaper, or you turn on your radio, or you view a newsreel at the movie where you read, hear or see accounts of the actions of white soldiers on the battle fronts of the world and scarcely anything about the Negro soldiers unless you look to Negro channels which are very limited and restricted. February 6, 1944

I say to the press of this great nation and other channels of communication, your challenge has never been greater than it is today. Our nation is in a death struggle for the preservation of democracy. You are the interpreter of democracy. Give it a meaning to all of the people of this state. A true picture of the part the Negro is playing in this war will go a long way towards building better race relations and general morale.

J. R. HENDERSON.

816 Fair Play Lane, N. W.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald

February 6, 1944

FILM TELLS STORY OF NEGROES IN WAR

NEW YORK, Feb. 14 — (AP) — Against a backdrop of Negro heroism throughout the history of America, the War Department has brought to the screen the story of the Negro soldier in the current war told with restraint and dignity.

The film was shown Monday to an audience comprised of representatives of the press and of numerous organizations, who were told it was the hope of the producers that it would be seen by as many millions of Americans as possible, in the interest of American unity.

It is the moving story of the American Negro as a soldier, from the time of Crispus Attucks, ex-slave and hero of the Boston massacre in 1770, to the time of Dorie Miller, who died at Pearl Harbor, and Pvt. Robert Brooks, a Negro who was one of the first American soldiers to die in the Second World War.

Films captured from the enemy in the present conflict are used in several sequences, to show the barbarity of Naziism and of the fanatical Jap. Liberal use was made of authentic Army material and historic films.

The picture was made by the special coverage section of the United States Army Signal Corps, under the supervision of Frank Capra. Capt. Stuart Heisler was the director, and Carleton Moss, who played the minister-narrator, also wrote the scenario.

The screening was at the Fox screening room here.

Randolph Negro Is Highest Paid Private In Army

South Boston, Va. News

A total of $311 a month for family allowance and his own salary makes Private Charles H. Snead, Sr., of Randolph, Va., one of the highest paid privates in the army. March 28, 1944

Snead, a rookie in Company A of the Reception Center at Camp Lee, claims a wife, eight children, father and brother as dependents. The negro's wife and children will receive $220 a month, his father and brother will have a check of $68, and he will receive $23 when he steps up to the pay table.

According to the office of Dependency Benefits in Newark, N. J., this is one of the highest family allowances in the army. Major W. R. Tabler, post fiscal director, said that the $288 check was the largest he has seen go through the office.

Walter White Confers With Gen. Eisenhower

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

2-27-44

Negro Troops Are Cheered By NAACP Sec'y

NEW YORK—(S N S)—Walter White, NAACP secretary now on a tour overseas, had a two-hour conference recently with General Dwight W. Eisenhower, supreme invasion commander, according to a story sent by wireless to this country by W. Randy Dixon, foreign correspondent of the Pittsburgh Courier.

Mr. White, on a tour of overseas troop installations, left England on or about Feburary 20, according to word received here February 23. Mr. White, arrived in London, January 3, and since that time has completed an 1800-mile tour of installations in England and Ireland, observing Negro troops.

He submitted a report to Generals Eisenhower, and Lee, and to Ambassador Winant, at their request. Mr. White expects to be in the North African theatre from four to six weeks and to return to the United States in the early part of May. 2-27-44

War correspondent Dixon's story to the Courier declares: "Indications are that Walter White'e six-week stay in the European theatre of operation is probably the most productive of his long career as NAACP zealot and journalist. Once General Eisenhower and White talked privately and uninterruptedly for two hours. White's visit here created more stir and interest among colored soldiers than any previous visit by an outstanding personality."

PRAISES NEGROES IN WAR

Times-New York, N. Y.

Red Cross Official Says Work Will Aid Post-War Status

2-12-44

A prediction that the part played by Negroes in combat forces and in Red Cross field work would change the status of their race after the war was made yesterday by Jesse O. Thomas, assistant administrator of domestic services at national Red Cross headquarters in Washington. He spoke at a luncheon in Small's Paradise, 2294 Seventh Avenue, at which leaders of religious, social and civic groups met to organize block canvassing in Harlem for the Red Cross 1944 war fund.

Mrs. David Challinor, vice chairman of the forthcoming drive to raise $22,386,000 in New York, warned that "in this all-out war, which is affecting every man, woman and child in this country, disunity and complacency are the only obstacles that might get in the way of our winning the war." She declared the work done by nurses' aides in Harlem Hospital "has set an example for every hospital in the city." 2-12-44

Other speakers were John P. Stevens Jr., general chairman of the Greater New York campaign; Samuel Battle, New York City Parole Commissioner, and Frank Walker, chairman of block canvassers in the Twenty-eighth and Thirty-second Precincts.

Negro Soldiers And The Fighting Fronts

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 3-14-44

One of the most talked about of the current issues growing out of the bi-racial pattern prevailing generally throughout the nation, and which, to a growing degree, is beginning to affect the nation's expressed love for Christian democratic principals and ideals, affecting alike its war-time and peace-time activities, is the growing demand of the Negro citizens of the country that their sons be given a greater chance to risk their lives upon the battlefields of the world, in the same degree as the sons of other citizens of the country.

That this has become a major issue in the gravely important race problem of the country may be noted by pointing to the fact that in the "Statement of War Aims of the Negroes of the Country," presented to President Roosevelt, doing his talk with a committee representing the National Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, at its Eastern Regional meeting recently held in the Nation's Capitol, this was the one issue brought directly to the attention of the President by the spokesmen for the group.

Giving due consideration to such an existing fact it is only the natural aftermath that the letter of the Secretary of War, Mr. Stimson, recently made public, giving the official reason for the failure to use Negro troops in combat, as a War Department policy, was considered, and rightly so, by Negroes in all sections of the nation, as not only an insult to the gallant and glorious history and tradition of the Negro soldier, won in sacrifice, blood and death, in every conflict in which the nation has engaged from the first skirmish of the American revolution to the present day, but, as an insult to the whole race 3-14-44

It is of little wonder then that in the wake of such an avalanche of protest and reaction on the part of the Negroes of the country, that the War Secretary has set out to deny any discriminatory motives and seeks to point out conditions justifying the denial to the Negro soldier the opportunity for which he has been trained, and which he seeks wholeheartedly both out of patriotism and the desire to further substantiate his claims to be the equal of all men, in all things, regardless of race, color or creed.

In pointing out the low educational qualification of the Negro soldiers as being the reason for his not being allowed to take his part and place on the fighting fronts of the war, the War Secretary also advances the implication that in the hundreds of thousands of Negro soldiers now in the Army there is not a sufficient number of the required educational qualifications needed to create even one or two regiments capable of service on the fighting fronts. And this, in spite of the fact that the press of the entire nation for the past several months has been filled with the exploits of Marshall Tito, and his bands of un- educated Yugoslavian partisians who having been doing the most effective fighting against the Germans, in spite of their lack of comparable education. However, admitting as true, what the War Secretary said about the low educational qualification of the Negro

soldier, it would have been a fine thing for the spirit and morale of the Negroes of the country, and would have taken a lot of the sting out of his original letter had he added the further truth that the work of port battallions, labor battallions, engineers, quartermasters, require not only the highest physical qualification in men, but also the equally important willingness to do long hours of hard work too, qualifications that are to be found in the very highest degree in the American Negro soldier, but not yet, perhaps, sufficiently exercised in other groups, and that in doing such work the Negro soldier is performing a task of just as much importance to winning the war as any other soldiers. 3-14-44

Finally, as Negroes, it will pay us to keep in mind, the great importance of the job being done by our sons, less while demanding that they be given a chance to serve on the fighting fronts, we take away the significance of their job and give aid to those who may be interested in discrediting the effort and contribution of the Negro towards winning the victory.

Negro Soldier Writes Letter Of Courage To Employers Here

News-Birmingham, Ala
4-28-44

Determination, hopefulness and courage—these are three qualities which pervade a recent letter from a Negro soldier formerly employed by a Birmingham family.

"I believe that Negroes will be better citizens after the war. . . . I'm going to stay in the Army and see this thing through. It's more serious than I thought it was. . . . I am taking my training seriously."

These are but a few thoughts selected at random from this rather remarkable and cogent letter written by Pvt. Moses Hudson, stationed at the Army Air Base in New Orleans. It needs to be read more fully to grasp its portent, so with the omission of only a few personal matters, it follows:

* * *

"I AM NOW STATIONED in New Orleans. I am a member of the first platoon. We are considered one of the best in the company.

"Before I was inducted into the armed forces, I felt that I couldn't be a soldier, but now it is different. Every member of our outfit is determined to be a good soldier. We have excellent instructors. We have to work and train hard from dawn to dusk, but we are taught and shown in training films that we can make only one mistake overseas. So the only ones that we make will be over here in training. I believe, with the grim determination of the boys, the enemy would be on the run.

"You learn so much in the Army. I believe that Negroes will be better citizens after the war. They are taught how to live clean. The company commander is very proud of us. It is not often that a group of Negroes can dwell together in peace and harmony. 4-28-44

* * *

"MY LITTLE GIRL IS growing up now. She writes me letters three times a week. We miss each other. I am taking my training seriously because the better you train, the better chance you have of coming back before your dog tags.

"I think I'm going to stay in the Army and see this thing through. It's more serious than I thought it was. But I believe when the last shot is fired, we will fire it. Considering the circumstances in which we were attacked, I think that we've made wonderful progress. But I rejoice that it is as well with us as it is, and I am looking forward for things to be like they were after victory is won."

Six Colored Prisoners Are Freed By Nazis

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Were Kept In Jim Crow Camp By the Germans

3-23-44

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—When 28 prisoners were recently released from the German prison camp at Tittmoning, six were colored American citizens, it has been learned here.

Before the repatriation there were about 180 United States citizens and 120 Latin Americans at Tittmoning. Of the United States citizens 12 were Negroes. German authorities claimed that 80 more were Jews and the remainder Polish-Americans.

Jewish nationals of the United States and British are exempted from Hitler's anti-Semitic measures, but the men are kept segregated from most of their race who were from the European continent.

A separate camp for Americans of Jewish, Polish or Negro origin, as well as Latin Americans, has been opened at Tittmoning in upper Bavaris, on the old German-Austrian frontier, about 12 miles down the Sal Zach river from the general camp for American men at Laufen.

While there is plenty of food, all reports declare that it is atrocious. The American prisoner's weekly parcels help to provide proper nourishment.

The Nazi jimcrow prison camp for Jewish, Polish and colored American prisoners at Tittmoning is said to be similar to that at Laufen. It is an old castle that has been repaired. It has three - tiered bunks into various, and the prisoners sleep on straw mattresses and pillows and eat at plank tables. 3-23-44

A group of thinly clad German Jews, who may have been intellectuals and professional people before the war, were working in the bitter cold in Strasborough when the train carrying the released U. S. prisoners passed through that German city.

Negroes Win Stimson Praise

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—(AP) America's Negro soldiers, most of whom live in southern states, are contributing their full share to the war effort, with approximately 50 per cent of them already overseas or en route there, says Secretary of War Stimson. 4-20-44

Stimson made his statement in a letter which Representative Ludlow, Democrat, Indiana, said today he inserted in the Congressional Record as an answer to complaints of Army discrimination against Negroes.

Stimson reported that of the Negro troops overseas 32 per cent are combat and combat support troops, and added "they are being given every opportunity to win battle honors and demonstrate their worth in actual combat." Other points he made include:

"The Army is accepting and absorbing Negro personnel at a rate corresponding to the registration ratio of white and Negro enlisted men.

"At present approximately 9 per cent of the Army's total enlistment is of Negro personnel, but it is planned to increase this to 10.4 per cent.

"Of our total enlisted personnel 6,245,720 will be white, 709,280 Negro, and of the Negro personnel approximately 14 per cent are scheduled for assignment to combat organizations.

"Army tests have shown Negroes have had inadequate educational opportunities. 4-20-44

"A recent study of checks at reception centers showed 20 per cent of the Negroes and 74 per cent of the whites were rated in higher grades of one, two and three, while 80 per cent of the Negroes and 26 per cent of the whites fell in lower classifications."

"While these lower classifications certainly do not reflect either the intelligence of the men or their native abilities, they do indicate the nature and extent of the problem with which the Army must deal," Stimson declared.

Instruction courses have helped remedy this situation, however, with 90 per cent of 29,000 Negro trainees taking classes being accepted for advanced training, he added.

"Permit me to reiterate and emphasize that all our military personnel is distributed and employed solely in conformance with military considerations which, of course, are entirely unrelated to racial derivations," Stimson concluded.

Nazis Slew His Wife and Son; Negro, 56, Ships Out to Fight

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 2-26-44

By Art Shields

Harold Harper, Negro seaman and Master of Arts, told a press conference at the National Maritime Union yesterday that his cup of hatred against Hitler is running over.

The Germans killed his aged mother—whom Lincoln freed—in the London air blitz in 1941.

They lined up his 17-year-old son, with other students at the St Francis School in Louvain, Belgium in 1940, and machine-gunned him to death.

And Germans torpedoed ships under him six times.

ACQUIRES NEW ART

Mr. Harper, a highly cultured man, who knows 12 languages, including Russian, Japanese, Hindustani and the Basuto African tongue has just acquired another art to use against Hitler at sea. That's cooking.

He graduates today from the government's school for cooks and bakers in the merchant ship service.

The story of this 56-year-old graduate is an international epic.

Harold's hair-breadth's escapes began early. 2-26-44

A white supremacy mob burned down his father's house in Kansas City, Mo., shortly after he was born.

He took his master of arts at the University of Berlin before the last war and filled out a linguistic repertoire, which now includes Arabic, Greek, Gaelic, Icelandic, French, German and English and the tongues mentioned before.

FIRST TORPEDO

Young Harper was about to put his language to use as an interpreter for Cooks Tours (his job since), when the ship he was traveling to England on—the S.S. Arabic—was torpedoed off Ireland, early in the first war.

More ghastly was the blow in the Skagerrak straits off Denmark later that year.

HAROLD HARPER

More tragedy followed. While he was running an American club in Tokio in 1923, the earthquake killed his wife and 90,000 other persons. His infant son escaped—till the Germans got him in 1940.

The U.S. Consul at Louvain told Harper that the Germans just lined up, all the students and killed them.

KIDS MACHINE-GUNNED

He saw more child butchery at Malta in April, 1942, when he watched 12 children at play in a

when a torpedo touched off a shipload of explosives, killing 1,200 men and Master of Arts is fighting Jim

smiles as he tells you the
s and barber shops in
Washington, had to
their "White Trade Only"
en he protested to the
torney last year.

Crow. He smiled
restaurants and
Vancouver, W.
take down their
signs when he
district attorne

"I'm not out just for personal revenge," he told reporters. "I'm shipping out to help prevent these things from happening again."

47n-1944

FRONT AND CENTER—Army Sports Personalities

First sergeant of the "Pioneers" of Camp Pinedale, Fresno, California. The first sergeant, known as the Chillicothe (Ohio) Flash, entered the service in September, 1942. He is an all-around athlete, having starred in football, basketball and track, both at high school and college. He majored in physical education at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. First Sergeant Jones assisted the late Dr. George Washington Carver in setting up displays of the great scientist's many discoveries in the new museum at Tuskegee. (Drawing by Sgt. R. Schuller, Camp Pinedale.)

Negroes In War News

Whip - Miami Fla.

It is indeed unfortunate that so little of the war news from the various fighting zones tell of the activities and exploits of Negro servicemen. Many thousands of Negroes are in our nation's armed services, fighting and dying. They are in the islands of the Pacific, in Italy, and with the invasion forces in Western Europe. They are helping to write a brililant and heroic chapter in the global struggle against tyranny and aggression, but the public receives but meager news of their achievements. 7-8-44

It is true that the Negro press has war correspondents at the fighting fronts in some parts of the Pacific and elsewhere, but they are few in number. It is impossible for them to cover the activities of our Negro troops fully in all of the areas in which the war is being fought. Releases concerning the outstanding achievements of Negro fighters are sent out by the War department at Washington from time to time, but as a rule they cover only isolated exploits.

This scarcity of news about Negroes on the fighting fronts, however, does not indicate that our men are not playing their part. In the invasion of Normandy, Negroes are in there pitching with the other brave Allied heroes. They are piloting planes over France and Germany. Only recently, Thursday, a group of fighter planes manned by Negroes and led by Col. B. O. Davis, accompanied a squadron of bombers over Germany and shot down five Nazi planes.

Our boys are also rendering heroic serviee on landing barges plying back and forth across the English Channel, also as infantrymen, members of construction battalions, engineer corps and in handling anti-aircraft guns on the decks of Allied naval ships.

As the war progresses, it is sincerely hoped that war releases will be more liberal in the coverage of Negro action on the fighting fronts of the world.

Heroism, Devotion to Duty Of Negroes Lauded by Army

PM - New York, N. Y.
6-25-44

The War Dept. in an announcement today lauded the work of Negroes serving in the U. S. armed forces and pointed out several instances of outstanding service for which awards have been made.

For gallantry displayed in action on the Anzio Beachhead, Capt. James L. Jones, Army chaplain from Dallas, Texas, has been awarded the Silver Star and the Purple Heart. The citation declared that "the inspiration afforded by his unselfish devotion and personal sacrifice is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service of the United States."

On one occasion Capt. Jones went to the aid of two wounded men in the face of constant enemy bombardment, and on another raced 500 yards through heavy enemy fire to assist in extinguishing a fire at a Quartermaster supply dump. The citation said that Capt. Jones insisted on remaining with his men in the most dangerous areas, for he felt he could be of greater service to them there.

Another chaplain, Capt. Charles H. Dubra, of Gulfport, Miss., is the first Negro chaplain to win the Legion of Merit award. In this case the citation states the award was made for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in New Guinea from April, 1942, to March, 1944."

"He gave valuable assistance to commanding officers and to other chaplains in maintaining a high degree of efficiency," the citation concluded. 6-28-44

Pfc. James H. Wilson of Oakland, Tenn., and Pvt. John Page of New Orleans, have been commended for "outstanding performance of duty and paintaking endeavor and loyalty" in the execution of their assignments while serving with an Airbase Security Battalion in the Northern Solomons Campaign.

The *Quartermaster Review's* May-June issue pays special tribute to Negro troops. Lt. Col. C. C. Holcomb, in an article on their work on the Anzio-Nettuno beachheads, writes:

"Their loyalty and their ability to take it will never again be questioned by any of us who have seen them in action . . . The way they have done their assigned tasks is evident in the fact that the supply situation on this beachhead (Anzio) is considered to be superior to any other our army has had in actual combat."

AN EDITORIAL

The War Dept. lauds the Negro soldier in press releases, yet discrimination goes on, in the armed services and at home. It's about time he got an even break in ways other than in mimeographed handout.—S. T.

To Teach Cadets At West Point

7-14-44

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—(ANP) — Three Negro enlisted men, who have demonstrated proficiency in operation of amphibian trucks, and two white officers, de-

The enlisted men are: S. Sgt. Pointers not only in operations but in tactics and maintenance.

T. 5 Clarence Adams, Jasper, Tex.

Under command of Capt. Charles E. Stamps, supervisor amphibian truck training at the ASFTC, Houston, Cpl. Walter J. Firby, 4060 the team will instruct the West Point to teach cadets of the United States Military Academy Haverford Ave., Philadelphia and amphibian truck operations.

Tribune—Washington, D.C.
NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER WEEK
FEB. 27th ~ MAR. 4th
1827 ~~ 1944
3-4-44

3-4-44

"BACKING THE ATTACK ON ALL FRONTS."

Invasion costs many Negro lives

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif.
7-10-44

WASHINGTON—Pictures documenting the Negro soldiers' part in the invasion of Nazi-held France have been sent back from the beaches of Normandy and published throughout the United States, the War Department announced last week. These pictures coupled with the announcement of heavy casualties among the Negro troops involved attested to their extensive participation in the action.

So far, none of the Negro units have been identified, nor will they be until such time as the unit commanders think it proper and safe to make such disclosures, the War department stated, adding that there was a large number used in the combined operations.

Except for revealing the names of the larger elements forming the invasion forces, Gen. Eisenhower has not given clearance for the release of a further breakdown identifying the units composing his forces. The pictures and the War department's announcement simply verify the presence of Negro combat engineers and other groups on the beaches of France. 7-10-44

These troops, exposed to heavy enemy fire, suffered many casualties while engaged in unloading and handling supplies ashore.

Florida Negro Soldiers Pose With Rome's She-wolf

Enquirer—Columbus, Ga.

BY KENNETH L. DIXON

WITH THE AEF IN ITALY, June 18—(Delayed)—(AP)—They're still kidding Sgt. Roamules Kyler and Staff Sgt. Reamuless Kyler, twin Negro brothers of Williston, Fla., about getting their picture in Stars and Stripes the other day.

Since the 22-year old soldiers were named for Romulus and Remus, the lads who according to legend were suckled by the she-wolf and subsequently founded Rome some 2,600 years ago, it was a cinch someone would hunt them up in Rome.

Sgt. Cyril Hopper, the Army newspaper photographer, not only found them but also found a bronze statue depicting the she-wolf and the famous twins who came to dinner. So he posed the Florida twins in front of it and took their picture.

* * * 7-2-44

Pfc. Bill Held of Chambers, Neb., and Pvt. Norman Cassidy of Detroit are still bragging about the drinking they did while in Rome without getting drunk.

They met a Brooklyn-born Italian who asked them if they were thirsty. "Yep," they chorused and at that moment they weren't thinking of cognac, wine or anything but water.

But the thing they weren't expecting was 10 gallons of cold milk—the first fresh milk they'd tasted since leaving the States.

So the boys sat down and toasted the taking of Rome with glass after glass of moo juice.

* * *

Upon Lake Bolsena Staff Sgt. Ralph Munoz of Los Angeles was astonished to learn there were people who didn't know you could go fishing with hand grenades when that's all the tackle you have.

There were muffled ba-roomps from out over the lake as he spoke and the naked soldier went wading out to gather in the fish.

"It paralyzes them," the sergeant explained. All you have to do is pick up the fish and bring them back, fix them on a stove and you've got everything."

* * *

The people of tiny Onano still aren't quite sure what happened. Some say it was like a tornado; others insist it seemed more like a whirlwind. They are the few who stayed in Onano during the Fifth Army stay while most of the town's population pulled out to the hills until the shooting ended.

Giuseppe, who used to run a bicycle repair shop, is one of those who stayed. Wild-haired and wild-eyed, he is still groping for words to explain what happened.

"The Germans were here," he said, "we remember that. And then, quick! The Germans are not here and the French are here in town. And then, quick! Out they go again."

* * * 7-2-44

Giuseppe was not the only one who was slightly harried. Sgt. Milt Lehman of Pittsburgh, Stars and Stripes writer, told about talking to Lt. Robert G. Menefee, Jr., of Sandusky, Ohio, and Cpl. Charles W. Hughes, Duncan, S. C., up by Acquapendente.

The lieutenant is a forward observer for 155 howitzers and wears the artillery crossed guns tattooed on his right arm. Hughes is his driver.

"When it goes this fast you've got to fire fast," Menefee said. There's no time for digging positions when there's a target and the gun's on the road. All you do is haul it off to the side and fire. By then the target's ready to retreat."

"Just hit and run," said Hughes. "We hit and then run."

THIS MORNING

By John Temple Graves II

Citizen—Asheville, N.C.

"Compound for sins they are inclined to,
By damning those they have no mind to."

5-13-44

Dr. Gallup says that 66 per cent of our civilian population think our civilian population doesn't take the war seriously enough. He says they agree with criticisms voiced by soldiers returning from battle fronts. But do they agree with the record? The record says we have oversubscribed all the war loans, done a war production job basic to winning the war, submitted with only human and harmless grumblings to all rationings, freezings, priorities and controls, and stood by in good order and cheer while every home has made its contribution to the military establishment and mortal chance. If we laugh on occasion, go to the movies, give ourselves whatever good time is available, that is no sin.

GRAVES

* * * *

We don't feel as the Russians do, but that is because, thank God, our situation is a million miles from theirs. We don't go through the same motions and emotions as our men at the battle fronts, but the returning soldier might remember that there is a difference in that respect, too. I say the 66 per cent who agree with the returning soldier are wrong, and so is he. It's an optical illusion. We're taking the war exactly serious enough to win it. What more is to be asked? The real concern is whether we will take the peace seriously enough. 5-13-44

* * *

The situation this Gallup poll reflects is making for an unnecessary gap between people at home and military people who are coming home. The division can do us no good at all, and it has no right to be. In large degree, I suspect it is this very civilian disapproval of civilian behavior which is reflected back to us from the fighting fronts in letters and reports which say our fighters are unhappy about things at home, that their morale is sapped by discouraging pictures of the land for which they fight.

5-13-44

Not that all or even most of our fighting men really feel this way yet. It is something much more written about than felt thus far. Even among the Negro troops, who are supposed to be disgruntled when they think of inequalities back home, there is probably much less concern than is claimed. I thought of this the other day when I was shown a letter written from Burma by Sgt. Harvey Douglass, of the engineers, a young Negro well known and liked in my town! "We have a great job to do, and I wish it was something I could do to bring this war to an end but it's not left to one person. I'm in Burma living high up in the clouds. The monsoon is beginning to set in and I'm sure you have heard how bad it is. We are having a lot of landslides and that makes it hard to accomplish what we are doing but we are real Americans. We can do our job and we will do it well. All that we are asking is that you all have faith and pray to God to give us strength and health to go through this crisis."

I don't believe our men overseas as many. "We have formed an Alabama Club here," he writes, "as a means of consolidating all the news from home. There are nearly 30 boys from Alabama in this comoldly pound. Jack Bentley of Gadsden, came mes over to see Winston and me the other day. has He is in another compound and doing fine. e is ger-

area prisoner of war at Stalag Luft III, Ger-

47n-1944

Negro Hero's Wife Sums It Up; Bill Knew Why He Was Fighting

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 2-24-44

By Eugene Gordon

Charles Walter David, Jr., Negro, whom the Associated Press referred to as "a giant with tremendous physical strength," was not a giant at all, according to his widow, Kathleen, but just a normal and healthy young American.

David was in the news recently as the hero of a North Atlantic torpedoing. The AP story—which is no more than Mrs. David herself knows of his last exploits—said that the "26-year-old mess attendant, first class," "dived repeatedly into freezing water in total darkness to haul survivors aboard, and finally rescued his executive officer, Lieut. Langford Anderson . . . who had gone overside to work with the rescue crew."

"No," said Mrs. David, "Charles wasn't a giant. He was just six feet and weighed about 175 pounds."

He learned to swim when, as a small boy, he was shoved off an East Side pier by playmates and realized that, literally, it was a matter of sink or swim.

ACCOUNT OF HEROISM

The AP story goes on:

" 'David was over the side on at least three occasions,' Lieut. Anderson said. 'Due to his extreme strength, he facilitated the task of getting aboard survivors who were frozen to such a degree they were like logs.' 2-24-44

"Lieut Anderson, pulled under water by a drowning man, was rescued when David dived in, broke the survivor's strangle-hold, and pulled both men to safety. David died of pneumonia following his exposure and exertions. . . ."

We sat in Mrs. David's little hall bedroom—in which she has also an icebox, a bureau, and other odds and ends of furniture—at the top of a rear staircase. The house is at 342 W. 122nd St., an old brownstone front in a row of brownstones, all with stoops of the same height. Her 16-year-old brother and his young friend sat listening, on the bed.

Yes, they agreed, they wanted to join the Navy. Certainly, they realized it was risky. No, they weren't afraid they'd have to be mess attendants, because, by the time they joined up, Uncle Sam would have learned the folly of turning a good fighter into a mess attendant, merely because that fighter happened to be a Negro.

Widow and Son of a Hero

2-24-44

Mrs. Kathleen David, with three-year-old Neil, widow and son of Charles W. David, Jr., Coast Guard mess attendant who died of pneumonia following his rescue of comrades from the sea when his ship was torpedoed. —Daily Worker Photo

David was born on the East Side of New York on June 20, 1918. He went to the Cooper Junior High School, the Banjamin Franklin Junior High School, and the Industrial High School. Where he learned carpentering and cabinet-making. He loved sports, especially basketball and swimming.

Mrs. David was notified of her husband's death about a year ago. That announcement, however said nothing about his being a hero. She learned of that only when a reporter from a New York paper called on her last week and requested a picture of her husband.

"Were you surprised? Had he ever said or done anything to indicate that he would act like that in a crisis?" 2-24-44

She was silent for a moment.

"I was a little surprised. So much time had passed, you see, and so many things are happening all the time to make one forget . . . But I could imagine his acting like that."

He was, evidently, a fighter—as she seems to be. She has been a member of the Harlem Labor Union since she was 16. She is now 23. She has a small son. She believes in unions. She believes, she says, that a number of good things for the Negro people have come already from this war against fascism. One of these things, she believes, is a more cooperative spirit between the Negro and the white people.

'Duck' Soup To Negro GI's

PM-New York, N.Y. 4-17-44

Staff Correspondence

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla., Apr. 15.—On the white sand beaches and in the Titi jungles which stretch far inland from the shores of the Gulf of Mexico some of America's Negro soldiers are training for one of the most vital jobs in amphibious warfare. They're taking it in stride.

These men—there are only three companies so far—are learning to be pilots of the Army's newest and most spectacular amphibious weapon, the Duck, the hybrid vehicle which is half truck, half ocean-going vessel.

The Duck, as it was immediately christened by the GIs, is almost as difficult to pilot as an airplane. It bounds along on six wheels on land and scoots around on water like a boat. There are almost as many controls facing the driver as there are in the cockpit of a fighting airplane. 4-17-44

Newsmen on a War Dept. tour of Army camps were passengers on a land-water jaunt aboard one of the score of Ducks at Camp Gordon Johnston. A convoy of the ungainly hulks, awash with the top milk of American journalism, lumbered through the saw Palmetto and scrubpine for a mile or so past military dumps and onto the glare of the beach. At water's edge drivers switched to the propeller and splashed into the Gulf. The front wheels were still engaged as the prop bit water until the hull was water borne.

The driver of our Duck was Elmer Tracey, a husky corporal who used to drive a truck in Birmingham, Ala. His crew were Pvt. Boles and Pvt. Henry. They love the job.

Every officer in the party was enthusiastic over the Negroes' swift mastery of their Ducks. They have been brisk and efficient chauffeurs of these mysterious amphibians. None have yet been in combat, but their officers were all confident they will make good on invasion beaches wherever they are.

The Duck is a versatile weapon. It is designed primarily to carry supplies to a beachhead but it can transport troops from ship to shore or back again with equal facility. Meanwhile these happy Negro soldiers are winning their wings—"duck wings."

Negro College Drive Launched

The Worker-New York, N.Y.

By ENGENE GORDON

Walter Hoving, president of Lord & Taylor, and recently chosen to lead the Negro College Fund campaign, opened yesterday with the statement that any economically inferior and unskilled group of citizens is a national liability.

When 21,000 Negroes out of 22,000 men are rejected by the Army in Mississippi because of illiteracy, that IS a liability. It means that nine regiments of potential fighting men are thus demobilized. 5-7-44

Losses to the nation in the industrial field are as great. Thousands of possible Booker T. Washingtons, George Washington Carvers, Mary McLeod Bethunes, and Charles Drews are lost to the nation because Negro boys and girls do not have adequate educational opportunities in the South.

The 27 colleges and universities in this $1,500,000 drive used to get along on contributions from alumni and from occasional endowments and gifts. Such sources are now dried up. Nor do many Negro colleges enjoy the War Department subsidy of thousands of trainees.

Jimcrow colleges and universities are incompatible with democracy, as St. Louis (Ky.) University and other private white institutions themselves insist. The people and their organizations must, therefore, support both the present United Negro College Fund drive

Third of Army's Negroes Overseas

PM-New York, N.Y. 5-16-44

Of 664,066 Negroes in the Army Feb. 29, 284,644 were overseas, the War Dept. reports.

There were 81,205 more serving than there were at the last count Aug. 31, 1943.

There were 4979 officers, including 205 chaplains and only 219 nurses. Medical and dental corps had 496. 5-16-44

The Air Forces had 77,335 Negroes, with an increase of 593 officers since August. The breakdown: Infantry 44,022, coast artillery 50,955, field artillery 9043, engineers 106,514, all others 376,197.

LOCAL NEGRO IS HERO IN DEATH

Daily Worker-Birmingham 4-25-44

The Birmingham Negro ran forward to offer help. One of the men in the cab yelled the warning that the truck contained black powder, a terrible hazard when brought close to flames—but Stringer continued his advance.

Pfc. Otto Stringer, Jr., 23-year-while serving as a traffic guard along the Ledo Road.

Warming himself by a diesel old Negro engineer whose home was at 1125 Cahaba Street, Birmingham, gave his life in Burma hours. Stringer was taken to a hospital that two fellow workers might live.descend a hill just south of his

The driver's cab were two the truck reached the As he reached the side of the e hill, it veered sudden-truck, the powder exploded. ed over one of the flares Stringer watched a truck ong the road for night a few miles away and died the following day. The occupants of the and crashed into an em- truck were injured, but both recov-

The public relations office of the post. In the services of supply headquarters, men. foot of the hill United States Army Forces, for China, Burma and India. Sunday placed along made public the story of how the workers.

'OUR BOYS WANT TO FIGHT,' GENERAL DAVIS TELL COAST LEGIONNAIRES

No Complaint Over Inductions

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga. 4-14-44

HOLLYWOCD — (ANP) — The Negro's only complaint with the army comes when they are not permitted to "fight it out," said Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, the army's highest ranking colored officer, in a speech to a local group of American Legionnaires Thursday night.

"There never has been any complaint from the Negro when inducted," he said. "Our people have come forward as volunteers for service who never they have been permitted to do so."

Davis, along with Truman K. Gibson civilian aide to Sec., of war Henry L. Stimson, was a guest of honor at a county council meeting of the Legion. Both were here for the premiere Thursday of "Negro Soldier,' produced by Col. Frank Capra.

General Davis expressed the belief that the film would contribute to better understanding of the Negro and appreciation of his contribution to the development of this nation.

"Many people forget," he said, "that our population is made up of many groups and my group has the distinction of not having been asked whether we wanted to join or not. We were just brought here."

CONTRIBUTION UNDISPUTED

The Negro contribution to the development of America was undisputed, he said. 4-14-44

"We have come forward as volunteers whenever we were permitted to volunteer," he said. "There has never been any complaint from the Negroes because they have been inductd into service. Their only complaint has been made when you dont let them get into the game and fight it out."

He said that most of the trouble current in the world today was caused by misunderstanding. He hoped that "The Negro Soldier" would go far toward removing that misunderstanding in the case of the Negro

ASK FOR RIGHTS

"We're only asking you for the things you have enacted into law," he said, "and have said that we are entitled to.

"If we are not all you would have us be, remember what we are of your handiwork. We're going to be what you make us. We're your responsibility'."

Brig. Gen. Davis, who was escorted to the speakers stand by an honor guard of Air-Wacs, had high praise for the women who are serving with the armed forces and particularly the Wacs.

Truman K. Gibson, Secretary of War Stimson's civilian aide, who also spoke, disclosed that ten percent of the Army is composed of Negroes and that nine and a half percent of the men overseas are Negroes.

How the Black Eagle Plotted Duce's Death

World-Telegram - New York, N.Y. 5-2-44

By IRVING JOHNSON,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Col. Hubert Fauntleroy Julian, Harlem's accomplished and many-sided Black Eagle, narrowly failed in a self-assigned plan to assassinate Mussolini in 1934, the ex-Air Minister of Ethiopia revealed today.

The irrepressible Black Eagle remembered his near approach to glory while driving his big car downtown from Washington Heights Traffic Court, where he had gone to answer the traffic ticket he got from Policeman McCarthy in that incident on 55th St. last week.

Warned of Il Duce.

First he pulled off his expensive brown hat and dropped it on the seat beside him. "I must remove my hat," he said, "when I mention my ex-boss, the Emperor of Ethiopia. No man ever lived who did more for civilization."

His plot to murder Mussolini, he went on, came into his head when the Emperor warned against Il Duce and his ambitions and how perilous they were to civilization.

He forgot all about the indignity of his encounter with the cop as he continued with his narrative. The plot was perfectly conceived, he said. 5-2-44

The Plot Fails.

"I made believe I had turned traitor against the Emperor," he said, "and everyone believed it. When I got to Rome an audience with Mussolini was arranged and I went there in morning dress. But I had a gun under my arm so rigged up that it would go off when I raised my arm in the Fascist salute."

He said the plan failed when Count Ciano called Haile Selassi a "monkey." The Black Eagle flinched and Ciano saw he was still an Ethiopian sympathizer. The Count said, "The audience is off," and ushered the Bl[illegible]gle out.

The Black Eagle was strictly the philosopher this morning and his anger against Policeman McCarthy was obscured by such observations as, "You have to, condone these incidents. It takes so many people to make a world."

He drove over to 55th St. near Eighth Ave. and parked his car where it was when Policeman McCarthy pulled alongside. He said he couldn't have been blocking traffic as charged or the officer couldn't have driven to his side—"as a matter of fact he blocked traffic." 5-2-44

Polite to Officer.

He said not a single horn was blown and there were no army or navy trucks in the street, as charged, and he counted out 15 parked cars on the street marked "No parking in this block."

There were 10 the other day, he said, "and I told the officer if he gave me a summons he'd have to make out 10 more for the others."

He said he was polite to the officer until the latter said: "Shut up! Show me your license!"

"So I told him: 'Shut up! This is not Germany!'"

Col. Julian's case was put off till the 11th over his protest.

Pulls Soldiers From Burning Powder Truck

Daily World Atlanta Ga

Refuses To Heed Warning; Caught In Huge Blast

4-27-44

ALONG THE LEDO ROAD —(ANP) — He gave his life that others might live. Pfc. Otto Stringer, Jr., 23, a Negro engineer from 1125 Chaba St., Birmingham, was acting as a traffic guard at 5 a.m., on the famous Ledo Road. It was his regular turn at guard duty Stringer was cold because it becomes chilly in the wee hours in the Burma mountains during January mornings.

He walked from one diesel flare (light for night workers) to another to keep warm. He thought of home where his dependent father and sister waited for him. He thought of school days when he had so much fun. But he had studied too. He thought of working in the grocery store, and of his many friends.

WATCHES BULL-DOZERS

Then, he thought of the many jobs he had mastered since coming into the army. Right now, he was learning to operate a bulldozer. He admired those men who could run the heavy machines up and down mountains without being afraid. He was going to do that, too. He thought of many things. Everyone does, standing his lonely vigil of guard on a chilly night. He has to, in order to pass the time.

Stringer was in this reverie when a truck, driven by two white engineers came down a hill south of his post. That was not unusual. Many trucks came down that same hill. But this one was different. The driver seemed to have lost control of the vehicle.

Suddenly, it ran into a bank at the foot of the hill near which Stringer was standing. As it crashed ,the truck knocked over a lighted diesel flare. He started toward the truck. The driver yelled that it contained black powder. Stringer continued his advance. He would help them. 4-27-44

POWDER EXPLODES

Instantly the powder exploded. Stringer and both occupants were enveloped in flames. Witnesses immediately hurried to the spot. But the flames were too hot momentarily ,and they hesitated before dashing in and pulling the three men out.

They covered the victims to beat out the flames, then rushed them to a hospital a few miles away. Stringer regained consciousness there before he died the next day. He told friends to pack his things in his locker; to bring his toilet articles to the hospital.

The two men he tried to rescue were sent to a base hospital where they are getting along fine.

It Stringer had a reputation among his comrades of being a jolly fellow who was ready to lend a helping hand to anyone at any time. He still lives in their memory.

3 Negro Soldiers Capture 15 Nazis

Detroit—Chicago Daily 7-22-44

WITH ALLIED FORCES IN FRANCE—(ANP)—The capture of 15 Germans by three colored members of the army signal corps recently rates as the foremost news of this section. Those involved in the capture were Cpl. Bernard P. Henderson, 28, of New York City; Cpl. Percy E. Cox Jr., 28, Petersburg, Va., and Cpl. Allie W. Campbell, Planes, Va.

Campbell drove the prisoners to the provost office. The commanding officer, Lt. Charles A. Gray, Audubon, N. Y., was surprised to see Nazis ushered into his presence and congratulated the captors.

The boys carried out their duties in excellent fashion. They had confiscated valuable papers. Henderson and Cox did guard duty while

47n-1944

Colored Russian Officer Personally Kills 126 Nazis

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md. 2-12-44

Red Army Lieutenant Credited With Wholesale Slaughter; Sergeant Kills 14

MOSCOW—Lt. Akaki Tereladze, colored Red Army officer from the Georgian Soviet, is credited with personally killing 126 German soldiers during the encounter in which his rifle company crossed the Dnieper River and captured the village of Monastirek.

The river crossing was made under heavy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire from two German motorized rifle battalions.

The Nazis made twenty two counter attacks, eight of which were led by tanks, before being routed. Several hundred of them were killed and three tanks put out of action.

Sergeant Kills 114

Another colored (Tartar) Russian, Sgt. Gali Kakirov, scored a personal record of 114 Germans killed in two engagements.

Fourteen of these were killed with Sergeant Kakirov's bayonet and rifle butt when he led his squad into a German front-line trench, and the others when a Nazi battalion made a futile attack on a height held by the sergeant's squad.

Men Use Skill, Ingenuity Accomplishing Army Tasks

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 5-20-44

HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATRE OF OPERATIONS — Negro soldiers serving in a United States port battalion stationed at a North Ireland port keep the huge bulk of invasion supplies moving from American assembly lines to invasion force units in the United Kingdom.

Few of the men of this unit, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel N. W. Dingham of Pittsburgh, Pa., had any civilian cargo-loading experience but they were taught Army technique at a training school.

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

The men who load and unload the ever-increasing cargoes use skill and ingenuity in devising the ways to speed up their hazardous operation. One group mounted an unloading boom on a ship and made a hatch ready for unloading in the record time of 15 minutes. Another unit moved a hangar-dull of Army Air Force equipment in 23 hours before the scheduled time.

Atlanta Daily World 5-20-44

LOADED BY CRANES

Cargo ships are loaded by land cranes which swing the loads up and into the hold of the ship where they are stowed in a previously assigned position. Unloading is done by use of a five-ton boom or arm which has to be secured and rigged aboard the ship itself.

A typical ship loading problem is cited by First Sergeant Charles Nichols, 2350 Federal Street, Philadelphia, Pa., as proof that the Army stevedore has of necessity become a technician.

Twenty-one men are required to lead the batch of a ship. A sergeant and a corporal overse thee work, while a second corporal checks off each item as it is stored away.

Six of the men, down on the docks, prepare the equipment for loading. It may be in boxes or crates, and it may vary from a four ton truck to a jeep or an unwieldly 155 mm. field gun. Whatever it is, the loaders must handle it expertly to prevent accidents when the cranes or winches swing the load. Carelessness or improper timeing may result in heavy loss or injury. 5-20-44

HATCH TENDERS SIGNAL

Two hatch tenders stand on the deck guiding the sling-load of valuable cargo by their signals to the winch operator.

The winch man slowly lowers the sling into the hold where eight more men stow the cargo away. Their's is one of the most important operations, for with good stowage a ship can sail loaded to capacity, with no danger of capsizing due to shifting cargo in a rough sea.

There are other specialists in the unit who are as essential as the men directly involved in the loading operation. These are the blacksmiths and welders, the carpenters and coppersmiths who brace and reinforce the crates and boxes; the men who operate the "finger lifts" that raise cargo to the correct height for handling; drivers of the little tractors which move material about the docks; mechanics who service and repair equipment; and the riggers who set up ship loading equipment. Their work must be done before the cargo can be moved.

Veteran's Aid

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

— By WORLD WAR II VET —

A special American Legion rehabilitation committee is staying in Washington until the "GI Bill of Rights" is passed. The House and Senate compromise measure with most of the Rankin sting removed is expected to reach the President's desk any day.

Here are some of the major things the bill will do:

If a veteran should be out of a job during the first two years after discharge, he can draw $20 a week unemployment insurance for 52 weeks. 6-19-44

If his education was interrupted when he put on a uniform to enter the service before 25 years of age, he can get a year's schooling, and in some instances a full college education. The government will pay $500 for the year's tuition, laboratory fees, books and similar expenses, and $50 a month for subsistence, plus $25 for dependents.

If he needs a job, he can enlist the help of the United States Employment Service.

If he needs hospitalization, he can get it from the Veterans Administration. (The joint Congressional committee restored $500,000,000 for construction of additional hospital facilities.)

The bill also provides for private loans at four per cent interest, with the government guaranteeing 40 percent, up to $2,000 maximum, of the amount for individual loans for homes, farms and businesses.

* * *

The President has already signed two benefit bills granting increased compensation for veterans of two world wars, their widows and orphans.

H.R. 3356 has two sections. The first provides that monthly rates of compensation payable to veterans of **both world wars** for service incurred disability be increased by 15 percent, with the permanent and total rate going from $100 to $1,115 and the partial disability rates increased in proportion. 6-19-44

Section two of the measure applies to widows and orphans of veterans who had a service connected disability at time of death but died from other causes. The schedule of payment follows:

	New Rate	Old Rate
Widow without children	$35	$30
Widow and one child...	45	38
Each additional child...	5	4
One child, no widow....	18	15
Two children, no widow.	27	22
Three children, no widow.	36	30
Each additional child...	4	3

Where there is no widow payments to children are to be totalled and then equally divided among all.

H.R. 3377 provides for increased compensation for permanent and total non-service connected disability of veterans of both world wars except where a veteran has held permanent and total disability of veterans of both World Wars, except where a veteran has held permanent and total disability rating for 10 continuous years or has reached age 65, the payment is to be $60 instead of $50 a month. It had been only $40 a month. 6-19-44

A new $10 denomination "GI" War Bond, to sell for $7.50 has been authorized for sale to enlisted and commissioned military personnel. The new bond will not be sold to civilians. . . . Women dentists may now apply for commissions as dentists in the WAVES.

New Times

The Worker - New York, N.Y.

I AM quite certain that a sense of extra pride swept through the Negro population as they read this week's accounts of the participation of Negro American soldiers in the fighting in France. There were pictures in several newspapers showing Negro troops performing mopping up tasks in one of the French towns. Another story related how the Negro aviation squadron, under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., on the Italian front, shot down five Nazi planes with the loss of only one of their own.

These events bring extra thrills to the Negro population and to millions of white democratic Americans, because extra pain is suffered over the discrimination which still exists against Negroes, and other minority groups, within our armed forces. 6-18-44

* * *

THE very fact that we have to single out this recognition of Negro citizens for special comment is itself a condemnation of the situation in which equal opportunities for Negroes to participate in the fighting are so rare.

When we arrive at a point in the armed forces and in civilian life, when no special attention is required for Negro Americans, then we can say that their full integration into the life of our nation as free citizens has become a normal procedure, no longer regarded as an exceptional fact. We can say, however, that progress is being made; for progress always appears on the stage of history as the exception.

* * *

THE participation of the Negroes in the march of the great Allied army of liberation through France is itself a weapon against the stubborn minority of officials who cling to the Hitlerite poison of "white supremacy" in our armed forces. It is the deed which accompanies the splendid effort of the War Department through the picture Negro Soldier to give a creditable accounting of Negro troops to the general public. But the progress of our country in bringing about equality within our armed forces has been and still is too slow, and too little.

See Post War Gains In Employment Of Negroes

Defender- Chicago, Ill
2-19-44

NEW YORK—The chances for greater industrial employment of Negroes during the post-war era than before the conflict were seen in a report of a study made public this week by the National Urban League.

Returns from 300 typical war plants in twenty-five states and 120 cities, covering 150,000 Negro workers indicate that the majority of plants plan to continue to hire Negroes after the war. In 253 plants the officials stated that on the basis of current experience with Negro workers, jobs would be assured them. Twelve plants had made no decisions and the remaining 35 declined to comment.

"Absenteeism" was listed as chief among the difficulties encountered by industries among the Negro personnel. Sixty-seven companies complained of a high rate of absenteeism, while other problems were: race friction in 21 plants; over-aggressiveness and "chip-on-shoulder" attitude in 11 plants; high turnover among Negroes in 13 plants.

Urban league industrial department workers who compiled the survey estimate that more than a million and a half Negroes are now employed in war production. A lag in the employment of Negro women was revealed, however, when it was estimated that only 4 per cent of women war workers are Negroes.

In 154 of the 300 plants Negroes are employed in skilled operations, as semi-skilled workers in 247, and as unskilled workers in all the plants. The league reported that there had been a rapid increase in the employment of Negro workers in war industries because of shrinking labor reserves, an increase likely to continue through 1944, and that Negro workers were being employed in more semi-skilled and skilled jobs than at any time in the past. 2-19-44

"It should not be taken for granted," the report stated, "that this highly desirable change in the status of Negro workers will take place without continued education in industrial relations and application of the highest democratic principle in the distribution of jobs.

"A vigorous program of workers education and community education is needed to offset the explosive emotional reactions resulting from the sudden shifts in population and the rapid changes in the employment status of Negro and white workers.

"Management-labor committees working with Government agencies in the field of industrial relations can be profitably utilized in the further development of good labor relations, worker morale and maximum efficiency of Negro workers."

Between The Lines

All Kansas City, Missouri 2-11-44

By Gordon Hancock

SOUTHERN NEGRO DOING HIS SHARE OF FIGHTING—AND EFFECTIVELY

The story goes that a train was making up for a trip through the deep South and the regular porter could not be found. A worker about the yards was called to dress and make ready for the trip. This he did with all enthusiasm; and with his fine coat of blue and silver buttons he presented a comely picture.

When the train had pulled out and well on its way, the new porter realized that he did not know the stations along the way and felt a keen sense of embarrassment.

But he was resourceful as porters often are, and when the train was pulling into a station, he remained far in the rear until the conductor himself had called the station as conductors are wont to do.

After hearing the station called but unable to exactly understand the name the porter—he must have been colored as porters in the South ordinarily are—with great gusto passed through the car and yelled, "The same thing and I ain't going to say it no more."

The Negro got by handsomely because of his resourcefulness in not divulging that he was totally ignorant of the names of the many stations. He got by. The point here is that Negroes everywhere want the same thing in this country.

The attempt to prove that northern Negroes want more than southern Negroes lacks pith and point. As a matter of fact most of the Negroes in the North who are most clamorous for full citizenship are Negroes from the South. Still there seems to be some misgivings about the ambitions and aspirations of the southern Negroes.

When the Negroes met in Durham in 1942, there was great fear that they might not make a straightforward statement. Many northern Negroes feared this and many southern Negroes, but withal the statement provoked just the reaction that was desired. It stirred the white South to action.

While we are just beginning to function, some things have already transpired that showed the wisdom of the Durham group. It succeeded in getting segregation attacked by a white southerner which has provoked such favorable reaction throughout the nation.

It succeeded in eliciting from Governor Darden of Virginia, one of the most far-reaching programs ever to be launched by a southern state, in that it is a studied attempt to integrate the Negro into the social and economic life of the states. Governor Darden was one of the signers of the Atlanta statement which was a response to the Durham manifest.

In spite of the heroic efforts being made, there are those who fear that Negroes are not putting up a "solid front" when the southern Negroes launch a movement to relieve the immediate pressures peculiar to the South.

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2-26-44

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It is because of this fact that whites are today sending their sons to battle in disproportionate numbers. In the second crisis, the Civil war, Johnson pointed out how the slaveholders of the South and the capitalists of the New England section nearly agreed in 1861 to make slavery a permanent institution.

Today, America faces its third crisis and the American Negro plays a most important role in it. "Within the memory of living persons with grey hair the United States will have made the most determinative change in its history.

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NEGROES WANT WAR TO CONTINUE 2-26-44

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Negro Gunners Seen In D-Day Invasion Photos

World-Memphis, Tenn.
6-9-44

President Leads Nation In Prayer

WASHINGTON — D-Day, like death itself, expected by everyone but dreaded and feared on arrival, has come.

The invasion brought from Congressman Dawson, only Negro member of the House of Representatives, the following statement:

"D-Day, long expected and long awaited. The President led the nation in prayer which ended with this plea: "With thy blessings we shall overcome the unholy forces of many nations prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the

Right in the forefront, manning guns on the boats which made possible, and many races of many of the landings possible, and composed of men many races Negro fighting men. Hitler's long prepared fortress of

For War Success

By HARRY S. McALPIN
(Washington Bureau of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

See Post War Gains In Employment Of Negroes

Defender- Chicago, Ill
2-19-44

NEW YORK—The chances for greater industrial employment of Negroes during the post-war era than before the conflict were seen in a report of a study made public this week by the National Urban League.

Returns from 300 typical war plants in twenty-five states and 120 cities, covering 150,000 Negro workers indicate that the majority of plants plan to continue to hire Negroes after the war. In 253 plants the officials stated that on the basis of current experience with Negro workers, jobs would be assured them. Twelve plants had made no decisions and the remaining 35 declined to comment.

"Absenteeism" was listed as chief among the difficulties encountered by industries among the Negro personnel. Sixty-seven companies complained of a high rate of absenteeism, while other problems were: race friction in 21 plants; over-aggressiveness and "chip-on-shoulder" attitude in 11 plants; high turnover among Negroes in 13 plants.

Urban league industrial department workers who compiled the survey estimate that more than a million and a half Negroes are now employed in war production. A lag in the employment of Negro women was revealed, however, when it was estimated that only 4 per cent of women war workers are Negroes.

In 154 of the 300 plants Negroes are employed in skilled operations, as semi-skilled workers in 247, and as unskilled workers in all the plants. The league reported that there had been a rapid increase in the employment of Negro workers in war industries because of shrinking labor reserves, an increase likely to continue through 1944, and that Negro workers were being employed in more semi-skilled and skilled jobs than at any time in the past.

2-19-44

"It should not be taken for granted," the report stated, "that this highly desirable change in the status of Negro workers will take place without continued education in industrial relations and application of the highest democratic principle in the distribution of jobs.

"A vigorous program of workers' education and community education is needed to offset the explosive emotional reactions resulting from the sudden shifts in population and the rapid changes in the employment status of Negro and white workers.

"Management-labor committees working with Government agencies in the field of industrial relations can be profitably utilized in the further development of good labor relations, worker morale and maximum efficiency of Negro workers."

Between The Lines

All Kansas City, Missouri
2-11-'44

Gordon Hancock

SOUTHERN NEGRO DOING HIS SHARE OF FIGHTING—AND EFFECTIVELY

The story goes that a train was making up for a trip through the deep South and the regular porter could not be found. A worker about the yards was called to dress and make ready for the trip. This he did with all enthusiasm; and with his fine coat of blue and silver buttons he presented a comely picture.

When the train had pulled out and well on its way, the new porter realized that he did not know the stations along the way and felt a keen sense of embarrassment.

But he was resourceful as porters often are, and when the train was pulling into a station, he remained far in the rear until the conductor himself had called the station as conductors are wont to do.

After hearing the station called but unable to exactly understand the name the porter—he must have been colored as porters in the South ordinarily are—with great gusto passed through the car and yelled, "The same thing and I ain't going to say it no more."

The Negro got by handsomely because of his resourcefulness in not divulging that he was totally ignorant of the names of the many stations. He got by. The point here is that Negroes everywhere want the same thing in this country.

The attempt to prove that northern Negroes want more than southern Negroes lacks pith and point. As a matter of fact most of the Negroes in the North who are most clamorous for full citizenship are Negroes from the South. Still there seems to be some misgivings about the ambitions and aspirations of the southern Negroes.

When the Negroes met in Durham in 1942, there was great fear that they might not make a straightforward statement. Many northern Negroes feared this and many southern Negroes, but withal the statement provoked just the reaction that was desired. It stirred the white South to action.

While we are just beginning to function, some things have already transpired that showed the wisdom of the Durham group. It succeeded in getting segregation attacked by a white southerner which has provoked such favorable reaction throughout the nation.

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Negro Gunners For War Success

By HARRY S. McALPIN
(Washington Bureau of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON — D-Day, like death itself, expected by everyone but dreaded and feared on arrival, has come.

The invasion brought from London reports of the action. One of the menare in the vanguard. Many Negro boys are identified for action. Ferrell Browning of Dallas, Texas, at his job as shell man at a five-inch naval gun.

Right in the forefront, manning guns on the boats which brought many of the landings possible, and many races are America's Negro fighting men. Hitler's long prepared fortress of our enemy. Help us to conquer the

World-Wide Negro Gunners Seen In D-Day Invasion Photos

Memphis, Tenn.
6-9-44

President Leads Nation In Prayer

On the evening of D-Day, President Roosevelt led the nation in prayer which ended with this plea: "With thy blessings we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the

"D-Day, long expected and long feared, is here. The Allied forces, composed of men of many nations, prevail over the landings possible, and many races

47n-1944

Race And Color Declared World Problems At Ten-Day Institute For An Enduring Peace

N.Y., N.Y. July 22, 1944

YELLOW SPRINGS, Ohio—Race and color are not local problems or United States problems but world problems. This was the conclusion of over thirty speakers and roundtable leaders at the ten-day Institute on Conditions for an Enduring Peace on the Antioch College campus, July 5 - 15.

Speakers like Dr. Rayford W. Logan, of Howard University; President Charles Wesley, of Wilberforce; the corresponedent and newspaperman, William Henry Chamberlin; Haridas Muzumdar, the friend and biographer of Gandhi; and Richard J. Walsh, the editor of ASIA, were unanimous in their condemnation of racial discrimination and its accompanying evils. — imperialism and the empire system.

In fact, Dr. Arthur E. Morgan, engineer and expert on the small community, and William Henry Chamberlin agreed that color may well be the cause of World War III.

"Race discrimination, imbedded in the feelings and attitudes of Americans, deeply wounds the dignity and self-respect of those discriminated against. More than a thousand million men of color may unite on that issue as soon as they have mastered technology and large-scale administration," Dr. Morgan said July 7 in his address on the small community.

Mr. Chamberlin, in a panel on "Color as a World Problem" the same day declared, "The only approach to the problem of color and race discrimination in the world is unqualified admission of racial equality. Unless this approach is adopted the upshot could very well be a third world war, when the peoples of India and China acquire sufficient technology to meet the Western peoples on equal terms."

7-22-44

Two-fold Solution

The solution to the prblem, all speakers agreed, is two-fold. The first is working on the problem of race relations in America — "specifically," Mr. Chamberlain said, "abolishing immigration laws excluding Orientals by reason of race or color, and admitting these peoples by quota, like the rest of the world. It means getting rid of Jim Crowism, and of our poll tax laws."

President Wesley of Wilberforce pointed out that while "once we in this country could sit behind our oceans and not care what others thought," today, with the world so closely united, "our treatment of colored people in America could be a world scandal, affecting our international relations." And Dr. Rayford W. Logan, in his speech July 10 on "The Good Neighbor Policy," pointed out that one of the greatest obstacles in the way of such a policy "is our failure to live up to the ideals of the Declaration of Independence and the clear intent of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments."

The second part of the problem consists in getting rid of the empire system, which Mr. Chamberlin called "that great bulwark of belief in racial superiority." While much work in education to overcome prejudice and ignorance would remain to be done, Mr. Chamberlin thought, "once imperialism was gone, those prejudices would be at least within the reach of education, and not artificially maintained." Imperialism, declared Mr. Chamberlin, is outdated.

7-22-44

Dr. Logan reminded the Institute, however, that the problem of color is not a simple one. While slavery may at first have been only economic inequality, the resulting rationalization that Negroes were enslaved because they were inferior has taken firm root. Today this idea of inferiority is entrenched "in our North as well as in our South, in Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa."

Negro Troops Attack Italian War Prisoners

Tribune - Chicago, Ill.

8-16-44

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 15 (AP).—Twenty-four Italians, members of a service unit at Fort Lawton, were injured in an attack by Negro troops last night, the army's Seattle port of embarkation demand, announced today.

The body of one Italian was later found hanging from a nearby tree.

Fort Lawton is a unit of the port of embarkation command and the Italian service unit, made up of former prisoners of war who pledged allegiance to the allied cause, was barracked there.

The statement, which was the only information available tonight, said the attack occurred about midnight Monday and lasted but a few minutes. The Negroes, who attacked with rocks, were not identified except that they were soldiers.

8-16-44

Several Attackers Hurt.

All of the injured Italians were taken to the hospital. Several of the attackers were less seriously hurt.

The statement did not say that the Italian found hanged, whose name was Gughielmo Olivanta, was hanged by the attacking party.

The port of embarkation statement said:

"At about midnight Monday, Aug. 14, a number of Negro soldiers raided the barracks of the Italian service unit at Fort Lawton while members of the unit were sleeping.

"In the ensuing melee, which lasted only a few minutes, 24 Italians were injured and hospitalized. Several of the attacking soldiers were less seriously hurt.

"The attackers carried rocks which they picked up on the ground by the barracks.

8-16-44

Found Hanging from Tree.

"A short time following the fight the body of one of the Italian soldiers was found anging from a near-by tree. He was identified as Gughielmo Olivanta. A phase of the investigation will be to determine whether this could have been suicide.

"The post authorities placed the attacking soldiers under arrest and launched an immediate investigation. They promised disciplinary action and said no further information would be available until the investigation was complete.

"The Italian service unit has been at Fort Lawton for several months and there has been no previous trouble or appearance of ill will on the part of military personnel at the post. The unit is made up of volunteers who have been carefully screened and found to be neither pro-Nazi nor pro-Fascist. They are used in various labor capacities at the fort."

Army Scatters Personnel Of 372nd Regiment

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

8-20-44

CAMP BRECKENRIDGE, Ky.—(ANP)—Another crack Negro regiment has been decimated. 1100 men of the 372D regiment commanded by Col. Ned Gourdain have been sent to Ft. Huachuca to bolster up the 92d division. With them went 79 officers, the policy being apparently to outfit the regiments with all Negro officers up to and including the positions of first lieutenant. This new policy was followed with the 93d division which was held up at the port of embarkment while Negro officers were rushed to the West coast to replace white lieutenants who were said to have decided suddenly that they preferred not to command Negro troops abroad.

8-21-44

Reports here are that the condition of the 92d was not as good as was desired. The 372d was composed principally of men who by their residence in the North and East were better able to meet the requirements of combat training than some of the less fortunate draftees who were in the division. The fine seasoning and experience which the men of the 372d have had will, it is felt, help to bring the 92d up to par for POR. Rumors persist that the division may see action soon.

Negro Soldiers Give Account

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower has given citations to two Negro units for their conspicuous part in D-Day operations, is far off Normandy.

8-17-44

The one was an anti-aircraft battalion which landed "under artillery, machine-gun and rifle fire" and despite losses, carried out its mission with courage and determination.

The other was a quartermaster company, which also went ashore under fire, salvaged most of its equipment, and within three days had 90 per cent of its vehicles operating on a twenty-four hour basis.

"I commend you and your officers," said General Eisenhower in reading the citations, "for your fine efforts which have merited the praise of all who observed it. And I want you to know that I appreciate your splendid effort and work."

Again,, President Roosevelt in presenting the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award to a merchant seaman, to Fred C. Archibald of Columbia, S. C. said: "The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal to you for service in the line of duty."

8-17-44

Only 70 such medals have been awarded by Congress in 1939.

In World War I there were approximately 400,000 Negro soldiers and 1,200 officers. In the present conflict there are, as of February 1943, approximately 500,000 Negro soldiers and approximately 3,000 Negro officers, an increase of abut 50 per cent over the first World War. There have been 2,686 Negro officers graduated from the officers training schools.

There were no Wacs in World War I. Colored women have been admitted to training and service in the Women's Army Corps in World War II. But they are yet to gain admission into service with the WAVES and SPARS and Marines.

Despite this commendable record of heroism on the part of soldiers in many war theatres, irritating prejudice and injustice continue to subject them to narrow, jim-crow limitations and mistreatment, both in the actual service and by petty civilian officers and bus drivers. Indeed, the mistreatment of the Negro soldier has become so objectionable and disgraceful that both the Republican and Democratic party platforms have found it necessary to make it, if not first, certainly the chief concern and pledge for the Negro vote. Not even a permanent

8-17-44

Fair Employment Practice Committee, as vital and urgent as that is, holds as important a place for solution in the heart of the Negro voters as does this phase of his national grievance.

Negroes Want Freedom Too, While Whites Are Learning Fast

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 8-14-44

By EUGENE GORDON

(First of a Series)

The South, owing to transformations wrought universally by a war of national liberation is today known as that section of our country whose people and ways are undergoing a change of historic importance. 8-14-44

The unprecedented growth of the trade union movement there is credited with much of this change.

My picture was procured through interviewing Negro and white persons in key positions; through interviewing Negro and white persons of whatever station and wherever found; by observing and listening, recording faithfully everything seen, heard and read.

Negro and white labor leaders, informed of my mission, described conditions in shops and the work of their unions. Heads of NAACP and of Urban League branches and of the Southern Negro Youth Congress gave facts and statistics. Negro and white editors expressed opinions; and educators, preachers, politicians and city and country officials provided information.

CROSS-SECTION

Rank and file trade-unionists unburdened themselves; men and women on trains, buses and streetcars and at home talked as to a friend. 8-14-44

I was occasionally told that both Negro and white Southerners were apathetic about the war. I found few supporting facts.

BUYING WAR BONDS

On the contrary, the annual convention of 43 Negro insurance enterprises, held in Louisville June 20-23, sold, at an open meeting one night, $2,763,000 of war bonds. The Atlanta Life Insurance Co. bought $600,000 worth; South Carolina Life took $500,000. Each of two local companies purchased $100,000 worth.

"History is being made," the meeting chairman said, amid applause. "Member companies spent more than $3,000,000 for bonds in 1943; this year we'll buy $4,000,000 worth."

These U. S. Negro troops, photographed in a large shed at an undisclosed port of embarkation, are waiting to board a transport for duty overseas. Their smiles say that they're raring to take a crack at the enemy.

The second example is that of most Southern cities during the 5th war loan drive. Practically every merchant on Canal St., New Orleans—to cite a typical case—contributed not only to special street displays, but put up bond-selling slogans in his windows and above his entrance

"Any change in Negro-white relations as a result of the war?" I asked Tony Duncan, circulation manager of the Louisville Defender.

50 PERCENT ADVANCE

Yes, he said. Louisville Negroes in the first place, had progressed "as much as or more than 50 percent" since Pearl Harbor. Negroes now have jobs "they could hardly have bought' before the war. He added:

"We have had more and better opportunities than ever before in our country The manpower shortage has given the Negro a better break in the South. We'll hold most of these gains when peace comes."

The war has thrown the Negro and white people together in such a way, he thought, as to make for "better acquaintanceship."

Francis O. Bowers, elderly Negro captain of hotel waiters, en route from Memphis to Little Rock, said h. had eight nephews, one son and a brother in the army. He should have been there himself, he said, he being the best shot in the family. 8-14-44

FAVOR THE WAR

"The majority of Negro people down here," Bowers said, "favor the war and know what they're fighting for.'

I did well not to conclude, from these random examples, that Negroes in the South were unanimously for the war.

A Negro preacher, talking glibly to a group of soldiers and sailors in the Houston-bound jimcrow car about the "third world war," said the United States and Britain would "line up against the Indian people, Japan and Russia."

A sergeant, ex-highschool principal going home on leave, praised the minister's assertion that Negro soldiers and sailors would accept dishonorable discharge "right now," just to get out.

"I don't know what I'm fighting for," the sergeant said. "Nobody else knows.'

Neither soldiers nor sailors, sitting by, contradicted him.

A Negro soldier in the Nashville railroad station saw the Pullman conductor confiscate my reservation, bought earlier that day through a friend, thus forcing me to ride overnight to Memphis in a day coach. 8-14-44

The soldier said to me, in a quiet aside:

"And that's what I'm fighting for! Democracy!"

"Dear old Memphis!" I exclaimed to a Red Cap, later. "How are things here?'

"Rotten, brother."

"See any signs of improvement in relations between Negro and white?" 8-14-44

"Hell, no," he said. "These white folks mean as the devil and the Negro mad all the time."

"Anything being done, as far as you know, by any white people, to improve conditions? I mean, in any organized way."

He thought for a moment.

"Yes, something like that is being done. The CIOs. Them whites're really trying to do something."

"You belong to a union?" I asked.

"Oh, sure! Transport Workers, CIO."

"Fine! I'm a CIO-union man myself. Newspaper Guild."

"Sure nuf?"

We shook hands.

Negro Truck Drivers Charge Nazis With Jungle Knives

Washington Post 8-2-44

By Henry T. Gorrell

With the American Forces in France, Aug. 1 (U.P.).—American Negro truck drivers, wielding jungle knives, charged into the fighting line today and started carving up the Germans with enthusiasm and inspiring efficiency in a savage melee north of Percy.

For three days crack German armored and infantry forces had been trying vainly to wedge into our lines and split our front. Attacks and counterattacks became steadily fiercer.

The Germans were trying to hold Percy and Tessy-sur-Vire.

They were fighting with no holds barred, and even their company clerks and cooks were thrown into the line.

The Negro truck drivers heard certainly did not show it and it their guns, leadi

Into Action Without Orders

"We didn't tell them to fight," a colonel said. "They just found the Germans were close up and they started in. Their very appearance scared the daylights out of the Germans. Now when the Krauts see one of them they run like hell."

The Negroes went charging into the hedgerows, looking for Germans, in the manner of the famous Senegalese, and Goon units of Tunisian fame.

Their favorite weapon is a strictly personal one—the jungle knife. It has a startlingly big blade, like a giant butcher knife.

If they were frightened they by throwing grenades and shooting could question them," Brazzard said.

believe that a big attack is on. One of the units is commanded by Capt. Howard C. Brazzard, Tucson, Ariz. 8-2-44

didn't interfere with their carving. 8-2-44

Yanks, Nazis Get Mixed Up

The fighting around here has been wild, with Americans getting mixed up at night and finding it out at dawn.

Each night infantry commando units go out to wreck German tanks with sticky bombs and to kill Germans silently by strangling piano wire.

These units are specially equipped and they wear the commando stocking cap.

Eight men are picked from each company. They are to get them anywhere, with bazookas the other night no fatigue or kitchen and bayoneted its crew as they do their stuff at night emerged.

"My only regret is that most of the Germans were dead before we command posts and the Germans could question them," Brazzard said.

47n-1944

WORLD VIEW

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 4-22-44

By JOHN ROBERT BADGER

Pattern of Post War Asia

Chicago

WITH EACH yard of advance by our forces in the Pacific theater, the complexity of the colonial question increases. For our boys of the 24th Infantry, whose exploits on Bougainville Island were so graphically described for DEFENDER readers by Correspondent Fletcher P. Martin, this question increasingly narrows down to a more direct one—"For what are we fighting?"

Not only Negro-American troops are asking this question. It is a question the common men of every Allied army are asking. And both the military and political leaders of the Allied peoples are beginning to realize that the answer to this question will greatly influence the Allied soldiers' morale. Cynics make bad soldiers. A good fighting man has to believe he is fighting for something important, something worth bleeding and dying for.

So quite a debate is beginning over the colonial question in Asia. Are the Allied armies really armies of liberation? Will they bring liberty to the peoples of Asia? Or will they be instruments for the restoration of western imperialism's control over those peoples?

A Realistic Approach

4-22-44

A GOOD introduction to this debate is contained in the February 1 Report of the Foreign Policy Association, entitled "Independence for Colonial Asia—The Cost to the Western World." Written by Lawrence K. Rosinger, the Report begins with an analysis of the question: do colonies pay?

This is a realistic approach, admittedly, since only the politically naive today cling to the belief that state policies are motivated by ethical or idealistic considerations. Mr. Rossinger gets down to brass tacks by examining the losses or gains of colonial change in terms of materialistic interests of the ruling powers. His findings are not comforting.

"The Western colonial powers at present have a huge stake in their empires—especially in colonial Asia, which in population, resources, investment and trade is the major part of the colonial world," he writes. And he proceeds to analyze what each individual colony has meant to the imperialist interests, which are also the ruling political cliques, within the metropolitan country. His conclusion is that in terms of profit, prestige, and political power, these ruling political cliques have a vast interest in retaining the colonies.

4-22-44

However Mr. Rosinger is not blind to the enormous world changes in class and national and state relations which will inevitably exercise potent influence on the status of colonial Asia. These changes and the forces they have engendered must be reckoned with.

". . . it seems very doubtful that Asia can ever resume its past colonial role in Western economy, even though it may experience a partial recovery," writes Rosinger, adding: "The problem will be accentuated by the rise of colonial nationalism" . . . and . . . "Japanese propaganda against Western control will have a lasting influence . . ."

The West Must Compromise

HENCE, A dilemma confronts the West: "What will it be worth to the metropolitan countries 'to hold their own' if what they hold tends to grow less valuable, as well as more difficult to retain?"

The way out of this dilemma, Mr. Rosinger believes will be a way that will make it possible for Allied armies really to become liberating armies. It does not amount to a complete abandonment of colonialism. Some forms of colonial control will remain. But the West will have to compromise, and the forces it sets in motion through this compromise must inevitably lead ultimately to complete independence for the peoples of Asia.

"The principal wealth of the 'gorgeous East' lies not in its raw materials as such but in its vast populations," he writes, "which are capable of furnishing unprecedented opportunities for investment and trade PROVIDED THAT STANDARDS OF LIVING ARE RAISED." (Rosinger's emphasis. —JRB.)

4-22-44

Thus . . . "the colonial market can enter a new phase of development only by ceasing to be colonial, for to the extent that the metropolitan countries promote desirable economic changes, they will also be encouraging the growth of national consciousness."

This view, I believe, is a sound one. What it boils down to is the fact that Western imperialism, perhaps against its will and its ultimate interests, is actually compelled to act as a liberating force. And our boys on Bougainville are really an army of liberation.

DEMOCRACY WORKS

Tribune — Savannah, Ga. 9-7-44

The Fair Employment Committee and the War Department Directive doing away with segregation in the Armed forces and on government property, and property under government control, are means for implementing democracy in these special areas. They are by no means unusual for the purpose. In other well known cases, it has taken similar action to secure certain rights to citizens and protect them in the exercise of them. And if the political leaders would let the common run of people alone, and, or would advise them to abide by the law and spirit of democracy, the trouble they imagine, more or less wishfully, will never occur. Their attitudes suggest trouble. To insist that rules, directives and regulations, designed to make democracy functional in a democratic country, is blatant insincerity, to say the least.

There are numerous instances of the races working together, fighting together, doing a good job at it, without trouble, without the question of merely associating together ever arising. Democracy will work if politicians will let it.

92nd Div. Faces Bitterest Fight of Italian Campaign

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

By ART CARTER

9-30-44

AFRO War Correspondents with U.S. Troops in Italy

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FIFTH ARMY FRONT IN ITALY — (By Cable) — Hacking their way yard by yard against murderous mortar and artillery fire, troops of the 92nd Division have pushed some miles past Lucca, a town of 82,000 population, which they liberated last week, and are thrusting forward in an attempt to pierce the Gothic line in their sector of the Fifth Army front.

That their objective is a terrific one is admitted by officials, who described the current fighting as "some of the bitterest of the Italian campaign."

Fortifications Tough

On an inspection tour of torn Gothic fortifications which other Fifth Army troops smashed along a six-mile mountain area Wednesday, evidences of well-prepared hard-to-crack fortresses were plainly visible.

9-30-44

Only combined air, artillery and mortar attacks, plus a stubborn, determined, uphill struggle by infantry, could have done the job, and troops of the 92nd are now battling to achieve similar results.

Nazis Had Advantage

As has been the situation since they launched their attack across the Arno River twenty-six days ago, both prepared defensive works and the terrain have afforded the Germans considerable protection, as well as advantageous fields of fire.

These multiple defenses include concrete pillboxes and individual fortresses, often strengthened by layers of rock and wood and other shell-resistant materials—all well camouflaged.

I observed closely the structure of these fortifications and it is a wonder that any gains have been made against them, though it is also obvious that the Germans cannot long stand the heavy Allied artillery pounding.

Enemy Dead Left Behind

All along the road to the front, German dead lay stinking beside the rain-soaked highway, their faces turning green with rot and their bodies stretched in a dozen grotesque patterns.

9-30-44

In a house which the enemy held only six hours before, another dozen were sprawled in a helpless heap among the debris, while only a few yards away, stacked high, were stores of ammunition, discarded clothing, black bread, rolls, and cheese left by the retreating soldiers.

At gun emplacements where two had fallen, one still clutched a bullet-riddled diary, while the other, now cold and stiff, held a death grip on his rifle.

Resistance Stubborn

The patch of tall pines which served as natural camouflage for their dugouts were split and twisted like the aftermath of a giant hurricane; yet, Jerry still fought desperately, punching hard with artillery and mortar shells.

As we approached the aforementioned house, our party, now dwindled to six, including our two drivers, got a taste of their rear-guard actions. Frank Miles, American Legion correspondent; two white soldiers and myself were forced to take cover for twenty minutes under a huge Sherman tank for safety.

9-30-44

Shells Hit Close

Jerry, less than 1000 yards away, poured shell after shell into the target area. Several landed close enough for the concussion to shake the damp ground on which we lay, and the smell of powder penetrated our nostrils.

We left with a feeling of pity for the tank men, as they had been there for six hours and had to stay for other shellings.

Returning to our bivouac area, the correspondents, led by Col. Stanley Grogan of Scranton, Pa., Fifth Army Public Relations Office chief, we met Generals Sir Harold Alexander, Allied Mediterranean commander, and Mark W. Clark, Fifth Army commanding general, on an official inspection tour.

10-20-44

The Apennines to within impeded by strong infantry opposition.

y miles of Bologna and tion.

s of the 92nd American A German non-commissioned of-

otured a bitterly-con-ficer, headquarters here reported,

tain position along the told his Eighth Army captors that

division captured the terrific concentration of Allied

tested mountain the west enemy artillery fire on Germany positions

Ligurian coast near Massa. n increased markedly had been "very demoralizing" to the

Farther to the rmy units found every Nazis, and that many of the troops

tillery action in their northward advance and Fifth Army would desert if provided a "safe op-

Race Prejudice Big Problem of Post-War World

5-13-44

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

HARTFORD, Conn. — (ANP) — Race prejudice will be the major problem of the post-war world, asserted the Rev. S. Ralph Harlow, professor of religious and social ethics at Smith college, addressing the Fireside forum in Hartford.

"There can be no ultimate peace or functioning of democracy in this country until we go to work on the emotional, irrational, unjustifiable race prejudice that exists in America today in alarming proportions," he declared. Results of surveys made by his Smith college (Northampton, Mass.) students show a frightening amount of race prejudice and social discrimination, he said, and back up his theory that justice, equality and freedom are principles that Americans believe in theoretically but are unwilling to put into practice.

92nd Division Negro Troops Capture Italy Mountain Pass

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

10-20-44

ROME, Oct. 19 (UP). Po Valley industrial city of Desena Three today, while to the west American Allied columns moved against the troops carved a path through the

Today's Guest Column

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

Economic and Political Progress Go Hand in Hand

by Alphaeus Hunton

TO GET rid of imperialism, it is essential to tear down all that structure of overlordship which rest upon the conviction that technologically advanced nations have the right to dictate and manage the affairs of less economically developed peoples. Just as the principle of the "divine right of kings" was compelled to give way to more democratic political concepts in national governments, so the doctrine of the divine right of imperialist domination must now yield to more democratic concepts in the realm of international relations. The development of capitalist enterprises in past centuries required the extension of the popular franchise and individual liberties; the survival of capitalist enterprise in the 20th century demands the democratic cooperation and full participation of all peoples in this inter-dependent world.

10-26-44

It is generally agreed, even in conservative business circles here and abroad (1) that with the coming of peace domestic economic security in the most advanced countries will hinge primarily on the rapid expansion of foreign trade; (2) that the economically undeveloped areas of the world, principally Asia, Africa and Latin America, represent the best opportunity for new trade markets, and (3) that the development of these markets requires the leveling up of the living standards in such areas.

10-26-44

THE crucial question is **how** this leveling up is going to be accomplished. Is it to be attempted by the old overlordship technique of imposing plans and schemes upon the indigenous peoples without their consultation, advice or consent? If so, instead of securing their cooperation and participation in developing the plans we will only incur their resentment and hostility. You cannot coerce a people into doing what you think is good for them. Serfdom and social progress were never companions.

"A colonial and subject people cannot build or sustain a modern industrialized economy," Browder observes in his penetrating discussion of this problem in "Teheran." "The industrialization of Africa," he points out, "can be successful, in the final analysis, only to the degree that the African population is drawn into participation in the process and its benefits."

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Whether one is thinking of Africa, India, Latin America or any other similar "backward" area, successful progress entails full collaboration of the indigenous population in every stage of the planning and execution of progressive programs. It means enlisting the support of and delegating responsibilities to the trade unions, women's and youth organizations, cooperative societies, religious bodies and all other institutions of the people.

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IN DRAWING up plans for the future, colonial experts and officials should be on guard against a certain type of blindness which permits one to envision economic progress without seeing parallel political progress. These experts and officials should read and reread certain key passages of an authoritative study, recently published, entitled Social Policy in Dependent Territories, prepared by Wilfried Benson, Chief of the Dependent Territories Services of the International Labor Office.

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This is one passage, for example, for them to ponder on: **"It is essential that a first consideration be, not merely regard for the welfare of colonial peoples, but also the will to obtain their effective association in the establishment of material and cultural well-being. Unless a positive share in forming and executing policy is offered to and is asked of the peoples consonant with their own ethos, even beneficent policies will once again mean that dictation comes from abroad; the policies will be met with indifference or will provoke hostility among the peoples whose partnership it is necessary to secure; plague spots of potential discontent will remain from which disease carriers may infect world peace."**

WALTER WHITE'S TOUR STIRS UP RACE INTEREST

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Negroid Groups Now Plan World Conference On Post-War Status

4-22-44

By GEORGE PADMORE

(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON — (Censored) — The recent visit to Britain of Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has stimulated discussion among Africans and peoples of African descent in London, concerning the calling of a Pan-African conference to draw up plans on behalf of the Negroid races of the world for presentation to the Peace Conference.

I understand that White had talks with representatives of African and West Indian nationalist movements in London before his departure for West Africa to interview native leaders and Governor-General Felix Eboue, of French Equatorial Africa.

Among those contacted by White here was Robert Broadhurst, "Grand Old Man" of West African nationalism, who was one of the vice presidents of the Pan-African Congress organized by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, leading Afroamerican intellectual and publicist, in 1921.

Broadhurst, although over 80, is still very active in African politics, and holds the position of vice-consul of the Republic of Liberia. He is the "Elder Statesman" among the young radical African students in England.

Mrs. Garvey Backer

On behalf of the African Communities League, Mrs. Amy Jacques Garvey, wife of the late Marcus Garvey, head of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, has issued a statement endorsing the programme of the West Africans for self-government presented to the British authorities by the delegation of African editors from Nigeria, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Gambia. The delegation was under the leadership of Nnamdi Azikiwe, editor of the West African Pilot, leading champion of African redemption.

4-22-44

Mrs. Garvey, who is directing the world-wide organization built up by her husband, from her Jamaica headquarters at Mountain View avenue, Kingston, says, "Any plan for Africa, and Africans at home and abroad, must be comprehensive, in order to benefit all of us, and collective in order to carry weight and be effective. Therefore, it is time for Negroes to get together and draw up an African Freedom Charter, designed to free Africans and peoples of African descent, from the disabilities that bind them down, economically, socially, educationally, politically, spiritually and morally.

"Now that Mr. Sumner Welles, lately of the State Department in Washington, has outlined Regional Councils, under the International Organization of the United Nations, our African Freedom Charter would, we submit, require an African Freedom Council as one of the regional councils of the International Organizations of the United Nations."

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An African Council

The African Council, says Mrs. Garvey, "should be composed of representatives of Africans at home and abroad, also people of African descent the world over, on the one hand, and European, English and American representatives on the other, in proportion of course. The functioning of this Council would be to put into effect the proposed African Freedom Charter." The Charter will cover the eight points in the Atlantic Charter and President Roosevelt's Four Freedoms.

Africans Overlooked

Mrs. Garvey declares that "This proposed African Freedom Charter will not interfere with the Charter that the West African editors presented to the British Prime Minister and Colonial Office, which is very good and highly necessary but is local. What is now proposed is the framing of a comprehensive charter—a cover-all security plan for all Negro peoples, as our collective bargaining gives power to us and weight to our proposals."

"The Atlantic Charter," she observes, "was made primarily for the future security of the white oppressed nations of Europe. This is, as it has always been, the children of Shem looking out for and protecting their own kind, by Roosevelt and Churchill. It now behooves African and Afroamerican leaders to propose and press for a Charter of African freedom for the oppressed children of Ham, the world over."

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Justice to Africa

Concluding her appeal to Africans and people of African descent, Mrs. Garvey asserts: "The security of four hundred millions of people of African blood, and twelve million square miles of the African Continent, is what we are asking the 'Big Four'—Britain, America, Russia and China—the architects of our fate, in the world under reconstruction—to consider, and allow us to rehabilitate ourselves.

"Never will we allow ourselves to be used as helpers to build their superstructure, and the wealth of our land taken from us and used by others; and when their new world is completed and peace reigns again among them, they set upon us, and drive us whither we know not.

"We Africans, the world over," concludes the appeal, "are gladly fighting to bring peace to the warring white peoples of Europe and the troubled world. As we are fighting unitedly for peace, even so we fight for security and the right of self-government."

Negro Land Grant College Presidents Study Post-War Plans

Courier — Homefront Heroes

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10-21-44

President R. B. Atwood, of Kentucky State College, is secretary of the conference and Dr. Felton G. Clark, treasurer. Daily sessions will be held at the YMCA, 3763 S. Wabash avenue.

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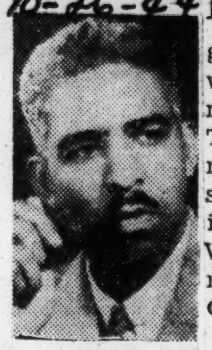

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Former Newspaperman Supervises Delphine Taylor Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Prisoners Work Of Nazi War

5-13-44

47n-1944

Effects on the Negro & Race Relations

Harlem Glad, Relieved Final Blow Has Begun

Daily Worker/New York, N.Y.

Harlem is glad the liberation of Europe has begun. Random interviews with 20 Negro men and women on 125th St. and on Lenox and Seventh Aves. revealed that the people are glad and relieved at the news. 6-7-44

"I think it is great," said Oscar McShann, musician, 707 St. Nicholas Ave., "because now we're bringing the war to an end. I'd like to be in it, but they turned me down."

"Thumbs up for victory!" cried Miss Barbara Hall, pretty in her AWVS uniform. "I think the invasion's going to mean better times for us all, and especially the Negroes."

Quentin Jackson, musician with Cab Calloway, was glad the invasion had begun, he declared, because the suspense of waiting was now over. Now the war will soon be over.

The Negro is now better off in the United States than ever in the past, said Dennis Mandy, Pullman porter, of 129 W. 128 St., and, now that the invasion has started, he'll be better off still. For, Mandy said, "people are really being liberated."

Ambrosio L. Roballo, organizer, New York District Council No. 9, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, AFL, said the people want a peace "based on the Teheran agreement" to come after the invasion, such a peace meaning equality of all men, "without regard to race, creed or color."

and Churchill. At the June 26 Negro Freedom rally in Madison Square Garden, Negroes and their friends will show their backing of the western front."

Other community leaders also issued statements.

Thelma Dale, acting secretary, National Negro Congress: American women wholeheartedly support our Commander-in-Chief as we join hands with the gallant women of Britain, the Soviet Union, China and the underground. To Negro women, D-Day has a special significance, for we must now guarantee that our men will return to a nation of freedom, opportunity and security. 6-7-44

Roy Wilkins, editor Crisis Magazine and assistant secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People: The job ahead is the complete destruction of Hitlerism and we're on our way.

Rev. James A. Robinson, Church of The Master, Harlem: I'm glad it's come. After all the sacrifices we've made, I hope we're going to win what we're fighting for. The invasion will demonstrate to our Russian allies that we're doing our full share at long last—for they have borne the brunt for a long time.

State headquarters of the American Labor Party urged that the people not stop at special prayer, but that they "back the war effort in every possible way." 6-7-44

"This can be done," the ALP statement said, "by buying bonds in the Fifth War Loan drive, by contributing to the bloodbank of the American Red Cross and by engaging in the various community war aid activities."

Civic Leaders Here Call for Redoubled Home Front Effort

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.

New York's two Communist councilmen, hailing the invasion, called upon the city yesterday to make it the occasion for fully meeting home responsibilities.

Said Brooklyn's Peter V. Cacchione: "The great record of American workers in production must and will be increased. Where only thousands donated blood, now millions must give to save the lives of our fighting boys. The Fifth War Loan drive should go over the top fast. The people must rally around our President and guarantee his reelection."

Peter V. Cacchione

Councilman Benjamin Davis, Jr., said: 6-7-44

"Negro citizens rejoice with all other Americans at this sacred moment of the invasion of France. On the bayonets of the Allied liberators are the destinies of freedom-loving white, black, brown and yellow peoples, aligned against Nazi and Japanese fascism.

Ben Davis, Jr.

"Our first task at home is national unity in all-out production on the assembly line, in the political arena and in every field of endeavor. All-out support to Roosevelt, Stalin

47n-1944

Foreign Service

Negro Artillery Blasts Germans And Nazi Theory

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

BY ALLEN M. MORRISON
Stars and Stripes Correspondent

At the U. S. Artillery Command Post in France, July 12 (AP) —Showing utter contempt for the "master race" divisions facing them, United States Negro artillerymen firing 155-mm howitzers are blasting German installations and troop concentrations and pounding to pieces the Nazi theory of "inferior" and "superior" races.

7-13-44

The first Negro combat artillery team to fight in this sector is this howitzer outfit which is a member of a four-unit artillery group including a battalion of 105s and two 155-mm long toms.

"These artillerymen have done splendidly," said the colonel at corps headquarters. "We're proud of them. They are one of our best units."

47m-1944

ROGERS SAYS:

Peace
America Must Fight Colonial Imperialism To Prevent Another War

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
12-9-44

By J. A. ROGERS

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

LOOK out for the question of colonies! It is going to be the hot potato of the peace, not among the vanquished, of course, but among the victors. Already it is getting warm. We saw it last week in the rejection of Count Carlo Sforza as Foreign Minister in the new Italian Cabinet. Winston Churchill, who, the other day, announced in so many words that he had no intention of freeing the colonies, has turned decisive thumbs down on Sforza to the no little amazement of the progressive elements in America and Italy. Sforza is not only Italy's greatest living statesman, but the foremost living opponent of Mussolini.

Mr. Rogers

Rather than serve Mussolini, he gave up his post in the Senate and the Cabinet and went into exile for 16 years. He returned to Italy last year with the apparent okay of Churchill because he promised to support Marshal Badoglio and the House of Savoy. Badoglio, lest we forget, is the Fascist butcher of Ethiopia, while the House of Savoy, headed by Victor Emanuel III, had been the willing puppet of Mussolini. Victor Emanuel even took Haile Selassie's title at Mussolini's orders. We are supposed to be fighting Fascism—no one has uttered stronger denunciation of Mussolini than Churchill—yet it is these Fascist remnants that Mr. Churchill seems to favor most now.

12-9-44

AMERICAN OPINION AGAINST COLONIES

Sforza, as was said, had promised to support Badoglio and Victor Emanuel, but soon after his return he openly declared them both "obnoxious." And that was not all; he asked for the return of Italy's colonies, adding that if these were placed under "international mandate" then the colonies of all the nations should be so placed, too. As for Ethiopia, he was for full independence for her, and this at a time when Haile Selassie was asking the British please to go. Sforza has a mind of his own and is clearly not going to play Churchill's game of colonies.

MY chief reason for saying that the colonial question is going to be a very hot one is that American opinion is very definitely against colonies. America gave Cuba and the Philippines their independence and was the only one of the great powers to reject Victor Emanuel's title as emperor of Ethiopia. Today, America is bearing the chief cost of the war, and already in military casualties she has lost, after only three years, almost as much of the same as the whole British empire after five years.

12-9-44

CRUELTIES LISTED

What are the American people going to say about the future of the continent of Africa, which they did so much to save for Europe? What is America going to say about India, Malaya, and the Dutch East Indies, which she is now working and sacrificing so much to save for Europe? The American people know well that the deep, underlying issue of this war was colonies—that Hitlerism was born of colonial imperialism and that if you permit the mother to remain she will be sure to spawn other terrible broods.

IT is impossible to find words strong enough to condemn colonialism and its evils, past and present. I have before me a copy of Le Crapouillot of Paris, January 1936, devoted to this subject. It has a collection of pictures, some of them early drawings of what the Spaniards, English, Dutch and French did in the New World and also in India and Africa to the natives and the sight makes one's blood run cold. In India, the natives were tied to the mouth of cannon and their bodies blown into a thousand pieces. Truly as Nietzsche says, "How the European has been able to establish colonies is explained by his nature, which is that of a beast of prey."

MUST FIGHT COLONIES

Those who believe in retribution can well say that Europe is now reaping for her sins against the colonies. Every European nation that recognized the so-called conquest of Ethiopia, except Sweden, has, in its turn, had a dose of what the Fascists did to Ethiopia—France, Poland, Denmark, Holland, Greece, Norway, Belgium and England. Even Russia, who did so the last, in 1940, has not been spared. One remembers Wilhelmina, queen of Holland, later to squawk against Fascist rape of her land, and how ardently she advocated recognition of the Fascist rape of Ethiopia.

12-9-44

THIS matter of colonies is vital for the American people because, although their attitude towards Ethiopia was honorable throughout, they, too, were pulled eventually into the mess. While the Allies must stand together firmly during this war, America, at the peace, will have to use her head against colonies if she doesn't want another war in another decade or so.

The Fight Must Go On

Afro-American AN EDITORIAL Baltimore, Md.
(From the N.Y. Post)

The War Department has just given us an example of democratic policy. Henceforth, it orders that the colored soldier shall be allowed to buy at any Post Exchange, sit in any part of a bus (regardless of local custom) attend any post theatre he wants to.

9-2-44

It is a pretty grim commentary on how we practice democracy with regard to our largest minority, that such an order should be hailed in the press.

Of course it is a great step forward. But it is long overdue. And it does not go far enough.

There is nothing in the anti-discrimination order that prohibits the segregation of colored into separate units or that says they shall have equal opportunity for various types of service.

But the War Department has stopped acting the policeman for Southern reactionaries and race-haters. To that extent democracy has won a victory. To that extent we have taken a weapon from the fascist propagandists.

But it is a limited victory. The fight must go on. It can end only when all discrimination ends.

Recognize Rights Of All At Peace Table--Mitchell

Memphis World, Memphis, Tenn
11-28-44

ATLANTA, Ga.—(SNS)—Broadus Mitchell, the noted economist and author, advocated recognizing the rights of defeated nations at the Peace Table, at an Atlanta University Forum on Wednesday sponsored by the University's department of sociology. Dr. Mitchell was speaking on the subject "Will the World be Better After the War?"

The speaker told his listeners that there is hope for a lasting peace in a world where the rights of all peoples, great and small, are given fair consideration. Predicting the future, he stated that if we can trust history, we shall have sustained prosperity until we defeat Japan, then a year and a half of continued activity, then a short depression, which he said will be alarming but brief. Dr Mitchell is of the opinion that war is not the instrument for obtaining the best good. He believes that government should intervene more in public affairs and should take a constructive part in important plans for guaranteeing permanent security.

The ten million unemployed persnos at the beginning of the war were a reproach to America's economic security, the audience was told. In answer to a statement by the nation's chief executive about the "unemployable" persons, Dr. Mitchell pointed to the fact of work for everyone when an economic crisis arose. He declared that there is no such thing as an "unemployable" person, and concluded his talk by stating unless the radically change our design for American life, we shall have unemployment to return.

Dr. Mitchell spent a week on the campus of Atlanta University in the capacity of visiting lecturer in sociology,. He addressed class groups and seminars in addition to speaking at the Forum.

THE NEGRO DOES HIS PART

The American Negro can be proud of the figures just given out by the War Department as to his part in this war. He has contributed 701,678 men to the Army, of whom 411,368 are overseas. There are 5,804 commissioned Negro officers, including dentists, nurses and other medical corps officers, and chaplains. It is clear that the Negro has made progress since the last war, both in the types of service open to him and in his educational fitness for them.

It may be a long time before the Negro has exactly the same opportunities, given the same talents and character as his white fellow-citizen. The important and hopeful truth is that he has more opportunities than he used to have, that his soldierly qualities in war are being given fairer recognition, and that his achievements in the arts, in the sciences, in the professions and as an industrial worker are now too manifest to be denied. In the overwhelming majority of cases the Negro has subdued whatever resentments he may have felt to the nobler emotion of loyalty to his country. His record stands up beside that of his white neighbor. When the profits and losses of war are balanced, these things ought to be remembered in his favor. They should count for something when, after saving democracy abroad, we begin again the long task of perfecting it at home.

Secretary Stimson Says All Races Will Be Treated Alike in Post-War U.S. Army

12-8-44

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Ne[illegible] specific concern is being given to groes will receive the same con- the problem within the war de- sideration as will other groups in partment. The source of this in- the post-war army, the secretary formation was not prepared to of war said at his news conference say how far this concern extend- Thursday. ed. It is safe to assume nevertheless that the special committee

Mr. Stimson was reminded that on two committees had been appoint- Negro troop policies has been ed by him in October to prepare developing policies now, based upon policies and regulations affecting the experiences of the present war, the reserve components of the organized reserve, the other, in postwar army, and was asked addition to the post-war organiza- "what consideration is being giv- tion. The department's announce- en by these committees to the ment regarding the studies said place and function of Negroes" in that one of the two groups, the this army. army, is composed of three regular

His reply was that Negroes "can organized reserve committee, is just rest assured that every ele- composed of three regular army ment of our population will be officers and three reserve officers given like consideration in the and is charged with preparation of composition of our postwar army." the organized reserve. The other, known as the general committee, is composed of three regular army officers and three reserve officers and three national guard officers, and they will work on similar plans and policies affecting the study of post-war military organizations.

Dennis A. Usoy, a member of two committees are in addition to the national guardCaptain McHenry's Company C, a smiliar function with of the National Defense act, to both reserve and na- giving priority to the study of components.

ee announced last Augustwas hit by AT fire and caught on

two committees had been appoint- Negro troop policies has been ed by him in October to prepare developing policies now, based upon policies and regulations affecting the experiences of the present war, the reserve components of the organized reserve, the other, in postwar army, and was asked addition to the post-war organiza- "what consideration is being giv- tion. The department's announce- en by these committees to the ment regarding the studies said place and function of Negroes" in that one of the two groups, the this army. army, is composed of three regular

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The secretary did not choose to known as the general committee, addition to the post-war organiza-

elaborate. In spite of this, how- ever, it is reliably learned that is composed of three regular army officers and three reserve officers and three national guard officers, and they will work on similar plans and policies affecting the study of post-war military organizations.

mounted through the escape hatch and sought cover in a ditch. Cpl. Osby discovered one man was missing, and returned to the tank to find the assistant driver, Private Archie Fletcher, unable to dismount because his feet were entangled in a machinegun ammunition belt. Osby entered the burning tank and helped to free Fletcher.

12-8-44

For this deed Lieutenant General George S. Patton, Third Army commander, commended the men personally.

In all this action, the task of the 761st in its first battle action was all the more difficult because it was faced by the members of a German Officer Candidate School of Artillery at Marshal, who fired heavy concentrations at the tanks during the entire engagement.

Colonial Problems Basic Cause of War, Says DuBois

AFRO-American Balty, Md.

12-23-44

HAMPTON, Va. — "War will not be ended by the establishment of an international organization to maintain peace through force, but by an attack on the problem of colonies, which is a fundamental cause of war."

This was the view expressed by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, director of special research for the NAACP, when he spoke at Hampton Institute Friday.

World War II, he declared, developed out of the desperate attempt of Italy and Germany to regain control of their former colonies and out of Japan's efforts to become the domination colonial nation in Asias.

Warns Against Exploitation

Deploring the failure of the recent Dumbarton Oaks parley to consider the question of colonies, Dr. DuBois also urged the establishment of a mandate commission with distinct power to investigate complaints and conditions in the colonies and make public its findings.

Stating that today colonies have become a means of highly profitable investment, the speaker warned that just as excess profit-making has been curbed in the United States, so must excess exploitation of colonies be curbed.

"The United Nations are making a mistake," he declared, "if they think that democracy and the Four Freedoms have nothing to do with the six hundred million colonials."

Ralph B. Bunche Also At Dumbarton Talks.

BY ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—Questions relating to dependent territories, mandated areas and other type colonies will in all probability, come before the Dumbarton Oaks conference, now in its second week, the ANP has learned on good authority.

The three powers participating in the first stages of the conversations, the United States, Great Britain and Russia, completed organization of the work before them last week and agreed that Undersecretary of State Edward R. Stettinius would be chairman.

Added weight to the fact that colonial matters will be given attention in the course of talks is further evidenced in the selection of Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, expert on the delegation of A. M. Alger, adviser to the colonial office.

From the American side an informed source has said that Dr. Bunche, executive director of the committee on post-war programs for the department, would be "qualified" on the whole "gamut of matters." He also has supervision over the division of territorial studies in which Dr. Ralph E. Bunche, former instructor at Howard University, spent so much time in the past eight months.

Dr. Bunche is also the only Negro technician working at the scene of the conferences at Dumbarton Oaks.

Courier--Pittsburgh, Pa. 9-2-44

DuBois Attacks Colonial Issues At State Department Conference

The New York Age, N.Y.
11-4

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In a statement to the conference of Americans United For World Organization, held at the Department of State recently, in which several hundred were in attendance, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, representing the N. A. A. C. P., raised the whole issue of colonies and imperialism, bringing out the inadequacy of proposals made on each.

11-4-44

Basing his summary remarks on study of the published proposals of the Dumbarton Oaks Conferences, in regard to colonials, Dr. DuBois said, "It virtually says to six hundred million human beings, if not to a majority of mankind, that the only way to human equality is the philanthropy of masters who have historic and strong interest in preserving their present power and income." In outlining precisely, details for the basis of this conclusion, Dr. DuBois elaborated as follows:

11-4-44

"As I have gone through the published proposals at Dumbarton Oaks, I am depressed to realize with what consistency the matter of colonies has been passed over. In chapter one, paragraph three the emphasis is on the fact that this is a union of nations not of races, groups, or organizations of men not recognized as nations; in chapter two, paragraph one, peace-loving States' alone may join the Union; in chapter six, apparently an aggrieved party must be a state in order to complain or appear before the Council; similarly in chapter seven, no colonies as such can appeal for hearing before the International Court of Justice. Elaborate effort is made to protect states from aggression but I find no provisions in chapter seven even to consider aggression of a nation on its own colonial peoples while apparently international military force can be called in to suppress revolt. Indeed, in paragraph seven of that chapter it seems definitely to say that colonial disputes lie entirely beyond the jurisdiction of this proposed government of men. The Economic and Social Council set up in this chapter offers one ray of hope: It can recommend and consider complaints and situations; but there is no direct power to investigate conditions. The Council is appointed by eighteen states, no colonial participation indicated."

DuBois Discusses Colonies

Norfolk, Va. Guide
Journal Guide
12-30-44

HAMPTON, Va. — Pointing out that there has been no more prolific cause of war than the domination of great masses of people in colonial status by a few nations which seek to control the world, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Director of Special Research for the NAACP, told an audience at Hampton Institute, Friday evening (Dec. 15) that war will not be ended by the establishment of an international organization to maintain peace through force, but by an attack on the problem of colonies, which he termed a fundamental cause of war.

World War II he declared, developed out of the desperate attempt of Italy and Germany to regain control of their former colonies and out of Japan's efforts to become the dominant colonial nation in Asia.

DUMBARTON OAKS

Deploring the failure of the recent Dumbarton Oaks parley to consider the question of colonies, Dr. DuBois also urged the establishment of a mandate commission with distinct power to investigate complaints and conditions in the colonies and make public its findings. He said that the mandate commission set up in Geneva after World War I, had not been given any real authority to deal with the colonial problem.

Tracing the history of, and various changes in, the colonial system, as well as attempts which have been made to justify it, Dr. DuBois stated that today colonies have become a means of highly profitable investment. But he warned that just as excess profit-making has been curbed in the United States so must excess exploitation of colonies be curbed.

FOUR FREEDOMS

"The United Nations are making a mistake," he declared, "if they think that democracy and the Four Freedoms have nothing to do with the six hundred million colonials and the three or four hundred million other people who inhabit countries which are said to be free, but which are really in quasi-colonial status."

In answer to the question of a West African student in the audience at Hampton, who spoke of the policy of exploitation, with no effort to improve economic and social conditions, which the student said has been pursued by Britain, Dr. DuBois declared that America could help by publicizing the plight of the colonials. He mentioned the present interest of the NAACP in the colonial question and said that he is planning to call a conference with representatives of various colonies to consider colonial demands and the promises made to them by the controlling nations.

Introduced by President Ralph P. Bridgman of Hampton Institute, Dr. DuBois appeared as a speaker in the current lecture series there.

Peace Planners Ignore Race Equality Plea

See 56 1945
Journal + Guide

Norfolk, Va. 10-14-44
Staff Correspondence

WASHINGTON, D. C.—When the second phase of the Dumbarton Oaks peace talks concluded here last week, no action had been taken on China's proposal that the future world security organization acknowledge the principle of equality of all races.

After the talks which involved Russia were ended, China's delegates sat in on a series of conferences with representatives of the United States and Great Britain. One of the first issues spotlighted by the Chinese delegation was the question of equality for the world's colored races in a world security organization such as the one proposed in these exploratory conferences.

The dangers which are suggested by the failure of the conferees to take a stand on this question are best summarized by a letter written to the New York Times several days ago by Pearl Buck, noted author, in which she said:

TWO ITEMS

10-14-44

"By coincidence I read this evening two items which fit together like the parts of a puzzle. The first comes on page 242 of Hallett Abend's excellent new book, 'Treaty Parts.' I quote:

" 'On only one issue debated at Paris (in 1919) were the Chinese and Japanese of one mind and that was on the proposal to amend the League of Nations covenant so as to recognize racial equality. France and Italy voted in favor of this measure, but Britain, Australia and New Zealand were bitterly opposed. The proposal was adopted by a vote of eleven to six, with Wilson and Col. House not voting; but Wilson, who was presiding, ruled that was not effective because the vote was not unanimous . . . Whatever his motives Japan blamed him . . . and became newly bitter against the United States.' 10-14-44

PEARL HARBOR

"That bitterness expressed itself finally in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

"The second item I find in today's newspaper. It says, from Washington, 'China's anticipated request that the future world security organization acknowledge the principle of racial equality was expected today to receive support only from Soviet Russia among the big powers. The United States and Great Britain—as in 1919—will probably oppose any attempt to have such a clause in the Constitution of the new organization.' 10-14-44

"We Americans would do well to put these two items together. Again there will be new bitterness and again it will be against the United States. What, I wonder, will be the fruit of this new attitude, say, in twenty years?"

47n-1944

Peace Table

Should Negroes Sit At The Peace Table

Defender Chicago, Ill. 1-8-44

Every week I hear this question: "Should the Negro Sit At the Peace Table?"

Well, what do you thing about a question like that? I think every sane person would say the same as I, about it, Yes.

The Negro's place should be awaiting him at the peace table when this great war is over. How do you think the boys who are fighting in the dark Eastern jungles, would feel if they were told that they wouldn't be represented at the peace conference? How do you suppose those who have died for the cause of justice would feel if they knew their job was all in vain; thus leaving them unsung heroes, instead of honored.

I am not in favor in sending him there to represent, as I might say an inferior race or creed, but I am in favor of sending him there to represent a people who fought to uphold the principles of what they hold dear. 1-8-44

Is that not what the white man is fighting for? and we...

Well, there are others who would say: Won't we be represented, if an American delegation is present? That depends, on who is present or comprise the delegation.

Public here's a question I want to ask you: Would you in seeking a job send your best friend to the employer for an interview? Now what do you say?

You might say: "That's different!"

Oh! No, Mr. and Mrs. Dark America; there's no difference in it. It's as clear as your nose on your face. Take this for what it is worth. As long as the Minority is satisfied with what the Majority does, he will forever be like a rabbit in flight from a pack of hounds.—Pvt. Johnnye Merrill Spencer, Morehouse college, '42.

Arguments Against Negro At Peace Table

I have been a reader of the Defender for many years and thoroughly enjoy the straightforward and clear-cut manner in which you present news items for public consumption. Defender-

The recent discussions carried by the Defender pertaining to the question of whether or not a Negro shoud sit at the Peace Conference at the conclusion of this war have been quite illuminating, and I feel far reaching in stimulating interest in this matter Chicago, Ill.

There were good arguments for and against the proposition. Some of them quite convincing and thought provoking, while others were not at all of such a calibre. Be that as it may, there is to my way of thinking a very vital question growing out of this series of discussions. Of what practical value will it be to the American Negro to have a representative at such a conference? Aside from the moral tone and passing gesture to democratic procedure, I question seriously the efficacy of such an act. 1-15-44

In the first place the conference is to be an international gathering concerned primarily with such issues as should come before such a group, whereas our problems are in the main of national scope. Of course if we are thinking of taking into consideration Negroes who are British subjects and others who have similar difficulties, then the scope of the issue broadens. But I am concerned here with the problem as it affects us here and now. However, I am not unmindful of the international aspect of the problem at all. That phase should be considered by representative Negroes from all countries where there are existing difficulties similar to our own.

To the point now, let us suppose that we are successful in having a representative at the Peace Conference and I hope that this will be the case on the basis of merit—and that the discussions of this deliberative body will extend to the problems of minority groups within their respective territories. Let us further suppose that this body goes so far as to set up certain regulations regarding the rights and privileges of such minorities. If such should happen to be the case, by what authority and by what technique will the organization be able to make its members live up to or comply with such prescribed mandates?

It goes without saying that at any Peace Conference or any other gathering for that matter, of the United Nations, the United States and Great Britain will be two of the Big Wigs with powerful influence and will seek to maintain the status quo of their national policies. That this is true is evident to every one who has followed the trend of events in recent months.

Now for us to suppose that some miracle will happen or some authority will be created which will solve our problems or even seriously affect our status is merely wishful thinking. We know the attitude in the United States towards Negroes and we should realize that no international police force will be created, of which the United States would be an important integral part, to see to it that this country gives us proper recognition. We have the Constitution of the United States guaranteeing to us certain rights and privileges, but who dares to enforce the Constitution? 1-15-44

This is not a world of idealism, even if idealistic tendencies do make their appearance here and there, but one of stern realism decorated with hard-headed politicians vying with each other for points of vantage.

All groups concerned are seeking to obtain the greatest possible degree of solidarity within their respective ranks to bring to bear as much force as possible in obtaining their desired objectives. This is precisely our weak spot.

What we need most is organization within. We do not have a sufficient number of militant organizations to back our demands. I feel that more stress should be laid on this phase of our problem than any other at this particular time. In the first place, we must seek to maintain the gains already made and organize more to push our f nt to new attainments.—J. H. Owens, Tougaloo, Miss.

Praises Progress Of Negro Press

1-13-44

On this the New Year of your existence, I take this opportunity to extend you my congratulations on having piloted the Defender from its very insignificant beginning to the magnificent heights it has reached today. Defender-

To the memory of Robert S. Abbott we owe much for having brought into action such a powerfull instrument for waging the battle against the wrongs inflicted upon his people Chicago, Ill

I have watched with pride the growth of the Negro Press in Chicago from the little four page sheet known as the Chicago Conservator of more than fifty years ago to the twenty-four page Defender of today. And it has been pleasing and gratifying to note the progress.

From Dustin' by Lucius C. Harper, the Bud Billikens by David Kellum, the sports review by Fay Young, the women's column by Mrs. Rebecca Styles Taylor, the editorials by the staff editors and the other capable correspondents, has come enlightenment, encouragement and inspiration to the Negro people of America to know that through the Chicago Defender they have an uncompromising champion. To the Chicago Defender, joining with the thousands of other well-wishers I extend you my greetings for a greater success than ever.—William A. Wallace.

Approves Halt On Use of Word "Negro"

I would like to say three cheers to the lady who voiced the opinion of so many thousands of our race by asking the question in the issue of December 11, of the necessity of the use of the word "Negro" so often in our papers. One could tell at a glance that it is a race paper by looking at the pictures. About the only time a white paper specifies any person by race is when they are speaking of some one in our group. They never say a Jew got hit by a car, an Irishman was held up, etc.

So I for another one along with Miss Jones would be very happy if so much of this talk about Negro and Negro that could be cut this out.—Mrs. Mattie Gill, Detroit, Michigan.

THE HORIZON

By P. L. PRATTIS

America Should Have Negro With Her to Help Make Peace in Far East

MAYNARD KRUEGER, in charge of undergraduate education in the social sciences at the University of Chicago, made an interesting and provocative suggestion to the delegates at a recent session of the Institute on "America's Role in World Affairs," held under the auspices of the American Friends' Service Committee in Pittsburgh. Mr. Krueger was addressing himself to the sub-similar to those of Dr. Johnson. has also planted the seed of the idea in the White House.

ject, "What Shall We Do with Japan?" The interrogatory subject implied that we are going to whip Japan in this war and that it was going to be America's responsibility to dispose of the problem of Japan after she is whipped. Mr. Krueger found himself somewhat at loggerheads with the subject chosen for him because he didn't see that it was to be our job alone to go to Asia and put Japan in her peace-time place. However, he did make a suggestion as to what America should do, if and when she whips Japan and if and when she is called upon to participate in making the peace in Asia. Hear him!

Mr. Krueger stated that on what-ever peace delegation might set up to deal with the Jap-anese and other Asiatics, here in Asia, the United States should include an American Negro. The president of Howard University, had spoken and created a deep impression. Mr. Krueger said the Negro should have abilities

Mr. Prattis

NEGRO TRUE TEST

THE reasons, are obvious. The true test of America's regard for colored peoples is her treatment of the American Negro. What America does speaks more loudly than what she says. The Far East is looking at what America does. Every instance of fairness to Negroes by Americans is an object lesson to the Far East. Every instance of unfairness strengthens the impression in the Far East that the white man of the Western world can't be trusted. Further, Mr. White, are far all peoples, yellow, black, brown, American whites, or red, have a common understanding. Those who are though they do not all pull to-gether in their attempts to recognize the bat color discrimination, they all entfrety, is fighting know that they are victimized be-cause of their color and that the fellow on the other side is white. Thus they know that they can all understand. The American Negro is determined that the white man shall not return to his old form and role. That is true of the Chinese, even though he may operate as a "lone wolf," recognizes that the Negro is battling the same prejudices that he is. He knows that the Negro has had long experience in this fight. A Negro on America's peace delegation would confound the Far East in the sense that his presence would indicate that America meant to do the right thing. If the American Negro delegate were permitted freedom of action and judgment, he, alone, could do more, through his understanding and courage, to promote goodwill in the Orient than all the money, all the charters, put together.

NEGRO VS. EASTLAND

AMERICA needs to treat her Negroes as equals, first, and, second, to use them to convince the world. It is practical and realistic. It involves elements of strategy. If followed, it will save American lives and American money. It must be done to counteract the "white supremacy" stuff that her enemies, all the Burmese remember the British possession of Manchuria and the Dutch in the Far East. There is a chance for America to establish the basis for Krueger has made an invaluable suggestion toward the future peaceful relationships with the Far

A Good Beginning

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

The Dumbarton Oaks conference on World Security, which got underway at Washington Monday, opened for a three week's run under very fine and favorable auspices. Russia, Great Britain and the United States, very logically termed the Big Three in the United Nations framework, pledged "sovereign equality" of large and small nations alike, which at once gives to the meeting a standing and tone, without which all else would be meaningless to the scores of smaller nations allied in the present conflict.

The great imminence of and early victory in Europe, at least over Germany, will lend increasing strength and momentum to the Washington conversations, looking to the establishment of an international peace and general security.

8.22-44

"Sporadically," said one interpreter for the colored peoples of the United Nations, discussions have broken out in Negro channels of communica on regarding the question of whether or not colored peoples of the world would have a "voice at the peace table". The more recent demand comes from the League of Colored Peoples in London, who declared the ambition of their followers to be heard.

It is gratifying to note, according to press notice, Ethiopia Liberia and Haiti, have all had representation at the past conferences and are again represented at the Dumbarton Oaks meeting now in session.

From our own American stand point, we can see every good reason for representation for the three Negro Republics. They are there and can make a worthy contribution to the thought-process of their particular countries, as no other group can interpret properly the attitude and aspiration of their people. With equal candor, we assert, American Negroes should have a representative present, quite apart from those of Ethiopia, Liberia and Haiti. The success of such a conference will be more inclusive and satisfactory if such a course is extended so as to bring about Negro American representation.

Negroes In Post-War Era Discussed

Defender, Chicago, Ill

What will be the Negro's status during post war time?

That is the question that is ringing through the mind of every American civilian Negro and soldier, who will wake up in the face of a new world. 1-8-44

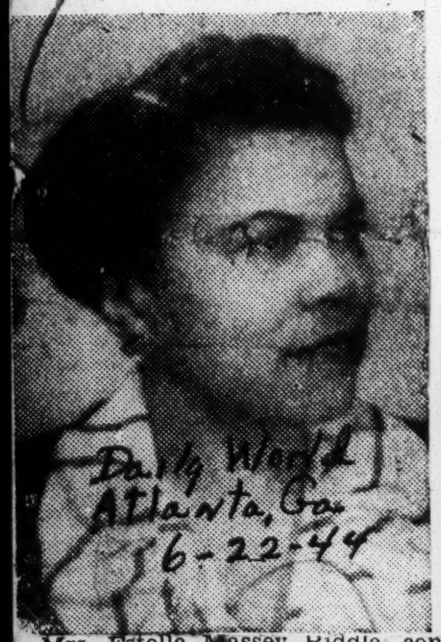
The Negroes on the home front have placed their shoulders to the wheels of commerce, and are pushing with all their might, that the wheels of vast production will not hamper plans and intentions of our military strategists.

The bombing of Pearl Harbor proved the Negro love for his country with the following day finding them in droves at recruiting stations throughout the United States.

Today in training camps throughout this country will find them in its vastness, busy making preparation to meet any future eventuality. Today will find them in various portions of the globe, building and fighting 1-8-44

What will be the status of the Negroes when this war is ended? Will democracy work in full swing? Will it be only for some people and denied others? Will it preach to the world what it does not practice? In this land of equality will there exist the same signs on the wall of public houses, "I am sorry we do not serve Negroes," "Negroes are not permitted at this theatre," "Negroes must sit in the rear of public conveyance," "We do not hire Negroes"?—Sgt. Cleveland W. Johson, Los Angeles, Calif.

Postwar Planner



Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 6-22-44

Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle, consultant on Negro nursing for the National Council for War Service, has accepted an invitation to serve on the Executive Committee of the Committee on the Participation of Women in Post War Planning. Eleven national women's organizations, including the Y. W. C. A. and the National Association of Women Lawyers, are represented on the Committee.

Mission Council Offers Postwar Problems Plan

Journal & Guide. Norfolk, Va. 1-29-44

By BAXTER LEACH

NEW YORK—The Home Missions Council of North America in its annual meeting here at Marble Collegiate Church last Wednesday presented a comprehensive program to meet the needs of the church in the new erea. Two hundred and fifty Protestant church leaders attended, representing 23 denominations.

A joint statement by the executive secretaries said "During the war the churches and missions have been jolted out of their complacency and old routines. There can be no return to the way missions and church work were carried on before the war.

DEPLORES INCREASE OF RACE HATRED

"Churches must meet the increase of race and minority hatred." and suggest a program of "more rapid integration of language and race groups into the regular churches."

The council named a committee on postwar planning for Negroes. The committee will be represented by a member chosen from each of the denominations.

The Rev. Edgar A Love, superintendent of the department of Negro work, board of church extension, M. E. church, was elected chairman and Miss Helen C. Schmit, white missionary counselor of the Woman's American Baptist Home Missions Society, sceretary. 1-29-44

STUDY CONDITIONS

Each national denominational board will make a study of its own work among Negroes to ascertain what can be done to better the general living conditions of colored people.

The section on home missions and church extension recently selected Dr. Love to go to the west coast where thousands of Negroes have migrated from the south for work in defense factories, to make a study of conditions that the church general may get an accurate insight of racial problems.

The race question was freely and liberally discussed by the large group of American citizens present, a large majority of whom were white.

Dr. Charles E. Stewart, prominent minister of Portsmouth, Va., representing the AME Church, took an active part in the discussion and in an able manner proved himself the "man of the hour."

His eloquence and sound presentation of the subject under discussion swayed the audience who agreed with him in this one idea of "One God and One Human Family." 1-29-44

GROWTH OF STORE FRONT CHURCHES

"Churches must study and act on the spectacular growth of small emotional sects or store front religions," the program said "which are increasing in urban areas more rapidly than the old-established denominations."

"Churches must prepare to meet more fully the social aspects, effects of demobilization and population migration; must become teaching as well as preaching centers for the training of leaders; must foster a revival of youth movements and youth training must be prepared; must coordinate and unify forces to meet the moral deterioriation of American life, the growing juvenile delinquency that is expected to increase after the war and the breakdown of American life and consolidation of churches where possible."

DR. STEWART TO OFFER SELF TO MISSIONS

Dr. Stewart, in an interview after the meeting, declared that should he be elected to the Bishopric of his church at the coming general conference of the AME Church he will be glad to serve in the mission field. He also declared that the future of the church at home and abroad largely depends on a strong and well balanced missionary program.

DR. C. E. STEWART

Baptists Get to Work On Post War Planning

People's Voice-New York, N. Y. 2-26-44

Problems of minority groups, anti-Semitism, discrimination and segregation were listed as foremost among the general themes of discussion of the Post War Planning commission of the National Sunday School and Baptist Training Union congress, at a series of organizational and procedural conferences which began on Feb. 7, at the West Point Baptist church in Chicago and ended Feb. 17, in the Roanoke Baptist church, Hot Springs, Ark.

The members of the commission agreed to study the moral, social, economic and governmental problems confronting Negroes today and to prepare to provide remedial measures for problems which emerge from World War II.

The group listed the following other problems as points of consideration: soldier rehabilitation and re-employment; pastoral counselling and the guidance to the perplexed masses "who will find themselves confused because of the mesh of post war maladjustment"; youth training in the various vocations and in moral and spiritual leadership; full employment in industry; total integration in governmental interests and full cooperation toward the establishment of a just and durable peace policy for all nations.

The commission asks that interested persons please communicate with the office of the secretary, the Rev. David N. Licorish, 7 Albany Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Postwar Adjustment Report Ignores Racial Minorities

Tribune-Philadelphia, Pa. 2-26-44

By HARRY McALPIN
Washington Bureau N.N.P.A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Ignoring the problem of discrimination because of race, creed, color and national origin, Bernard Baruch and John M. Hancock have submitted a 44-page report to War Mobilization Director James Byrnes, as requested by him, on War and Post War Readjustment Policies, which was released by the White House last week.

No mention is made of this No. 1, acute problem, which has begun already to rear its ugly head in industry cutbacks throughout the country in the form of disproportionate dismissal of Negroes.

The report, though it ignores this very real problem facing millions of Americans—Negroes, Mexicans, Jews and foreign born many of whom are in the armed services and in war work, nevertheless puts considerable stress on "the human problems of demobilization." 2-26-44

Baruch, after a press conference held following release of the report by the President, admitted to this correspondent that discriminations would definitely be one of the problems needing adjustment. He offered no reason for leaving it out of the report. 2-28-44

Hancock, who was the only other person associated with Baruch in preparing the report, told this correspondent that the report deals only with "economic problems." At the suggestion that considerable stress is given the "human problem," he said it was "impossible to cover everything."

"If we give the Japanese people a chance to throw off their military rulers and carry through a people's revolution we may expect at Japan in the future to be a force for world peace and prosperity."

7-9-44

WESTERNERS WARNS

mbree's warning to world was delivered ng session held in the ng session held in the apel. "If European nations to hold the East in sub-

Future Peace Depends Upon World Equality, Embree Says

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

Friday, July 21. All phases of inter-racial relations are being discussed at the sessions which are being attended by some 70 Negro and white educational, religious, community, and civic leaders from 17 states.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—All plans for world peace depend upon adjustments that will have to be made by the great white nations toward the colored peoples of the Far East, Dr. Edwin R. Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund and chairman of the newly-created American Council on Race Relations, declared in a lecture delivered before the American Association of Race Relations Institute of Race Relations now being held at Fisk University. The Institute opened Monday, July 3 and will continue through

vengeance, or if we bolster the conservative forces, as we have so strangely done in Italy and France and Spain, then we will have the continued enmity of Japan and probably also of China and Soviet Russia." 7-9-44

SEES WORLD POWER SHIFT

After this war, he said, the center of world power politics will shift from Europe and the Atlantic to Asia and the Pacific.

"The great powers that come out of this war will be the United States, Soviet Russia, the British Empire, China and Japan," he said. Possible conflicts between these powers, all bordering the Pacific, will be over the control of the Pacific area, he said.

JOHNSON EXPOUNDS

Analyzing the development of racial prejudice in America and the world, Dr. Charles S. Johnson, race relations director of the American Missionary Association and head of the Fisk University Social Science Department said in a lecture that:

"There are in our American traditions, two philosophies which are deeply ingrained and conflicting." 7-9-44

He said that these philosophies are "the human philosophy which is definitely Christian" and "the philosophy of race based upon hierarchies of ruling races."

But "racial theories are comparatively new in our civilization," he added. "Racial self-consciousness dates back only a few hundred years to the expansion of European nations and the beginnings of the slave trade."

12 Amendments Urge For Peace And Democracy

World — Memphis, Tenn.

7-18-44

Proposals Are Made By N. Y. Harrison Jackson

NEW YORK—(A N P)—Twelve amendments to the constitution, which are designed to strengthen democracy here and influence world pace, were set forth last week by Harrison S. Jackson, prominent local attorney and candidate for general sessions court judge. Jackson, who is also Dr. Adam Clayton Powell's personal counselor and U. S. Government Appeal Agent, said that the 12 constitutional amendments will serve to protect minority groups. 7-18-44

In a preface to his 12 suggested amendments, Jackson said that the formers of the constitution met together for the purposes of forming a more perfect union, and the provisions therein for the government of the people. They had in mind the then present conditions with the possibility of some changing conditions in the future, he said, pointing out that they never could have foreseen the needs, exigencies, the discriminations and persecutions of minority groups, the asticity of the constitution promulgated by the judiciary, contrary to reason. He mentioned the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments and explained how they had been misconstrued by the judiciary and others so as to nullify their protective value to minority groups. 7-18-44

HITS SCOTT DECISION

"The Dred Scott and other decisions stand as a sordid monument to the interpretation of Constitution law by some of the judiciary," he said. "It is only recently and during the Roosevelt administration that the supreme court, practically as a whole, has rendered decisions consonant with good training, deliberation and good sense."

Atty. Jackson's amendments number 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33.

Amendment 22 advocates more federal protection of property rights for all citizens regardless of race, creed or color, amendment 23 eliminates racial discrimination and segregation in the armed forces; amendment 24 abolishes poll tax, and "white" primaries; amendment 25 deals with the country's educational systems and enforces the inclusion of all data on American citizens in text books regardless of race, creed, or color, amendment 26 sets up a U. S. Employment service and Permanent FEPC; amendment 27 restricts personal income to a $75,000 maximum; amendment 28 gives representation to all minority groups at the peace table, "whether this country is at war or not;" amendment 29 establishes a permanent OPA; amendment 30 abolishes filibusters; amendment 31 establishes U. S. control of all transportation systems; and amendment 32 sets up a federal insurance system for the benefit of all citizens. Congress is given power to enforce each amendment. 7-18-44

HOWARD GRADUATE

A graduate of Howard and Fordham universities, Jackson received his degree in jurisprudence from New York university's law school. He is chairman of the Coordinating Committee for Employment; chief counsel for the People's committee and chief counsel for the Abyssinian Baptist Church and Dr. Adam Clayton Powell, who is a candidate for congress from the new Harlem congressional district.

Optimistic View Taken By Weaver

World — Memphis Tenn.

7-18-44

CHICAGO — (ANP) — An optimistic forecast that spelled greater job opportunities for Negro workers in the post war period was made last week when Dr. Robert C. Weaver, director of Mayor Kelly's committee on race relations, addressed the University of Chicago's fourth annual conference for social science teachers. 7-18-44

Discussing "The Negro and Post War Employment," Dr. Weaver asserted that the Negro's occupational advances and his expanding diversification of employment offer a frame work for his wider interrigtaon in the industries of the nation. Unlike Negroes at the close of World War I, the Negro of today is a participating member in most labor organizations and is knocking at the doors of those unions which exclude him, he said.

"The extent to which these gains will persist will be determined by the general level of employment and the rate and timing of technoligical changes," Dr. Weaver declared. He envisioned the prospect of a disproprotionately large number of Negro workers without jobs if the was is followed by a period of serious long run employment.

Solution of Color Problem Vital to an Enduring Peace

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

30 Speakers at Ohio Conference See Racial Discrimination as Cause of World War III

7-22-44

YELLOW SPRINGS, Ohio. — That race and color are world rather than local or United States problems was the conclusion of over thirty speakers at the Institute on Conditions for an Enduring Peace held at Antioch College here July 5-15.

Conference leaders included Dr. Charles Wesley, president of Wilberforce University; Dr. Rayford W. Logan of Howard University, William H. Chamberlin, correspondent; Haridas Muzumdar, biographer of Gandhi, and Richard J. Walsh, editor of Asia.

Might Cause Third War

Stressing the need for admission of racial equality, Mr. Chamberlin declared that the color question might well be the cause of a third world war when the peoples of India and China master technology and large-scale administration. 7-22-44

Arthur E. Morgan, engineer and expert on the small community, concurred with Mr. Chamberlin, adding that race discrimination deeply wounds the dignity and self-respect of those discriminated against.

All speakers agreed that the solution to the problem is twofold, the first phase being the abolition of the problem at home and the second the destruction of imperialism and the empire system.

Hurts Foreign Policy

Dr. Wesley's contention that the local solution is significant because of the effect of discrimination in America on international relations was cited by Dr. Logan who pointed out the deleterious effect on the "Good Neighbor Policy."

Declaring imperialism to be outdated, Mr. Chamberlin said that destruction of the empire system would not end the problem but would open the way to the removal of prejudices by education. 7-22-44

"While slavery may at first have been only economic inequality, the resulting rationalization that colored people were enslaved because they were inferior has taken firm root," said Dr. Logan, warning that the problem is not simple.

Persecute Brothers

He further pointed to the fact that certain classes of colored people, such as the aristocracies in Abyssinia, Liberia and Haiti and light-skinned people here, tend to exploit the masses and those darker in color.

Speaking July 11 on "The Individual's Responsibility in a Democracy," Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt declared that only by the strength and patience of the minorities and the fair-mindedness of others can racial difficulties be avoided after the war.

BENEFITS PLEDGED TO NEGRO VETERANS

Times — New York N.Y.

10-1-44

Program Being Developed for Service Men Will Help Them, Officer Tells Urban League

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Sept. 30— United States armed forces have under way an extensive rehabilitation and job-counseling program to help prepare veterans for return to civilian life, according to an address by Maj. Samuel P. Roach today at the industrial relations session of the conference of the National Urban League. Major Roach is attached to the classification and replacement branch of the Adjutant General's Office in Washington.

"This program will be of the utmost benefit to Negro veterans in analyzing skills, training and experience, so that they may determine their place in the post-war employment picture," Major Roach said.

Plans are being worked out for setting up centers all over the United States where service men will be sent prior to discharge, to be counseled on demobilization problems, he said. A thorough study of their abilities will be made and a report presented to each discharged man to serve as an introduction to prospective employers, he added. 10-1-44

Richard R. Jefferson, industrial secretary of the St. Louis Urban League, said that the job of persuading workers to accept the idea of Negro integration into industry was even more important than convincing management. He added that the Negro cause could be advanced through gradual education of workers and management rather than by attempt at exerting pressure.

Reviewing the past year's work

...ace, creed or color, league's approach to the problem ...oundest ways to in- of full employment to everyone ...g of a lasting peace. regardless of race, creed or color ...e war but lose the will give management, labor and ...challenge the very Government basic and intelligent ...e human race and techniques for its successful solu... ...ld not justify our tion." ...oduction records at ...ifices on the battle ...time. ...r hope that the

regardless of race, creed or color, ...ations." Subjects included "Race Riot Prevention," and responsibility in regard to pressure movements. 10-1-44

Full Employment Urged

R. F. Nelson, vice president of the Arma Corporation of Brooklyn, said in a telegram today to the Urban League conference:

"Full employment for all men, ...of he league, Guichard Parris, industrial relations field secretary of the national organization, declared that the most important program of the league was in industrial relations. He cited the need of working out a course of action to spare the Negro from bearing the brunt of unemployment cutbacks.

The workshop session in the afternoon was given over to discussion of "Racial Conflict Situ...

47n-1944

NEGROES' ROLE IN PEACE WORLD TO BE DISCUSSED

Tribune-Chicago Ill.

A conference called by the planning committee for united minorities will be held next Friday and Saturday at the Pershing hotel, 6400 Cottage Grove avenue. Such topics as the Negro in post-war politics, integration of the Negro into American democracy and the effect of a national service law on Negro labor will be considered. The call for the conference said that it is "paradoxical that the 'cradle of liberty and democracy' should be rocked also by the hand of more race prejudice, race hatred and race discrimination than any other nation now engaged in fighting for freedom." Negroes hope, it added, that one of the results of the conflict will be the right to participate "in the much heralded four freedoms."

2-26-44

A Serious Omission

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga

The conspicuous absence of the names of any Negro leaders from Governor Ellis Arnall's State Planning Commission for Post-War Development in Georgia is most serious and glaring. 1-27-44

The purpose and scope of the governor's Commission is to develop "an entire program for every field of human endeavor and to utilize fully Georgia's natural and human resorces."

Terming it "the most serious job ever undertaken in Georgia", the governor's 21-member State Agricultural and Industrial Board is to formulate a comprehensive "blue print for Georgia's future".

We can think of no strong and sufficient reason for the governor's failure to name some four or five able Negro represetatives to the Commission. In fact, there are many all-important reasons why they should still be added to the Commission.

In any "blue print for a post-war Georgia" we would not like to believe that State officials would overlook or underestimate the grave necessity of Negroes sharing more equitably in the matters of representation on the police forces in our cities; a more equal distribution of public services and salaries, a fuller measure of justice in the courts; fuller participation of Negroes in local government in the state, and less subjection to fear, peonage and other associated evils. 1-27-44

In all seriousness, we believe the governor simply overlooked the importance of naming some Negro representatives to the Commission. And inasmuch as the Commission has not yet begun its work, we recommend their appointment, even at this time.

Postwar Race Conference Planned For Memphis Soon

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga

5-16-44

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS— A man who is an expert map-

Post-War & Peace Plans

ping out plans for the expansion and development of industrial establishments—one whose advice is sought by the leaders of the various industrial plants in Memphis, who has a word in the plans of the numerous new businesses who wish to establish plants in Memphis, and who has one of the most important voices in the employment status and wage scales for Negroes in this area, is Mr. Arthur N. Fields, an Industrial Engineer, and head of the Industrial Division of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce (white).

Next Thursday night, this strategically-placed industrial adviser, Mr. Fields, will occupy the role of being the first authoritative speaker to appear before the hitherto more or less vague and un-objective "Post War Planning Organization," headed by Mr. Matthew "Mayor of Beale Street" Thornton, Sr. The meeting will be held at the East Trigg Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. W. H. Brewster, pastor, Thursday night, May 18th, at 8 p. m.

For several months the "Mayor of Beale Street," Mr. Thornton, has been endeavoring to interest Memphis Negroes in the matter of taking thought as to "what will be the place of civilian and returning Negro service personnel in the world which will exist after the war."

Thursday night's meeting will mark the first time that Mr. Thornton will have been successful in securing the services of a man who can speak with the voice of authority relative to his views about "the Negro in Memphis and the nation following this war."

In an interview last Saturday Mr. Fields revealed that his subject for the address at the East Trigg Avenue Baptist Church on Thursday night will be "Post War Possibilities for Business in Memphis," and in his address he will stress the possibilities for the expansion and development of Negro business in Memphis.

This reporter was astounded to hear him say "possibilities for the development of "Negro Business in Memphis," and asked another question designed to establish whether or not he meant what he said. 5-16-44

Mr. Fields did mean what he said. He elaborated on the theme to the extent of pointing out that "Memphis is located in an area which has only of comparative recent date been centered in the attention of men who build industrial instead of agricultural economics there will be great opportunities for those who realize this trend and prepare themselves to move with it—as the area prospers the Negro business man will prosper as well as the Negro working man."

Mr. Fields, whose job with the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, calls for the compilation of facts and figures which have a bearing on the inviting of new industries to the Memphis area, and recommendations on the expansion of those already located here, is perhaps the city's most important figure whose opinions have a most significant weight in determining "how much money the Negro workers in these parts earns in industrial plants," on "how many Negroes will be employed," and on "how the Negro worker will be treated on his job."

However, Mr. Fields' authoritative position as head of the Industrial Division of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, and as a trained and experienced Industrial Engineer, who has been working in Memphis for the past five years, is very important in determining the answers local industrialists will make to the problems raised by the presence of the Negro worker in an increasingly industrialized South.

He painted a picture of the opportunities here and the chances that Negro business men have for making advancement based on efficiency and intelligence.

Mr. Fields is convinced that many of the gains which Negroes have made on the industrial front in Memphis will be kept. He said, after pointing out that Memphis was largely an agricultural center in the past, that the city is now rapidly becoming industrialized and that there will be a demand for competent industrial workers.

He disclosed that 'local industrial leaders recognize the trend of industry today to endeavor to bring costs down—selling prices down—so that people can buy more for less—however, they are not pre-occupied or desirous of adopting plans to lower wages or otherwise lower the workers' scale of living." 5-16-44

He pointed out the possible role which modern inventions, such as the mechanical cotton-picker will play in the future industrial employment picture in the South. He observed that the development of this device will be similar to that of the history of the automobile industry which, after passing through a period of extreme expensiveness, proved to be one of the first mass production industris, providing the public with cheaper cars and providing more jobs.

In his address Thursday night, Mr. Fields said there will be a period allotted for questions and discussion from the audience.

Launch Move To Have Negro In Deliberations

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
4-2-44

Propose Tour Of Battlefronts By Jemison, Austin

CHICAGO—(A N P) — Recommendations on post-war planning, endorsed this week by the Baptist Pastors conference of Chicago and vicinity, named Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson of Howard university to be the Negro representative at the peace table. Dr. D. V. Jemison, president of the National Baptist convention, Inc., and Dr. J. C. Austin, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church here, were chosen to tour army camps and battle fronts to visit men of the baptist faith.

Declaring that the present world conflict is "destroying many of the gains of man across the centuries," the convention committee on post-war planning pointed out that many of the institutions of civilization are seriously threatened, and the foundations which have been the pillars of civilization have been shaken.

START POST WAR PLANNING

Headed by the Rev. E. J. Coles, president the Baptist Pastors conference, adopted in toto the report of the convention committee on post-war planning which stressed the impact upon weak nations and minority racial groups as a result of this great world crisis and characterized them as "grave and disturbing." There three-points of recommendations are designed to be in keeping with the immediate task of winning the war and the peace. 4-2-44

While endorsing a Negro representative at the peace table, the committee urgd the selection of a man whose voice is "true to the best ideals and highest hopes of

Your committee is mindful 3. "Your committee is convinced
r reaching work and study that the Baptist men in war ser-
to post war world condi- vice yearn to see and hear men
suggest that the Prest- of their faith in the camps at
appoint a committee in-home and abroad at the war fronts.
our colleges, social leaders Thus we recommend that this
isters. board will approve the sending to
the home and foreign fields our
honored president, Dr. D. V. Jemi-

JEMISON TOUR

com- defined. Your
2. We recommend that a
Johnson possesses the character, careful study of the state of the incident to p
the training, the foresight, based country and what these conditions and sug
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istory, and the courage to fitting- out of their careful and comprehen- cluding our c
y represent the race. we recom- sive study report their findings to and ministers
mend that he be endorsed to go," our Convention that our course of
the conference said. procedure may well be charted and PROPOSE JE

son, and the gifted Dr. J. C. Austin, to carry to our Baptist men cheer and comfort and the assurance of our interest in them and concern for them; and that we seek approval of the President of the nationa and secretary of the war departments in sending representatives to the war fronts."

The committee members are: Dr. C. A. Wallace, chairman, Illinois; Dr. Earl Harison, Washington, D. C.; Dr. George H. Sims, New York City; Dr. T. M. Chambers, Texas; Dr. J. H. Brown, Illinois; Dr. E. L. Todd, Michigan; Dr. A. Wendell Ross, California; Dr. G. W. Gayden, Mississippi; Dr. J. R. Jamison, Ark; Dr. T. S. Boone, Texas; Dr. R. C. Woods, secretary, Arkansas and Dr. W. E. Wadlington.

Pursuit Of Democracy

Courier - Pittsburg, Pa.
1-8-44

Post-War Mecca For Rural Negro Youths Is New Western Empire

By MARJORIE McKENZIE

POST-WAR planning in terms of specific and scientific recommendations, rather than the general objectives already well-defined, is one of the first 1944 tasks of our leadership. The best first statement on the post-war problems of Negro war workers and servicemen appears in the final chapter of Dr. Charles S. Johnson's recent study of racial tension areas, "To Stem This Tide." It is clear that minority groups will have to rely greatly upon continued government protection and control for their future security.

Miss McKenzie

In this connection, it is worthwhile to consider seriously the possibilities of implementing the advice of those who exhort the Negro to move out of the South. There is this eminently quotable statement on the subject by Edwin Embree, which appeared in "Survey Graphic's" special edition, "Color: Unfinished Business of Democracy," in November, 1942: "There is no decent life for all of you in the Southern rurals so far as the mind of man can see. You'll have a hard time even in the North and West, but at least you'll have some freedom. You'll once in a while be treated as human beings. You'll have decent schools for your children and some public provision for recreation, for reading and listening to music, for rest and play. You'll have some opportunity for work and professional practice in sections that are prosperous and progressive. And as you leave the South you will relieve your fellows of that pressure which is always heaviest where the colored masses are densest. At least another million Negroes should move out of the South during this decade. Move North, my colored friends, keep moving North and West."

ICKES GIVES ANSWER ON RESETTLEMENT

As a practical matter, however, well-organized families, cautious about their economic security and community status, are not likely to engage in random migration. Less stable, less desirable unattached individuals will risk adventure, but they do not tend to establish new roots and nothing is gained by them or the race through their aimless wandering. But the Negro family in search of freedom and opportunity not afforded by the South, recently has been given one answer to the problems of resettlement by Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes in an article appearing in the Sunday magazine section of The Washington Star.

SECRETARY ICKES describes the great promise of what he calls America's new western empire, the public lands of the Northwest, which are being reclaimed by means of irrigation. He states that this newly irrigated territory comprises some of the richest land in the United States and is capable of supporting an additional population of 4,000,000 citizens. This new frontier is the basis of Mr. Ickes' post-war program for returning soldiers.

HOMESTEAD REQUIREMENTS

1-8-44

The extension of irrigation means the building of dams. The annual report of the Bureau of Reclamation indicates that 6 of the 15 storage dams under construction have been completed. War restrictions have halted further operations, but activity will be resumed after the war and this will mean post-war employment. Negro workers who have learned skills in war production should find opportunities at various skill levels in Western locales where color is not a traditional barrier.

AFTER dams are built, the opportunity for homesteading on the public domain should induce many workers to remain. All unappropriated, surveyed public lands, valuable for the production of crops are subject to homestead entry, after classification, if they are not mineral or saline in character or are not occupied for trade or business. A homestead entryman must be 21 years of age or the head of a family and a citizen of the United States. Ordinarily he may apply for 160 acres if he does not own more than 160 acres. Residence must be established on the tract within six months after application and must be maintained for a period of three years. Cultivation of the land for at least two years and the building of a habitable house are required. After he has submitted proof of fulfillment of these requirements and paid approximately $1 an acre, the entryman obtains fee simple title. Special homestead rights are allowed ex-service men.

NO ESTABLISHED RACE PATTERN

The latest report of the General Land office states that there are about 400,000,000 acres in the public land states of the West, most of which are vacant and unreserved, much of which is not yet officially surveyed. 1-8-44

THERE are no segregation laws in these states, no established patterns of discrimination. One post-war mecca of Negro youth of the rural South, should be not the crowded cities of the North or South, but this new unconquered world.

EDITOR'S DIGEST

Weekly Review
By ROBERT DURR
Birmingham Ala.

Post War Planning

1-22-44

Seems that except in general terms, the Negro, in so far as the postwar planning setups are concerned s to be the forgotten man. I do not bel eve in post war planning by various groups for themselves, especially where those groups have the overall responsibility to all groups, but when such is the case, it is well that the excepted group do some planning of its own for the preservaton of its own — that being the first law of nature in the raw.

Real planning to meet the basic human needs of our people represents the greatest single need of the community. What lifth a neglected minorty such as ours, lifts the whole community. Missing the bus in that connection means bongling this whole business of post war planning for peace and prosperity. It might be best in the long run though, for it is far better for one to do his own planning that to have another do it for him, if that must be the case. However, do not forget that it is tragic to be forced by neglect to have to do this far a part of the whole rather than as part of the whole.

It would be quite a fine thing if the ministers of this community were to unite in sponsoring a committee which, with a paid secretary would do some planning for the Negro — the first section to be submitted to the city, county and state boards for execution and the second section for execution by Negroes for Negroes. 1-22-44

Among the many projects we suggest to be included in the first section, would be at least another honest-to-goodness high school; the building of a real library building; a central community center building containing a large auditorium for cultural programs, an auditorium for entertainment such as basketball, twistifications and community meetings, an indoor swimming pool, headquarters for club meetings with kitchen and dining rooms, etc. The Negro hospital effort should be augmented or emplemented in these plans to the end that after the sponsors of the hospital effort have done all they can by the way of raising funds, the rest of the needed money will be forthcoming and a tie in wth some source of public support for the operation of this project may be had.

The second section of the post war plans should, it seems to me, have to do with what Negroes may do to create business and job opportunities for Negroes. In that connection, it would be well for such large Negro concerns as North Carolina Mutual Insursance Company, Atlanta Life Insurance Company, Pilgrim Life and Health Insurance Company as well as the Smith and Gaston interests and similar concerns to be urged to invest intwo or three large better housing projects. The city housing authority as a part of the first section of suggested projects, would sponsor capable individhousing projects.

Some type of national or Southwide holding concern should be set up with Negro capital which would sponsor capable individuals in the opening and first-step operation of various types of businesses until the operators were able to make said businesses walk on their own.

Millions of dollars will be spent by Negroes for automboiles and there should be Negro setups to handle some of that business. There is plenty of room for furniture, clothing and automobile accessories stores and grocery stores operated by Negroes in Negro communities just next door to every such store operated by a non-Negro merchant. This situation would furnish employment for millions of Negroes all over the country through the effort of Negroes. The aid of such setups as the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and FSA might be had to assure a good test of it. 1-22-44

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ence, and says Japan's bitterness over this resulted in the Pearl Harbor attack.

She then quoted a Times item on China's present request which said, "The United States and Great Britain — as in 1919 — will probably oppose any attempt to have such a clause in the constitution of the new world security organization." 10-14-44

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cied two items on this subject with the warning that Americans would do well to consider them together.

Repetition of 1919

One was from Hallett Abend's new book on treaties which holds the United States responsible for rejection of a proposal by China and Japan to recognize racial equality at the 1919 peace confer-

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Baltimore, Md.
(NNPA) — WASHINGTON

The second phase of the Dumbarton Oaks peace talks ended last with no action taken on China's proposal that the future world organization acknowledge the principle of equality of all races and states. 10-14-44

In a letter to the New York Times, before the conference ended, Pearl Buck, noted author,

Equality Ignored at Peace Talks

47n-1944

Post-War Planning

POST-WAR PLANNING

Plaindealer — Kansas City, Kan.

There is much talk about Post-War planning. . . . Everybody is making preparations to live after the present war comes to an end. It is smart to plan for the future, those who prepare for the future are more able to make adjustments to the world than the fellow who only lives for a day.

There are many things that could be said about Post-War planning, but we only wish to make one suggestion.

Our great task in the Post-War world will not be solving the racial problem so much, but rather getting our own house clean. . . . If we can give our people more education, common sense, vision, intelligence, honesty, dependability, efficiency and decency, we will be able to participate in a Democracy. Our status will demand that recognition be given us along all lines. We must keep up the fight to defeat racial barriers, but we must not neglect to keep up the fight to get our own house in order. 8-25-44

Of course, there are thousands of us who can measure up to any requirements of good citizens in all phases, but there are also thousands walking in darkness holding the entire race back. Our great task is going to be keeping the young jitterbug element, the hoodlum, both old and young, the hair-brain radical, the political crooks, the ignorant and the Uncle Tom under control and elevate them to a status that will not take away the social, economic, political and religious gains already achieved. In order to go forward, we must give the problem within our race some real attention throughout this country.

The task is not being neglected, but we wish to call attention at this point to the fact, that too much cannot be done in getting our own house right.

Veterans' Federal Educational Benefits

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

BRIGADIER General Frank T Hines, administrator of veterans affairs, has stated that within three weeks after President Roosevelt approved the Servicemen's Adjustment Act of 1944, the so-called GI Bill of Rights, 1,000 veterans of World War II have made applications for federal educational benefits. 7-29-44

Under the provisions of the act a veteran, to be eligible for such benefits must have had at least ninety days military service since September 16, 1940, and his education must have been interrupted by his enlistment in the armed forces. For the purpose of eligibility, veterans who entered the service before reaching 25 years of age are deemed to have had their education interrupted.

The nature of the educational benefits provided are outlined in a news story published elsewhere in this paper. Suffice it to say here that with veterans being invalidated home in increasing numbers, it is highly important that the provisions of the Servicemen's Adjustment Act be emphasized among the race group.

Hundreds of thousands of young men entered the service prior to reaching 25 years of age. The thousands who will be mustered out, in spite of the devastation of war, will be automatically eligible for educational and other benefits. It is here where community, civic and educational interests should exert pressure, to the end that only an insignificant minimum of these men do not ignore or pass up the opportunity to gain an education, which otherwise might not have been their advantage to gain. 7-29-44

The provisions of the law regarding veterans' loans and employment are exceedingly worthwhile, but the younger men discharged from military service should be primarily concerned with the educational aid. Aid derived from this source carries a higher moral, spiritual and economic value, and is more permanent in its effect.

CHINA SPEAKS

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Unity and Respect for Minority Rights Is Key To Post-War Security

By LIU LIANG-MO

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

8-26-44

LAST week I spoke to a group of American people in a beautiful chapel on Huntington Beach by the shore of Lake Ontario. There I met an old couple who showed to me a piece of Chinese embroidery, with four Chinese words: "Flying hero over China." They told me that it is a gift of the Chinese people to their son who was a flyer in China. "But," they said, "our son had died only a few days ago in the city of Hengyang, the city which fought to its last man. He wanted us to love the Chinese people because he loved them deeply." They quietly left me, didn't even leave their names. I was deeply moved. It is people like these who are winning the war and winning the peace. They are great. They are brave. Fascists of the world can never conquer them; or rather, they will defeat the Fascists, and build a new, free world where people will respect, understand and help each other.

Mr. Liu Liang-Mo

This American Unknown Soldier has shed his blood in China, and had buried his body and heart side by side with his Chinese comrades whom he deeply respected and loved. It is the duty of us who are still living to win the war and peace so that the next generations will not go through the baptism of fire and death again.

BEWARE OF HATE MONGERS 8-26-44

But then I hear some people are crying: "Hate the Jew! Hate the Negroes! Hate the Communists! Hate all the foreigners!" That is the cry of Fascists. They are sowing the seeds of a third war. Beware of them.

I hear some people are crying: "Let us negotiate peace with the enemy." Beware of them and mark them well, for they are wolves in sheeps' skin. They speak for the enemy. They want to help the enemy to regain their strength, so that they can fight the world again.

I SEE that the preliminary conference on international post-war security, between America, Great Britain, Soviet Union and China has begun its discussions. This is another step toward real world peace. We must watch it very carefully.

A lasting peace can only be built on equality and harmony. As a matter of fact, that is the exact meaning of the Chinese words for peace: "Ho-Ping" — Harmony and equality."

We must not overlook the rights of the small nations and peoples. Last week I told you about the propositions of the World Citizens' league; this week I want to pass on to you the following two things:

Frank Kingdon, radio commentator, said on April 24, 1944: "If we really want peace we can have it. The difficulty is that we want peace and a lot of other things that are inconsistent with it. We want empire. We want advantages in world trade and politics. If a nation is going to put this first and peace second, then we will not have peace." The era of imperialism is over. Imperialism breeds war. 8-26-44

The American Jewish conference has placed before the post-war security conference an "International Bill of Rights" which states:

1. Full and complete protection of life, liberty, freedom of worship and civil rights for the inhabitants of all countries without discrimination of birth, nationality, language, race, or religion.
2. Equality of rights in law are in fact for all the citizens of every country.
3. The inalienable right of all religious, ethic and cultural groups to maintain and foster their respective group identities on the basis of equality.
4. The establishment of appropriate and adequate and international machinery to secure the enforcement of these rights.

ONE of the most important phases of this conference is how to stop the aggressor if there is one. We prefer a quick and direct way rather than a prolonged and indirect one. 8-26-44

The key to the success of this conference is unity among the United Nations and respect for the right of all the peoples and nations of the world, especially the oppressed, exploited and the minorities.

"I Went to My Own and Washington, D.C. Tribune — Washington, D.C. They Received Me Not"

We have always tried to keep the interest of our readers foremost in our effort to publish a newspaper. For twenty-five years we have stood as a watchdog here in the nation's capital for the rights of Negroes in and around Washington. We have lost no time in pulling the cover off of those who have denied these people their rights as American citizens and have given credit to those who have aided in making Washington a better place for all citizens. 8-26-44 will have the charge-

We inaugurated, a few weeks ago, a house-to- THE TRIBUNE — Washington, D.C. Tribune house survey to determine the economic and consumer status of the Negro in and around Washington. This to your attention the fact that we must less to bring to yo is a public service feature which we hope will enable for the hard days ahead. This means now prepare for t ns to properly present your case to those persons who that we (Tribune) must have the information that is

asked on the questionnaire. If we are to be able to present the facts, so we may demand a place for your loved ones, of the arm forces, to return to, if we are to have a Washington that will practice the tenets of the democracy that so much sacrifice is now being made for, it is necessary that we have the truth and the whole truth. 8-26-44

We have a group of well trained young ladies making this survey. These people are making the survey to help you, and you, and you. It has been reported to us that there are some people who not only refuse to answer the questions asked them, but are also discourteous. This is a sad indictment on the culture of Washington. We hate to think that there are Negroes living in Washington who are so disinterested in their own welfare that they will refuse to answer questions that will aid in the plans for making their future secure.

These young ladies must be able to appreciate the saying of the Master, "I WENT TO MY OWN AND THEY RECEIVED ME NOT." We are not criticizing those of you who fail to aid in shaping a better future for you and your posterity. We still have enough faith in the people of Washington to believe that we will get enough information to propertly present your case. 8-26-44

We are attempting to get the truth and nothing but the truth. Negro agencies, when fighting for the rights of our people, have often been criticized for not properly presenting their cases and have lost quite a few, because of this. We are going to have the correct information and we will win because we will have the facts. Remember, "I WENT TO MY OWN AND THEY RECEIVED ME NOT."

Negro Postwar Parley Today

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. 10-4.

Many problems facing the Negro in the postwar world will be the theme of a two-day conference beginning at 11:30 this morning (Saturday) at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th St. The series of panel discussions and reports will end at 5:30 p. m. today and will be continued from 3:30 to 5 p. m. tomorrow.

Dr. Adam Clayton Powell will make the keynote speech. Dr. Dan W. Dodson, executive director of the Mayor's Committee on Unity, will make the introductory address. James Egbert Allen, president of the New York State Conference, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will preside today. 10-21-44

PANELS

There will be panels on "Health and Hospitalization." "Housing and Rents." "Minority Groups," "A Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee." "Problems Confronting Youth," "Veteran and Soldier Rehabilitation," "Reconversion," "Re-employment," "Responsibility of Government in Reconversion," "Responsibility of Labor In Reconversion." 10-21-44

Scheduled speakers also include Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretary, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses; Alma Vesels, assistant consultant on Negro program, National Nursing Council for War Service.

Dumbarton Peace Proposal Condemned By Dr. Du Bois

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
10-22-44

Failure To Accept Principle Of Racial Equality Is Rapped

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — In a statement to the conference of Americans United for World Organization, held at the Department of State, October 16, in which several hundred were in attendance Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, representing the NAACP, raised the whole issue of colonies and imperialism bringing out the inadequacy of proposals made on each.

Basing his summary remarks on study of the published proposals of the Dumbarton Oaks Conferences, in regard to colonials, Dr. DuBois said, "It virtually says to six hundred million human beings ,if not to a majority of mankind, that the only way to human equality is the philanthopy of masters who have historic and strong interest in preserving their present power and income." In outlining precisely, details for the basis of this conclusion, Dr. DuBois elaborated as follows: 10-22-44

PLAN DEPRESSION

"As I have gone through the published proposals at Dumbarton Oaks, I am depressed to realize with what consistency the matter of colonies has been passed over. In chapter one, paragraph three, the emphasis is on the fact that this is a union of nations, not of races, groups, or organizations of men, not recognized as nations; in chapter two, paragraph one, peace-loving 'States' alone may join the Union; in chapter six, apparently an aggrieved party must be a state in order to complain or appear before the Council; similarly in chapter seven, no colonies as such can appeal for hearing before the International Court of Justice.

"Elaborate effort is made to protect states from aggression, but I find no provisions in chapter seven even to consider aggression of a nation on its own colonial peoples while apparently international military force can be called in to suppress revolt. Indeed in paragraph seven of that chapter it seems definitely to say that colonial disputes lie entirely beyond the jurisdiction of this proposed government of men.

"The Economic and Social Council set up in this chapter offers some ray of hope: It can recommend and consider complaints and situations; but there is no direct power to investigate conditions. The Council is appointed by eighteen states with no colonial participation indicated." 10-22-44

HASTIE PRESENT

Among organization representatives, Dr. DuBois was one of the few recognized for a statement, by Under Secretary of State, Stettinius. Judge William H. Hastie also represented the NAACP at this meeting designed for discussion, relative to proposals for an international organization to maintain peace and security.

Urges Support Of Dumbarton Agreement

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
10-21-44

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Calling it "the keystone of international cooperation for achieving world democracy," officers of the Council on African Affairs, headed by Paul Robeson, have indicated their endorsement of the main principles embodied in the Dumbarton Oaks agreement for the establishment of a general international organization to be called the united nation.

The council's officers declared that the proposals agreed upon by representatives of the United States the Soviet Union, Britain and China should have the fullest support of the Negro people and all progressive forces.

"The isolationists and imperialists who are opposed to our present foreign policy will do their best to distort and defeat these proposals for the establishment of a world organization which is stronger, more comprehensive, and more democratic in its structure and aims than the old league of nations." it was said. 10-21-44

Particular attention was called to the provisions for an economic and social council which is described as follows in the published text of the proposals.

"With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations, the organization should facilitate solutions of international economic, social and other humanitarian problems and, promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Responsibility for the discharge of this function should be vested in the general assembly and, under the authority of the general assembly, in an Economic and social council."

A Trumpet Player

Interned By Nazi's Four Years

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

Liberation Comes as Allie Free France; Tells of Propaganda Used to Split Men

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

9-22-44

PARIS. — (ANP) — Arthur Briggs, the famous trumpet player, was the first musician of distinction I met in Paris after coming here with Allied forces. He had just been released from the prisoner of war camp at St. Denis where he had been detained for four years, and was able to give me a graphic account of Nazi propaganda efforts aimed at colored prisoners, and also told of how the Germans tried to kill them all as the Allied troops neared the prison camp.

Briggs, reputed to be the best trumpet player in Europe and achieved fame in practically every European capital, played for Noble Sissle when he was in Europe. Noble wanted Briggs to be his first chair man and in consequence he offered him a colossal salary. Arthur Briggs gave up his band and joined Noble. He went with him to London where the orchestra had a great success playing at the famous Ciro's club. An interesting partnership developed between Noble Sissle and Arthur Briggs, for not only was he first chair man but he bec me Noble's secretary and returned to America with the orchestra. 9-22-44

When France capitulated, Briggs made no attempt to get away for he did not contemplate an entry of the German forces so rapidly. Hence, he stayed in Paris with his wife. Six weeks later a general census of all foreigners were taken and he was told to report to police to be interned. The order was suddenly cancelled but he was later arrested and sent to St.. Denis camp Oct. 17, 1940.

Three days after he was in the camp he formed an orchestra of six pieces to break the monotony and boredom of camp life which was fearfully depressing at the outset. They started out with swing music but later when the orchestra was augmented to 25 pieces, they devoted their endeavors to classical music. The orchestra became a source of much happiness and comfort to the 2,000 internees of the camp.

At the beginning of their internment a trio was formed as well which consisted of Briggs, Gay Martin from West Afirca and Owen Macouly, of England. The orchestra rehearsed every morning in the theater. Among the internes there were men from every profession in life hence they were able to build a theater just as perfect as any in Paris. It was called the St. Denis theater. Red Cross boxes were used to build the stage and dressing rooms; and cigaret tins were employed for stage settings. The artists in the camp did the decorating and scenery.

There were about 50 colored boys in the camp and Briggs told me that there were no manifestations of color prejudice. Briggs himself was well respected by every member of the camp. On the whole the Germans behaved decently with the exception of a few Nazi upstarts who tried to show their leopard spots.

9-22-44

Germans Bombed Camp

On the night of Aug. 24 the Germans opened the gates of the camp and ran away. Next day the Swiss consul went to the camp and told the men that they were free but must remain in the camp until arrangements were made for transportation. The night of the 25th, in typical Nazi fashion, they were encircled and the Huns did their best to destroy them. They were bombarded by a Tiger Tank which dropped a number of shells on the camp.

After that horrible night every one tried to get away the best way possible. Briggs hired a cart together with a pal of his and pushed it five miles to their destination with their belongings. Arthur Briggs was once again united with his wife. 9-22-44

While interned the commandant gave him extra leave of absence to go wherever he liked. His family, who lives in Long Island, N. Y., and in California, would be happy no doubt to know that he is free, safe and well.

Four Years Under German Rule; War Prison Family Is Reunited

People's Voice — New York, N.Y.

9-30-44

Last March when the SS Gripsholm arrived in this country bringing exchange prisoners, among them was Freddy Johnson, pianist who for sixteen

9-30-44

THE JOHNSON FAMILY as they looked when they visited PV offices last week. Not having seen any of their own newspapers for so long, they were amazed to find the progress made by American Negroes as recorded in PV, for the last four years. L-R Daddy Freddy, Jacqueline, younger of the two girl, mama Ida and Marily.

9-30-44

years had lived and worked in Europe. When Germany occupied Holland in 1940, Johnson, his wife Ida, and their two daughters, Jacqueline and Marilyn, were in Van Hague, where they had made their home since 1930. Interned in different camps, Johnson was first to be picked up being in a concentration camp from December '41 to March '42, at which time he was returned to his native land.

Mrs. Johnson and the two girls lived under the German occupation in Holland for two years before they were sent to a camp in Liebenan, Germany, eleven kilometers (6 miles) from Friedrickshafen, which was constantly under bombardment by the Allies. The camp was anything but comorftable. Conditions in the camp according to Mrs. Johnson and the girls were not too bad due largely to the fact that Liebenan is a convent town and there were many nuns interned there. They were allowed to keep all of their personal belongings and received weekly boxes from the Red Cross which contained food, cigarettes, and candy. Clothing and shoes were issued when needed.

9-30-44

FOOD NOT TOO BAD

For the youngsters, classes were conducted three hours a day. Algebra, Dutch history, German, English and Dutch were taught. Asked about food in the camp, Mrs. Johnson said "actually we ate better than those who were not interned. We had meat daily except on Friday and that was because the majority of the internees were Catholic." She said many people made application to be interned because there was

...es had already been there.) ...ion at a cost of $5 a day apiece. ...ve days and six nights, the ... In Liverpool, England, they saw ... family moved toward the ... for the first time Negro Red Cross ... border never quite believ- ... workers who took them in tow. ... they would make it. Once ... They also met Roi Ottley who told ...on, Portugal, the American ... them something of what they ... took excellent care of ... might expect on their arrival in ... Accomodations were made ... the states, which was last week. ... in Paris, and rode a troop and ... Consul took them in the best hotel in Lis- ... Freddy is now providing the ... Johnson, Marilyn and Jacqueline ... ammunition train to Tours which ... them. Accompanied by this time in complete ruins, for them in ... et out to joint Freddy in America, ...

9-30-44

Nine days after D-Day Mrs.

music for Tony's in 52 st, where Mabel Mercer reigns as queen. the younger daughter, Jackie, will continue her interrupted education and Marilyn will concentrate on music. The girls have not adjusted themselves as yet to Harlem, this being their first impression. They were taken to Europe as babies. They did say, though, that they are fascinated by our swing music and jitter-bug dance. You should hear them speak English with a Dutch accent. Cute. —(Fredi.)

9-30-44

Pianist's Wife Tells Prison Experience

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

9-2-44

Saw No Discrimination Under Nazi Rule; Free Until United States Entered War

By GEORGE PADMORE, Courier London Correspondent

LONDON, England—After 19 months in a German concentration camp, Ida Johnson, wife of Frederick Johnson, the well-known pianist, arrived in Liverpool, accompanied by her pretty daughters, Marilyn and Jacqueline Johnson, aboard a Swedish Red Cross ship. The Johnson family is the only colored group in the latest batch of American civilian war prisoners to reach British soil in exchange for Germans. They are on their way to America.

Mr. Johnson, who was also made a prisoner when the Germans moved into Holland, where the Johnson family was living at the time, has already been sent back to New York. His wife and daughters are anxiously looking forward to the re-union after two years' separation.

TREATED WELL AT FIRST

Describing her experiences, Mrs. Johnson said: "When the Germans attacked Holland in 1940, my daughters and I were living happily at Hague. My husband worked with Wooding's dance band in Rotterdam and my daughters were attending high school. Both girls speak Dutch, French, German and English. Rotterdam was completely destroyed by the Luftwaffe, but not much damage was done to Hague."

9-2-44

After the Germans occupied the Dutch capital, the Johnson family, although distinctly colored, was not molested by the Germans. The children continued to attend high school along with white children, and their father continued to play in fashionable cafes patronized by high ranking German officers. Never once were members of the family ever jim crowed, assaulted, molested or badly treated in public.

Life, however, became harder for the family due to the food shortage, but they received the same rations as the whites.

THINGS CHANGE WHEN U. S. ENTERS WAR

Things changed radically when Uncle Sam entered the war. All Americans, including the Johnsons, were immediately arrested and interned in war prison camps at Amersfoort in Holland. Here 1400 white and colored prisoners were all mixed together. "Here," says Mrs. Johnson, "conditions were primitive. The food consisted of two slices of bread and undrinkable coffee without sugar in the morning for breakfast. Dinner consisted of beans and potatoes and sometimes cabbage. Three times a week we got oatmeal and milk. Supper was bread, butter and tasteless coffee."

9-2-44

After two months at Amersfoort, the Johnsons were transferred to another camp located at Liebenau inside Germany near Switzerland. Before asking about life here, I asked Mrs. Johnson whether she ever witnessed or personally experienced ill treatment while at Amersfoort.

WITNESSED TWO BRUTAL BEATINGS

She replied: "Neither I nor my children had any trouble, but one day I saw a Nazi guard strike a male prisoner in the face for failing to work faster. On another occasion I saw a German soldier kick a man, knocking him down to the ground, and every time the man tried to rise, the German knocked him to the ground until the man was unable to move. Later I heard the man died from the injuries. These are the only two incidents of bad treatment I witnessed personally during my two years."

Invited to describe her life at Liebenau where she and her daughters spent 19 months along with 4,000 other female prisoners, American, British, French, Polish, Dutch and Belgian, Mrs. Johnson praised conditions highly. Situated in beautiful surroundings near the Swiss Alps, Liebenau was formerly used as an insane asylum conducted by nuns.

9-2-44

WOMEN PRISONERS POOL RESOURCES

When converted into a female camp, the nuns continued to cooperate with Liebenau, thereby giving the place a humane Christian influence which served to temper the Nazis militaristic brutality. The prisoners were allowed freedom of movement within the confines of the vast and spacious grounds. A real communal spirit existed within the camp. The women, regardless of race or creed, pooled their talent and material resources, and with co-operation of the nuns and the German guards, with whom many of the women had romances, they created for themselves a world of their own.

Plenty of food and clothing was obtained, thanks to the American Red Cross. Each American received an average of two food boxes weekly and shared the contents with non-American inmates. They even supplied anti-fascists and Allied soldier prisoners working on German farms nearby. By agreement the Allied soldiers and the underground anti-fascists would meet in certain places when the German guards were asleep. The American women would throw Red Cross boxes of food and cigarettes over the camp wall. In this way Liebenau internes maintained contact with the anti-Nazis right under the noses of the German camp guards.

9-2-44

AMERICAN CAUGHT HELPING DUTCH

On one occasion, Mrs. Johnson said, an American girl was caught dropping food over the wall. She was brought before the German camp commander and warned not to do it again. Two Dutch boys, caught picking up the food, were arrested but not shot, for they continued to hang around the camp a few weeks later. That was the only time American internes came into conflict with the German camp officials who preferred the Americans to the Britishers.

Asked how internees managed for recreation, Mrs. Johnson said that the women organized concerts, dances, sports, and even celebrated Independence Day by singing "The Star Spangled Banner." However, they were not allowed to receive English newspapers or listen to Anglo - American broadcasts, but by listening to the German radio, they were able to know what happened. For instance, the German radio first announced the invasion of Europe.

9-2-44

The Germans published an English weekly called "Okay" filled with Nazi propaganda which nobody wasted time reading.

Mrs. Johnson and her daughters are anxiously looking forward to their departure from Liverpool. During their stay in England the Johnsons have been the guests of the American Red Cross club director, Howard McKinney, and his colored staff.

12 YEARS UNDER HITLER

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JOHN WELCH

Exclusive to The Pittsburgh Courier

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of a series of articles by John Welch, American pianist, who, going to Germany before the Nazis took over, lived for 12 years under Hitler's rule until he returned recently with other American repatriates on the S.S. Gripsholm. In these articles this Negro New Yorker gives his impressions of Nazi-land in peace and war, and what it means to live as a Negro under the rule of Adolph Hitler.

4-22-44

It was midnight, the third of September, 1932, that I left these shores for the purpose of studying music in Germany. I little dreamed that during my stay in Germany, a much darker midnight would one day evolve from this land, cast its shadows over Europe and finally engulf that entitre continent in its blackness. Nor did I dream that I was to be subjected to a series of arrests ending with my internment in Bavaria.

John Welch

Germany, at the time of my arrival, was wavering between Communism and Fascism. On the streets one would see a Brown Shirt and a Communist on one corner, each ballyhooing and collecting money for "the cause." The burning of the Reichstag—I believe it was in November '32—for which the Communists were unjustly accused, created a wave of indignation against them which was most instrumental in turning the tide in favor of Fascism. This was decidedly Hitler's coup d'etat since all evidence pointed to the probability of the Nazis having fired the building themselves.

Now prejudice, like any other vice, may be likened to lava smoldering in the bowels of a volcano ever ready at some mysterious provocation of the elements of nature to gush forth, destroying with its white heat every vestige of civilization lying in its path. This provocation of nature's elements found its embodiment in Hitler, and although comparatively little was known about his book "Mein Kampf" when he took up the reins of the government in January, 1933, his "Hymn of Hate" became more and more audible until at last, swelling to a mighty crescendo, it threatened by its very reverberations to shake not only the foundations of the European continent, but also those of the whole world.

NEGRO UNTOUCHED

4-22-44

So far as the Negro in Germany is concerned, it would be unfair to state that he has had to suffer to any considerable degree through Hitler's endorsement of racial prejudice. Nevertheless, one must take into consideration that there exists no color problem in Germany. The few Negroes living in the country are mostly from Cameroon or Togo—former German colonies. Others of the younger generation are children and grandchildren of the above and of mixed parentage. These people however, as a whole, represent such a minority as to make even the suggestion of a color problem seem absurd.

Let us assume that the percentage of Negroes in Germany was, as in the United States, one-tenth or more of the entire population. Would the colored man, under the present-day Hitler regime, have to suffer the same persecution as the Jew? This question I leave open for dispute. One cannot deny however, that Hitler's poisonous doctrines, after spreading swiftly and effectively to the farthest corners of the earth, have made the whole world race-conscious and whereas the Negro, as such, does not suffer under the Nazi rule, the progress of the Negro as a race in the fight against discrimination has definitely been retarded the world over, as a result of Nazi propagandists.

LOUIS-SCHMELING

Except for the occupation of the Rhine by Hitler's troops, little happened of any great significance in the next few years that followed, and as it is only the years immediately preceding the war in which this story is concerned, I shall merely touch on certain incidents as they may occur to me.

4-22-44

One of the things about this time which I shall never forget was the Louis-Schmeling fight in 1936. The consensus of opinion was that Schmeling would win. Whether they believed this in their hearts, I am inclined to doubt, but at any rate they gave their countryman the odds. As the fight was to be transmitted to Germany, I was invited to "listen in" on the radio with friends. It was about 3 a. m. Central European time when the fight began. Luckily, I had closed only a small bet with someone—so small in fact, that I can't remember what it was. I do remember that when the fight was over, I got up from my seat feeling weak in the knees, as though I myself had been in the ring, and bidding the company goodbye, walked home in a daze.

The Germnas made a political victory at this bout, and when the fight film was shown it was under the title "Schmeling's Sieg ein deutsche Sieg" (Schmeling's victory a German victory). Clean sportsmanship was cast aside for cheap political propaganda. Thereafter, and until the novelty died down, persons encountering me on the streets or in some public place, would call me jokingly "Joe Louis" and laugh like hell. And did I boil! But oh—that next fight!

47n-1944

Two Men With Strange Story Walk Through Battle Lines

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY (Via Radio) — Two men made their way through the danger that lurks between lines of two armies drawn up in battle to reach safety in a town held by our infantry. The men, one an American Negro, who spoke immaculate English, and the other a Dane, told an amazing story of hunger and hardships in the custody of the Fascists and Germans since the war started.

The Negro identified himself as Edwin Peggram, age 30, of Summer Court, in Dorchester, Boston, Mass., and the other, his inseparable friend, said he was Gerth Hauptman, age 28, a native of Copenhagen, Denmark. They are collaborators in literary work and students of comparative literature.

This odd, exciting pair said they had been held in lousy Italian prisons and had finally been liberated by Partisans near Milan. After their escape, they had made the long, hard trek through the bitter cold mountains with nothing to eat but roasted chestnuts.

One of the men was almost shot as a hostage by the Germans when Hauptman refused to leave his friend, Peggram, to work in a German labor camp. They were saved when the Partisans attacked the prison.

Once the Negro was placed in a Jewish concentration camp, but was left behind when the Germans carried off the Jews. Peggram was classified as an Aryan since that time.

A Catholic, Peggram was not forced to labor since he was an American. He speaks five languages and holds the B.A. and M.A. degrees from Harvard University and studied comparative literature at the University of Paris through a Rosenwald fellowship. He also studied in Copenhagen. Further studies brought him and Hauptman to Italy.

MOTHER IN JERSEY

Peggram's mother, Mrs. Mary Farrar, was last heard from in Bayonne, N. J., and his grandmother, Mrs. Laura Reid, is believed to live at the Boston address.

Asked about his future plans, Peggram told this correspondent that he and Hauptman hoped to go to America and to continue there collaboration on their literary works. He emphasized that he would not return unless Hauptman receives permission to accompany him.

Peggram said he hoped no racial difficulties would develop. "Racial differences are so silly," he said, "because our first desire is friendship and collaboration. We are in agreement on so many things: literature, music, ideas, and religion."

Should racial difficulties arise they hope to go to France or Switzerland, they said.

HARVARD GRADUATE

Peggram graduated from Harvard in 1936 and then studied at Columbia University and the University of Paris. He then did research work in Copenhagen and Florence, Italy. His studies were interrupted by the war. He had a chance at that time to leave for America while the United States was not at war with the Axis, but he refused to leave Hauptman.

Penniless, he communicated with the Vatican and the Archbishop of Lisbon. Peggram said he has $1,200 tied up at Lisbon. In 1943 their plight became a scandal in the vicinity of Lucca and the Italian government allowed them eight lire per day, but they had to live separately for friendships between different nationalities in the area are looked upon with suspicion. The Swiss legation allowed them 1,000 lire per month for several weeks, then stopped.

They were saved from starvation by the good people of the area. Work was forbidden them because they were foreigners.

GERMANS MOVE IN

With the German occupation in 1943 they were put in a concentration camp. The camp was machine gunned by Allied planes and five were killed. They miraculously escaped. The Germans shifted them around from prison to prison until they were placed in solitary confinement as spies. Subsequently they were sentenced to death at the firing squad, but the sentence was prevented by the sudden Partisan raid on the prison.

Repatriates

Musician, Held By Nazis Tells Of Life In Prison

NEW YORK—"We learned to live in hell and got used to it."

These words summed up the experience of Maceo Jefferson, music arranger, who arrived here recently from France where he, an American, was interned in a Nazi civilian prison camp for two and a half years. Jefferson, who is now employed arranging scores for a number of outstanding orchestras, had made his home in Europe since he went there with the famous Lew Leslie's "Blackbirds," starring the immortal Florence Mills.

Jefferson explained that he was among the American prisoners exchanged for German prisoners and came over on the last trip of the Gripsholm. He does not know how he happened to be chosen as one of the lucky ones, for he left many of his comrades behind in the prison camp.

The musician was in France when America declared war on Germany and was incarcerated in Frontstlag 122, about 70 miles from Paris. During air raids on this area, three colored prisoners, close friends of Jefferson, were among those killed.

Between 1100 and 1200 civilian prisoners were imprisoned in the camp, among whom were a good number of Negroes, but there was no racial discrimination, the musician said. Although civilians, the internees seemed to have had no more privileges than if they had been military prisoners of war.

He said they were guarded by German soldiers, kept behind barbed wire and six machine gun nests were perched above the camp grounds. They were permitted to have visitors for ten minutes only, every fifteen days, and had to talk to them through mesh wire.

Having been taken prisoner early in the war, these first groups suffered from lack of recreational facilities, and, of course, the food was merely something to eat. They had soup once a day and herb tea once or twice. A common food like oatmeal was a treat. It was served every Friday afternoon, he said.

I Lived

12 YEARS UNDER HITLER

By JOHN WELCH

(Exclusively to The Pittsburgh Courier)

(Reproduction in Whole or Part Expressly Forbidden)

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fifth of a series of articles by John Welch, American pianist, who, going to Germany before the Nazis took over, lived for 12 years under Hitler's rule until he returned recently with other American repatriates on the S.S. Gripsholm. In these articles, this New Yorker gives his impressions of Naziland in peace and war, and what it means to live as a Negro under the rule of Adolph Hitler.

NEW YORK—Prior to the Nazi occupation of the Rhineland in violation of the Treaty of Versailles, which is represented by Hitler as the source of all of Germany's evils, he (Hitler) accused France of sending colonial troops across the Rhine to "contaminate German blood" and, by so doing, of committing the crime par excellence—the crime against race. Verbally, he said: "Contaminated by contact with inferior races which it has called to its aid. The French people are destined to inevitable decay and are approximating more and more the cultural level of the Negro. In a few more centuries, a Negroid France will constitute a prodigious semi-African and semi-European state, stretching from the Rhine to the Congo."

John Welch

SOME HOLD HITLER IN CONTEMPT

In quoting these words of Hitler, which express in no uncertain words his belief in white supremacy and the subjugation of the Negro, my intention is to keep in the minds of readers, that which I have constantly tried to emphasize in earlier articles. Hitler, despite the fact that no atrocities against Negroes have been committed in Germany—does not consider the Negro as being on a par with his white brother, and, such sentiments are, from time to time, echoed by the Nazi publications. It is the people (and I DO make a distinction between the German people and those who rule them) who are not willing to accept this thesis blindly and without the "why" and "wherefore." For, within the Third Reich with its fanatical jubilance for "der Fuehrer," there is another Germany which has cloaked itself in silence. A Germany, whose hate and contempt for Adolf Hitler and all he represents, is almost as great as that of any Jew whose loved ones have been torn away from them to suffer unspeakable horrors in a Nazi concentration camp or in a ghetto in Poland—as great as the hate of any mother whose son's blood has been shed in the fight to break him—as great as that of any lover of fairness and true liberty.

CITES JESSE OWENS' TRIUMPHS

Hitler's contention that German blood was being "contaminated" by French colonial troops was simply used as a subterfuge to hide his real purpose in occupying the Rhineland. He had nourished a bitter hatred against France, since the first World War, and believing he could risk such a drastic step without the danger of retaliation by that country whose aims were definitely pacific, he marched his troops into the demilitarized zone of the Rhineland, without warning, on an early morning in the Spring of 1936.

The year 1936 was that of the Olympics, in Berlin. The German press unanimously agreed that if it weren't for the laurels captured by our colored participants, headed by Jesse Owens, who won three (or was it four?) gold medals, all by himself, America would have made a poor showing, indeed. Hitler snubbed the colored entrants, at the games. That man!!

47n

Negro Vet Won't Be Here When The Trouble Begins

Amsterdam News — New York, N. Y. 12-23-44

By JAMES CASEY

The theory that the returned Negro veteran will function as a belligerent factor in the post-war fight against discrimination was discredited this week by Dr. Alphonse Heningburg, director of the Department of Public Education for the National Urban League.

"The many people who feel that the returning Negro veteran is going to engage in any big-scale violent protest against discrimination in this country will find that theory knocked into a cocked hat," Dr. Heningburg asserted with emphasis. "No matter how bitterly this veteran may resent conditions on the home front," the Urban League official explained, "he simply will not be in the community where friction may develop."

Dr. Heningburg's forthright statements on the matter were made, Tuesday, during the course of an interview in which he pointed out certain post-war problems which are sure to develop from the simple fact that the great majority of Negro servicemen have been restricted to the non-combatant branches of the U. S. Army.

Few Combat Troops

According to a recent release from the War Department, more than a million Negro men and women have been inducted into the armed forces. Of this number, more than 700,000 are now in active service, approximately 400,000 of whom are serving overseas. The War Department release reveals that only a small percentage of these are combat troops; for the engineering branches include 133,180, while "all other" non-combatants total 408,000. 12-23-44

Stressing the significance of these figures, Dr. Heningburg quickly illustrated two reasons why they are scheduled to exert an important influence on Americans in the immediate future.

"The first reason is that Army services of a non-combatant character provides for a wide range of jobs. This means that thousands of young Negroes, who had been limited in civilian life to the most menial occupations, have become highly skilled as bakers, machinists, and ground field mechanics."

Troop Return Delayed

"The other important fact," he continued, "is that service battalions will undoubtedly return to this country at a much later date than combat troops." It would be this lateness of the Negro veteran's arrival on the American scene, he added, which would prevent such veterans from actively participating in possible inter-racial disturbances in the immediate post-war period. 12-23-44

That will not be the only important effect of the delayed return of Negro veterans to this country. "It also means," the Urban League official stated, "that even though all veterans will enjoy job priority, the Negro veteran is likely to arrive on the scene after the best jobs have been passed out."

Too Late for Job

"When this danger is considered in connection with the already expressed resistance of organized labor to giving any serious attention to permanent legislation for fair employment practices," he went on, "it can be seen that the Negro veteran is very likely to find himself minus the job that he is now being promised."

Turing his attention to the problems of veterans who may wish to settle down on the farm after the war, Dr. Heningburg warned that "When it is realized that returning veterans who wish to go into farming will have to buy land through channels controlled by white agents throughout the South, the immediate exploitation of these men can be foreseen."

Land Purchase Evils

"Unless the Federal Government establishes controls to prevent the Negro being cheated out of the money which the GI Bill-of-Rights permits him to borrow, he will be coerced into buying depleted farm lands on which even a magician couldn't raise a crop," it was pointed out. 12-23-44

If the long history of land purchase in the South repeats itself, he said, these unfortunate would-be Negro farmers will be labeled as "lazy and shiftless" because they will not be able to produce good crops under such unfavorable conditions.

USES Offices Hit

In an outspoken comment on the United States Employment Service, Dr. Heningburg declared that "As long as the 1,500 local USES offices are dominated by individuals who refuse to give Negro applicants fair clearance, the veteran who hunts a job in the city will be but little better off."

Even during the war, he asserted, these "segregated" USES offices have consistently failed to classify and refer Negro applicants on the objective basis of skill and ability.

"The whole question of the readiness of this nation to facilitate the dignified return of the Negro veteran," he said in conclusion, "may easily determine whether America can hold its place in the family of nations or can long guarantee security to any of its citizens."

Veterans

Full Benefits Requested

Pgh. Courier — Pa.

Urge Posts For Negroes In Veterans' Administration

12-2-44

WASHINGTON—If colored veterans are to benefit fully from the programs Congress has established for the care and readjustment of every returning veteran, disabled or not, the appointment of colored administrative officers in the Veterans' administration is absolutely necessary.

The Veterans' administration, with offices throughout the United States, administers the laws granting benefits to veterans and their dependents. The major benefits for veterans of World War II are: aid in securing employment, education and vocational rehabilitation, Government life insurance at favorable premium rates, medical treatment, hospital and domiciliary care, guaranty of loans for the purchase or construction of homes, farms or business, unemployment allowances, and pensions for disabled veterans and their dependents.

RESISTING EFFORTS

Key officers in the Veterans' administration are reported to be resisting efforts to effect the appointment of colored administrative officers in that agency. Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Julius A. Thomas, director of industrial relations of the National Urban league, it was learned, recently requested President Roosevelt to direct the appointment of a colored administrative officer on a policy-making level in the Veterans' administration.

The President is said to have referred them to Major General Frank T. Hines, administrator of Veterans' Affairs, who listened attentively to their proposal but made no commitment.

Representatives of the James E. Walker post of the American Legion also conferred with General Hines regarding the appointment of colored men, preferably veterans, to key positions in States which will have large numbers of colored veterans to aid in readjustment in civilian life.

These representatives reported that General Hines indicated that he will consider their request.

A spokesman for the James E. Walker post, who asked that he not be quoted, said that "knowing the general attitude of white Southerners, he believes the appointment of colored administrative officers is absolutely necessary because white officials of the Veterans' administration in Southern States will not fully inform colored veterans of their rights and will not attempt to enforce their rights for them."

The Veterans' administration operates 53 regional offices and nine area offices where claims for disability pensions and other benefits are adjudicated. In addition, 67 contact and branch offices have been authorized through the United States and there are 54 Veterans' administration hospitals where a claimant may receive aid in filing claim for a pension or other benefits. There are also 104 trained contact representatives located at Army and Navy installations to inform veterans of their rights and assist them in filing claims.

In each State there has been established a Veterans' Service committee consisting of representatives of the Selective Service system, the United States Employment service, and the Veterans administration. These committees represent the Federal Government in the States with respect to veterans.

"It is particularly desirable," said General Hines, "that persons returning from service be encouraged to seek the employment and educational advantages offered."

Veterans Council In Post War Planning Activities

Citizen-Review — Los Angeles Alabama

Incorporation Is Granted In Missouri

11-4-44

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 28.—This week two important events took place in the life of the National Council of Negro Veterans, Inc.: the appointment of a Post-War planning committee and the issuance of incorporation papers in the state of Missouri. The incorporation in Missouri followed similar action in the state of Nebraska about three weeks. The Post-War planning committee, as announced by national commander, B. H. Muldrew, consists of the following personnel: Vernon C. Coffey, chairman, Kansas City, Kansas; Molton H. Gray, Birmingham, Ala.; J. R. Booker, Little Rock, Ark.; Dr. M. C. Lewis, Kansas City, Mo., and Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago, Ill. This committee will be charged with the responsibility of mapping Post-War activities for the organization throughout the twelve states in which it operates. The scope of work of the committee will include such subjects as the training of sons and daughters of veterans in citizenship and statecraft through youth organizations conducted by the parent body; devise means and methods of cooperation with other national veterans organizations on matters of mutual interest; and to seek aid from the Veterans Administration and other federal, state and local agencies dispensing aid and service of any kind to veterans, in carrying these services to Negro veterans, especially in certain sections of the south where they are denied membership in other similar organizations. N-4-44

The need of this organization has long been recognized by veterans and their families which accounts for the rapidity with which the council is spreading into each of the 48 states. November 11 marks the beginning of the fourth year for the organization, and local councils in all states report that they are sure to have all 1944 members paid up for 1945 by that date. Little Rock, Arkansas, has the largest local council and Birmingham, Alabama, with its charter issued less than one year ago has the second largest local.

The organization has been working hard for the past several months on legislation now pending in both houses of congress, which if enacted into law will incorporate it by an act of the Congress of the United States as nation veterans organization. In our effort to push the bills out of committee and have them passed and signed into law, we have circularized the entire membership of both houses of Congress and find that most of the members who state that they will support the bill are from southern states, says National Commander Muldrew. This condition, he went on to say, is proof that many of the controversial issues between the races in those states are due to misunderstanding. When once the isms and purposes of this organization are known, no fair-minded American of either race can honestly oppose it. Ranking officials in both the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have expressed their opinion privately that the National Council of Negro Veterans fills a gap in veteran circles and offers opportunity for veterans of all groups to make their best contributions toward the winning of the war and the peace un-

membership at large
ed Forces of the United States are
For information and eligible for membership. Veterans
for membership-at- in this section are to contact John
a card or letter to Snow Edmonds at the Van Hoose
mander B. H. Mul- Funeral Home, Tuscaloosa, or
ark Avenue, Kansas Frank P. Thomas, publisher of the
Any honorably dis- CITIZEN-REVIEW.
er, sailor or marine
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hundred per cent larger than it established, membership
of was at the last convention. During is permitted. For
the expansion period, two types of application for
the first of January to perfect memberships are offered: member-at-large, address a c
plans for the second bi-annual na- ship in local councils and member-National Commander
tional convention which meets in ship-at-large. In communities
Little Rock, Ark., during August, where local councils have been es- City 1, Mo.
1945. tablished, membership must be charged soldier, sa
From all indications the mem- through local, where no local is and present membe
bership at that time will be several

Negro Veterans

Citizen-Republic Tuscaloosa 11-4-44 Citizen Republic

Word has been received that the National Council of Negro Veterans, Inc., of Kansas City, Kansas, has been incorporated in two states. While we are not in position to determine the actual financial condition of this organization, we do feel that B. H. Muldrew, the commander, and his staff should be commended for their efforts in bringing Negro veterans together. With over 100,000 Negro ex-servicemen discharged from the present conflict, it is time that someone became interested in seeing that these persons availed themselves of the liberal provisions made by our government. In the communities of the North and East, where the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars admit veterans of color, they are being cared for. Here in the South where conditions are different, there is a need for an organization to give our former fighting men the social and material benefits they deserve. This does not mean that Southern post of the Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and other groups do not help Negroes. They do but due to custom and tradition will not permit them to accept Negro members. Here in this section little is being done to encourage returning Negro Veterans to apply for the many benefits made available to them by the "G. I. Bill of Rights." Veterans of former wars should busy themselves to the extent of seeing that steps in this direction are taken immediately so that our boys now fighting will know that an opportunity awaits them upon their return.

World War II Veterans To Fight Racial Prejudice

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 11-18-44

WASHINGTON.—With a membership of 84,000 veterans of World War II admitted without regard to "race, color or creed," the newly-formed AMVETS will soon rival the American Legion, observers here predicted last week.

AMVETS claims an affiliation of 83 groups in all 48 states, and is now waiting for Congressional action on its charter which was submitted Sept. 16.

Promotion of better race relations will form a definite part of the growing veterans organization, a field neglected by the American Legion as a group.

"I feel some American traditions GI Joe has been fighting to preserve have, in the meantime, been killed here at home," declared John A. Mack, publicity chairman of AMVETS.

"I have in mind strikes, racial prejudices — about which the Legion, as a group, did nothing."

The American Legion's attitude toward this group is far from cooperative. However AMVETS' organizers state that they are in "close friendship" with the Order of the Purple Heart, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans." 11-11-44

Any enlisted man or person commissioned assigned to active duty for more than 60 days between Sept. 16, 1940 and the end of the war is eligible to membership.

Temporary Commander Elmo Keel, 30-year-old discharged vet, announced last week, "I am interested in protective legislation and security for this war's veterans and believe AMVETS, not an older organization, can best get it.

"World War II vets who joined the American Legion tell me they have a membership card and a back seat. I don't want this war's veterans organized for the sake of power alone."

New Vets Avoid Old Organizations

AFRO-American Balt., Md. 12-23-44

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Determined to have some kind of an organization for themselves, returning veterans are withholding their memberships from organizations already in existence.

While it is true that the American Legion has opened its ranks to the new veterans, they are not flocking to join up with this outfit, which many claim is prejudiced against colored veterans.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars are also opening their ranks to the new veterans but, as in the case of the Legion, the youngsters are steering clear of this organization also. 12-23-44

Fear Being Submerged

Sensing the power that such organizations wield, they are not willing to cast their lots with the existing outfits in which they would be submerged into the mass membership and would not be in a position to help formulate policy or dictate procedures.

Probably one of the strongest and least racial-minded unit is the one now being formed in New York, known as the American Veterans' Committee. It has indicated it will extend memberships to colored veterans on a full participation basis.

21,760 Negro Vets Receive Pension Aid

Tribune — Philadelphia Pa. 11-18-44

A total of 21,760 colored veterans of the present war were receiving veterans' pensions from the Veteran's Administration on August 31, 1944, for disability incurred in or aggravated by service in the armed forces, Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, announced this week. They represented 8.7 per cent of all veterans receiving such pensions.

At the same time, General Hines revealed that 334 colored veterans, disabled as a result of service in the present war, were taking vocational rehabilitation courses in educational institutions and in placement training designed to overcome the handicap of disability. These trainees represented 8.9 per cent of the total number of veterans receiving such training.

WILL ENABLE VETERANS TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO CIVILIAN LIFE

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
8-26-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The underlying principle of the recently enacted law providing Federal aid for the readjustment in civilian life of returning World War II veterans, which colored men and women who are in the armed forces or who have been honorably discharged need to understand, is that it is designed to encompass all the rights and benefits to which they are entitled. This law—the so-called "G. I. Bill of Rights"—makes unnecessary the passage of bonus legislation. The benefits provided by it are considered to be of greater advantage to veterans, at a lesser expense to the Federal Government, than could possibly be accomplished by a law giving them a bonus.

BRIDGES GAP

The Mustering-out Pay Act was intended to bridge the gap between the veteran's discharge from the armed services and the determination of his eligibility for and making of awards of benefits under existing laws. That act provides mustering-out pay of $300 for persons who have performed active service for 60 days or more, have served outside the continental limits of the United States or Alaska; $200 for persons who have performed active service of 60 days or more within the continental limits of the United States or in Alaska, and $100 for persons who have performed active service for less than 60 days. 8-26-44

Other laws now in effect pertaining to veterans' benefits include those for pensions, insurance, hospitalization and domiciliary care, medical care and treatment and vocational training and rehabilitation.

The servicemen's readjustment act of 1944 covers the entire scope of the post-war veteran re-adjustment program not previously enacted into law, excepting only the question of social security (old-age and survivors' insurance) to persons in the armed forces or the freezing of their status, if they were covered, as of the date they entered active service.

ADMINISTERS ALL BENEFITS

Title I of the act relates to procedures and other matters pertaining to hospitalization and claims of veterans. It authorizes:

1. Adequate organization of the veterans' benefits, except employment. There are approximately 1,000,000 colored men and women in the armed services. In its expansion of personnel, appointments of colored persons on a staff level should be made to concern themselves with the interests of colored service men and women, as well as to perform general administrative duties. 8-26-44

2. Adequate hospital facilities for the care and treatment of veterans for non-service-connected disabilities or diseases as well as for disabilities or diseases incurred in service. A question of policy here arises. Will other Jim-crow hospital facilities be erected for colored veterans, similar to the facility built at Tuskegee, Ala., after World War I, or will they be admitted to all facilities of the Veterans' Administration without regard to race?

3. The right of the veteran to have explained to him before discharge or release from active service all rights and benefits to which he may be entitled, and an opportunity, if he so desires, to file a claim for them. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Major Gen. Frank T. Hines, has authority to place officials and employees designated by him in Army and Navy installations to adjudicate disability claims and to give aid and advice to members of the Army and Navy who are about to be discharged or released from active service. The service of colored officials and employees should be utilized in this connection.

4. The right to adequate prosthetic appliances—artificial limbs, eyes and teeth—and necessary training to effect the greatest possible benefits in the use of such appliances.

5. Adequate safeguards as against forced statements against the interests of the veteran.

6. The Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to permit accredited representatives of veterans' organizations, certified by General Hines, to aid persons about to be discharged or released from the armed forces in the preparation and presentation of their claims for benefits. This would be in addition to the services furnished by the American Red Cross. 8-26-44

7. General Hines is authorized to review certain cases of veterans separated from active service by a dishonorable discharge or a discharge for certain causes generally considered as constituting dishonorable conditions, and upon his determination that the person was insane at the time the offense was committed, he may authorize benefits otherwise payable under the law.

8. The Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to establish boards of review with authority, upon request of a former officer or enlisted person, to consider the type and nature of discharge or dismissal, except by sentence of court-martial, and upon the facts found, to change, correct, or modify such discharge or dismissal. No request for review will be valid unless filed within 15 years after the date of separation or 15 years after the effective date of the servicemen's re-adjustment act.

GI TODAY IS CITIZEN TOMORROW

Informer — Houston, Texas
8-26-44

Among the many things that we should discuss with soldiers when they are on their three-day passes and furloughs and in our letters to them are matters concerning their post war plans and alterations in their rights and privileges during their absence. This does not infer that soldiers do not read, and are not conversant with what is taking place while they are serving their country. The above statement is made with a ense of the obligation that we have to these absent ones as guardians of their welfare here on the home front.

Two of the postwar subjects that are uppermost in the minds of servicemen are employment and education. We are therefore obligated to learn all that we can about the possibilities of employment, how veterans compensation will be handled, and what educational assistance can be expected by those whose education was interrupted by service in the armed forces. 8-26-44

GI Bill of Rights

Under the GI Bill of Rights, every veteran under the age of 25 at the time of induction, or with education interrupted by service in the armed forces is entitled to one or four years of training in whatever academic or technical institution he chooses. Under the Disabled Veterans Act, provisions are made to train those who can prove a vocational handicap. Churches, Clubs, fraternities and similar organizations would do well to give some of their attention to disseminating information to the parents and wives of service men who will need as much help as possible in effecting a proper adjustment after the war.

GI Voting Rights

Many service men do not know whether they can vote, or not. Those of us on the home front who are trying to keep abreast of the gradual changes in the extension of the privilege of using the ballot to those who have been denied its use in some sections; should not forget the men and women who are in service. Each service man and woman should be reminded to ask the commanding officer of his or her unit what one must do to secure an absentee ballot. If the commanding officer cannot give the information, or does not have the form, a ballot can be secured from the Secretary of State. 8-26-44

Voting will be a new experience for some soldiers whose states have had laws which barred them from the polls. Negroes in the states in question are learning with startling rapidity that they must use the right to vote to its maximum degree. This means that the more quickly these in the armed forces who were heretofore unaccustomed to voting get acquainted with its rewards and obligations; the better off they will be.

Army Prepares Negro Soldiers For Wartime Rehabilitation

Age — New York, N.Y.
8-26-44

HOLABIRD SIGNAL DEPOT, Baltimore, Maryland. — The U. S. Army Leads the Way In Education — Wartime Rehabilitation. The United States Army has long been known to be open to new ideas. One of these new theories is being put into practice successfully at the Holabird Signal Depot, Baltimore, Maryland, by the 1342 Service Unit, Special Training Unit, which has been operating there since September, 1943. This unit has been doing splendid work in its mission of making men more useful to the Army ,while, at the same time, fitting them for more rewarding work in the world of tomorrow. Although the United States has without question one of the world's greatest educational system, there are still men who, due to unfortunate circumstances, have not had their share of educational benefits. It is the rehabilitation of these men which concerns the 1342 SU-STU. This unit is a school for illiterate Negroes who cannot meet the army's minimum standard of education which is set at the fourth grade level. A maximum of twelve weeks' time is allowed to bring these men from the stage of total illiteracy to the required leevl, although the average time required is only eight weeks. The course is covered in five grade levels: IA, I, II, III IV. The IA level was added after it was found that many men need orientation to prepare them for the subjects undertaken in level I. 8-26-44

These are men who in many cases have been holding well-paying jobs in civilian life—men who have families and responsibilties which they have been meeting despite the handicap of illiteracy. Therefore, throughout the course, and especially at its beginning, their interest and motivation must be stimulated and maintained by means of graphic examples which show how education will help them become better soldiers and citizens. Also, there is the additional obstacle of embarrassment over having reached a mature age without learning the fundamentals of the three R's. Great credit for the mental conditioning of these men, therefore, goes to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and civilian instructors of the unit.

The 1342 SU-STU is ably commanded by Lt. Col. Joshua W. Davis who is assisted by a staff of officers who have been selected because of their specialized training and experience. Captain Reginal DeVaux, officer in charge of Plans and Training, directs and assists his company officers in all their problems. His work is clarified by complete statistical information about each man, each class and the entire school. All of the officers are working as a team for the success ,not only of the school, but also of each individual soldier under their supervision. With the exception of the officers, the entire 1342 SU-STU staff of instructors some of whom are non-commissioned officers and some civilian instructors, is composed of Negroes. They come from the country's finiest universities and many are ,holders of advanced degrees and all have had years of previous teaching experience. 8-26-44

Teaching Methods Differ

The school is not conducted along the lines of the usual elementary school with which we are familiar. Since the instructors are dealing with adults who are already familiar with the language, the subjects can be approached differently. Also, the theory of learning the whole first, and of then taking up its component parts, is being used only lightly because of the need for goes hand in hand with the school class is studying reading, it may be learning writing, arithmetic, and In fact, it is the intention mlitary terms at the same time. school to teach all subjects In levels IA and I, five weeks are tion to their military use by spent learning the basic fundamentdier. For example, while a als of reading and writing. The mar and spelling are touched upon The military instruction of the men the soldier.

SOLDIERS RECOVER RAPIDLY IN REHABILITATION CENTER

8-26-44

8-26-44 — New York, N.Y.

sounds of the vowel and cnsonant combinations which make up simple words are associated with the appearance of the written letters in both script and printing. From this it is a short step to the actual reading of short sentences and then to writing a post card home. Later short letters are attempted as the soldiers progress in their study of the Army Reader, a practical book designed for the course and filled with approprite visual aids. All the examples and terms undertaken are those that are seen and heard daily in army life, and there is a constant effort to show how each new bit of information will be of practical value in the service.

In levels II, III, and IV, reading and writing are carried to completion and arithmetic is introduced. Again by use of practical examples, such as learning how to make up personal expense accounts, the incentive to learn is created. All the subjects plus military training are coordinated and presented as a whole. When learning to read, the words and text are military in nature and problems in arithmetic are expressed in terms of guns and men instead of apples. Half of each day is spent in the classroom; the rest of the time is spent in marching on the drill field, attending military lectures, receiving rifle instruction, and in becoming familiar, in general, with all aspects of basic training.

8-26-44

To help put across the material, the instructors have all types of training aids at their disposal. Posters, drawings, "flash" cards, film slides and motion pictures are all used extensively and most of the material is created in the unit's own complete art shop. Any idea that an instructor has may be developed and put into practice at once. The War Department in Washington, D C., publishes a special war news bulletin for these special training units called "Our War." It gives the news in simple language and uses many pictures and cartoon strips to encourage the men to read.

8-26-44

Well-Chosen Personnel

The non-commissioned officers of the unit and carefully selected civilian government employees comprise the staff of instructors. The civilian instructors, before beginning their teachng, must take a thorough orientation course to familiarize themselves with the military aspect of the school and its principles. Therefore the student always receives the course from the military viewpoint, whether he is taught by a soldier or a civilan. For men in the army, army life itself is naturally the primary interest and the greatest motivating force of the soldier student.

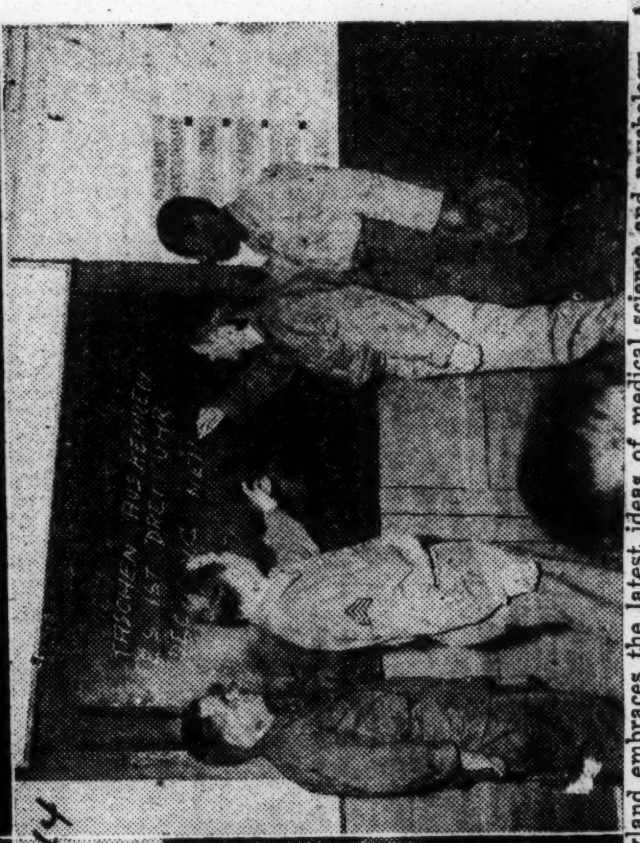
This is not an eductaional assembly line created to push men through quickly by merely tightening the nuts and bolts of their education. The first consideration of the instructor is the individual, and for that reason classes are limited to only six or eight men. Whenever a man's work shows that he is not on the same level as the rest of his class, either above or below, he is shifted to a class where he can progress with his fellow students. Individual problems are many but no effort is spared to help the student adjust to this new life.

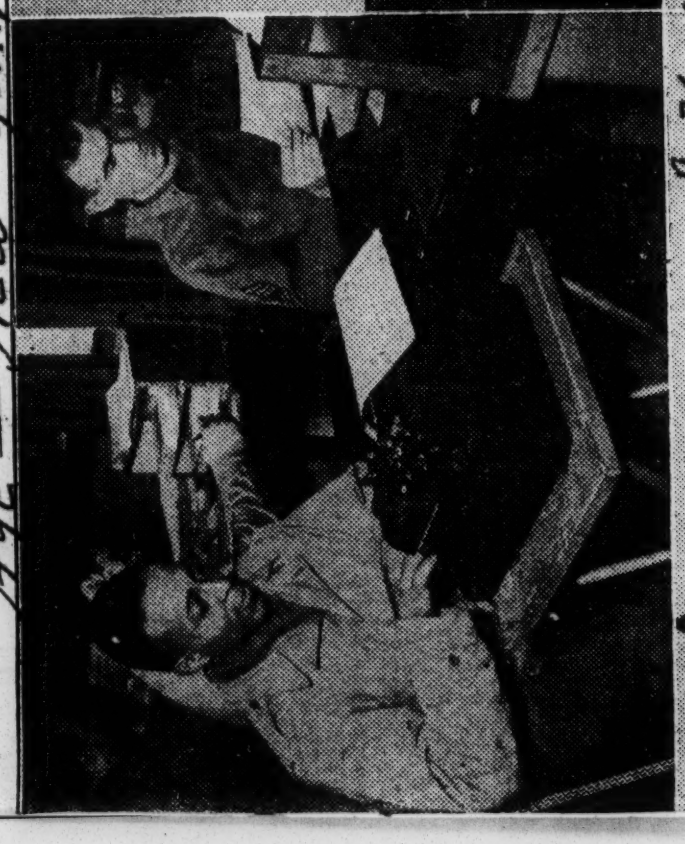
The visitors' lounge, the company day rooms, and the unit theatre provide fine recreational facilities for the men. Here, too, the motif of training is to be found in the provision of newspapers, magazines, and war news displays which encourage the men to use some of their leisure time in trying out their new educational wings.

Many men have been through this school since it was first organized and letters they have written to their former instructors attest to its success. Most men go from Holabird to a regular army basic training camp, but because of his education and military training, the former student may quickly become a non-commissioned officer. This is not unusual for the exceptional student.

8-26-44

Without the training provided by the army, these Negro soldiers would be fit only for army labor battalions, and in civilian life the handicap of illiteracy would always keep them in the laboring class despite natural potentialities. The army, therefore, is opening new fields of endeavor to these men, and they respond by showing appreciation and eagerness to acceps the training. The officers, non-commissioned officers, and civilian instructors of the unit are all vitally interested in this project and are convinced that it should be continued after the war. Naturally changes would have to be made to provide for removal of the military aspect, but it is evident that the approach now being used would also be successful in civilian adult education. In fact, it is believed that many of the ideas could readily be modified to serve in the elementary schools, since they would not only accelerate the educational tempo, but would also make it possible to teach a greater number of studies and to give a greater understanding of their relationship, one to another. Practical application of these new theories, as they function with the 1342 SU-STU at the Holabird Signal Depot, Baltimore, Maryland, is pointing the way to important future achievements in the field of education.





8-26-44

The program followed in a U. S. Rehabilitation Center in England embraces the latest ideas of medical science and psychology. As a result, about 70 per cent of the patients, or "trainees" as they are called, are returned to field duty within 60 days. Upper left photo: GIs working in the headquarters of the hospital—left to right, Pvt. Walter D. Seawright, of Cleveland, Ohio, and T/Sgt. Charles Urksta. Upper right: Pvt. Claude Huey, of Birmingham, Ala. (left), and Pvt. Russell Cocklin, of Stockton, Calif., at work in a Morse code class. Lower left: A class receives instructions in dismantling the .30 calibre machine-gun. Holding the barrel is Cpl. Oscar Williams, of Baltimore, Md. Lower right: Trainees receiving instructions in the German language—left to right, Pfc. Bonnie Hughes, of Biddleport, Ohio; Sgt. Morris Hellman, of Philadelphia; T/Sgt. Litton Thomas, of Crossville, Tenn., and Pfc. Leroy Chatman, of Baldwin, Md. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photos.)

47n-1944

Veteran Rehabilitation

ARMY REJECTIONS AND WHITE SUPREMACY

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

A study of the rejections by the Army because of educational and mental deficiencies, just published by the American Teachers Association, completely destroys the myth of "white supremacy." The American Teachers Association is a professional organization of teachers of Negro children and of educators interested in achieving equal opportunity for all American children, regardless of sectional or racial differences. 9-16-44

Here are some of the findings of the committee of five eminent educators who conducted the survey:

Up to September 1, 1943, a total of 341,200 registrants were rejected for military service because of educational deficiency, namely, lack of ability "to read and write the English language as well as a student who has completed four years in an American grammar school."

A direct relationship was found between rates of rejections for educational and mental deficiencies and the per capita expenditures for schooling in each state.

Annual state expenditures for education vary from $157 per pupil in New York City to $7 per Negro pupil in Mississippi. Rejection rates for failure to meet minimum "intelligence" or educational standards were lowest in those states with the highest per capita expenditures, and vice versa.

Selective Service figures in one southern area showed that about 4 per cent of the white registrants and about 25 per cent of the Negroes had not completed one year of elementary schooling. 9-16-44

The Negro rejection rate for educational deficiency was generally much higher than the white rate North and South, mainly owing to lesser education opportunities for Negroes in most areas of the country and to the fact that a large percentage of northern Negroes are recent migrants from the South.

The figures reveal an alarmingly low educational level for southern whites as well as southern Negroes. The rejection of white selectees in South Carolina was four times as high as the rate of Negro rejections in Illinois. Rep. Andrew May of Kentucky, who successfully barred the pamphlet "The Races of Mankind," from the armed forces because it exposed the fallacy of "white supremacy," will have to work overtime to keep these facts from getting into the wrong hands.

It is an indictment to the "American Way of Life" when statistics show that the rejections for educational requirement alone cost the Army 15 full divisions, and that in America today there are over 10,000,000 adult illiterates. 9-16-44

Selective Service has shown that better schooling is a nation-wide and not a local problem. A selectee rejected in Georgia for illiteracy means the drafting of another skilled man or a father in New York. Federal aid together with federal planning is the only solution to this sordid condition. Phony states rights issues must not be allowed to defeat measures that will better educate America.

Specially Trained By Famous Guerilla Chief

Gold Coast Independent — Accra, Gold Coast, West Africa

4-29-44

A Well- kept secret of the Burma war has been made public with the announcement that West African troops have taken part in the air borne invasion of Burma and are now operating from allied strongholds miles behind the Jap lines.

The troops who were specially asked for by the late Major-General Wingate, are mostly Nigerians and unknown to themselves were assigned to their important role even before their ships sailed from West Africa some months ago.

On arrival in India the men of this formation separated from their comrades who are now in the Arakan, and proceeded to a special training area somewhere in India. Here under the direct supervision of the late Major-General Wingate they were trained along with other allied troops for the arduous tasks involved in their special role. An especially high standard of physical fitness was demanded of both Africans and Europeans and it can safely be said that the men who have flown into Burma in this daring expedition are amongst the fittest and best trained that West Africa can produce.

4-29-44

That they were destined for "something different" was soon evident after their arrival in the special training area. Supplies of the most modern equipment came forward in almost unlimited quantity and the men, although already trained in jungle warfare before leaving West Africa, were taught the lessons of long range jungle penetration, learned in the Wingate expedition of last year.

4-29-44

Particular attention was paid to physical endurance, and long and tiring marches were undertaken on the minimum of rations. An amusing story is told of a West African infantry man who, on being handed his 'K' ration for the first time, poured the entire contents — tea, sugar, chocolate, chewing gum etc., into a mess tin with some water, consumed the lot and said it was fine'.

The news that their brothers were in action in the Arakan spurred the men of this formation on to greater efforts and when they finally left by train for their long journey across India to their Eastern air base, spirits and enthusiasm were high An officer who was present when the men entered their troop carrying planes for the final move into Jap territory said that they were much less excited with what was, to nearly all of them their first air trip than they were with the prospect of at last getting to grips with the enemy whom they had come so many miles to fight. Even the mules who have accompanied the men right across India and for whom they have a profound attachment seemed to realize the importance of the occasion and behaved themselves perfectly.

4-29-44

47o-1944

Repatriates

Two Scholars Flee Concentration Camp

Modern Damon and Pythias Story Revealed as Men Reach 92nd Lines . .

New Englander, who went abroad to study in 1938, says he refused two chances to return to America because his friend was denied clearance. Pair put in concentration camp following German occupation of Italy. Former students tell of being placed in solitary confinement because the Dane refused to leave his American buddy to work in Germany. Say Nazis took identification papers.

WON'T BE SEPARATED: *Reed Peggram, Harvard graduate, and inseparable Danish friend say they want only a place where they can work together in peace.*

By MAX JOHNSON, AFRO War Correspondent

WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY (By Cable)—A modern Damon and Pythias, in the persons of a colored Harvard University graduate and his inseparable Danish friend, stumbled through the 92nd frontlines with a harrowing tale of escape after two years in Italian and German concentration camps. One gave his name as Reed E. Peggram of Dorchester, Mass. The other said he was Gerdh Hauftman of Copenhagen, Denmark. Ragged and near collapse from hunger and fatigue, the two met an advanced patrol led by Lt. James Young, Buffalo, N.Y., near a town on the 5th Army front.

Their rescue ended a long hike through rains and snows over the difficult Apennine mountains.

Whether their troubles are now over is undetermined at this writing because neither has documentary evidence to establish his identity. Following their assertion that such papers had been taken by Nazi captors, the Army criminal investigation commission here began conducting a check.

Whether authorities will allow the pair to remain together as they so fervently desire is also undetermined.

Happy as Two Kids

I met the pair shortly after they came through the 5th Army frontlines. Both wore ill-fitting clothing given them by Lieutenant Young and Italian partisans but they were as happy as two boys with Christmas gifts.

Peggram, who is brown skin and slight of build, with an erect carriage, speaks with a decidedly British accent. Hauftman is a thin blonde with a scholarly appearance.

Speak Five Languages

Both speak five languages including English, French, German, Italian, and Danish. Peggram taught Hauftman English, and he, in turn, taught Danish. They learned Italian together, and both knew German and French previously.

I shall repeat chronologically the story of their experiences which they said came because they had bonds of friendship so strong that even the Nazis were unable to break them.

Peggram said he graduated from Harvard in 1935, got his M.A. there the following year in comparative literature, and studied further at Columbia University. He said he came overseas in 1938 on a Rosenwald fellowship and attended the University of Paris.

There, he said, he met Hauftman, a student in the same field, and the two continued research in Copenhagen. In 1940, and then came to Italy with the intention of returning to America together.

Refuse to Be Separated

Authorities wouldn't allow Hauftman clearance because Denmark was under Germany and the latter country was then at war. Peggram refused to return alone and refused a second time when similar opportunity came in 1942 while the two were still in Italy.

The pair were then in desperate circumstances because their funds were exhausted except for a joint account of $1200 banked in Lisbon, Portugal, which they couldn't get for authorities refused to allow American money to be brought into the country.

They lived in Italy on a Swiss Legation allowance of 1000 lire ($50) a month for a while and then in 1943 the Italian government allowed them eight lire (40 cents) a day. They couldn't obtain work because there was a law forbidding foreigners employment unless given permission by certain State officials.

Sent to Concentration Camp

Following the German occupation of Italy late in 1943, the two were sent to a concentration camp at Bagni Di Lucca in the vicinity of Pistoia, Italy, along with Jewish prisoners. They were held there until Allied planes gunned the camp in January, 1944, and the site was moved.

Peggram said the most amazing feature was that Germans termed him as Aryan because of his Catholic faith and both received better treatment than other prisoners. He added that officials were apologetic for his detention, occasionally explaining it had to be done because the two were prisoners of war.

Tell of Escape

In March of this year, the two friends were shifted to various camps throughout Italy, ending with their sudden release by rescue partisans in the vicinity of the town of Piacenza just after being put in solitary confinement by the Nazis because Hauftman refused to leave Peggram to work in Germany.

Peggram said officials wouldn't ask him to go, stating their reason as "You are American."

Still behind German lines the pair remained with partisans until some weeks ago when they started for American lines. The two said they traveled at night, hiding in barns, woods, and friendly partisan homes during the day until finally their break-through came. The only resistance came just before this when Germans sighted and machine-gunned them, but neither was hit.

Heard from Home in 1941

Peggram said he last heard from home in 1941 when he then had a grandmother, Mrs. Laura Reed, in Dorchester, and a mother, Mrs. Mary Farrer, in Bayonne, N.J.

He said he believed he was heir to $11,000 according to notification left in 1941 by Monteford Variell, Harvard graduate of New York, but wouldn't come to America to investigate if it meant leaving Hauftman. . . . . .

The manuscripts of both scholars, including Peggram's fellowship work, are said to be buried in a German-held village in Italy.

Peggram said that they both knew Actress Valaida Snow from association in Copenhagen, and Dr. Beryl Orris, of Chicago.

When I asked whether they wanted to return to America, Peggram said, "We are not principally concerned with going to America. We only want to go some place where we can be assured remaining together to work in peace."

Woman, Two Daughters Leave Nazi Prison After 19 Months

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Nineteen months in a German prison camp is the experience of Mrs. Ida Johnson, wife of Frederick Johnson, well known Harlem pianist, and her two daughters, Jacqueline, 18, and Marilyn, 17. Mrs. Johnson and her daughters were en route to America recently via Liverpool aboard a Swedish Red Cross ship.

The separation of the Johnson family occurred when the Germans overran Holland in 1940. Johnson, who was playing in the leading night spots of the Hague, the Dutch capital, was made a prisoner of war when America declared war against Germany. He was the first of the family to be imprisoned.

Prior to America's declaration of war against Germany, the Johnsons were allowed their freedom. Her daughters were permitted to continue their education at a Dutch High School, Mrs. Johnson said, until that time and her husband continued to play with his orchestra in fashionable Dutch cafes. There was no jimcrow in the Dutch capital, Mrs. Johnson declared.

SENT TO CAMP

When her husband was arrested by Germans, she and her daughters were sent to an interment camp for females at Amersfoort in Holland and later transferred to another prison camp at Liebenau in Germany near the Swiss border, Mrs. Johnson recalled. Life in the latter camp was better than in the Amersfoort camp, she said, as the Lieubenau camp, formerly an asylum for lunatics, was supervised by nuns but guarded by German soldiers.

Mrs. Johnson described the Lieubenau camp as having about 4,000 female war prisoners of British, French, Dutch, Poles, American and other national groups. Situated near the Swiss Alps, health conditions in the camp were very good and the nuns gave the place a Christian and humane atmosphere, which had the effect of keeping the German guards in their places.

However, there were many romances between some of the female internes and the guards, Mrs. Johnson revealed. The guards were the only men the women saw during their entire period of imprisonment with the exception of the prison doctor and one or two clergymen, who conducted weekly services.

Parties, dances, concerts were frequently staged, Mrs. Johnson remarked, adding that the inmates were allowed to walk about freely over the vast and spacious grounds of the camp and were even allowed to organize their own forms of recreation. The Britishers organized Empire day celebrations and the Americans, Independence day, she declared.

She praised the British and American Red Cross for keeping them supplied regularly with food, clothing, cigarets and other comforts, which arrived about twice weekly. The American women shared their boxes with anti-Fascists and allied soldier-prisoners who were working on German farms near the camp.

This was accomplished by a pre-arranged plan between the women and the war prisoners, Mrs. Johnson revealed. The prisoners would send one of their party to spots outside the camp and when the German guards were not looking the women would drop boxes of food and cigarets over the camp wall.

One wman was caught dropping food but was not punished, Mrs. Johnson said, as she was about to be repatriated with other Americans, but the Germans severely punished the men found with the boxes.

Woman, Daughters Leave Nazi Prison After 9 Months

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Nineteen months in a German prison camp is the experience of Mrs. Ida Johnson, wife of Frederick Johnson, well known Harlem pianist, and her two of war against Germany, the Johnsons were allowed their freedom. Her daughters, Jacqueline, 18, and Marilyn, 17, who came back to of the family to be imprisoned. Prior to that time, the John

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12-16-44

Prison Camp Romances

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I Lived

Pgh. Courier — Pa.

5-27-44

12 YEARS UNDER HITLER

By JOHN WELCH

(Exclusively to The Pittsburgh Courier)

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the sixth of a series of articles by John Welch, American pianist, who, going to Germany before the Nazis took over, lived for 12 years under Hitler's rule until he returned recently with other American repatriates on the S.S. Gripsholm.

NEW YORK—Germany followed the conflict between Italy and Abyssinia with a certain amount of reserve, flavored with a touch of irony. She was not in the least bit alarmed at Italy's colonial ambitions. Germany had ambitions of her own. The Nazi press took certain pacifists to task who were crying out for sanctions against Italy, forgetting that that country's act of aggression was not more than all colonizing people had permitted themselves any number of times. Little sympathy was shown for the Abyssinian cause. In fact, the newspapers were inclined to minimize the stubborn resistance which the Italian troops had to face at every turn. In Berlin the man on the street sang a different tune. Many people with whom I spoke were less reserved and often used the remarks of biting sarcasm when referring to Italy and the comparatively slow progress her troops were making, considering the modern devices of war at their disposal.

John Welch

Italy's final conquest of Ethiopia, which, by menacing English domination in the Mediterranean caused the first break between the two countries, placed Germany in a rather favorable position, by diverting the attention of the rest of the world for a moment from Hitler, who, up to that time, was the first to throw pebbles into the apparent calm of the European pool of politics.

RECOGNIZED ITALIAN CONQUEST

Germany was the first country to recognize the Italian King as Emperor of Ethiopia, and the Italian Foreign Minister, Count Ciano, who visited Hitler after the annexation of Ethiopia, was the first to hear of this friendly gesture. He little suspected that his host would one day be his murderer. Count Ciano, who later became Mussolini's son-in-law, was suspected of having negotiated with the present Badoglio Government and was among those high Italian officials who were executed at Hitler's command, just a few months ago.

Meanwhile, Nazi pressure against Jews increased, from day to day. Certain benches in the parks were painted yellow, with the words, "Nun fur Juden" (only for Jews) printed on them. The movies, theatres and libraries were closed to them, and many restaurants, cafes, beer gardens and even shops had signs on the entrances, "Judenist der Ientritt verboten." (Jews are not permited to enter). All books and literature of Jewish authorship were confiscated and burned publicly, not excluding the works of Heine, one of the great German poet-philosophers. The music of Mendelssohn, Offenbach and all other composers of Jewish blood, was no longer allowed to be performed in public. It was forbidden for Jewish doctors to treat Aryan patients. I am sure the Aryans suffered the most through this latter prohibition!

A BEER PARLOR INCIDENT

5-27-44

Then came the time when Jews were deprived of their radios. They were simply ordered to give up their sets at the nearest police station. Still later, all electrical devices, such as vacuum cleaners, electric irons, stoves and refrigerators were confiscated. They were no longer allowed to keep dogs, cats, canaries or any house pets. In short, everything from which they might derive some little pleasure, was denied them.

One evening I was in my favorite beer garden when two fellows sauntered up to the bar where I was standing and ordered some drinks. That they were Nazis I recognized by the party button pinned on their lapels. One turned to the other and said "Ein Neger," which in German means "a Negro." The words, themselves, were nothing to be offended about; it was the tone in which they were spoken. I turned to him and asked what he meant, whereupon he answered rather innocently that he had said nothing pertaining to me. I told him my organs of hearing were very good and that they were never disposed to playing tricks on me and I advised him either to drink his beer quietly, or to scram. Both drank their beer quietly—and scrammed. I ran into these two chaps about a week later, or, I'd better say, they ran into me! Space doesn't permit the completion of this little incident. today, but I shall finish it in the next issue.

470-1944

Linwood Walker, Jr., Blind Marine, Receives Readjustment Training In Navy's Program

Age — New York, N.Y.

12-23-44

By MARY E. FINGER

The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind recently inaugurated a new policy in cooperation with the Bureau of Medicine of the U. S. Navy Rehabilitation Division—that of readjusting lives of Marines and Navy personnel who suddenly find themselves in a world of darkness. This program is designed to give wounded returning heroes a two-weeks course in scientific methods of determining their manual dexterity and mental aptitudes.

Last week six boys were transferred from the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia, to the Institute to undergo a two weeks training period. In this group was one Negro, Marine Platoon Sergeant Linwood Walker, Jr., a twenty-one year old youth who was blinded on August 4th, while serving with an amphibious unit at Saipan. The lad, who has developed a sense of humor about his affliction, was majoring in social administration at Ohio State College, prior to his induction two years ago. His plan is to continue in that feild as a social worker and he will return to Ohio State as soon as he receives his discharge papers.

Jokes About His Blindness

During an interview last Wednesday at the Institute, Walker said that he has resigned himself to his present condition, and is trying to carry on as if nothing has happened. When he was asked to explain how he became blind, he laughed and said "That's a joke".

"What's a joke", I asked.

He answered, "My blindness! I was just minding my own business, that's the joke of it. I was with three other boys and we came upon a booby trap. The others weren't hurt, just me. That's the joke. That's why I can get such a kick out of it."

12-23-44

"What was your first reaction when you realized you were blind", I asked?

Walker again laughed and replied, "I knew I was blind when I fell to my knees, and I decided then to make the best of it." He continued by saying "everything happens to me on the first. I was shipped overseas the first of June, got hurt the first of August, returned to the States around September first, became a patient at Naval Hospital on October first and finally arrived in New York on December first."

The Ohio marine expressed a keen desire to be with his fighting buddies in the Pacfic. He praised his comrades for the magnificent job they are doing inspite of the difficulties they are forced to undergo. He made it clear that color lines disappear when Jap bombs begin to fall. The only thing counts is the rattle of machine guns.

Linwood Walker who can see blurry figures at a distance of a few feet, remarked that it is quite disgusting to the boys who return home and find the people complacent about the war.

Walker showed great enthusiasm in the work being accomplished by the New York Institute for the Education of the Blind. The building, which serves high school and elementary pupils, has a student population of 200, including 21 Negroes.

12-23-44

Since Walker came to the school he has been given many aptitude tests and attended classes. Part of the day's work is to observe the methods being taught other blind students and their progress. The evening hours are spent visiting local places of interest.

Dr. Clarence Athearn, director of research at the Institute, stressed the fact that discrimination is completely missing. He said that students of all nationalities work and live together harmoniously. At social functions couples of mixed groups dance together. "There's no discrimination among the blind," he said.

Several years ago a young Negro fellowship student attending Columbia University served as a practice teacher. "The school is anxious to have qualified teachers of any nationality, creed or color, to serve on its faculty", Dr. Athearn told The New York Age. The Institute is located at 999 Pelham Parkway, the Bronx.

Veterans

ALABAMA CITIZEN - Tuscaloosa

CHARLES ORR'S APPOINTMENT ALA.

We hail the appointment of our friend Charles Orr, former principal of the Industrial High School and president of the Alabama Teachers Association, to the State Veterans Educational Advisory Committee as a forward step. The placing of a Negro in a responsible position on a committee charged with the task of seeing that ample educational facilities are available to the thousands of Alabamians now serving on our far-flung battle fields, gives us more assurance that Negro veterans will get their share of training opportunities. Of all the many provisions of the "G. I. Bill of Rights" none should have greater attraction for the Negro than those providing an opportunity for further study. We hope that Mr. Orr's committee will use its power to make these liberal training offers as attractive as possible so that veterans of all educational levels will be encouraged to re-enter the classroom. We hope that through this means that hundreds who were limited to hard, laborious labor by the lack of proper training will be helped so that they can earn a decent living. We hope that many whose educational deficiencies have made them burdens of society will be re-trained as dependable upright citizens. We are confident that Mr. Orr will use his influence to see that no stone is left unturned in the effort to re-educate our returning fighters. His brilliant record as a student and educator assures us that all possible consideration will be given our group.

11-25-44

Veterans

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12-23-44

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Full Integration Of Negroes In Program Viewed

Daily World - Atlanta Ga

Urge Immediate Passage Of Bill Protecting Race

12-10-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The existence of a new veterans' organization which is committed to the full integration of Negroes was revealed by Capt. Grant Reynolds, former army chaplain, whose outspoken interest in the welfare of Negro soldiers and veterans led to his honorable discharge from the Army. Capt. Reynolds was the luncheon guest speaker of the Capital Press Club last week.

The new organization is the American Veterans' Committee with headquarters in New York City. Reynolds has been invited to become a member of the organization's Planning Committee, which he has accepted.

12-10-44

In correspondence with the new organization, Reynolds was advised by Charles Bolte, head of the group, that the Planning Committee is in complete sympathy with his views that problems facing the Negro veteran are for all to solve. He declared the organization ready to demonstrate its good faith with Negro veterans by full integration.

URGE BILL PASSAGE

The organization is recommending to its Washington Committee that they urge immediate passage of Senate bill 2992 which would make it a federal crime to assault or kill a man in the uniform of the United States Army, Navy or Marine Corps. It is prepared to go to the bat against cases of unjust imprisonment of Negro soldiers growing out of discriminatory practices of the Armed Services. It is in accord with the view that a qualified Negro should be appointed administrator of Veterans Affairs in the government.

Reynolds believes, however, that there is still a need for a national lobby to work with these veterans organizations. He does not want to see Negroes return to a segregated veterans organization, however. He has organized such a lobby, called the National Council for Abolition of Discrimination in Military and Veterans' Affairs.

TO STUDY LAW

12-10-44

Unfortunately, he says, he will not be able to head up the council. He plans to return to school in February to study law. "There are going to be a lot of problems after the war for Negro veterans which the Church cannot solve," he declared.

"Unless we are alert and press our national legislature and get the President to take the lead in establishing racial accord, we are going to have blood flowing in the streets of American cities," he said.

21,760 Negro Veterans Of This War Are Now Receiving Veterans' Pensions As Disabled

Age - New York, N.Y.

New York Age

A total of 21,760 Negro veterans of the present war were receiving veterans' pensions from the Veterans Administration on August 31, 1944, for disability incurred in or aggravated by service in the armed forces, Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, announced this week. Negro recipients represented 8.7 per cent of all veterans receiving such pensions.

At the same time, General Hines revealed that 334 Negro veterans, disabled as a result of service in the present war, were taking vocational rehabilitation courses in educational institutions and in placement training designed to overcome the handicap of disability. These trainees represent 9.7 per cent of the total number of veterans receiving such training.

The training program for disabled veterans has been getting off to a slow start, General Hines said, because of excellent employment opportunities available to veterans in war production industries. Of the 184,000 disabled Negro and White veterans notified of eligibility, 150,000 have not applied. Only 34,000 applications for training benefits had been received through October 1, 1944, and more than half of this number have either been deferred or denied.

11-25-44

During the fiscal year of 1944, a total of 21,699 Negro veterans were admitted to Veterans Administration institutions for hospitalization or domiciliary care.

Many of the 21,699 veterans who received hopsital care during the fiscal year were in hospitals for only a few weeks. A large percentage of them returned to active duty or to civilian life.

General Hines pointed out that more than 80 per cent of the claims filed for disability pensio have been adjusted, and that this currency is due largely to the establishment last spring of nine area offices, which have adjudicated more than 100,000 pension claims made by veterans of the present war.

The Veterans Administration has at present 94 hospitals containing 89,000 beds of all types. This capacity will be increased by 20,000 beds during the next eighteen months. In addition to this, construction of 23,000 additional beds has been approved, which should give a total of 132,000 veterans' beds during 1947.

Veterans Of Present War Organize To Kill Racial Prejudice

The Whip - Miami, Fla.

11-26-44

WASHINGTON (PPNS)—While American soldiers abroad are fighting to vanquish Hitlerism and restore peace to a weary world, veterans of the present global conflict are organizing to combat un-American practices on the home front. A sesuel to the American Legion of World War 1 has been created with the formation of the AMVETS, which is a group pledged to fight strikes, racial prejudices and to preserve "here at home" American traditions that GI Joe is fighting for on foreign soil.

An impressive membership of 84,000 bespeaks of the determination of men who have fought and shed blood for a common cause to bring about more amiable relation between the races and equal opportunities regardless of "race, color or creed." The AMVETS shall operate entirely independent of the American Legion, which, according to AMVETS organizers, has not expressed any desire to cooperate with the newly formed organization.

11-25-44

A minimum of 60 days active service in the armed forces since Sept. 16, 1940, is required by those seeking membership.

80,444 Veterans Of 2 Wars Placed By USES

New York Age N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A total of 80,444 placements of veterans of the last war and the present war volving disabled veterans whose skills, attitudes and experiences made them to perform many was made during September through offices of the United States Employment Service, announced Friday by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the Manpower Commission. Of the total number of jobs found during the month, 60,064 were for veterans of this war, these total Mr. McNutt said, and 10,892 placements in-12,492 were for service men with disabilities.

Colored Officials Needed to Protect Veterans' Rights

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
11-25-44

WASHINGTON

Nomination of Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, to be also Retraining and Re-employment Administrator indicates that he will be the dominant official in the administration of laws pertaining to re-employment of veterans.

The Retraining and Re-employment Adminsitration was created within the Office of War Mobilization by Executive order on February 24. Congress, however, was convinced of the necessity of maintaining this agency and in the War Mobilization and Reconversion Act gave it legal sanction.

Co-ordinating Agency

Its functions are to supervise and co-ordinate the activities of all government agencies relating to the retraining and re-employment of veterans and persons released from war work, and to develop programs for the adequate care of veterans.

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act, known as the G.I. Bill of Rights, provides for these services for veterans to be administered by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

Since General Hines is to head both agencies, the necessity for the appointment of competent colored personnel at staff levels to participate in the formulation of policies and the direction of activities becomes all the more apparent.

11-25-44

Efforts So Far Futile

Efforts to effect such appointments have been made but to no avail. Key officials in the Veterans' Administration, it was learned, have taken the position that theirs is not a new agency, but an old one which has demonstrated its ability to escape criticism of unfairness from colored people.

No colored oicial has served in the Veterans' Administration since 1924, when Dr. J. R. A. Crossland was transferred from Washington to the Tuskegee Veterans' Hospital.

The same persons who established this jim-crow hospital and have operated this agency without aid or advice from colored persons are still running the Veterans' Administration and resisting the appointment of colored persons to administrative positions.

11-25-44

Assistants Needed

In addition to positions as assistants to the Administrator of Veterans' Affair and the Retraining and Re-employment Administrator, it is also desirable that colored administrative assistants be appointed in regional offices or other sub-offices of the Veterans' Administration to assist colored veterans in getting the benefits to which they are entitled under the G.I. Bill of Rights.

The Veterans' Administration has opened four of several contemplated offices for the purpose of processing home loans to veterans—in New York, Washington, Chicago and San Francisco.

The G.I. Bill of Rights authorizes the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to guarantee 50 per cent of loans secured by veterans for the purchase and construction of homes, farms or business property, or for equipment for a farm or business property, but restricts the guaranty to not more than $2,000.

Pressure Needed to Obtain Representation for Vets

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
12-2-44

By Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON

If colored veterans are to benefit fully from the programs Congress has established for the care and readjustment of every returning veteran, disabled or not, the appointment of colored administrative officers in the Veterans' Administration is absolutely necessary.

The Veterans' Administration with offices throughout the United States, administers the laws granting benefits to veterans and their dependants.

What They Are Entitled To

The major benefits for veterans of World War II are aid in securing employment, education and vocationl rehabilitation, Government life insurance at favorable premium rates, medical treatment, hospital and dimiciliary care, guaranty loans for the purchase or construction of homes, farms or business, unemployment allowances, and pensions for disabled veterans and their dependents.

Key officers in the Veterans' Administration are reported to be resisting efforts to effect the appointment of colored administrative officers in that agency.

Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, and Julius A. Thomas, director of industrial relations of the National Urban League, recently requested President Roosevelt to direct the appointment of such an officer on a policy-making level.

12-2-44

Hines Non-Committal

The President is said to have referred them to Maj. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, who listened attentively to their proposal but made no commitment.

Representatives of the James E. Walker Post of the American Legion also conferred with General Hines regarding the appointment of colored men, preferably veterans, to key positions in States which will have large numbers of colored veterans to aid in readjustment in civilian life.

These representatives reported that General Hines indicated that he will consider their reqeust.

State Assistants Asked

They asked for an assistant to the Administrator in the central administrative offices in Washington and an assistant to the director in each State to aid colored veterans in obtaining fairness under the rehabilitation programs.

A spokesman for the post said the appointment of colored administrative officers is absolutely necessary because white officials of the Veterans' Administration in Southern States will not fully inform colored veterans of their rights nor attempt to enforce their rights for them.

12-2-44

Offices Numerous

The Veterans' Administration operates fifty-three regional offices and nine area offices where claims for disability pensions and other benefits are adjudicated.

In addition, sixty-seven contact and branch offices have been authorized through the United States, and there are fiftyfour Veterans' Administration hospitals where a claimant may receive aid in filing claim for a pension or other benefit.

There are also 104 trained contact representatives located at Army and Navy installations to inform veterans of their rights and assist them in filing claims.

Each State Has Unit

In each State there has been established a Veterans' Service Committee consisting of representatives of the Selective Service System, the U.S. Employment Service, and the Veterans' Administration. These committees represent the Federal Government in the States with respect to veterans.

Exceeds Dixie

AFRO-AMERICAN

J.C. Demands

Balt., Md.

Hotel Manager Had Admitted Vet, Wife

11-11-44

HAD BEST ROOMS

Indians, Other Darker Races Already There

HOT SPRINGS, Ark.—That Uncle Sam's Army jim-crow has officially been raised against returning veterans was disclosed here last week when a colored couple was refused admittance to the redistribution center in the famous Arlington Hotel by army commanders.

11-11-44

Fellow service men and townspeople were incensed when the pair, whose names were withheld were ousted by army officials after W. E. Chester, veteran manager of the hotel and himself a Southerner, had assigned them to one of the best rooms in the establishment.

The manager, who for many years has employed several hundred colored workers, contended that since many nationalities, including Indians and other darker races were already guests at the resort, he saw no reason that the colored veteran and his wife should not remain.

11-11-44

Sent Back to New York

But an army captain ordered the couple removed and they were shipped back to Lake Placid, N.Y.

The redistribution centers are established for the reorientation of troops who have seen overseas duty before their reassignment to new posts in the U.S. or in new theatres of war.

The personnel is kept at these posts for periods ranging from two to three weeks, during which they are given thorough physical and mental check ups.

To Afford Relaxation

The military part of the program is planned to be carried on as briefly as possible and to take up only a few hours of the day in order to permit complete relaxation of the men.

Facilities are provided so that wives, relatives and sweethearts may visit with the veterans. Such centers are established throughout the country.

afro-american Baltimore, Md.
11-11-44

4/3-1944

VFW Colored Post Formed Here; One Of 3 In Georgia

Athens, Ga. Banner-Herald

With the chartering and installation of Wakefield C. Brunt Post No. 3910, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Athens now has one of the three colored posts of that organization in the state The other two are located at Savannah and Augusta. 6-5-44

Colored veterans applied for the charter and the post was installed by the State Department Commander, Mayo C. Buckley, with Harry Jones as post commander.

Other officers of the post are John V. Gilmore, senior vice-commander; Willie A. Robbins, junior vice-commander; W. Howard Jones, quartermaster and adjutant, Charles E. Lumpkin, post advocate; Rev. P. E. Dorsey, chaplain; William Peterson, surgeon; Albert Lumpkin, officer of the day; Bennie Jones, historian; Oscar Wilson, service officer.

Trustees are Jessie B. Moore, Joe Andrews and Ernest Elder; Hampton Redd. sergeant major; Mark Wise, quartermaster sergeant; Shep Moore, guard; Enos Williams, sentinel; Ben Milner and Arthur Cooper, color bearers; Wiley Lane, bugler.

The post will sell Buddy Popples throughout the city generally on Saturday, June 3, and at the Athens High & Industrial School the following day. Sale of the poppies is to raise funds for needy veterans in this community and the post expects a good response, especially among the colored people of Athens. Citizens are asked by the post to give as much as they can for a worthy cause. 6-5-44

According to Post Commander Harry Jones, the post will be represented at the Department encampment to be held at Augusta on June 7 and 8.

There are many colored Athenians serving in the armed forces, both in this country and overseas.

47-1944 47 P.

War Veterans

About Aid To Negro Veterans

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

(From The Jackson (Miss.) Advocate)

3-5-44

According to recent reports the White Veterans Organizations of the state are sponsoring a bill that may be considered and passed by the present state legislature to broaden the existing law with respect to furnish aid to War veterans. A work that has been carried on by this agency through its service officer, who is charged with the responsibility of furnishing aid and advice to War veterans in the filing of claims for compensation, and with respects to the matters that may arise under the laws of the state and of the nation dealing with the welfare and rehabilitation of War Veterans.

47D

Under the proposed law the request is being made that a number of such service officers be authorized in view of the large increase in the number of veterans which will come as a result of the present conflict, and every one who has the slightest knowledge of the complications that may arise in the presentation of a rightful claim of a veteran for the benefits he may be entitled to under the law will at once see the need for an increase in the State Service Officers. 3-5-44

For many reasons, which must include the large increase in Negro veterans growing out of the present conflict, the greatest of which, however, is the peculiar mental reaction of the less literate of the Negro group to the probings that sometime become necessary in order to reach the basis for a claim. When done by others than members of the group, and in the knowledge that experience has shown that an able and intelligent Negro, both because of greater sympathy, and deeper knowledge of the social patterns of the group, can better obtain the information always needed in such matters, it would be a great aid to the Negro veterans of Mississippi who will come out of this war if a number of able and intelligent Negroes were appointed to the position of State Service Officers.

47q-1944 Prisoners

50 Negroes Held As Nazi Aides In French Prison

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 11-4-44

FACES FRENCH TRIAL

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

PARIS — Among thousands of suspected French collaborators milling over huge five acre courtyards in dreaded Drancy, former Nazi concentration camp, I saw at least fifty Negroes.

There may have been more in this packed prison where 6,000 are accused of selling out to the Nazis, of treason and intelligence with the enemy which under Article 75, of the French Penal Code, is punishable by death. 11-4-44

"Not all are guilty," said a tough looking young FFI (French Forces Interior) hardly more than 19, with long machine gun slung under his arm ready for action. "But undoubtedly some of them are, and their heads will go where France's traitors belong—to the guillotine!"

Here was an unforgettable scene. Frenchmen and women who had sold their birthright for a mess of pottage stood silently now awaiting their fate—release, hard labor for long terms or the guillotine. Jammed into this big, oblong, five storied, dingy-white building resembling a worn housing project, men and women, young and old take hourly turns in the crowded yard pressed so closely together that this exercise walk is done very slowly lest they trod upon each other.

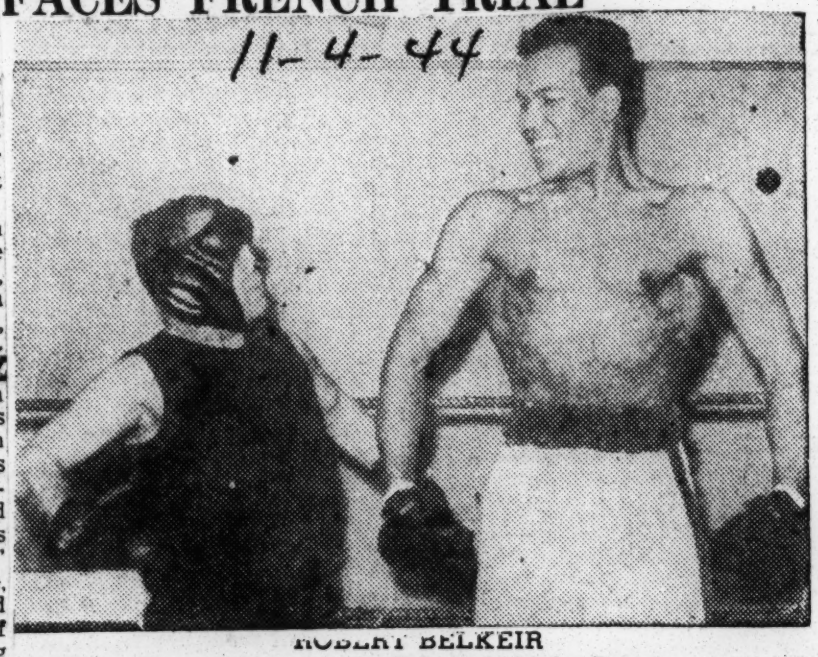
Courts Start Work

Located on the outskirts of Paris, a few miles from Le Bourget airfield where Lindbergh landed on his non-stop flight in 1927, is this former Nazi torture chamber which during the Nazi occupation housed 5,000 Jews.

Hours after the liberation of Paris, the FFI began filling up Drancy with collaborators. Even before the liberated Jews had time to learn that they were free and even before they had time to tear from their breasts the five pointed yellow star of David that the Nazis made all Jews wear, the loaded vans kept pulling up at Drancy all night long.

Now with two months since the liberation and with many men and women tried by Provincial courts and their swift justice long ago meted out, the Paris courts are just beginning. In Marseilles, death sentences averaged 20 a day in one month.

Not all are death sentences as prison terms of hard labor may be dealt for buying furniture looted by the Germans, or five years for the price of being mistress to a German officer, or death for a Vichy agent of the Gestapo.



ROBERT BELKEIR

Youthful French Negro prizefighter held in Drancy concentration camp for trial as Nazi collaborator. With him is a white boxer.

Fighter Jailed

Many big fortunes have been made by some of the many walking in this very yard, I am told by my FFI guide. Some are known to have exacted large fortunes from Jewish and political refugees for pretended protection only to turn them in later for more money. Some worked with Germans because they had to eat and still incur the enmity of neighbors. some had done nothing other than

Such a man was, if his story is to be believed, this handsome, well-built, copper colored, Negro lad, Robert Belkeir. A prizefighter at 21, when the Nazis came into Paris, Robert had been fighting here and there and his press clippings showed he had made many promising fights and his massive physique certainly belied his gladitorial abilities. 11-4-44

He did not know why he was arrested and he could tell of no reason why he could have been even suspected of doing anything. Someone had made him the goat but he had to get out.

I listened to this big, brown lad with his radiant smile and flashing white teeth, while he repeated his few words in English over and over. They were: "Me come America; fight Joe Louis; me be heavyweight champeen!" His simple manner seemed strangely true and genuine but having learned from bitter experience that it is wiser not to interfere unless one has all the facts, I merely inquired of one friendly official about Robert.

Many Negroes

It was his opinion that Robert's case was not serious but there were so many cases and only two hundred were being released daily, he thought that with no developments Robert might be heard from soon. Overjoyed Robert gave me his photo and his press clippings and was certain that I'd hear of him in America where he was sure to meet the "champeen!"

It was difficult to move towards the gate as I was completely mobbed by Negroes of all descriptions. A tall Senegalese with tribal markings on his forehead begged for cigarettes; a light complexioned youth hardly more than 20 stood aloofly outside of the group surrounding me; a squat, fat, dark man looking fiftyish in age handed me a note—all firm in their belief that American newspapermen in uniform can accomplish almost anything. Clearly, there was nothing anyone could have done. Guilty or innocent, they would have to wait their investigation.

Passing through the crowded office filled with attractive young women wearing yellow bands on their arms, my guide explained that these were collaborators also. They hoped to absolve themselves by aiding in keeping records of these unfortunates. The records were in shambles; nowhere was there orderliness. 11-4-44

Prostitutes Caught

Remarking on the general comeliness of the office force, my guide said of the most attractive: "Her offense was not merely sleeping with Germans; the crime was talking in her sleep." It is a known fact that all of the painted filles dancing nightly in Montmarte cafes with Americans generally slept, danced and ate with Germans but their business is prostitution, the Frenchman says, and they were not classed as criminals against the State as long as they confined it to amour.

The situation was entirely different in other parts of France, however, for in Dinard, the sleepy little resort city near St. Malo, I saw thirty raucous trollops and trulls whose heads were shaven and made to publicly exhibit themselves. In Lesvenen, on the British peninsula, ten closely cropped girls were forced to work for FFIs with bared shining heads. They were brought out for our party to view. 11-4-44

Leaving the sordidness of dreary Drancy, we were stopped at the gates where the guards opened the barbed wired barricade to let in a truck filled with more traitors accused of anti-nationalism and collaboration. It was obvious that as we passed out that there were many who would never leave here, except to hear their sentence in historic Palais de Justice.

Nazis Sought Negro Women As Mistresses In Paris

By EDWARD B. TOLES

PARIS.--"Black men collaborators?" gasped astonished Womendugas Lucas French native of the Cameroons but for many years a gay dancer in Montmarte's famed Cafe de Paris.

His wrinkled, tribal-designed forhead, furrowed in amazement, Lucas shook his head in a determined negative manner.

"No, there are no actual Negro collaborators," he said. "I know because I was just released from Drancy where I was charged with be-

that all the cases will soon be sifted out the same as mine."

Negro men suffered most after the Germans came according to Lucas. All up and down Montmarte, German patrols daily walked up to well-dressed Negro men and asked to see their hands. If a man has gnarled, callused palms, his reply that he was a workman might save him from six months' imprisonment in a concentration camp.

Lacking an occupation of labor and the accompanying workman's hands there was a large bread knife in my tiny flat and my concierge pointed me out as a very dangerous man."

"Negro people love freedom too much and they love France better than to sell her. There are a lot of pure spite cases thrown into the class of collaborators but I think

fortifications and walls.

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For Negro women, the Germans had other uses, said Lucas. Attractive girls were forced to accept

For Negro women, the Germans had other uses, said Lucas. Attractive girls were forced to accept employment as maids only to find when they reported for work that the usual French maids were still on the jobs. The "Master Race" wanted them as their mistresses.

German fondness for Negro bed companions took quite a shocking turn when their stolid, plain looking Nazi womenfolk stalked into France as nurses, orderlies, and auxiliaries for they too began frequenting Montmarte casting covetous glances at unemployed Negro youths.

One occasion, said Lucas, three of our boys and three German nurses never were seen again when a hotel burned one night. The Gestapo was seen all over the neighborhood that night.

Defender--Chicago, Ill. 11-18-44

Vets' Administration Still Barring Colored Officials

Afro American — Baltimore, Md
12-16-44

By SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
WASHINGTON

While activities of the Veterans' Administration are increasing and will continue to increase for some time as the result of the present war, there is yet no indication that colored persons will be appointed to administrative offices in that agency.

Data showing the number of colored employees by grades and classification were not available, but so far as is known the only colored persons employed in professional capacities are on the staff of the jim-crow hospital facility at Tuskegee, Ala.

Most of the colored non-professional employees are serving in the lower clerical and custodial grades.

$123,000,000 Pay Roll

The Veterans' Administration has a total of 50,235 authorized positions. Of that number, 13,566 with annual salaries of $29,479,666 are in the central administrative offices in the District of Columbia, and 46,679 at an annual salary cost of $94,043,785 are in the field.

Within the level at which a colored administrative office in the central administrative offices is being sought, there are fifty-one authorized positions, all now held by whites, ranging in salary from $4,600 to $7,500 a year.

Re-hiring Time Extended

Under an act upon which Congression action was completed, Thursday, the time within which veterans of World War II may apply for restoration in their former civilian employment has been extended from 40 to 90 days following release from active service.

The legislation also provides that, if hospitalization immediately follows release from active service and does not last for more than one year following such release, application for re-employment may be made within 90 days after release from hospitalization.

Trainee Earnings

Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, recently announced that wages earned by veterans who qualify for apprentice training will be supplemented by the $50-$75 monthly allowances provided by the "GI Bill of Rights."

The combined earnings may not exceed regular wages in the trade for which he is training.

Many Fields Open

There are more than 100 skilled occupations in manufacturing and construction industries for which men are trained through apprenticeship.

12-16-44

A veteran who wants to learn a skilled trade may apply to the U.S. Employment Service, where the veterans' employment service representative will advise him where there are the most likely opportunities for an apprenticeship in the trade best suited to his capabilities.